



The

Oshwal Report



A Newsletter by the Halari Visa Oshwals of America

www.oshwal-usa.org

Issue 4: Spring 2003

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(2002-2003)

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Feel free to share ideas, comments, or suggestions with any of us.

Oshwals @ JAINA 2003

You should be aware that we are planning on having our next North American Oshwal Gathering at the upcoming JAINA Convention (July 3-6 in Cincinnati). After the immensely successful gathering this past September in Rochester, New York, among the Canadian Oshwals and the Oshwals of Northeast US, much enthusiasm was generated towards having our next gathering at this JAINA convention.

Many of us have already been attending the last several conventions, and during the time allotted for "community gatherings" we've had small reunions. We've learned that this year the convention will allocate an entire half-day towards "community gatherings", and so we'll organize a meeting and program during that time. In addition to having our reunion, one of the chief goals for this meeting is to set a direction for our Oshwal organization in a national context (for example, how to improve communication, ideas for gatherings, etc.)

See inside for JAINA conference and Jain Networking Forum (JNF) registration forms. The next discounted registration deadline is April 15, 2003. For details:

<http://www.jainaconvention.org>,
email: registration@jainaconvention.org
phone: 937-848-3228

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Spring Picnics
Mark you calendars!

Texas - May 4, 2003

A picnic for the Texas Oshwals and their friends has been arranged for Sunday, May 4, 2003, between 3 p.m. and 9 p.m. in the Russell Creek Park Pavilion, Plano, Texas. For more information, please contact Surya Shah at (972)-618-9509 or satishshah5@yahoo.com

New York, New Jersey, Connecticut- June 15, 2003

A picnic for the NY, NJ, CT Oshwals and their friends has been arranged for Sunday, June 15, 2003, between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. in the Clark Recreation Center, in Suffern, New York. For more information, please contact Manisha Shah at (845)-462-0321 or president@oshwal-usa.org

Message from the President

Jai Jinendra,

I would like to extend a sincere thanks to our entire community and committee members for all of your support throughout the past year. I would also like to thank our regional representatives for volunteering their time and helping build participation throughout the United States. We have received many positive comments for your work.

A special thanks goes to Jyotsna and Sudhir Shah for organizing and planning our last event, the 17th Annual Halari Visa Oshwal gathering in Nashua, NH. It was a great success, with close to 100 Oshwals attending the event! This was a great example of members pitching in to help, as the New England community prepared the delicious food and planned the entertainment. Our next Oshwal Gathering will be the annual picnic in June. Details regarding this event are in this issue of the newsletter. We hope to see you there!

The Biannual JAINA Convention will be held during July 4th weekend in Cincinnati, OH. Please plan on attending this event, it will be a wonderful opportunity to meet and greet other Oshwals in North America! More information on the JAINA Convention is in this newsletter, or please visit www.jainaconvention.org. Details regarding our Oshwal Gathering during Jaina will be published in our next newsletter.

Satish and Surya Shah are working with Mahendra Shah and Ramnik Shah of Toronto, Canada to update the Oshwal Directory.

They are planning to publish a new USA and Canada Oshwal Directory by the July 4th weekend so that copies can be distributed at the JAINA convention in Cincinnati. Please contact them if you want to add or make any changes in your entry, offer suggestions, or if you would like to be a sponsor for the cost of publishing and mailing the directory.

Enjoy this issue of the Oshwal newsletter! Thanks to editors Nina Shah and Ketan Dodhia for their excellent work putting it together.

Thank you,
Manisha K. Shah, President
Halari Visa Oshwals of America

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shah_niru@hotmail.com

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veni.shah@chase.com

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dshah22258@aol.com

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shahkiran@usa.net

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Ramila Vinod Shah
ramila99@aol.com

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New Jersey, Pennsylvania
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Champavel@hotmail.com

Texas
Satish Shah
satishshah5@yahoo.com

New York, Connecticut
Manisha Kantilal Shah
manishakanti@yahoo.com

Community News:

▪ Mr. Maganlal Laxman Maru, President of Halari Visa Oshwal Shikshan and Rahat Mandal, India (Education and Relief Agency), and his wife Kanchanben were in Texas for a month during the month of December. The Shikshan and Rahat Mandal is carrying out several activities to provide social support and education opportunities to Halari Oshwals. Please contact Prashant Maru (Prashant_Maru@hotmail.com) for information about the activities of the Shikshan and Rahat Mandal.

