



DAKSHINI

BENGALI ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

DURGA PUJA 2015

Jordan High School, Long Beach, CA

OCTOBER 23rd – 25th, 2015




Highglow

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28231 Ford Road
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Dear Friends,

On behalf of Team Dakshini, I happily welcome you all to the 2015 Durga Puja, our most sought-after and biggest festivity of the year. Each and every Bengali, from all corners of the world, looks forward to these few blissful days of annual celebration of the divine Mother bringing her goodness and blessings to Earth. We are sincerely grateful that you have chosen to spend this auspicious time with us as part of our extended Dakshini Family, we are truly humbled.

Durga Puja is the occasion for Bengalis to spend quality time with the family and friends, reconnect with the past, enrich life with spirituality, and rejuvenate with culture and good food. This autumn festival is the time to forget the grind, sorrows and boredom of our regular lives, and to transcend to a cheerful mood. In this tradition, Dakshini has organized three days of joyful events for you and your family, we sincerely hope that you will enjoy our Durga Puja program.

Like past years, our goal for this occasion remains to facilitate a safe and enjoying environment where Southern California Bengalis can freely mix, catch-up with old friends, make new acquaintances, exchange ideas, have good food, get updated with the latest fashion and culture in Kolkata, and most importantly, expose the 2nd generation Indian-Americans to Bengali way of life and culture. To achieve this goal, everyone's active participation is highly essential. Let's become integral part of our extended Dakshini family for these days. Please say hello and introduce yourself if you see a new face, thus, welcoming new members to our Dakshini family. Please explain the events, customs and culture to your children during the Puja days so that they truly take part and enjoy these days. Let's make this Puja celebration a memorable time of our lives.

The organization of the Puja event requires countless hours and hard work of many dedicated volunteers and organizing committee members. We built on the guidance and expertise of our previous organizers, the present volunteers brought in their talent and rigor to make this event successful. The cultural program participants, child and adult performers, directors and supporting artists spent innumerable hours to prepare for the lovely programs you will enjoy. If you get a chance, please acknowledge and appreciate the hard work of all the performers, volunteers and organizers, for planning and executing this event. If there is any mistake from our part in organizing this event, please forgive us, and please suggest how we can improve in future. We sincerely hope that you will make the Puja event as your own and feel at home.

Finally, on behalf of the organizing committee, I wish all of you a very happy time at Dakshini's 2015 Durga Puja. Let's enjoy at the fullest.

Sincerely,

Bidhan Ray

President, Dakshini



Dakshini Executive Committee 2015-2017

President	Bidhan Ray
Vice President	Mohua “Piu” Roy
Secretary	Soumitra Banerjee
Treasurer	Shubharoop Ghosh

Executive Members

Abir Chakraborty	Saradindu Dolui
Avijit Bhunia	Sibabrata Ray
Madhumita Basu	Siddhartha Dattagupta
Sampurna Dube	

**Welcome to
Durga Puja October 23, 24, 25, 2015**

**Dakshini
Bengali Association of California
Long Beach**

Durga Puja 2015 Teams

Priest	Kamalendu Ganguly
Puja Sub-Committee	Anup Goswami, Rupashree Goswami, Ranjit Das, Rupa Das, Kamalendu Ganguly, Pratima Ganguly, Rini Ghosh, Biswarupa Dube, Karabi Dube, Amarendra Banerjee, Sulata Banerjee, Siddhartha Ghosh, Sumita Das, Arin Ghosh, Jayanti Dasgupta, Ritu Bhattacharya, Rita Datta, Malay Das, Arati Das, Ahana Bhunia, Ankita Sarkar, Apala Bhunia, Samiksha Mukherjee, Srijita Ghosh, Sonali Chakrabarti
Fundraising Sub-Committee	Bidhan Ray, Shubharoop Ghosh, Arnab Chatterjee, Maitrayi Majumdar, Ajoy Dube, Sarnath Chattaraj
Advertisement/Booth/ Fliers Sub-Committee	Shubharoop Ghosh, Sampurna Dube, Sourav Roy, Rini Ghosh, Nibedita Laha, Ajoy Dube, Sharmila Dasgupta, Kalpana Chakraburty, Sarnath Chattaraj, Rupak Chatterjee
Registration Sub-Committee	Sibabrata Ray, Shubharoop Ghosh, Keka Ray, Dipankar Basu, Kaamalesh Saha, Swapna Ray, Suparna Chakladar, Bidhan Ray, Sangita Chattaraj, Maitrayi Majumdar, Kaushik Sarkar, Sweta Bhattacharya, Puja Pal, Amlan Chatterjee, Debasmita Chatterjee
Entertainment Sub-Committee	Saurav Ghosh-Roy, Shubharoop Ghosh, Sampurna Dube, Chameli Biswas, Reshmi Dutta, Mohua Roy, Ananya Dattagupta, Padmaparna Chatterjee, Arnab Chatterjee, Siddhartha Dattagupta, Shawli Roy, Barna Saha
Banquet Sub-Committee	Abir Chakraborty, Avijit Bhunia, Sajal Debnath, Anupam Sukul, Pranjit Saha, Siddhartha Biswas, Ananya Dattagupta, Keka Ray, Arpita Mukherjee, Arnab Chatterjee, Biswajoy Basak, Chandana Sarkar, Daipayan Sen, Kaushik Biswas, Kaushik Chattopadhyay, Mrinmay Sarkar, Padmaparna Haldar, Piyali Chattopadhyay, Riddhi Chakraborty, Sanjib Mukherjee, Sibabrata Ray, Sourav Roy, Shawli Roy, Soumen Ghosh, Suchismita Ghosh, Suprabha Ray, Swagoto Ghosh, Swapna Ray, Poly Chatterjee
Puja & Facility Decoration Sub-Committee	Sujata Dube, Subhendu Roy, Mohua (Piu) Roy, Soumitra Banerjee, Dhruva Bhattacharyay, Pushkar Ghosh Chowdhury, Dipankar Basu, Atis Das, Bidhan Ray, Subharoop Ghosh, Sampurna Dube, Anindya Chatterjee, Popy Banerjee, Arnab Dasgupta, Jayanti Dasgupta, Nibedita Laha, Abhijit Bhattacharya, Abhishek Choudhury, Aritra Das, Avik Roy, Ritwik Chattopadhyay, Abhishek Choudhury, Aritra Das, Avik Roy, Sourav Roy, Joydeep Mukherjee
Stage Management Sub-Committee	Sarnath Chattaraj, Sampurna Dube, Sujata Dube, Rajasri Chakraborty, Arin Ghosh, Madhumita Basu, Anindya Chatterjee, Nibedita Laha, Saurav Ghosh-Roy, Jayeeta Ghosh, Swapna Ray, Chumki Sen
Hall Management Sub-Committee	Subharoop Ghosh, Kaushik Sarkar, Saurabh Ghosh Roy, Sourav Roy, Sarnath Chattaraj, Sampurna Dube, Sujata Dube, Rajasri Chakraborty, Arin Ghosh, Madhumita Basu, Anindya Chatterjee, Saswati Das, Nibedita Laha
Miscellaneous Sub-Committee	Santasree Sircar, Keka Ray, Mitali Dutta, Sukanta Dutta, Ruby Mitra, Saswati Das, Arnab Dasgupta, Sarmistha Das & Arundhuti Bhattacharya
Brochure Sub-Committee	Soumitra Banerjee, Sampurna Dube, Madhumita Basu & members who submitted write-ups for brochure
Emcees	Sampurna Dube, Ankita Chattaraj, Souviri Roy and Uthra Rajamani
Cover Page	<i>Cover page was developed and designed by Mrinal Kanti Ghosh</i>

