

# Kachchhi Oswal Jain Association In NorthAmerica Inc.

## KOJAIN NEWSLETTER

1251-36 Cerritos Ave. Anaheim, Ca. 92802

Phone and Fax: (714) 956-0405

Web Site: [www.kojain.com](http://www.kojain.com)

Volume 9, Issue 2, June 2004

### Board of Directors:

#### Officers:

**President:** Kalyanji K. Mota  
(714) 956-0405

[kkmm30@hotmail.com](mailto:kkmm30@hotmail.com)

**Vice-President:** Dr. Prem Gada  
(806) 794 4777

[Prem@jainworld.com](mailto:Prem@jainworld.com)

**Secretary:** Dami Rambhia  
(860) 633-1392

[Drambhia@aol.com](mailto:Drambhia@aol.com)

**Treasurer:** Harak Gala  
(301) 912-3545

[harakgala@yahoo.com](mailto:harakgala@yahoo.com)

### Regional Directors:

**Region 1:** AZ,CO,HI,NM,SO,CA,UT.

Mexico

Vijay Chheda (714) 544-5850  
[Vijaychheda@hotmail.com](mailto:Vijaychheda@hotmail.com)

**Region 2:** AK,ID,MT,NV,NO,CA,OR,  
WA,WY.

Navin Dedhia (408) 629-1723  
[Navindedhia@hotmail.com](mailto:Navindedhia@hotmail.com)

**Region 3:** AR,KS,LA,MO,OK,TX.

Dhiraj M. Gosar (281) 530-1931  
[gosard@hal-pc.org](mailto:gosard@hal-pc.org)

**Region 4:** IL,IN,IA,MN,NE,ND,SD WI  
Ram Gada (651) 636-1075

[rgada@aol.com](mailto:rgada@aol.com)

**Region 5:** AL,FL,GA,MS,TN.

Harsha R. Nagda (352) 854-1776  
[babuji@aol.com](mailto:babuji@aol.com)

**Region 6:** KY,MI,OH,W.PA,WV.

Mahendra Maru (270) 688-8715  
[mcmaru@yahoo.com](mailto:mcmaru@yahoo.com)

**Region 7:** MD,NC,SC,VA,Wa.DC.

Manoj Dharamsi (703) 620-9837  
[manojdharamsi@juno.com](mailto:manojdharamsi@juno.com)

**Region 8:** DE,E.PA,NJ.

Tansukh Maru (732) 495-2304  
[marut@ix.netcom.com](mailto:marut@ix.netcom.com)

**Region 9:** NY

Chhotalal Bheddah(516) 883-0345  
[bheddah@aol.com](mailto:bheddah@aol.com)

**Region 10:** CT,ME,MA,NH,RI,VT.

Vimla Chheda (203) 372-4958  
[Vnchheda@optonline.net](mailto:Vnchheda@optonline.net)

**Region 11:** Canada

Hemant Shah (204) 269-4362  
[hirshah@mts.net](mailto:hirshah@mts.net)

**Past President:**

Kalyanji Mota As noted above

**Youth Representative Director:**

Sachin Visharia (732) 985-4716  
[Svisaria@lucent.com](mailto:Svisaria@lucent.com)

A Non-Profit Organization  
Tax exempt no. 06-1442444

### President's Message

My dear fellow Kachchhi Oswals,

Jai Jinendra.

KOJAIN Board Of Directors has been discussing KOJAIN logo since its inception; however we have not come to any conclusion. Finally, we are seeking suggestions from all of you. Please send your entries and get recognition and prize as a token of our appreciation. Rules and guidelines are noted in this newsletter.

The Chicago Kachchhi Oswal group has invited Kachchhi families and friends in North America for a one-day Tristate Kachchhi Gathering on Saturday September 4, 2004 from 10 am. to 10 pm. during Labor Day Weekend. Lot of effort has gone into the planning of this event to make it successful. KOJAIN encourages such gathering and recommends everyone to participate in such events to the extent possible and help develop stronger bond among us. More information about the event, including Registration form for this event, is available on our web site [www.kojain.com](http://www.kojain.com)

The success of last year's Youth trip to Kachchh has encouraged KOJAIN Youth Committee to develop another Kachchh trip for our youngsters this year also. Please read the comments of participants of last year's Kachchh trip. These comments may inspire many of our youngsters to visit and cherish the land of our elders. Contact the trip coordinators listed in this newsletter and show your interest.

We hope to see many applications coming to us for KOJAIN scholarship from those who are finishing school and going to college for further study.

KOJAIN Youth committee has sent a letter to all the youths via email expressing who they are, what they are, what they expect from youths, and have given a survey link to chart future activities. Please respond to their inquiries. We shall also send that letter to KOJAIN egroup and request parents to forward information to their children who may be away from home attending their college.