Births

▪ Congratulations to Kunjal and Prashant Maganlal Maru of Dallas, Texas, on the birth of their son, Rushabh.
▪ Congratulations to Shital and Bhavesh Patel (New Jersey) on the birth of their son Rahul, and to their proud grandparents Surbhi and Jayendra Shah of New York.
▪ Congratulations to Falguni and Rajesh Kantilal Goshrani on the birth of their son, Karan.

Newcomers

▪ Shantilal V. Jhankhariya and family recently came from India, and are currently staying in, Hackettstown, New Jersey. He is the brother-in-law of Keshav and Kanchan Shah of Chestnut Ridge, New York, and of Jayanti and Vijya Galaiya of Long Valley, New Jersey.
▪ Paresh Meghji Shah, wife Jamini, daughter Bijal, & son Shymal recently came from Kenya and are currently residing in North Brunswick, New Jersey.

Engagements

▪ Congratulations to Nimish (son of Anilaben and Maganbhai Shah of Dracut, Massachusetts) on his engagement to Maitri (daughter of Rajnibhai and Deepakben Patel).

Weddings

▪ Congratulations to Sunil (son of Laxmichand & Sushila Gudhka, New Jersey) on his recent marriage to Asmi (daughter of Ushaben & Rameshbhai Shah). They were married on February 7, 2003 in Mumbai, India.

Condolences

▪ Our heartfelt condolences to Binit Prabhulal Shah of Hackensack, NJ, and Alka Rushabh Gandhi of Bensalem, PA on the passing away of their beloved grandmother (father's mother) on Wednesday, February 12, 2003 in Nairobi, Kenya. She was the wife

of Late Mr. Manekchand Narshi Shah of Atul's, Nairobi, Kenya. It had only been 5 months since Binit and Alka's father passed away last year on September 12, 2002.

▪ Our heartfelt condolences to Sneha Vijay Dave of New Hampshire, and Lina Piyush Goshrani of North Carolina. Their father, Devshibhai Virpar Galaiya passed away in Kisumu, Kenya on February 23, 2003.

Please share your news - contact your regional representative (see box, left), or newsletter@oshwal-usa.org

JAINA 2003, (cont'd from page 1)

There are several hotels with discounted group rates for the convention. We are suggesting that all Oshwals attending the convention stay at the **HILTON** (previously recommended Hyatt Regency is sold out), in order to make it easier for us to see each other during the convention after-hours. The following hotels are listed on the JAINA convention website:
<<http://www.jainaconvention.org/>>.

Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza
35 W 5th Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202
Rate \$95+tax, Up to 4 people per room
Ph (513)-0215100
Toll Free 1-800.445 8667

Crowne Plaza
15 W Sixth St
Cincinnati, OH 45202
Rate \$89+tax, Up to 4 people per room
Ph (513) 381-0000
Toll Free 1-888-279 8260
AAA Rating 3 Stars

Hyatt Regency
151 W Fifth St
Cincinnati, OH 45202
Rate \$95+tax, Up to 4 people per room
Ph (513) 579 1234
Toll Free 1-800-233-1234
AAA Rating 4 Stars

Treasurer's report

We currently have a cash balance of \$1,210, which we have reserved, for use in future Oshwal events as well as some minimal operating costs related to communication with Oshwal members.