Note: This committee is comprised of members that have worked in different phases of the planning (initiated April 2015) and execution phase of Puja 2015. We apologize for any inadvertent omission. An updated list is posted at www.dakshini.org.

2015 Mahalaya at Bharat Sevashram Sangha



The 2nd item at the Mahalaya program at Bharat Sevashram Sangha on Saturday, 17th October, 2015 was Devi Vandana – A classical Dhrupad (Instrumental and Vocal) Ensemble presented by a team of 40 participants under the guidance of Suman Laha. The dhrupad style of music was selected for the invocation music to Devi Durga since the nature of dhrupad music is spiritual, seeking not only to entertain, but to induce feelings of peace and contemplation in the listener. The musical exposition started with Durga Stotra, then dhrupad composition on raga Bibhas on Sool Taal, followed by a Tarana in Teen Taal, Sawal Jawab, & Jhala.

Music composed & directed by : **SUMAN LAHA**
Tabla accompaniment by: **JYOTIPRAKASH**

Sitar	Gaurav Basu, Niravroh Laha, Alan Cohn, Mamata Behera, Lata Damle, Tuhinkana Das, Dr. Asit Shil, Hemendra Trivedi, Trupti Mistry, Sonali Date, Dinker Patel
Guitar	Archana Dutta, Nainesh Solanki, Pervez Howladar
Violin	Somnath Banerjee
Harmonium	Joita Bose Mondal
Vocals	Aditi Sengupta, Anjali Banerji, Ankita Sarkar, Anushka Sengupta, Apurba Mondal, Arushi Banerji, Chameli Biswas, Dr. Purnima Thakran, Dr. Soma Barua, Joita Bose Mondal, Mitali Dutta, Monolina Shil, Noelle Shil, Rafiq Dossani, Sampurna Dube, Sandipta Ghosh, Smiriti Ghosh, Suprabha Ray, Titash Biswas
Introduction	Barna Saha
Sankha	Ranjit Das

Friday Highlights

Durga Stuti

Nilanjana Banerjee is an eminent dance performer specializing in Odissi. She has performed extensively for the Indian diaspora in the US. Her dance is characterized by fast footworks, sculpture-inspired postures, emotional rendering of rasas, and above all devotion.



For more than a decade, Nilanjana has trained and performed as the principal dancer at RDM - Rhythms of Dance & Music under the guidance of Nrityangana Mahari award winner, Guru Mitra Purkayastha. Some of her highlight solo performances which received critical acclaim include Regional Bengali Conference 2011, opening night in Nashville prior to Kavita Krishnamurthy, Banga Mela 2013 in Cincinnati prior to Anjan Dutta, R. Muralidharan's magnum opus Sense & Beyond 2012, CID UNESCO, Montreal 2013 & Tribute concert 2014 at Gyan Manch, Kolkata. Nilanjana is currently based in San Diego.

Manomoy & Rajeeb

Other artists: Soumen Sarkar, Atonu Mazumder, Samridhi Mukherjee, Anindit Chatterjee

Manomay is the fifth generation of JADUBHATTA. Manomay Bhattacharya has a sweet voice. He has had solid training in music at the age of 4 under the vigilant guidance of father Sri Dhruvadas Bhattacharya, a disciple of Subinoy Roy, and mother Ila



Bhattacharya, a disciple of Ratneswar Mukherjee.

Manomay places himself under the tutelage of Benekumar Dobey,

Bibhuti Bose & Jayanta Bose, who trained him a finer nuance of Classical music. He learnt Tagore songs from father and various items of songs viz. Nazrul Geeti, Rajnikanter Gaan, Atulprasad, Dewijendra Geeti, Ragpradhan, Bhajan & Modern Bengali songs from illustrious teachers like Biman Mukhopadhyay, Sukumar Mitra, Dilip Roy, Anal Chattopadhyay, Sanjay Chakraborty, Jatilishwar Mukhopadhyay and still in close touch with Pandit Ajay Chakraborty with whom varied songs are learnt.

Rajeeb began performing from as early as 9 years. The Prayag Sangeet Samity, Allahabad awarded him gold medals in both "Sangeet Prabhakar" in 1989 and "Sangeet Praveen" in 1991 for his profound understanding of instrumental music and a proficiency in its theoretical aspects. Apart from being a scholar in Indian classical music Dr. Chakraborty earned his degrees in Western classical music from Royal College of Music (London) with distinction. Rajeeb has participated in innumerable concerts and major music festivals which include the Bath Festival, Chester Summer Festival, Vienna Festival, and Edinborough Festival to name a few.

Saturday Highlights

'CHITRANGADA' - The warrior princess

A Dance Drama, Written by Rabindra Nath Tagore

'Chitrangada', a brilliant and brave character mentioned in the Indian epic Mahabharata, was a princess of Manipur, who fell in love with 'Arjun', one of the Pandava brothers, whose prowess in archery was well-known.



In the year 1892, Rabindranath Tagore, the great Indian litterateur, poet and Nobel recipient gave a new dimension to the story of Chitrangada and set it in a dance drama. Inspired by her persona, Tagore embellished the character of Chitrangada with the myriad emotions of a woman.

