



# The Florida Kshatriya

KSHATRIYA SOCIETY OF FLORIDA, INC., 5700 DOT COM COURT, SUITE 1000, OVIEDO, FLORIDA 32765.

Issue 9

www.KSOF.org

JULY 2011

## CONCLUDING THE SECOND YEAR

by Kiran Chhaganlal, President

As my second year as President of KSOF draws to a close, I can only but say that it has been my pleasure and honor to have served our Community in that capacity. I, and indeed our entire Community, have been very fortunate to have the Committee Members that we did, both last year and this year. Together, we were able to liven up things, put in place ongoing arrangements so that running the Society and organizing events becomes a much easier task, introduce some new features like the Newsletter and the website, and improve our Society's financial position. I thoroughly appreciate the support everyone has given me and the Committee – thank you all.

When we have our Annual General Meeting at our 2011 Mahotsav, we will have a new Executive Committee to lead us forward, under the leadership of a new President. I encourage our Community Members to lend their names to serve on the Committee. Being on our Society's Committee is not work at all. It is, in fact, fun and you will enjoy it.

As we have over the past 2 years streamlined how we run and organize matters, it makes it easier for us to consider expanding the range of activities for our Community get-togethers. Some ideas that have been considered are a day-trip by coach to a relatively nearby destination, like St. Augustine, or Hard Rock Hotel, or a *Madir Yatra*. Another idea is organizing a sports or fun/ game activity at a suitable center that caters for that. Clearly, whatever the Committee arranges will be driven by what our Community Members would like to participate in.

Of course, there is the Kshatriya T20 Cricket World Cup being held in June 2012 in Brisbane, Australia. Perhaps the Florida Kshatriyas can field a Cricket Team to compete in that tournament!

## 2011 ANNUAL MAHOTSAV & AGM

**DATE:** SATURDAY JULY 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2011

**TIME:** 4:00 PM

**VENUE:** EASTMONTE CIVIC CENTER: 830 MAGNOLIA DRIVE, ALTAMONTE SPRINGS, FL 32701

**JOIN IN:** Come on and be part of the celebrations at our Society's 2011 Annual Mahotsav. Don't miss out on this once-in-a-year get-together of fun and kinship.

**ENTERTAINMENT ITEMS:** All Florida Kshatriyas are encouraged to take part in at least 1 entertainment item, be it a dance, song, musical, or *naatak*. Encourage our younger members to participate. Prepare your very own item, or find out who is preparing one and join in.

**GRADUATING STUDENTS:** Our Society will acknowledge and honor all students who have since our last Mahotsav, graduated from College. If you or your child have graduated, please provide the information to a committee member.

**ATTENDANCE:** Attendance will be \$15.00 per person. Children under 10 years old need not pay.

**AGM:** Our society will have its second Annual General Meeting at a suitable time during the Mahotsav program. Please put your name forward to be on the 2011/12 Executive Committee. Please see the Notice of AGM on page 6 for more details.

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## Calendar of Hindu Religious Events:



Jul 15 <sup>th</sup> :	Guru Purnima
Aug 4 <sup>th</sup> :	Nag Paacham and Randhan Chhath
Aug 5 <sup>th</sup> :	Shitala Saatam
Aug 7 <sup>th</sup> :	Noriya Naum
Aug 13 <sup>th</sup> :	Raksha Bandhan
Aug 15 <sup>th</sup> :	Indian Independence Day
Aug 21 <sup>st</sup> :	Shri Krishna Jayanti Upvas
Aug 22 <sup>nd</sup> :	Janmashtami & Nand Utsav
Aug 29 <sup>th</sup> :	Somvati Amavasya
Sep 1 <sup>st</sup> :	Shri Ganesh Chaturthi
Sep 11 <sup>th</sup> :	Anand Chaudas
Sep 13 <sup>th</sup> :	Shraadh Begins
Sep 27 <sup>th</sup> :	Sarva Pitri Amavasya
Sep 28 <sup>th</sup> :	Navratri Begins
Oct 2 <sup>nd</sup> :	Mahatma Gandhi Jayanti
Oct 4 <sup>th</sup> :	Durgashtami
Oct 5 <sup>th</sup> :	Maha Navami
Oct 6 <sup>th</sup> :	Dashera or Vijaya
Oct 11 <sup>th</sup> :	Sharad Purnima
Oct 23 <sup>rd</sup> :	Agyaras & Vagh Baras
Oct 24 <sup>th</sup> :	Dhan Teras
Oct 25 <sup>th</sup> :	Kali Chauudas
Oct 26 <sup>th</sup> :	Laxmi Poojan / Diwali
Oct 27 <sup>th</sup> :	Nutan Varsh
Oct 28 <sup>th</sup> :	Bhai Bij