Tushar Shah
treasurer@oshwal-usa.org

GREENING OF JAMNAGAR

A report and an appeal

You are probably aware that the Oshwals in Gujarat are concentrated in and around Jamnagar. The Jamnagar district has had problem of water shortage for many years and Greening of Jamnagar District is one solution that will go a long way in solving the problem and uplifting the economic status of inhabitants of the District. In May 2002 a project was conceived to build artificial lakes (TALAAVS) in the 52 Oshwal Villages to partially solve the water shortage problem. A deal was made with ANARDE FOUNDATION to construct these TALAAVS. The approximate cost of constructing a TALAAV was set at 500 Canadian Dollars (equivalent to \$325 US\$ and 225 British Pounds)

It was proposed that the funds required for constructing the 52 TALAAVS would be raised from Oshwals who have settled in U.K., Canada, U.S.A and East Africa as a gesture giving back something to land of their origin. The prosperity of the 52 villages would also mean prosperity of the city of JAMNAGAR as it obtains most of its food requirements from these villages. A campaign was launched in June 2002 concurrently with the construction of the TALAAVS. All the 52 TALAAVS have been constructed and the villagers are extremely happy with the project. Unfortunately during the Monsoon season of 2002 there was not enough rain to fill up the TALAAVS. We are hoping that the forth coming Monsoon season will provide sufficient rains to fill up the TALAAVS and relieve the ever present problem of water shortage in the Jamnagar District. During the up coming Monsoon season it is also hoped that trees and shrubs will be planted in the TALAAV areas to improve the situation.

So far we have received donations for 26 villages from Oshwals

living in UNITED KINGDOM (12 villages sponsored), CANADA (12 villages sponsored) and UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (2 villages sponsored). We are very grateful to the DONORS. A complete list of DONORS will be published with the final report. The final report will include testimony from the village authorities (SARPANCH), report by our own independent inspector and photographs of the TALAAVS. A close contact has been kept with ANARDE FOUNDATION through out the implementation of the project.

We would like to appeal to Oshwals to come forward and help us complete our undertaking for the 52 villages. We need the remaining 26 villages to be sponsored. It is hoped that Canadian Oshwals will donate for 6 to 10 additional villages. The largest concentration of Oshwals outside India is in London England and we are appealing them to consider sponsoring at least 14 to 20 additional villages. Fortunately both for the U.K. and Canadian donors tax receipts will be provided. The number of Oshwal families in U.S.A. is small, but we hope that they will sponsor at least 4 to 6 additional villages. Please donate and help us complete this worthwhile project. The main construction work has been carried out by ANARDE FOUNDATION; we have to now fulfill our commitment for donating the funds required.

Donations - 325 US\$ - from United States of America Donors should be made in name of: ANARDE FOUNDATION and sent to:

Mr. Kumar Maldé
50 Henri Bourassa ouest
Montreal, CANADA
H3L 1M7

Kind Regards,
Kumar Maldé
kumarmalde@qc.aibn.com

OSHWAL DIRECTORY UPDATE

Greetings to Oshwal families:

Since the last publication of the joint USA-Canada Oshwal Directory in June 2000, there have been many changes in the listed entries and about 50 new families have been added to the list. We, therefore, believe that a new Directory should be published and distributed by July 2003.

Our database has been kept up-to-date based on information provided by Oshwal members through e-mails or internet. Please review your listing in the current directory and advise us of any additions or changes you would like to make either by e-mail or by completing the Directory update form posted on the Oshwal USA Web site (www.oshwal-usa.org).

Please note that the listing includes all Oshwals and their families - i.e. at least one member of the family (head of household or spouse) should be of Oshwal origin.

We have e-mail addresses for about 180 members out of total 260 members. We would like to have e-mail addresses for all members as it is the most convenient method of communicating with Oshwal members. If you tell us not to publish your e-mail address in the Directory, we will not publish it. It will be used by the Executive Committee and Regional Representatives of the Halari Visa Oshwals of North America (HVONA) to send out information about Oshwal activities and by us for Directory up-dates.

As it has been the practice, one copy of the Directory is provided to all listed members free. This has been possible because of generous donations from several members for the cost of publishing and mailing the Directory. The last two times we have had donations from a large number of members and all unspent money was refunded to sponsors. This time also we request a donation of \$100.00 per sponsor and instead of refunding the unspent money, we would pass on the unspent funds to Halari Visa Oshwals of America. Please advise us if you would like to be a sponsor. The names of sponsors will be published in the Directory.

Your comments and suggestions will be appreciated.