This timeless musical dance drama is a lyrical portrayal of emotions in a woman, her dignity, individuality and worthiness that is as relevant in today's life as it was eons ago.

Presented by local artists and members of Dakshini Bengali Association of CA

Cast (in alphabetical order)

Anusha Basak	Ayushi Banerjee	Bhaswati Moulik	Chameli Biswas
Jayeeta Ghosh	Joydeep Mukherjee	Kanak Das	Madhumita Basu
Mohona Roy	Mohua Roy	Oishee Das	Olga Vakhtina
Orpita Mukherjee	Popy Banerjee	Pradyut Das	Priyanka Ghosh Choudhuri
Reshmi Ghosh Choudhuri	Riya Banerjee	Sampoorna Dube	Saswati Bhattacharya
Swarna Das	Tia De Sarkar	Titash Biswas	

Production

Direction, Choreography & Light Design: Reshmi Ghosh Choudhuri

Costume, Prop & Stage Design: Mohua Roy, Riyana Roy

Program Coordination: Chumki DeSarkar

Set, Costume, Makeup Leads: Anuradha Ghosh Choudhuri, Mili Banerjee, Swapna Ray, Malabika Das, Rishita Roy

Backstage Assistance: Family members of performers

Acknowledgments

Audio Recording Courtesy: MALLHAR, School of Visual & Performing Arts, India

Vocals & Narration: Partha Ghosh, Gauri Ghosh, Alak Roy Chowdhury, Pousali Banerjee, Suchhanda Ghosh and students of Mallhar

Light, Sound & Stage Management: David Barclift & Jordan High Students

Special Thanks To: Deepali Dutta

Sponsor:

Dr. Kali Pratim Chaudhuri is the gracious sponsor of **CHITRANGADA**.

Ek Jhuri Rupkatha II - Revenge of Chorki

"Ek Jhuri Rupkatha II - Revenge of Chorki" - a presentation by AACE kids of Dakshini, is a sequel of Ek Jhuri Rupkatha I. Chorki, the mischievous magician, who wants to control



the world and bring gloom to everything that is beautiful, can only be defeated by the power of music flowing from a sacred heart. Last time, Chorki put a spell on the land of fairies snatching the music and beauty away from the fairies. A little girl Payel, who was sent to the land of fairies

by her Joker friend, took help from Gupi and Bagha and defeated him through the power of soulful music and liberated the fairies. An angry Chorki promises to come back and take revenge on Payel. This time Chorki returns after about 3 years with a vicious intent to imprison Payel in a forbidden castle in medieval France forever. He was almost successful in doing so. But, as the story unfolds, the power of music triumphantly prevails once again over the evil intent of Chorki. Gupi and Bagha finds her in the castle and together they bring the end to yet another evil plot of Chorki. The forbidden castle comes to life with the "sound of music".

Cast (in alphabetical order)

Aadrian Sen Sharma	Areeb Howlader	Kona Sanyal	Samprita Chakraborty
Aarya Moulik	Arjun Ghosh	Nairit Bhowmik	Sattwik Banerjee
Aditya Mukherjee	Arushi Banerjee	Rani Ghosh	Saunak Ghosh
Ahona Bhuina	Arushi Purkayastha	Riyana Roy	Sauviri Roy
Aishik Chakraborty	Aviraj Ghosh	Rohan Ghosh Choudhury	Sayan Ray
Aishik Ghosh	Ayush Goswami	Ronjini Chatterjee	Shekhar Bhattacharya
Alita Banerjee	Ayushi Dattagupta	Roopsha Chatterjee	Shirom Mukherjee
Ankita Sarkar	Gaurav Basu	Rwik Ghosh	Soham Sarkar
Anusha Ghoshal	Ishan Bhowmik	Sagnik Chakraborty	
Apala Bhuina	Kabya Poddar	Samikshya Mukherjee	

Production

Direction, Choreography & Light Design: Siddhartha Dattagupta
Support and Co-ordination: AACE Parents of Dakshini

Sponsor:

Dr. Purnima Thakran is the gracious sponsor of the AACE presentation in Durga Puja 2015 – the AACE (Academy of Arts & Cultural Exchange) program helps our community children to showcase their talent through performances organized by Dakshini. This year, AACE presents "Ek Jhuri Rupkatha Part II: Revenge of the Chorki", scheduled on Saturday October 24, and comprises of a multi-talented huge cast of 40+ kids. Dakshini thanks Dr. Thakran for her warm generosity and active support for the community's children.

Saturday Night Musicals



Somchanda Bhattacharya is a qualified engineer by training and a singer by choice. Somchanda got a head start in her musical career as the finalist of 2010 Zee Bangla Sa Re Ga Ma Pa. Today Somchanda has earned a distinct standing of her own with her playback singing. She continues to work with Tollywood's top music composers. Known for her live stage performances, Somchanda has shared the stage with celebrated names like Kumar Sanu, Kunal Ganjawala, Udit Narayan and others. Accompanying the versatile and melodious Somchanda today are Samar Das on Tabla and Abhishek Das on keyboard.






Laxmi Puja Highlights

For the **1st time** in the US ever....

ভূমি ও আত্মা
presents

Tomaye Hridmajhare Rakhibo
(The Soul Connection)

Melodies of the "Soil" and "Soul"

 Hemanto Goswami	 Robin Lai	 Soumitra Ray	 Lakhan Das Baul	 Abhijit Ghosh
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For the first time ever in the US, Bhoomi O Baul presents "Tomaye Hridmajhare Rakhibo". A Folk fest where each song unfolds with a story of its own. From ever popular Bhoomi songs to Lakhandas Baul's soulful renditions, the melodies of the 'soil' and 'soul' will help all connect with their roots & make the evening a memorable one!