Please send your comments, suggestions or criticism. We would like to hear from you.

Sincerely yours,

Kalyanji Mota  
President of KOJAIN

**News from The Board of Directors:**

The Board of Directors held a teleconference on May 2, 2004.

- Board reviewed the progress of new committees. It was decided to merge Scholarship Loan Program into KOJAIN's Loan Program committee. Charters of some of the new committees were not yet ready. The chairpersons of the new committees were requested to prepare and send the charters via email. We will review them at our next meeting.
- In order to increase paid membership of KOJAIN, the membership committee will send the analysis of current membership to each regional director to help them encourage non-members to become paid members of KOJAIN.
- The activities of several existing committees were reviewed.

**KOJAIN LOGO CONTEST**

Kachchhi Oswal Jain Association In North America (KOJAIN) invites you to submit your entry to KOJAIN Logo Contest. The first place and second place winners as judged by the KOJAIN panel, will be awarded US \$100 & \$50 prize respectively.

**Following are the rules of the contest:**

- A. **Any Kachchhi Jain Oswal KOJAIN** member or non-member, their spouse and their children (age 14 and over) are eligible to participate in this contest.
- B. **Deliverable:** Submit a completed application with Logo drawing/sketch which can depict/identify KOJAIN's mission/objectives in pictorial form. You may briefly describe why your entry is the best. KOJAIN objectives are listed in Exhibit 1. Submission by e-mail is preferred.
- C. **Submission Date:**  
Deliverable shall be submitted no later than 12:00PM, **August 31, 2004**
- by e-mail/fax, or
  - postmarked by mail from USA/Canada/Mexico or
  - postmarked by airmail from India.
- D. **Submission Address:**
1. E-mail: **kojainlogo@aol.com**  
Name the file: Logo <your full name>.doc
  2. Postal Address: KOJAIN Logo Contest, C/O Ram Gada, 147-14<sup>th</sup> Avenue S.W., St. Paul, MN 55112, USA
- E. **Judging:** KOJAIN panel of three (3) judges will review all the entries submitted and decide the first and second place winners. Their decision will be final.
- F. **Rules of Contest:** Contestants shall abide by the following rules of the contest:

1. Maximum three (3) entries per contest
2. Entries will not be returned.
3. The first and second prize winner entries shall become the KOJAIN property and KOJAIN shall have all rights to use it in anyway KOJAIN determines.
4. The first and second prize winners will be publicized with due recognition given to the winners and stated prizes.
5. KOJAIN Board will have a final say on how the Logo will be used.

**G. Contact for further information/clarification on KOJAIN Logo Contest:**

Ram Gada E-mail: **rgada@aol.com**

(Preferred)

Phone: 651-636-1075

Fax: 612-788-2694

**EXHIBIT 1 – KOJAIN OBJECTIVES**

KOJAIN is exclusively operated as a cultural, charitable, educational and religious non-profit organization:

- To maintain, enhance and advance the culture of Kachchhi Oswal Jain Community in North America, India and elsewhere.
- To promote and organize cultural, charitable, educational, and religious activities in North America, India and elsewhere.
- To facilitate members and organizations in making contributions to medical, educational and charitable projects in North America, India and elsewhere.
- To help in publishing, distributing and promoting any material devoted wholly or partly to Kachchhi culture, arts and education and/or Jain religion.
- To provide assistance and support to its members at the time of their need.

**KOJAIN LOGO CONTEST APPLICATION**

Contestant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
Father/Mother's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Village in Kutch: \_\_\_\_\_

I, the undersigned, submit the entry in KOJAIN Logo Contest and agree to abide by the Contest Rules. I permit KOJAIN to use this entry for KOJAIN use as KOJAIN sees it suitable.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

[Attach LOGO file with this application & submit ]  
My comments about the KOJAIN logo submitted are as follows:

**Treasurer's Report:**

Following is the list of deposits received in listed accounts as of May 2004

**New Membership:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>St.</u>	<u>Amt.</u>
Paulomi Gudka	Onterio	Canada	\$ 40
Harakh & Kusum Kenia	New Rochelle	NY	\$250
Mehul Maroo	San Francisco	CA	\$ 40
Nirav H. Gala	Rochester	NY	\$ 30
Mahendra & Prabha Maru	Littleton	CO	\$ 40
Sanjay & Ameeta Gala	Houston	TX	\$ 40
Tushar M. Thakkar	Streamwood	IL	\$ 30
Siddharth Lodaya	Northampton	MA	\$ 30
Hiren & Indira Gala	Voorhees	NJ	\$40

**Bidada Sarvoday Trust**

<u>Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>St.</u>	<u>Amt.</u>
Hemant & Indira Maru	Syosset	NY	\$101

**Virayatan**

<u>Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>St.</u>	<u>Amt.</u>
Hemant & Indira Maru	Syosset	NY	\$251

**KOJAIN's Scholarship Fund**

<u>Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>St.</u>	<u>Amt.</u>
Hemant & Indira Maru	Syosset	NY	\$2001

**KOJAIN Awards Student Loan**

KOJAIN Loan Program Committee is gladly announcing the non-interest student loan of **\$4000 to Shri Nirav Harakchand Gala** studying for Master in Electrical Engineering at Rochester Institute Of Technology, Rochester, N.Y. The amount is sent towards the tution fee for the next semester. The loan will be repaid in installments after Shri Nirav receives his professional job.