Surya and Satish Shah
4648 Hinton Drive
Plano, TX 75024
Tel: 972 618 9509

Upcoming Events... Mark your calendar!



- May 4, 2003 (Sunday)
Plano, Texas
Picnic for the Texas Oshwals and their friends in the Russell Creek Park Pavilion, Plano, Texas.
- June 15, 2003 (Sunday)
Suffern, New York
Picnic for the NY, NJ, CT Oshwals and their friends in the Clark Recreation Center, in Suffern, New York.
- July 4-6, 2003; (July 4th weekend)
Cincinnati, Ohio
JAINA (Jain Assoc. in N. America) Convention
This is the ideal meeting time and place for our community from all over the continent. We'll expand on the meetings and short gatherings we've held at the past two conventions. Look to future newsletters for details, but **please start making plans to attend this year's convention.**
For details, visit:
<http://www.jainaconvention.org>

PUT AWAY THE WINTER GEAR, SPRING IS HERE!

Spring is here, and with that brings warmer weather and plenty of opportunities for outside gatherings. Details for several picnics are listed inside, as well as updated JAINA 2003 information and registration.

Our regional representatives have been working hard gathering their local community news, thus making our Oshwal community even closer. As always, the intent of the Oshwal Report is to serve our community as a communication medium. We encourage everyone to contact your regional representative if you have any news, ideas, or programs in your area that you would like to share.

Get in touch and help our community grow.

Nina Shah (NY) and Ketan Dodhia (NY)

newsletter@oshwal-usa.org

If undeliverable, please return to:
Ketan Dodhia
c/o Halari Visa Oshwals of North America
22 Yorkshire Dr.
Suffern, NY 10901-7417
USA

The Oshwal Report

A Newsletter by the
Halari Visa Oshwals of America
www.oshwal-usa.org

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JAINISM: THE ART OF LIVING
12TH BIENNIAL JAINA CONVENTION
CINCINNATI, OHIO

REGISTRATION FORM:
Register online at www.jainaconvention.org

STEP 1: CONTACT INFORMATION: This information must be completed in order to receive your registration confirmation.

Address: Street/ Apt#		City	State/Province	Postal Zip Code
Home Phone	Fax	Email		Country/Region

STEP 2: PRIMARY AND IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS: For all members including primary individual, please specify the activity preferred and the Total Fees per person in the far right column. **Date of birth is MANDATORY.**

Last Name	First Name	Sex M/F	Date of Birth MM/DD/YYYY	INDIVIDUAL REGIS- TRATION FEES from chart in Step 3	JAIN NET- WORKING FORUM (\$55/Person)	ALL YOUTH ACTIVITIES (Age 13-35) (\$45/Person)	SERVICE PRO- JECT (Age 13-35) (FREE)	TOTAL FEES (\$/person)
					<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
					<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
					<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
					<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
					<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
					<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	

Number of attendees requesting VEGAN food for all four days _____ Day Care needed Yes **TOTAL**

STEP 3: INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION FEES: Please choose the correct fee amount from the chart below.

	EARLY BIRD JAN 15th	JAN 16 th to APR 15th	APR 16 to JUN 15 th	JUN 16 th to JUL 06 th	TOTAL REGISTRATION FEES FROM STEP 2
CHILDREN (UP TO AGE 5)	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	DONATION
YOUTH (AGE 6 UP TO AGE 17)	US \$60.00	US \$80.00	US \$100.00	US \$120.00	TOTAL AMOUNT (US \$)
ADULTS (AGE 18 & UP)	US \$90.00	US \$110.00	US \$130.00	US \$150.00	
Cancellation charges based on TOTAL FEES per person from STEP 2.	\$50.00 or 25% (whichever is higher)			NO REFUND	

Postmark of registration form will determine applicable registration fees

Please make your check (US\$) payable to: JAINA CONVENTION 2003. Mail registration form and check to: JAINA CONVENTION 2003 PO BOX 778 MASON, OH 45040-0778 EMAIL: registration@jainaconvention.org PHONE: 937-848-3228	TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED FROM STEP 3: \$ _____ Charge my: <input type="checkbox"/> Master Card <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Discover Card #: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ Name of Cardholder: _____ *CVV Code: _ _ _ _ Signature: _____ Exp. Date: _ _ _ _ *CVV Code is the last three numbers on <u>back</u> of credit card.
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STEP 4: SIGNATURE: Primary registrant must sign and date below.