FEATURED ARTIST AT DAKSHINI

YEAR	ARTIST
1987	Sutapa Datta Gupta (Dance), Tarun Roy, Debraj Roy, Dipannita Roy (Drama)
1988	Pandit Chitresh Das (Dance), Biswajit Chatterjee (Actor/Drama)
1989	Nanda Banerjee (Vocal), Pandit V.G. Jog (Violin)
1990	Utpalendu & Uttara Choudhury (Bengal Folk Songs), "Chetana Group" (Drama), Nandita Behra (Dance), Gopal Marathe (Vocal)
1991	Late Salil Choudhury (Music Composer & Vocal), Sabita Choudhury & Antara Choudhury (Vocal) Ustad Imrat Khan (Sitar)
1992	Anuradha Nag (Dance), Pramit Sen (Rabindra Sangeet), Pandit Debu Choudhury (Sitar)
1993	Arundhuti Home Choudhury (Bengali Adhunik), Shibaji Chatterjee (Vocal), Apsara (Cambodian Dance)
1994	Banasree Sengupta (Bengali Adhunik), Alok Das Gupta (Guitar), Dhiren Bose (Nazrul Sangeet), Pandit Swapan Choudhuri (Tabla)
1995	Babu Parameswaram (Vocal), Mrinal Chakrabarti (Bengali Adhunik, Rabindra Sangeet, Folk Songs), Sandhya Mukherjee (Vocal), Sabitri Chatterjee (Actress/Drama), Lolita Chatterjee (Actress/Drama), Laboni Sarkar (Actress/Drama)
1996	Tarun Bhattacharya (Santur), Bikram Ghosh (Tabla), Banani Ghosh (Rabindra Sangeet), Anup Kumar (Drama)
1997	Sipra Bose (Vocal), Gobinda Bose (Tabla), Debashish Ghosh (Bengali Folk Songs), Soumitra Chatterjee (Actor), Anup Ghosal (Bengali Folk Songs)
1998	Aparna Sen (Actress/Drama), Biplob Chatterjee (Actor/Drama), Nadikar Group (Drama), Supriya Choudhury (Actress/Drama)
1999	Dwijen Mukherjee (Vocal), Partha & Gauri Ghosh (Dramatic Actor), Pramita Mallick (Vocal), Rezwana Choudhury – Banya (Vocal, Rabindra Sangeet)
2000	Lopa Mudra Mitra (Vocal), Pramita Mallick (Vocal), Anup Ghosal (Nazrul Sangeet)
2001	Usha Uthup (Pop Songs), Arati Mukherjee (Vocal)
2002	Bappi Lahiri & Group (Pop), Dulal Bhowmick (Bengali Adhunik), Jagannath & Urmimala Bose (Dramatic Orator)
2003	BHOOMI The Band (Kolkata) – Surojit Chatterjee, Soumitra Roy, Sanjoy Mukherjee, Abhijit Ghosh, Abhijit Bose, Wingloong Robin, Hemanto Goswami; Tarun Chakraborty (Songs/Shruti Natok/Recitation); Baul Samrat PURNA DAS/Chottan Das (Baul Songs)
2004	Somdatta Basu (Modern Songs), Sanjay De (Modern Songs), Alok Roychoudhury (Puratani Gaan), Ruprekha Chatterjee (Modern Songs)
2005	ABHIJEET (Bollywood's Playback Singer with Live Band), Pandit Santanu Bandhyopadhyay and Neel Adhikari – kolkata (Classical & Western Fusion)
2006	Babul Supriyo (Bollywood's Playback Singer) and Debojit (Sa Re Ga Ma Pa Challenge Winner & Playback singer)
2007	Amit Kumar & Sumit Kumar (Bollywood Playback Singers) Chandreyee & Samit Tyagi (Young rising playback singers)
2008	Usha Uthup (Bollywood Playback Singer), Aneek Dhar & Keka Ghoshal (Young rising playback singers)
2009	Amit Paul (Bollywood Playback Singer), Nirmalya Adhikary

YEAR	ARTIST
2010	Anwasha, Trijoy, Bandita (rising stars), Swagatalakshmi Dasgupta, Haimanti Sukla
2011	Aneek Dhar, Dipanwita Choudhury, Abhijit Ghosal (Rising stars) Jayati Chakraborty Sivaji Chattopadhyay Arundhuti Holme Choudhury, Pramita Mallick
2012	Lopamudra Mitra, Sahaj Ma, Utpal Fakir, Pt. Kushal Das, Torsha Sarkar
2013	Jasraj Joshi, Sounak Chattopadhyay, Robi O Nobin, Parnava Banerjee
2014	Bappi Lahiri, Dohor, Sougata Banerjee,

**Past and Present President(s)
Dakshini Bengali Association of California**

Year	Name
1985 - 1987	Dr. SAMAR SIRKAR
1988 - 1990	Dr. MALAY DAS
1990 - 1992	Mr. AJIT RAKSHIT
1992 - 1994	Mrs. MAITRAYI MAZUMDAR
1994 - 1996	Mr. AJOY DUBE
1996 - 1998	Dr. KAMALESH SOM
1998 - 2000	Mr. MOHIT CHATTERJEE
2000 - 2002	Mrs. JAYASHREE DAS
2002 - 2004	Mr. RANJIT DAS
2004 - 2006	Mrs. PRATIMA DATTA
2006 - 2008	Mr. SAJAL K. DEBNATH
2008 - 2010	Mr. ANUPAM SUKUL
2010 - 2012	Dr. SARNATH CHATTARAJ
2013-2015	Mr. ARNAB CHATTERJEE
2015-2017	Mr. BIDHAN RAY

* *Current President*

Puja and Cultural Schedule

Friday, October 23rd, 2015

7:00 PM – 8:00 PM	Pushpanjali, Bhog & Arati (Shashti Puja)
6:00 PM – 7:30 PM	Dinner
7:15 PM – 7:30 PM	Durga Stuti by Nilanjana Banerjee
7:30 PM – 9:30 PM	Manomoy & Rajeeb

Saturday October 24th, 2015

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Pushpanjali, Bhog & Arati (Saptami Puja)
12:00 PM – 2:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	Pushpanjali, Bhog & Arati (Ashtami Puja)
2:30 PM – 3:30 PM	CHITRANGADA – A dance drama based on Tagore's timeless classic
5:00 PM – 6:30 PM	EK JHURI RUPKATHA II: Revenge of Chorki – presented by the children of AACE.
6:30 PM – 7:30 PM	Sandhi Puja, Bhog, Arati
6:00 PM – 7:30 PM	Dinner
7:30 PM – 9:30 PM	Somchanda

Sunday October 25th, 2015

10:00 AM – 1:30 PM	Pushpanjali, Bhog & Arati (Navami Puja)
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	Lunch
3:30 PM – 5:00 PM	Sindoor Utsav/Visarjan (Dashami Puja)
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM	Mishtimukh

Laxmi Puja : Saturday, October 31st, 2015

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM	Pushpanjali, Bhog & Arati
7:30 PM – 9:30 PM	Bhoomi O Baul

MOTHER GODDESS: UNEARTHING THE UNDERLYING FACTS

Dr. Sukrit Mukherjee

Goddess Durga symbolizes the positive energy known as 'Divine Shakti' to conquer against the negative forces of evil and wickedness. Goddess Durga is depicted as a warrior woman with ten hands carrying different weapons along with three eyes and riding on a lion. But have we ever wondered to understand the true facts behind such manifestation of the Supreme Goddess?