Shri Nirav Gala is from Bada Kachchh and resides at Vileparle, Mumbai. We congratulate him and wish great success in his study.

So far KOJAIN has awarded interest free loans - including this one - in the amount of \$10,366 to students.

This loan was possible due to the generous donation from **Shri Arvindbhai and Ashaben Vira of New Orleans, Louisiana.**



**KOJAIN 2003 Directory is available**

The KOJAIN's new directory of **June 2003 has been distributed to all the paid members as a complimentary service to members without any charge.** It is available free to dues-paying members and at the cost of \$30 to the non-members.

Send your check and membership form to: KOJAIN Secretary, Dami Rambhia 66 Ruff Circle, Glastonbury, CT. 06033. You can down load membership form from our web site [www.kojain.com](http://www.kojain.com)

**It makes a lot of sense to become a paid member now!!**

Individual Membership (Biennial)	US \$30
Family Membership (Biennial)	US \$40
Individual Lifetime Membership	US \$200
Family Lifetime Membership	US \$250

## NEWS FROM REGIONS

### Region 6: KY,MI,OH,W.PA,WV.

#### **Graduation:**

- Congratulations to the following College Graduates:  
Sunil Khimji Dharamsi: MBA Jasmine Talak Shah BS (Architecture)
- Congratulations to the following College Graduates:  
(1) Pinkesh Bhavsar (2) Sonal Talak Shah (3) Shalin Naren Vira

### Region 7: MD,NC,SC,VA,Wa.DC.



A Crusader for the Sacred Earth – An Icon and A Legend Kachchi from Kachchh village Talwana Dr. Rasmi Mayur passed away few months back. He was a futurist, an environmentalist, an educator, a scientist, a conservationist, and much more. He was a voracious reader, a prolific writer, and an international traveler, who had visited 85 countries.

Rashmi was a member of many committees in various nations and an advisor to several United Nations agencies and governments around the world. He worked throughout the world on issues of sustainability, poverty, pollution and more. Through his innumerable lectures and interactions at conferences, where he often was a keynote speaker, he awakened an awareness of simplicity, reverence, and unity for this Planet.

“Rashmi leaves behind a host of loving members of his family, friends and admirers, who mourn his loss and lament his premature departure from this earth,” writes his sister, Dr. Kumudini Mayur of Maryland. We offer our deep condolences to Shri Rasmi’s close family and friends and pray for his soul to rest his soul in peace. May He give strength to the close family members to bear the loss that has fallen upon them.

### Region 8: DE,E.PA,NJ.:

#### **Graduation:**

Jinen, son of Pravin & Madhu Chheda, of New Jersey) has graduated with M.S. (Comp Science) from NJIT and has started working as Software Engineer in Raytheon, Virginia.

### Region 10: CT,ME,MA,NH,RI,VT.

#### **Achievement:**

- **Chintan Maru Named Fulbright Scholar**  
Chintan, son of Usha and Hansraj Maru of Brookfield, CT, will spend the coming academic year at the University of West Indies in Kingston, Jamaica, on the prestigious Fulbright Scholarship. The award follows an undergraduate career in Political Theory at Duke, during which he also traveled to and worked in South Africa and Namibia.

The Fulbright Program, sponsored by the US Dept. of State, helps recent graduates to conduct career launching research abroad. Fulbright alumni include artists, university presidents, business leaders, heads of state, and 34 Nobel Laureates.

#### **Achievement:**

- **Bhanu Shah of Norwalk, CT**, was one of the five finalists for the Library Support Staff of the Year, for her "outstanding performance and her commitment to quality library service".

#### **Achievement:**

- A group of high-school students partnered with Trilegiant, a local business in Norwalk, CT, to create a company. The students sold stock, created and sold a product, and paid out dividends and wages. In this company, **Dipti Dedhia**, daughter of Suresh and Jyoti Dedhia and a sophomore in high school from Norwalk, CT, was the Vice President of Finance. She was nominated to become Vice President of Finance of the Year, an award sponsored by The Institute of Management Accountants, Westchester Gateway Chapter. She was presented with Vice President of Finance of the Year Runner Up on February 5, 2004, at the Stamford Sheraton Hotel, during the Future Unlimited Banquet

#### **Retirement:**

- Navin Chheda of Easton, CT recently retired from Xerox Corporation after 30 years of service.