- On site registration begins at 12:30pm on Thursday, July 3rd, 2003. CASH, CHECKS and CREDIT CARDS will be accepted during onsite registration. Most programs will be at the Cincinnati Convention Center.
- Those members planning to attend the JNF activities must complete the attached JNF Registration Form and mail with Convention Registration Form.
- Tickets for Service Project are FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE. Deadline for registering: April 30th, 2003. Liability waivers must be signed at the convention center by all participants. Parent or legal guardian must sign liability waiver if participant is under 18 years of age.
- Youth activities include Dinner Theater, Night Rhythms and Service Project.
- Receipt of confirmed registration will be mailed or emailed to you. Registration payment receipt will be mailed by December 2003.
- Registrant must bring confirmation letter and picture ID to registration desk to collect registration material.
- Bounced checks will incur a \$25.00 additional fee. All credit card transactions will be done on line by Registration Committee.
- ABSOLUTELY NO REFUNDS will be given after June 15, 2003 or at the Convention for registration charges.
- ABSOLUTELY NO REFUNDS will be given for JNF and Youth activities
- JAINA and the Jain Center of Cincinnati-Dayton are not responsible for loss, injury or damage of any kind to registrants and or guests.

SIGNATURE OF PRIMARY REGISTRANT: _____	DATE: _____	Would you like to receive the monthly email concerning information about the 2003 Convention and future conventions? <input type="checkbox"/>
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Official Use Only:	Post Mark Date:	Amount:	Check No:	Registration ID:	Updated DB:	Checked By:
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JULY 3rd-6th, 2003

JAINISM: THE ART OF LIVING
12TH BIENNIAL JAINA CONVENTION

CINCINNATI, OH

JAIN NETWORKING FORUM (JNF)
REGISTRATION FORM:
Register online at www.jainaconvention.org

STEP 1: CANDIDATE INFORMATION: To participate in the JNF activities, you MUST have registered for the 2003 JAINA Convention and have a valid email account.

Last Name	First Name	Middle	Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	
Address		City	State/Province	Zip Postal Code
Home Phone	Fax	Email (MANDATORY)		Country/Region

STEP 2: PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)	Age: (As of July 3, 2003)	Height (Feet, Inches) Optional	Weight (Pounds) Optional
Visa Status	Lifestyle	Education	Status
<input type="checkbox"/> Citizen <input type="checkbox"/> Permanent Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Visitor <input type="checkbox"/> Student <input type="checkbox"/> Work Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian <input type="checkbox"/> Smoker <input type="checkbox"/> Drinker	<input type="checkbox"/> High School <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelors <input type="checkbox"/> MS/MA <input type="checkbox"/> MBA <input type="checkbox"/> Medicine <input type="checkbox"/> Ph. D	<input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced with Kids <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed
If citizen, choose one: <input type="checkbox"/> US <input type="checkbox"/> UK <input type="checkbox"/> India			
OCCUPATION:			

STEP 3: PICTURE

Please, paperclip your picture here.

Your picture must fit within this box.

STEP 4: PERSONAL STATEMENT

In the section below, please explain what you value the most in a relationship (Friends, Family, and Siblings).

GUIDELINES

- Participants for the JNF activities must have registered for JAINA Convention 2003.
- Each candidate must attach a wallet size picture with this registration form.
- Once you are entered into the database a password and login will be emailed to you. Candidates should answer all questions that appear online when registering. Each candidate will have secure controlled access to the JNF database at www.jainaconvention.org. Candidates can search perspective candidates online.
- We recommend you bring additional pictures and copies of your bio -data to the convention.
- **Deadline for candidate to be included in the facebook and on website is June 15th, 2003**

Contact and Questions: JNF Committee jnf@jainaconvention.org	JAINA CONVENTION 2003 Cincinnati, OH
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