In order to understand the facts behind such manifestation, let us have a journey back to the ages when the Supreme Goddess was being mentioned in many scriptures e.g. Yajur Veda, Vajasaneyi Samhita and Taittareya Brahman (composition dating back to 1200 to 1000 BC).

The word "Durga" in Sanskrit means a fort, or a place which is difficult to overrun. Another meaning of "Durga" is "Durgatinashini," which literally translates into "the one who eliminates sufferings." Thus, Hindus believe that goddess Durga protects her devotees from the evils of the world and at the same time removes their miseries. The legend is that whenever her devotees needed the "Shakti" to ward off evil for their lives, Goddess Durga manifested in one of her many forms and vanquished the demons. Here evil forces refer to the negative energy and vices e.g. arrogance, jealousy, prejudice, hatred, anger, greed and selfishness.

The epic battle of the mother Goddess against the tyrant Mahishasura has been portrayed in detail in *The Markandeya Purana* under *Devi Mahatmya* (Glorification of the Great Goddess). The Markandeya Purana is one of the eighteen major Mahapuranas (Purana is a genre of Hindu religious texts) composed during 400 – 500 AD and contains 9000 verses.

As per Davadatta Kali, *Devi Mahatmya* is seen as an attempt to unify the Vedic male pantheon with the pre-existing mother goddess worship possibly dating to the 9th millennium BC [Kali, Davadatta (translator and commentator) (2003). *Devimahatmya: In praise of the Goddess.*] and is an attempt to define divinity as a shakti, which takes form of the female gender, and that pervades all beings and non-beings and yet is transcendental.

Swami Jagadiswarananda shows that *Devi Mahatmya* synthesizes a number of pre-existing mother goddess mythological puranas into a single narrative. [Swami Jagadiswarananda, *Devi Māhātmyam*. p vi]

As described in Chapters 81 – 93 in *Markandeya Purana*, Mahishasura, the son of demon Rambha, gathered strong powers from Lord Brahma as a reward for his penance and eventually obtained a boon from Lord Brahma which indicated that no man would kill him. After that the demon king unleashed reign of terror on earth. When gods intervened, Mahishasura defeated gods and banished them from heaven. Vanquished gods went to Trideva - Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva. As they narrated their woeful tales, immense mass of light manifested from Lord Vishnu's mouth, which was joined by similar rays that emerged from the enraged faces of gods. This mass of light transformed into a primordial energy out of which, a magnificent Goddess was born. She was blessed with all the powers given to her by the Gods. She also acquired her weaponry for her 10 hands from all different Gods with Lord Shiva providing Trident, Lord Vishnu offering

Discus, Varuna giving Conch, Agni granting Spear, Vayu lending Arrows, Indra presenting Thunderbolt, Yama handing out Sword and shield, Vishwakarma delivering Axe and armour, Himalaya extending Lion and Jewels and finally other Gods handing out Lotus and magical offerings. She was decked with jewelery and cloths and the supreme Goddess re-manifested as Durga to slay Mahishasura.

Armed with celestial weapons of all deities and decked with divine ornaments, Durga rode lion into the battle field and challenged demons for battle. Mahishasura's entire army attacked Durga at once. But Durga slew all of them with unparalleled cruelty. An enraged Mahishasura attacked Durga in guise of a buffalo. But Durga bound it with ropes. The buffalo morphed into a lion and leapt on Durga, but she beheaded it with her sword. Then, Mahishasura began to fight in form of a swordsman. Durga pinned him down with a torrent of arrows. Mahishasura now assumed form of a giant elephant and tugged at Durga's lion. Durga lopped off its trunk with her sword and freed her lion. The elephant turned into a buffalo and charged at Durga. Eventually, Mother Goddess flung her trident and beheaded Mahishasura.

We have to understand that Goddess Durga is a symbol of power and divinity as well as compassion for her devotees. Her ten arms symbolizes that she protects her devotees from all ten directions. Mother Goddess is also depicted with three eyes, the third being placed in the center of the forehead. Left and Right eyes are representation of the moon and the sun. The third eye represents fire.

Each of the weapons in all ten hands have some special significance and let us walk over it and see how those should be perceived into our realization.

Chakra –The Chakra that spins in the little index finger of the first upper right hand of the Goddess symbolizes righteousness or dharma. The Goddess uses this weapon to destroy evil and protect righteousness. What this teaches us is that we all must perform our duty/responsibilities in life with utmost attention and care.

Conch – There is Conch in her first upper left hand and it stands for the cosmic sound of 'OM'. The vibration created by the Conch has the power to destroy all evil negative forces and when we pray to the Goddess, we are supposed to get filled with peace and tranquility. In a way the Conch symbolizes happiness. Thus for us it points that we must perform our duty happily and cheerfully without any resentment.

Sword – Next weapon for Mother Goddess in her second right lower hand is Sword. What is a Sword for? It signifies knowledge and intellect, as sharp as the blade of the sword. Therefore the Goddess bestows us with the gift of knowledge to remove the veil of ignorance that binds our souls. Consecutively, we must learn to discriminate and eradicate our evil qualities by sharpening our knowledge and intellect.

Bow and Arrow – The Supreme Goddess possess Bow and Arrow in her second left hand. These pair of weapons symbolize energy including potential (carried by bow) and kinetic (developed in arrow).The whole purpose is to destroy the difficulties arising in one's path in life. The Goddess in turn is sending message for us so that all obstacles may get removed by using a combination

of potential and kinetic energy just as evident in our values or character. We must realize that should we face any difficulties in our life, we must not lose our values but must inculcate in ourselves the power of potential and kinetic energy in terms of our character to fight with problems and eventually win over them.

Lotus – Lotus Flower in Her third lower left hand symbolizes detachment. It can be thought as a symbol for awakening of spiritual consciousness in a soul. Divine Mother shall help her devotees to understand the transience of life and seek the ultimate truth. What it translates to us is that we should be able to achieve our true objective in life amidst all the sins and evils surrounding us. The analogy is similar like the lotus flower which is born and stays in dirty water yet mesmerizes the world with its beauty and charm. It is also interesting to note that the lotus in Durga's hand is not fully bloomed thus indicating certainty of success but not finality.