#### **New Arrivals:**

- Jasmine and Dev Nisar formerly of Woburn, MA and now of Quincy, MA, were blessed with the arrival of a baby boy, Tanay, on May 4, 2004

**Progress report of Medical Information Committee**

Chairperson: Vimla Chheda (203) 372-4958  
vnychheda@optonline.net Members: Ila Shah, (562)  
947-7018 ilacshah@yahoo.com Bhagavati Gada  
(806) 794-4777 gadapg9jafna@pol.net Dr. Mahendra Maru (270) 688-8715 maru@medscape.com  
Dr. Shantilal Kenia (413) 562-7737 Kenya1@aol.com

=====  
From: Vimla Chheda. Progress report & appeal letter

Dear Friends,

Medical Information committee was able to assist six patients, two with cardiac problems, two with ear problems, one was a depression case and one was a cancer patient.

In the case of one of the cardiac patients, the person could not speak good English. Because of the language barrier, the patient was under a lot of stress and that is when we connected her with Dr. Shanti Kenia (MA), who not only advised her but comforted her as well.

Dr Lalit Savla (MA), Dr. Chandravadan Haria (OH), Dr. Mahendra Maru (KY) and Dr. Indu Vira (NJ) were very helpful with the other patients.

My humble request to all the regional directors: please request your area medical professionals to join our committee as volunteers.

I have also spoken to Kachchhi Medical Committee president Dr. Amrat Vora in Mumbai, who has agreed to be a coordinator for medical referral, whereby people traveling from here or if they or their family are looking for a specialist in India, can be assisted. Navin and I were able to solicit such help in India during our last visit to India and Dr. Vora was very helpful.

Also, we are getting many Kachchhi students coming here for further education and occasionally they may need medical help. Since they can't afford the medical cost beyond their insurance coverage, our volunteer doctors can help out in such cases. If we have enough volunteer doctors all over the USA and Canada, more people could get medical help when needed.

**Kachchh News**

**Use of Money donated by KOJAIN Members**

- At Jakhania near Mandvi, the first phase of Verayatan Vidyapith, the medical center supported by people from U.K. was opened on January 2, 2003,
- 14000 sq. ft. of Rehabilitation Center was opened at Bidada Sarvody Trust in Bidada.
- Bheda Hospital at Bhujpur a 9,000 square feet of medical center at a cost of Rupees 70 Lakhs will be ready before the end of the year.

**India Heritage Scholarships**

India Heritage awards scholarships in (1) sports (2) Visual and Performing arts (3) Community Services (4) Perfect score in quiz. Eligibility criteria: (1) Graduating in year 2004 from high school in Southern Calif. (2) One or both parents of Asian Indian origin and (3) GPA of C or higher. For application forms/more information, send email to awardsforgraduates@yahoo.com or visit: www.LA-indiacenter.com

**11 South Asians received Fellowship from Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowship**

Eleven South Asian Americans were among 30 winners of the seventh annual Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowships for New Americans, set up in 1997 by Paul and Daisy Soros as a charitable trust of \$50 million to support graduate study by immigrants and children of immigrants.

The winners were selected from the pool of approximately 1000 applicants representing 141 national origins and 360 colleges and universities, writes Rupal Shah, the staff reporter of India west.

The Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowships were set up by the immigrant couple from Hungary "to find people among today's immigrants who have potential to make great contributions in the future, and to enable them to succeed in their chosen fields by providing funds for their graduate studies" said a press release.

The foundation looks for three criteria when choosing its fellows: creativity, initiative and originality; accomplishment in any area of life that requires sustained efforts; and embodying the essence of living in a free country or a commitment to the values of the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights.

For the information about the fellows, visit **www.pdsoros.org**

## KOJAIN'S COMMITTEE FOR KUTCH MAHILA VIKAS SANGHATHAN

Chairperson:	Usha H. Maru	Ph.: (203) 775-1906	Email: usha.maru@osha.gov
Members:	Vimla N. Chheda	Ph.: (203) 372-4958	Email: vnchheda@optonline.net
	Neena R. Gada	Ph.: (651) 636-1075	Email: Rgada@aol.com
	Rekha L. Savla	Ph.: (858) 673-9039	Email: Lalit_savla@hotmail.com
Advisor:	Vivek H. Maru	Ph.: (510) 798-3191	Email: vivekmaru@post.harvard.edu

From: Neena Gada    Appeal Letter: Kachchh Mahila Vikas Sangethan Social Workers Fund

### KACHCHHI – WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Dear friends:

Jai Jinendra:

During our visit to Shree Bhojay Sarvodaya Hospital in February 04 for the Inauguration of Minnesota Medical Mobile Program for Prevention, Awareness, Treatment on Health (PATH) for Women, we were also impressed with the activities and resulting success of Kachchhi Mahila Vikas Sanghathan (KMVS) organization, its volunteers and women participants. They narrated many success stories of village women upliftment from poverty, sickness, despair and home violence. It was a gratifying feeling to chat with several women who have been helped and have become contributing volunteers.