## Happy Anniversary

Jul 17 <sup>th</sup> :	Survarna & Ashvin Pitamber
Jul 14 <sup>th</sup> :	Jasu & Dalsukh Nathoo
Aug 6 <sup>th</sup> :	Dipa & Amit Kapadia
Sep 1 <sup>st</sup> :	Nita & Ravi Solanki

## Happy Birthday!



Jul 3 <sup>rd</sup> :	Aruna Mohanlal
Jul 5 <sup>th</sup> :	Maniben Jamnadas Dr. Pradip Jamnadas
Jul 10 <sup>th</sup> :	Hament Utam Amar Kalidas
Jul 12 <sup>th</sup> :	Kavita Kalidas
Jul 14 <sup>th</sup> :	Sanjay Narotam
Jul 27 <sup>th</sup> :	Krish Kapadia Prem Kalidas
Jul 29 <sup>th</sup> :	Aastha Nathoo
Aug 2 <sup>nd</sup> :	Karina Narotam
Aug 4 <sup>th</sup> :	Kaushik Nathoo
Aug 5 <sup>th</sup> :	Renuka Chauhan Chandrakant Bulsara
Aug 6 <sup>th</sup> :	Vishal Chunilal
Aug 10 <sup>th</sup> :	Sunina Nathoo
Aug 11 <sup>th</sup> :	Aruna Narain Varsha Solanky Purvi Rathod
Aug 12 <sup>th</sup> :	Bhavini Chunilal
Aug 13 <sup>th</sup> :	Rajan Khatri Rajiv Khatri Jay Solanky
Aug 15 <sup>th</sup> :	Rohit Kapadia
Aug 18 <sup>th</sup> :	Laxmiben Narain Risha Bhukhan
Aug 20 <sup>th</sup> :	Trushana Bhukhan
Aug 22 <sup>nd</sup> :	Arvind Khatri
Aug 26 <sup>th</sup> :	Rajesh Narain
Aug 27 <sup>th</sup> :	Mohan Narain
Aug 30 <sup>th</sup> :	Karishma Nathoo
Aug 31 <sup>st</sup> :	Ravi Solanky
Sept 3 <sup>rd</sup> :	Chandrakand Mohanlal
Sept 9 <sup>th</sup> :	Shanta Solanki
Sept 17 <sup>th</sup> :	Nikesh Pitamber
Sept 18 <sup>th</sup> :	Amit Kapadia
Sept 24 <sup>th</sup> :	Deepen Mohanlal

KSOF Members get a 10% discount at Gateway to India Restaurant.



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## Fun Facts

- You blink over 10,000,000 times a year.
- Your heart beats over 100,000 times a day.
- Pound for pound, your tongue is the strongest muscle in your body.
- Your feet may be as much as 5 to 10 percent larger at the end of the day.
- There are more sweat glands on your feet than any other part of your body. An average pair of feet will sweat a pint of perspiration a day.
- The human brain is 80% water.
- Most dust particles in your house are made from dead skin!
- Laugh and you'll burn up three and a half calories, no joke.
- An eyelash lives about 5 months.
- Like finger prints, everyone's tongue print is different

## Roots of Khatri

According to Vedic Hindu Theory, the Brahma created Brahmins from his mouth, Kshatriyas from his arm, Vaishyas from his stomach and Shudras from his feet.

Due to varnacular (social class) system in our culture, the accepted way of life was to follow the designated family varnacular trade to earn your bread and butter. The ranking is as follows in terms of status.

- (1) Brahmins at the top
- (2) Kshatriya the Warrior/protector
- (3) Vaishya the traders
- (4) Shudras at the bottom

The Khatri are a North West Indian community that originated in the Plateau of Punjab. That is where our roots are. The Khatri community traces its origins to the Taxila Potohar and Majha regions of the Punjab near Indus River. This region is historically connected with the composition of the Vedas and classics like the Mahabharat and Ashtadhyayi.

The name "Khatri" is a Punjabi word derived from the old Sanskrit word "ksatra" which means 'authority, rule'.

Cont. on page 6

Before we go further, it is important for us to have a look at another community called Arora with the characteristics close to Khatri. This Arora community which is of similar origin to Khatri in that they are from the Kshatriya caste and are of warrior ancestry. They are a group of Indo-Aryans who remained in the Indus Valley throughout most of their history. However, the Aroras were separated from the Kshatriya in their move to the city of Aror, which is believed to be at the request of the Brahmin community. The Arora people were originally Hindu, but over the century, some of them have accepted Sikhism or Islam. Those who stayed Hindus moved to Rajasthan and North Gujarat. The Arora community has suffered many divides in the past. After moving to Aror, they were conquered by the Arabs and thousands of Aroras are said to have been slaughtered during the frequent Islamic invasions of India.