Club – This is seen in her third right lower hand and it has the power to destroy the enemy, however powerful the enemy may be. Mother Goddess' grace will help defeat our enemies. This teaches us devotion and surrender. It shows us that whatever we do in our life, we must do with love and devotion and only then the outcome will be favorable.

Trident – Trishul or trident is seen in Her fourth left hand. This symbolizes the three human qualities – sattwa (Inactivity or the ideal state of mind characterized by awareness and purity of thought), rajas (activity or energy associated with desires, wishes and ambitions) and tamas (lethargy and stress). In order to attain peace and happiness, there needs to be balance between these three qualities. Her grace will give us the courage to fight the dark qualities arising in one due to the imbalance of the three qualities. Thus we must learn that we must have the courage to eliminate our evil qualities and face the challenges in our life.

Thunderbolt – This weapon of Mother Goddess is a symbol of firmness of spirit like that required in convictions. Praying to Mother Durga will help shatter the problems encountered in life without losing confidence and the Goddess must shower her devotees with unshaken confidence and will. This conveys to us that we need to attack our fears and challenge it with an unyielding firmness and exceptional confidence.

Spear – Another weapon of interest is a Spear that helps to destroy the negative and evil forces and grants auspiciousness.

Blessings – In one hand the Goddess does not hold anything and it is the Blessing hand (Abhaya Hastham). This symbolizes forgiveness and Her blessings. The teaching that applies to us is that we must learn to forgive ourselves and others for mistakes we may have caused.

The supreme Goddess rides on a lion. A lion is a symbol of unlimited power. And for Mother Goddess riding on a lion shows that She possesses control over unlimited power and uses it to protect virtue and destroy evil. In another way lion signifies uncontrolled characteristics of mind such as anger, arrogance, selfishness, greed, jealousy, desire to harm others etc. and for Mother Goddess sitting on it teaches us to control these qualities, so that we are not controlled by them.

Maa Durga is usually shown wearing a red sari. The color red is indicative of actions as the Goddess destroys all evils protecting mankind from pain and suffering.

Thus, the ultimate message that Goddess Durga sends to her devotees is that armed with the force of righteousness, we can achieve the victory over all the evil forces inside us leading to success and happiness paving the way to rise to the spiritual well-beings.

Let us assemble together and pray to the Universal Mother, asking Her to use Her destructive power to remove the vices, imperfections and faults within us (anger, selfish desires, greed, ego and undue attachments), and let our souls get purified so that we can become true receptacle of her Divine Energy.

Ya Devi Sarva Bhutesu, Shanti Roopena Samsitha
(The goddess who is omnipresent as the personification of universal mother)
Ya Devi Sarva Bhootesu, Shakti Roopena Samsthita
(The goddess who is omnipresent as the embodiment of power)
Ya Devi Sarva Bhootesu, Matra Roopena Samsthita
(The goddess who is omnipresent as the symbol of peace)
Yaa Devi Sarva Bhooteshu, Buddhi Roopena Samsthita
(The goddess who resides everywhere in all living beings as intelligence and beauty)
Namastasyai, namastasyai, namastasyai, namo namaha!
(I bow to her, I bow to her, I bow to her again & again.)

About the Author: Being an engineer-turned-scientist by profession, the author is currently involved with research in bio-medical informatics under government (Federal) funded institution. Apart from his profession, the author has vast training and experience with Hindu rituals with a number of publications in international journals. The author's long association with his father, who was a priest of the President of India has yielded enough exposure for the author to take the Hindu Vedic rituals to a new level.

THE BOY

by Titash Biswas

a tangible freedom snatched away
from the grasps of a frantic family
refuge from the brutality of humans
escape from a sad, war-torn country
an ocean separating heaven and hell
a hopeful raft braving the cruel sea
the waves tainted a haunting crimson
brought back a limp, forlorn body
a boy fell prey to heinous evil
stripped of infinite opportunities
an eternal embrace with rough shores
shed light on their swelling misery
a future that he could never sculpt
another world of sandcastles and glee
joy and hope for all our other children
and peace will trickle into our reality

(presented at United Nations International Peace Day)

জালের মাছ
দীপক বাগচী
অন্টারিও, ক্যালিফোর্নিয়া

*(কবিতাটি শ্রীম কথিত শ্রীশ্রীরামকৃষ্ণকথামৃত
পুস্তকের ১ম ভাগ, ১ম খন্ড, ৬ষ্ঠ পরিচ্ছেদ ও ১ম
ভাগ, ৪র্থ খন্ড, ২য় পরিচ্ছেদে বর্ণিত আলোচনার
ভাবালম্বনে লিখিত)*

চারিটি রকম নর আছে পৃথিবীতে,
এক, যারা বাঁধা রয় জগতে বেড়িতে;
দুই, যারা খুঁজিতেছে মুক্তির উপায়;
তিন, যারা হইয়াছে মুক্ত এ ধরায়;
চার, যারা সদা মুক্ত, নিত্যসিদ্ধ যারা,
গোড়া হতে মুক্ত রয় জন্মিয়াই তারা ।

নিত্যসিদ্ধের মাঝে সকল মুনির
মধ্যে আছেন মুনি নারদ, নজির ।
জগতের ভাল করা তাঁহাদের কর্ম,
আর নরে শিখাইতে যাহা সত্য-ধর্ম ।

যাহারা আবদ্ধ জীব তাহারা ডুবিয়া
রহিছে জগত-পঙ্কে, ঈশ্বরে ভুলিয়া ।
ভুলিয়াও তারা নাকো আনে না চিন্তায়
ঈশ্বরের নামখানি, কী বা কব হয় ?