Since 1989, KMVS has inspired more than 12,000 women members in 60 villages in six (6) Kachchhi Talukas to uplift the lives of rural women. This is a grass root development organization empowering women by education, training and participation in the following basic areas, which touch women's lives on a daily basis:

1. Health
2. Education
3. Handicraft for livelihood
4. Social ecology
5. Legal help to solve domestic issues
6. Panchayat and political participation

KOJAIN members can be proud of our members' financial support of \$6673 (±) recently sent. However, we can do lot better to sustain the activities of KMVS which is bringing an awakening in rural Kachchhi women with proven results and KMVS needs more resources to strengthen and expand their activities. Empowering women is the most basic and important rehabilitation program to enhance the lives of Kachchhi families, villages and communities.

- **Will you kindly support one KMVS social worker for one year with your \$750 donation?**
- **How about \$3500 donation for the one social worker for five (5) years, if you can?**
- **Any amount of donation will go for the betterment of Kachchhi women.**
- Thank you very much if you have already donated. Please consider giving more, if you can.

Please make your **tax deductible donation to KOJAIN w/memo "KMVS Fund"** and mail check to: KOJAIN Treasurer, Mr. Harak Gala: 727 Thornwood Drive, Odenton, MD 21113

Any questions? Need more information about KMVS? Please contact any of the committees members. Thank you for your time and consideration.

### Scholarship 2004

KOJAIN is soliciting candidates for one or more 2004 Scholarships. We have awarded 14 Scholarships with awards totaling \$10750. Scholarship criteria and submission requirements are:

Only current (as of June 30, 2004) KOJAIN members and their dependent family members (spouse/children) are eligible. Applicants must be a college first-year by fall 2004. Proof of admission for the fall academic year in an accredited college/university will be required before giving scholarship. All applicants must:

1. Have at least 3.0 Grade Point Average (G.P.A.) on a 4.0 scale. Must have a min. 3.0 overall, or at least 3.0 for the last full year of school.
2. Be a current high school senior. Must submit a full transcript including Fall/Winter year grades. Photocopies are acceptable. If mailed by school, the transcript must still must be post-marked by July 5 2004.
3. Provide one written recommendation and character reference from a teacher, counselor, friend, or a KOJAIN member (not related to applicant). Recommendation must be submitted with application package.
4. List and briefly describe awards and/or extracurricular services and activities on a separate page. Provide enough information so that the selection committee will understand the nature of activities.
5. Provide one self-addressed number 10 business sized stamped envelopes. This will be used to provide the result of the competition. Provide email address. Email will be used to acknowledge the receipt of completed application. All applicants will be notified by September 15, 2004.
6. Submit a typed, double-spaced essay on any one of the choices of topics given to the applicants. Essay must be at least one page and must not exceed two pages (10 or 12 font print style). Essay topics are:
  - (1) What advice do you have for the KOJAIN students coming to North America for higher studies?
  - (2) How and what can I do to help my ancestor's motherland and in particular Kachchh?
7. Provide results of American College Testing (ACT) or Scholastic Aptitude Testing (SAT), or other entrance examinations scores as applicable.

Please mail all materials and two passport size photograph (except transcript if necessary) in one package unfolded in a 9" by 12" (or longer) envelop postmarked by July 5, 2004 to Dinesh Chheda, 14 Paris Pl. Parsippany, NJ 07054

### YOUTH TRIP TO KACHCHH

Did you ever want to know more about the rebuilding effort in kachchh? Have you ever wondered about the local lifestyle of the people of kachchh and their heritage?

KOJAIN invites you to a twelve-day expedition to Kachchh. "**Know Kachchh, Give Back to Kachchh**" combines the opportunity to volunteer at Bidada Medical Camp and the ability to explore palaces, beaches and local attractions and to make new friends. Join us for an experience of a lifetime, where you can touch the lives of others and they will surely touch your heart in a way you will never forget.

**Date of Travel: Dec 28th,2004 - Jan 9th,2005**

**Cost of Travel: \$200**

Visit the website for comments and photos on the first inaugural Kachchh trip we scheduled in January 2004. (<http://www.kojain.com/Committee/youth/kachchhtrip.htm>)

Coming soon : A detailed itinerary.