Kshatriyas were by caste expected to protect the religion and the country. In course of time, however, as a result of economic and political situation, the Khatri also got into other occupations such as weaving, dyeing, tailoring etc. So we were the products of the changing time and trade. Now Khatri were one step down from Kshatriya to Vaishya in terms of ranking due to change in the career path.

The Khatri community of weavers and dyers is known for their fine quality of work. They used to control the trade and the craft, purchasing and processing the material themselves. The typical dress of the Khatri women by tradition is long chemise, carries the finest bandhani. It is tied and dyed at the neck, the side openings, the lower border and the sleeves. The end of the salwar and matching ordhnis are also worked out with tie and dye designs. The finest work is done on the wedding dress, which is enhanced with silver and gold threaded embroidery.

Bandhani technique is used in North Bihar to create bold patterns in single color. These were the trade marks and expertise of Khatri who originally came from Saurashtra, but later migrated further down to south east. It was considered essential to wear a tie and dyed sari at the time of marriage.

Cont. in the next Newsletter

## Kshatriya Society of Florida, Inc. 2nd Annual General Meeting



### NOTICE OF AGM

The Kshatriya Society of Florida, Inc. will have its second Annual General Meeting at our 2011 Mahotsav on Saturday, July 30, 2011 at the Eastmonte Civic Center, 830 Magnolia Drive, Altamonte Springs, FL 32701. The AGM will commence at 5:00 p.m. or soon after that at an appropriate break in the Mahotsav program. All members of our Society are invited to attend and participate in the AGM.

### AGENDA

1. AGM Commencement
2. Minutes of the last (1st) AGM - Ashvin Pitamber
3. President's Report 2010/2011 - Kiran Chhaganlal
4. Finance Report 2010/2011 - Karishma Nathoo
5. Election of 2011/2012 Executive Committee:
  - President
  - Vice-President
  - Secretary
  - Treasurer
  - Up to 8 Executive Committee Members
6. Address by 2011/2012 KSOFL President
7. General Discussion
8. Conclusion

### NOMINATION FOR 2011/12 COMMITTEE

Please send in your nomination and be part of the 2011/2012 Executive Committee of our Society. You can also send in the nomination of another Florida Kshatriya, provided you have the consent of that person that he/she is willing to be on the Committee if elected. Please feel free to send in your nomination for any position on the Committee to our Society Secretary, Ashvin Pitamber, at tel.: 407 438 1675 or Email: [ashvinsuvarna@yahoo.com](mailto:ashvinsuvarna@yahoo.com) before the 2011 AGM.

Cont. from pg 1

In early June, I went to visit my family in Fiji and New Zealand, and to be part of the 2011 Kshatriya Soccer World Cup Tournament being held in my home town of Ba, Fiji. Ba's Kshatriya population numbers around 70 people!!! They hosted this 4-day tournament, which saw 8 soccer teams from Ba, Lautoka, Nadi, Suva, Brisbane and Sydney participate. The Opening Ceremony included the kick-off by the Indian High Commissioner to Fiji, music and entertainment by the Fiji Police Band, and fireworks. The Gala Dinner & Presentation Nite at the tournament's end drew almost 800 Kshatriyas, mostly from Fiji, Australia, and New Zealand. Matches were watched by 300 -500 Kshatriya at any given time. There was *Chai-Paani*, plus *Tikhoo Pani*, during the day, with lunch provided at the stadium where the Tournament was held. About 30 – 40% of the attendees throughout the tournament, including in the grandstand during the matches, were ladies. Community elders and 'retired' players' from various parts of Fiji, Australia, and New Zealand were also there to lend support. Players' ages ranged from 14 years' old to 56 years old!

Hence, this was a family oriented event. It was more than just the eating and drinking. It was truly exciting and fun to be part of something big that is driven mostly by the younger members of our global community. It was something quite different, and something that those 800 or so Kshatriyas that attended felt truly passionate (and very serious) about.

The Kshatriya World Cup Soccer Tournament is held every two years – the next one is to be held in June 2013 in Suva, Fiji. The Kshatriya Cricket World Cup is held in the intervening years every two years. So far, these games have rotated in the various towns and cities in Fiji (Suva, Lautoka, & Ba), Australia (Sydney & Brisbane), and New Zealand (Auckland). I would highly encourage you to attend one of them.

Back to our local scene. I look forward to seeing you all at the Mahotsav and AGM. Do please step forward to participate in an item at the 2011 Mahotsav. And as most of our Community Members have not been on the Society's Committee for at least the past 10 years, please put your name forward to be on the 2011/2012 Executive Committee.