যাহারা খুঁজিছে পথ হইবারে মুক্ত,
চেষ্টা করিছে তারা হইতে বিযুক্ত
জগতের ফাঁস হ'তে, তাহাদের কেহ
হয় মুক্ত, আর নাহি হয় অনেকেও ।

আর যাঁরা পৃথিবীতে হয়েছেন মুক্ত,
সাধু, ও মহাত্মারা এতে অন্তর্ভুক্ত,
তঁারা নন জগতের পাশেতে আবদ্ধ,
কামিনী-কাঞ্চন হতে তঁারা মুক্তি-লব্ধ ।
বিষয়াসক্তিমুক্ত তঁাহাদের মন,
ঈশ্বরের পাদপদ্ম করেন মনন ।

ধর এক জলাশয়ে ফেলিয়াছে জাল,
কিছু মাছ আছে যারা হয়না নাকাল,
জালে তারা নাহি ধরা পড়ে কোন ভাবে,
নিত্যসিদ্ধের মতো ইহারা স্বভাবে ।

কিন্তু অধিকাংশ মাছ জালে ধরা পড়ে;
তার ক'টি জাল হ'তে বেরোবার তরে
অনেক চেষ্টা করে, সেগুলিই যত
মুক্তির উপায় খোঁজা লোকেদের মতো ।
কিন্তু লড়াই করা মাছ গুলি সব
হয়না সফল কভু, কেবল সম্ভব
গুটিকয় মাছেরই ডিঙ্গাইয়া জাল
সশব্দে জলে পড়ি তরঙ্গ উত্তাল
তুলিবারে, যাহা দেখি জেলে ওঠে বলি,
"ওই যে একটি বড় মাছ গেল চলি ।"
মুক্ত পুরুষ যাঁরা তঁাহারা সকলে
এই কটি মাছ সম, ইহা বলা চলে ।

কিন্তু বেশির ভাগ মাছ অসফল
হইয়া আবদ্ধ রয় জালেতে কেবল;
নহিলে তাহারা চেষ্টা করে নাকো মোটে,
জালেতে আবদ্ধ থাকা অবশেষে জোটে ।
শুধু তো তাহাই নয়, এদের কী হাল ?
কাদায় প্রবেশ করে মুখে ধরি জাল;
আর সেথা চুপ করি থাকে আর ভাবে,
"ভয়ের কিছুই নাই থাকিলে এভাবে ।
মোরা হেথা নিরাপদে রহিব নিশ্চয়,"
মুঢ় মাছ জানেনা যে ভাগ্যে কী রয় !
জানেনা তাহারা ইহা, জেলে জাল সহ
টানিয়া উঠায়ে নিয়া করিবে সংগ্রহ ।
এগুলি হইল তুল্য তাহাদের সনে
বিষয়ে আবদ্ধ যারা রয় এ ভুবনে ।

- ০ -

Our Sponsors

Dr. Purnima Thakran

Dr. Purnima Thakran is the gracious sponsor of the AACE presentation in Durga Puja 2015 – the AACE (Academy of Arts & Cultural Exchange) program helps our community children to showcase their talent through performances organized by Dakshini. Dakshini thanks Dr. Thakran for her warm generosity and active support for the community's children.



Dr. Purnima Thakran discovered her passion for the art of healing early in her childhood. After completing her schooling from Cambridge, England, she studied medicine in the prestigious Armed Forces Medical College (AFMC), Pune, India where she received her MBBS and MD degrees. She did her diploma in Orthopedics at LLRM Medical College, Meerut following which she started her clinical practice. After coming to USA in 1988, she completed her doctorate from University of Nebraska Medical Center, before joining the Kaiser UCLA program in Los Angeles in 1992.

Over the course of her long and illustrious career spanning three continents, Dr. Thakran (or Purnimadi as she is popularly known) treated and consulted with thousands of patients. She is a renowned neurologist and multiple sclerosis specialist having had a thriving private practice in Apple Valley and Barstow, California. She also consults at inpatient and outpatient facilities at three regional community hospitals.

Dr. Thakran has dedicated herself in the field of neurology and multiple sclerosis through the lens of continuous education, service, dedication, care, research and empathy. She has been a recipient of many prestigious awards including the Distinguished Service Award from St. Mary's Medical Center. Dr. Thakran has several publications to her name, and presented in several national and international forums, and has achieved international recognition for her work in treatment, advancements and diagnosis in multiple sclerosis, epilepsy and seizures.

In addition to her illustrious professional career, Purnimadi, along with her husband Khalid Khan, is a music, fine arts and culture aficionado - she has performed in several Dakshini cultural programs. Her enthusiasm, energy and empathy, while being the hallmark of her professional career, also shines through in her constant encouragement, inspiration and active support for cultural programs.

The Dakshini family and the greater Bengali and South Asian community is proud to have Dr. Purnima Thakran in their midst.

Kali P. Chaudhuri, M.D.

Dr. Kali P. Chaudhuri is the gracious sponsor of the dance drama "**Chitragada**" in Durga Puja 2015. Dakshini thanks Dr. Chaudhuri for his warm generosity and active support for the Bengali community.

Dr. Kali Pradip Chaudhuri, the Chairman and Founder of the KPC Group of Companies, has reached an unprecedented level of success through extraordinary vision, acute entrepreneurial spirit and relentless hard work. The KPC Group is engaged in numerous businesses around the world serving diverse industries such as healthcare, real estate, pharmaceutical and biotechnology, education, infrastructure development, agriculture, architecture and engineering, alternative energy, and information technology.

Dr. Chaudhuri obtained his MBBS degree in Kolkata from National Medical College and was also educated in Malaysia, England, Canada and the United States. He has practiced orthopedic surgery since 1982. He is certified by the American Board of Orthopedic Surgeons and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons, and a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Chaudhuri has been involved in the Southern California healthcare industry for more than 35 years and was one of the pioneers in Southern California in creating an integrated healthcare provider network in the early days of managed care.

Additionally, other affiliates include (1) independent physicians associations ("IPAs"), including Hemet Community Medical Group, Menifee Valley Community Medical Group and Temecula Valley Physicians Medical Group which constitute one of the largest IPA networks in southwest Riverside County, (2) several medical groups which provide services in the areas of radiology, anesthesiology, orthopedics, nephrology, surgery, obstetrics and gynecology, family medicine and emergency medicine, (3) a home health agency, (4) an ambulatory surgery center, (5) urgent care centers, and (6) imaging and diagnostic facilities in southwest Riverside County.

Dr. Chaudhuri has enjoyed significant success as a real estate entrepreneur with widely diversified property acquisitions worldwide. Dr. Chaudhuri and his group are currently engaged in the development and construction of more than 3.3 million sq. ft. of real estate expected to include a multitude of uses such as various healthcare facilities, hotels, residential units, and agriculture.