For more information contact

Sachin Visaria at [svisaria@lucent.com](mailto:svisaria@lucent.com)

Suchita Gala at [suchita\\_gala@yahoo.com](mailto:suchita_gala@yahoo.com)

Shekhar Shah at [shahshekhar@hotmail.com](mailto:shahshekhar@hotmail.com)

### College Education Loan for US Resident Jain Students

International Alumni Association of Shri Mahavir Jain Vidyalaya (IAAMJV), a non-profit organization supported by Jain community in USA, is proud to offer loans of \$5,000 (\$2,000 for the 1st year and \$1,000 per year for the next 3 years) to deserving Jain students pursuing undergraduate studies in USA. The loan is repayable starting six months after recipient enters workforce on a fulltime basis.

This program was introduced in 1999. It is a nationwide program open to all Jains, and is funded by generous donations from Benefactors. It has been established as a loan program to allow reuse of the funds in perpetuity. When repaid, the same loan amount will be made available to other deserving students.

During the first four years of the program, we have approved loans of \$42,000. We encourage every Jain family to take advantage of this program in coming years. Deadline for submission of applications for the current year is June 30, 2004. Please visit [www.iaamjv.org](http://www.iaamjv.org) for more information.



# KOJAIN YOUTH COMMITTEE

## Regional Youth Directors:

### Region 1: AZ,CO,HI,NM,SO.CA,UT,Mexico

Ajay Shah (562) 947-7018

ajaycshah@yahoo.com

### Region 2: AK,ID,MT,NV,NO.CA,OR,WA,WY.

Rinki Dedhia (408) 777-0438

rddedhia@ucdavis.edu

### Region 3: AR,KS,LA,MO,OK,TX.

Shekhar Shah (512) 891-9390

shahshekhar@hotmail.com

### Region 4: IL,IN,IA,MN,NE,ND,SD WI

Bella Satra (708) 672-9375

RupaBella@aol.com

### Region 5: AL,FL,GA,MS,TN.

Nepali Shah (901) 757-2625

Nepalis@hotmail.com

### Region 6: KY,MI,OH,W.PA,WV.

Nisha Dedhia (517) 214-8599

Dedhiani@msu.edu

### Region 7: MD,NC,SC,VA,Wa.DC.

Suchita Gala (703) 307-5505

suchita\_gala@yahoo.com

### Region 8: DE,E.PA,NJ.

Sachin Visharia (732) 985-4716

svisaria@lucent.com

### Region 9: NY

Neil Chheda

neil18@optonline.net

### Region 10: CT,ME,MA,NH,RI,VT.

Archana Savla (617) 879-9781

arch1679@aol.com

### Region 11: Canada

Paulomi Gudka (416) 299-3627

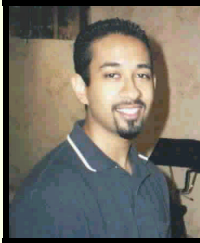
Paulomi99@yahoo.com

### Past Youth Representative Director:

Chirag Shah (979) 268-9026

chiragshah1@yahoo.com

## GET TO KNOW YOUR REGIONAL YOUTH DIRECTOR



Ajay Shah

### Region 1: AZ,CO,HI,NM,SO.CA,UT,Mexico

My name is Ajay. I live in Los Angeles. I currently work for a Human Capital Consulting firm called Sibson Consulting. I was born and raised in LA, and I went to UCLA for undergrad where I majored in Business/Economics. Some of my hobbies are reading, working out at the gym, snowboarding, and of course rooting for the Lakers. My future goals include possibly getting an MBA and investing in Real Estate. As the regional director for KYA I hope to meet new Kuchhi youths and foster a stronger network within the community.



Rinki Dedhia

### Region 2: AK,ID,MT,NV,NO.CA,OR,WA,WY.

I am a senior at the University of California, Davis. I will be graduating in June with a bachelors in Computer Science and Engineering. I am actively searching for a job right now (really want a job by the time I graduate). My future plans definitely include a Masters, most probably a MBA. My hobbies outside of school include dancing and enjoying the outdoors. I learned bharatanatyam for 8 years, and singing for about 2 years. I love to exercise and I love hiking! I am also the Site Co-Chair for the YJA convention 2004.



Shekhar Shah

### Region 3: AR,KS,LA,MO,OK,TX.

I am Shekhar Shah, I completed my Civil engineering from Sangli, worked with Sheth builders and Ajmera builders in Mumbai. Being born & brought up in Sangli, India, it was a challenge for me to come to USA. I finished my Masters in Construction engineering and management from Texas A&M, College Station. It was overall a wonderful experience. I started my professional career 2-yr. back in Austin. I got married in May 2003 and my hobbies are to read, try various kind of food. I love to meet people and exchange thoughts. Oh yeah! I am a big fan of Amitabh Bachhan.



Bella Satra

### Region 4: IL,IN,IA,MN,NE, ND,SD WI

Hello, my name is Bella Satra and I represent the Kachchhi youths of the Midwest. I graduated from Northwestern University where I studied political science, focusing on international relations/economics and I also competed on the Speech and Debate Team. Currently I am teaching at NU as well. Being among the first few generations to have roots in North America, it is vital to create cohesion and identity among our youths. The newly elected youth board has a lot of energy and dedication and I look forward to working with them, and with the KOJAIN community, to make the upcoming year an interesting and enriching one!



Nepali Shah

### Region 5: AL,FL,GA,MS,TN.:

I am Nepali Shah, currently working in Memphis, TN as a project leader for International Paper in the Consumer Packaging division. I completed my undergraduate degree at the University of Texas at Austin with a BBA in Management Information Systems. My hobbies include playing tennis, swimming, piano, reading, and traveling.

### Region 6: KY,MI,OH,W.PA,WV.

My name is Nisha Dedhia, I am a senior at Michigan State University aspiring to go into Promotions and Media Planning. I enjoy playing golf, skiing, dancing, watching movies and most of all eating. My favorite color is blue and my favorite flavor is chocolate! More than that I like to take things as I go and I like to enjoy life and worry less. I am also currently the president of our Indian association at Michigan State. I am not born a leader, but I aspire to be one. Being KYC representative I hope to continue to keep the pride torch blazing, as our age groups takes over the reigns of KOJAIN!



Nisha Dedhia





Suchita Gala

**Region 7: MD,NC,SC,VA,Wa.DC.**

My name is Suchita Gala and I live in northern Virginia, just outside of Washington, DC. I mostly grew up in Maryland and went to college at Johns Hopkins University where I studied Electrical and Computer Engineering. I work for an aerospace company, a job I really love. Outside of work I love to travel, read, cook, and am always up for anything new. Since last year I have also been on the board of YJP (Young Jain Professionals). I am very excited about being a part of the KOJAIN Youth Committee this year and hope to increase interaction of Kachchhi youth throughout North America by offering them a variety of KYC initiatives in which to participate.



Sachin Visaria

**Region 8: DE,E.PA,NJ.**

I have a bachelors in Computer Engineering from Mumbai University, landed in US in Aug 1999 for my Masters in Computer Science. Graduated in May 2000. Joined my dream company "Bell Laboratories", Research arm of Lucent Technologies, The three years at Bell Labs have been an enriching experience in term of knowledge, discipline and professionalism. Rewarded with a promotion in feb 2003. At work, I had the opportunity to interact with distinguished members, who have authored numerous books (For one: Dennis Ritchie, who created the UNIX\* operating system and C Language.). I had never dreamt that as an engineering student in India in the early 1990's, I would ever get to interact with Dennis Ritchie.

I live in NJ with my wife and the rest of my family (parents and two sisters) are back in Mumbai. I do a lot of reading in my spare time, keeping myself updated on world Politics, Financial world, and ofcourse the technology front. I am an avid sports fan, be it NBA, NFL, Golf, Cricket, all get my attention .



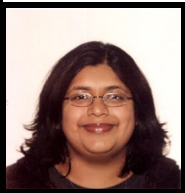
Neil Chheda

**Region 9: NY**

Hello! My name is Neil Chheda, and I'm a senior in high school from Great Neck, New York. I have one younger brother, Nirav Chheda. I also am a Local Representative for the North-east Region of YJA (Young Jains of America). I'm looking forward to working with the rest of the Youth Committee to accomplish goals and have lots of fun!

**Region 10: CT,ME,MA,NH,RI,VT.**

Hello, my name is Archana Savla and I was born and raised in Connecticut. I have a younger brother who is currently attending Boston University majoring in Electrical Engineering. In 2001, I graduated from Boston University with a Bachelors degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. After graduation I worked at Boston Medical Center for about 2 years conducting research on fusion proteins and their anti-cancerous properties. I am currently back at BU getting my Masters in Medical Sciences. In my spare time I like to read, watch movies, listen to music, and travel. I am very excited to be returning to the KYC for a second term and hope that we have a very successful year serving the Kutchi youth of North America.



Archana Savla

**Region 11: Canada**

I am Paulomi working as a Business Analyst at 360 Networks in Toronto at the moment. My background is Computer Science and Economics, I graduated from the University of Toronto and grew up in Toronto. I have previously been on the YJP exec. board as a co-chair and on the YJA board a couple of years ago. I hope that I'll be able to represent the Kojain Youth Committee well as the Canadian Regional Youth Director.



Paulomi Gudka

**Past Youth Representative:**

Hello, I am Chirag Shah. I served as the youth representative director for the last committee. I completed my bachelors in mechanical engineering from India and joined Texas A&M University for masters program. I am graduating in May 2004. I had a truly rewarding stint as former youth representative director of KOJAIN during the last term. I extend my best wishes to the current youth directors and look forward to assist them to make the coming year, very memorable and interesting one.