In 2003, Dr. Chaudhuri successfully established the first private medical school in West Bengal, India in conjunction with constructing a full service hospital. On a sprawling 25 acre campus with more than 1.8 million sq. ft. of construction, the KPC Medical College & Hospital, Shova Rani Nursing College and Paramedical College provide health and educational services to millions of Indians residing in the city of Kolkata.

Dr. Chaudhuri is a driven leader who has derived his inspiration to build his dream from South Asian traditional culture, heritage and values. He has two children, Kali Priyo and Sumanta, a daughter-in-law, Priyandana, and a son-in-law, Dr. Arvind Saini. He resides in Hemet, California with his wife, Sunanda

Summer Vacation

By Aditya Alex Mukerjee
6th Grade

Summer Vacation is a time away from school,
in the world of story books, video games and in the swimming pool.

There are long days in hot sun and we stay cool in AC or in shades
and I never have to answer questions on my test scores and grades.

It is all full of fun but it never lasts too long,
very soon, we are back to classroom where I really don't belong.

This is the story of my life at the beginning of every school year,
workload increases tenfold and it always difficult to bear.

But something different happened this year and it is felt by you all,
there is continuous heat wave and it is hot and stuffy even in the fall.

So please support me and write to my principal for her kind consideration,
If the summer got extended same should happen to my summer vacation.

অর্চিস্মান

By Rishi

আকাশের মত বড় হোক তোমার মন
দিকচক্রবাল পর্যন্ত বিস্তৃত হও তুমি
উর্ধ্বাকাশে নিবাত নিষ্কম্প নির্ধূম শিখার মত জ্বলুক আল্পদীপ
যে দীপের আলোকে অন্যেরা পাক উষ্ণতা , অন্যেরা পাক দৃষ্টি
ঝর ঝঞ্জা বিদ্যুতের দাপাদাপিতে-ও তুমি থেকে অচঞ্চল
মেঘ কেটে যখন বয়ে যাবে শরতের বাতাস
ভিজে মাটির গন্ধ উঠবে যখন আকাশে
পলাশ ফুলের তুলো যখন উড়ে যাবে চরাচরের পাশ দিয়ে , অন্য চারের খোঁজে
তখন তুমি হও অগ্নিভা উজ্জ্বল , তুমি হবে অর্চিস্মান।



Ahana Bhunia Age: 8yrs.



Alpana Bhunia Age: 11 yrs



Rishi

চেতনার রামধনুবা

।। মৃগাল কান্তি ঘোষ।।

আর কিছু হবার নয়,
সৃষ্টি , আনন্দ, ভালবাসা কোনো কিছু আয়ত্রে নেই ।

চেপ্টা করলেও কাউকে দুঃখ দিতে পারি না,
যদি ভাবি মেঘ-গর্জন বজ্রপাতের মত আঘাত করবো-
বৃষ্টি শেষে শীতল হওয়া বয়ে যায়।
ভীষণ চিৎকার করতে গিয়ে চমকে উঠি
ওরা কি ঠেঁট টিপে হাসছে?

পুরীর বঙ্গোপসাগরের দিকে পিঠ করে বসি,
সামনের জানলা খুললেই জগন্নাথ দেবের মন্দির দেখা যায়,
পিছনে অস্তগামী সূর্যের দ্যুতি ।

চেতনার রামধনুবা কি এখনও ছেড়ে যায় নি আমাকে?

দুর্জয় তেজ নিয়ে কবে পিছনে ফেলে এসেছি কন্যাকুমারীর তিন সমুদ্রের সঙ্গম,
সন্ধ্যা লগ্নে পূণ্যার্থীদের সিলুয়েট অবয়ব এখনও ছবি হয়ে আছে।

প্রাণ আনচান করে , আবার কি দেখা হবে এ জীবনে !

মীনাঙ্কী মন্দিরের সন্ধ্যারতি, পঞ্চ প্রদীপ নিয়ে এগিয়ে আসছেন পুরোহিত-
দু হাতে পূণ্যারতি মাথায় ঠেকাই আমার জন্য, তাদের জন্য, সবার জন্য ।

আর শাসন নয়।

মনে হয় এবার
জীবন যেন ভাসতে ভাসতে চলেছে শব্দের সঙ্গে,
যে ধ্বনি কখনো শব্দের,
কখনো চর্চের ঘন্টার,
কখনো মন্দিরের মল্লোচ্চারণের।

লেকটাউন, কোলকাতা

৩০ শে আগস্ট, ২০১৫

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Kisholoy and Latika Goswami - An Entrepreneurial Couple



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Latika Goswami
Chief Operating Officer

Kisholoy and Latika Goswami co-founded InnoSense LLC in 2002 in the Los Angeles area to advance the field of applied science for improving life on earth. Upon receiving his doctoral degree in Physical Organic Chemistry from Boston University, Dr. Goswami moved to Berkeley, CA, with his family (wife Latika and two sons - Suvro and Shanto) as a postdoctoral scientist at the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory and the Department of Chemistry at the University of California, Berkeley. Working with a Nobel Laureate Scientist, Professor Melvin Calvin, Kisholoy pursued the theme of artificial photosynthesis by photocatalytically reducing carbon dioxide (a greenhouse gas). In 1987, Kisholoy joined the arena of industrial research in a small business setting that led to the founding of InnoSense.

Latika (MS, Physics) decided to raise two sons (twin) putting her career growth on hold. When the Goswami family moved to Las Vegas in 1989, Latika joined Lockheed Martin and later she pursued her MS in chemistry at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Later, she assumed a teaching position in a community college in Las Vegas. In 1997, the Goswami family moved to the Los Angeles area when Suvro and Shanto entered into their undergraduate program. Latika took a position with Neutrogena Corporation (a subsidiary of Johnson and Johnson) as a Senior Scientist in the Quality Assurance/Quality Control department, and in 2006 she took the position of COO with the company she co-founded.

InnoSense LLC concentrates its research in the areas of nanotechnology-based coatings and sensors for healthcare, defense, aerospace, energy and environmental applications. With 20 technical staff and well-equipped laboratories in a recently expanded facility, InnoSense is well poised for growth.

The couple now faces a scenario that is all too familiar to the first generation Americans (grown up children living far away from their parents) from the Indian subcontinent. Suvro Goswami, MBA, is living in Chicago devoted to his own startup. Shanto Goswami, MBA, is developing his own firm in New York with investment banking experience as a guide. What this means is that no grandchildren are coming couple's way anytime soon (*long sigh of anxiety*)!



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