Chirag Shah

**Change Of Addresses: Update your Directory****Canada:**

1. Rambhia Shefali Dinesh M.  
24 Nootka Crescent  
North York, ON M2H 2X3, Canada
2. Rambhia Mithibai Morarji  
24 Nootka Crescent  
North York, ON M2H 2X3

**California (Northern):**

3. Dedhia Honey Jainay N  
4501 Snell Ave. #1502  
San Jose, CA 95136
4. Dand Preethi Kekin  
20863 Stevens Creek Blvd. ste. 450  
Cupertino, CA. 95014

**California (Southern):**

5. Trivedi Mona & Shaun  
745 S. Crown Point Dr. #12  
Anaheim Hills, Ca. 92807
6. Kinjal Shah  
947 W. 30th St. #2  
Los Angeles, CA. 90007  
(213) 746-9734
7. Shah Nehul-Nikita  
149 Canyon drive Apt # 221  
Oceanside, CA 92054  
760-672-9592

**Connecticut:**

8. Momaya Nirmala N.  
23 Oak Lane  
Trumbull, CT 06611
9. Vora Renu Piyush J.  
1435 Bedford Street #2C  
Stamford, CT 06905  
203-967-3807

**Delaware:**

10. Dedhia Gunvanti Laxmichand N.  
114 Sandhill Dr Suite 101  
Middletown, DE. 19709

**Nebraska:**

11. Shah Kalpana Arun R  
4952 South 194th Street  
Omaha, NE 68135  
402-991-5558

**Georgia**

12. Savla, Kumud & Sandeep  
41 Lakeview Lane  
Hiram, GA 30141

**Illinois:**

13. Thakkar Tushar M.  
420 Garden Cir  
Streamwood, IL 60107
14. Vinit Shah:  
311 South Halsted St #5  
Chicago, IL 60661  
312-952-6379
15. Dedhia Indira/Devchand  
1719 W. Willow Lane  
Mt. Prospect. IL 60056  
847-258-4910

**Massachusetts:**

16. Shah Anil R.  
13 Bartkus Farm  
Concord, MA 01742

**Michigan:**

17. Gala Madhuri Chunilal H.  
1790 Blue Heron CT  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302-0703
18. Doshi Bharat & Bharti  
6681 Torybrooke circle  
West Bloomfield, MI. 48323  
248-681-6568

**Nevada:**

19. Khona Dipti Dhiren S.  
1300 Red Gable Lane Unit 202  
Las Vegas NV 89144-7009

**New Jersey:**

20. Vira Indu & Nagji  
751 S Middlesex Ave  
Colonia, NJ 07067-3718  
**(732) 499-9835**
21. Savla Sameer & Jayshree  
53A Glenwood Ave  
Elmwood Park NJ 07407  
(201) 475-9299
22. Pal Dilip & Puspa  
4 Dearhill Road  
Chester, NJ 07930  
(908) 879-0373

**New York:**

23. Vora Priti Niraj J.  
13 Baker CT  
Wappingers Falls, NY 12590  
845-463-3757

24. Ratani Rita Siraj  
1802 Townhouse Drive  
Coram, NY 11727  
Tel: (631) 696-2383
25. Gala Nirav H.  
384 Kimball Drive  
Rochester, NY 14623  
585-414-8766

**North Carolina:**

26. Kavita Nirav Gada-Mehta  
5518 Southern Cross Ave  
Raleigh, NC 27606  
Phone: 919-859- 0515

**Pennsylvania East:**

27. Bhavin Shah  
3900 City Avenue  
Apt D 322  
Philadelphia PA 19131

**Tennessee:**

28. Gala, Brinda/Ashok  
3028 Wandering Drive  
Kingsport, TN. 37660  
423-288-8501
29. Tapan T Shah  
3208 Monte Bella place  
Franklin Tn 37067  
(615) 595-5868.

**Texas:**

30. Bhatia Anuj Seema  
4113 New Forest Dr  
Plano, TX 75093
31. Ketan Maroo  
2600 Scofield Ridge PKWY # 635  
Austin, TX 78757  
(214) 505-1929
32. Lalan Chhaya  
4100 Bonita Dr.  
Plano, TX 75024  
972-377-7193

**Utah:**

33. Rachana Visaria  
863 East, 200 South, #7  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84102

**Virginia:**

34. Patil Deepak Priti  
2629 Gayton Grove Road  
Richmond, VA 23233

*We would like to maintain address/phone changes/corrections on our KOJAIN website for those listed in our current KOJAIN directory. We also welcome those whose names/addresses are not listed in the current directory if they wish to have their names/ mailing addresses/phone numbers added on our KOJAIN website. Please notify Dami Rambhia of all such changes/corrections/additions.*

**From: Kachchhi Oswal Jain Association In  
NorthAmerica (KOJAIN)  
Dami Rambhia  
66 Ruff Circle  
Glastonbury, CT. 06033**