Chapter Newsletter - 2021 Quarter 3 (Pakhala Utsava Edition)

Georgia, USA

Date: October 12, 2021

1. Overview

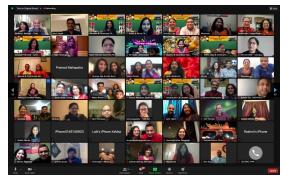
Welcome to the third edition of our newsletter. We have fondly named our newsletter as **Georgia Khabara** (ଜର୍ଜିଆ ଖବର). This editionis named "Pakhala Utsava Edition" after one of the most celebrated events of the quarter. This covers events from November 2020 until September 2021. we have come a long way as a chapter. We have participated and conducted many events, formed different initiative teams and made our chapter presence felt locally, nationally and back in our motherland Odisha too. We are proud to say that we have a very energetic and active chapter team with members taking leadership in different areas and making our young chapter vibrant and visible.

2. Bali Jatra:

In the Hindu month of Kartik (October -November), Odisha celebrates the renowned festival known as Bali Jatra. The name Bali Jatra means 'A Voyage to Bali'. This popular festival of Odisha marks its beginning from the day of auspicious Full moon and continues for the next seven days.

Through this festival, the locals also commemorate the day when sailors of Odisha first crusade to distant lands of Java, Bali, Borneo, Sri Lanka, and Sumatra. To pay their homage, regional people make the artificial boat (made up of paper, barks of the banana tree, and cork) light mud lamps and float it in the water, which is called Boita Bandana.





On 5th Dec 2020, Georgia OSA Chapter in association with the Southern OSA chapter, celebrated 'Bali Jatra 2020' with grand success and happiness. The event began with a warm welcome session called: Chinha-Achinha, Gapa-Sapa, BaliJatra-AbhulaSmruti.

Following which, the eclectic performances and talent showcases kept audiences spelled under its charm. While adults were completely mesmerized by the event's program, the younger generation didn't leave behind, they kept spreading their charisma through - 'Kahoot Game', fun filled Question & Answer sessions and joyous interactions.

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The mesmerizing segment of the event was 'Bali Jatra-Antakshari Dhamaka', which consisted of six mighty teams, who played the game with high spirit and utter happiness. The attraction point of the game was, all Teams named after famous BaliJatra Delicacies- 1/Team Thumka

Puri, 2/Team Chena Tarkari, 3/Team Dahibara, 4/Team Aludam, 5/Team Rasabali, 6/Team Handi Mansa. After 5 long hrs of Dhamakedar Performances, khattaMeetha-NokJhok, Games and Antakshari, we ended our day/event with lots of happiness and magical memories.

3. Global Odia Mahotsav

In the year 2020, when the whole world was in angst with the pandemic raging it's fury, the world and human race were resorted to socially distant from friends and family. Loved ones were forced to isolate and the need for interaction seemed like a distant future. Global Odia Mahotsav was the first ever event organized by the Odisha Society of the Americas (OSA) which was specifically



targeted to bring together Odias and the Odia diaspora from all across the world. Spanning 3 days from December 26-28th 2020, it was a massive entertainment extravaganza featuring dances of Odisha, kabita patha, live singing with renowned

artists of Odisha, celebrity talk shows, women empowerment forum, youth engagement activities and much much more!

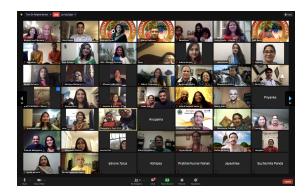
The Georgia chapter participated actively in the Global Odia Mahotsav. Members across all age groups prepared enthusiastically and provided very creative and beautiful contents for the virtual convention. Our smart and active chapter kids provided 21 family videos that got aired on Monday December 28th. Our chapter group cultural items (Odissi and Made in Odisha) were big hits. In addition, our chapter members were also featured in the national opening cultural and BOG drama. Several members from our chapter also led various national activities such as H&W forum, Americas cultural program, BOG drama (scripting and logistics), Event Promo and Social Media, Inaugural Cultural choreography, Family Video consolidation, Youth forum etc. We conducted a Global Mahotsav replay with Georgia family and friends on December 30th,



watched the Georgia contents together and appreciated all the volunteer work done by our members. Georgia is the youngest chapter to date, but is very proud of the way our active, committed and passionate members stepped up to contribute significantly to the Global Odia Mahotsav 2020.

4. Avahana

ମାତୃଭୂମି ମାତୃଭାଷା ରେ ମମତା ଯା ହୃଦେ ଜନମି ନାହିଁ ,ତାକୁ ଯଦି ଜ୍ଞାନୀ ଗଣରେ ଗଣିବା ଅଜ୍ଞାନୀ ରହିବେ କାହିଁ.. ଆସନ୍ତୁ ଦେଖିବା ଆମେରିକାର କିଛି ପ୍ରବାସୀ ଓଡ଼ିଆ ପରିବାର ଏହି ସନ୍ଦେଶ , ଏହି ବାର୍ତାକୁ କିପରି ବଜାୟ ରଖିଛନ୍ତି .



Odisha Society of Americas - Georgia

ଜରଜିଆ ଖବର Georgia Khabara



Avahana - Audience were actively engaged in conversation and chat feedback. The program received tremendous positive feedback through multiple channels. True reflection of the teamwork and effort of everyone from the chapter! Excellent start on this auspicious of thank you Georgia Chapter. Best regards to Swami Ji, so fortunate to hear Prabachan in Odia. Bahut badhiya lyrics and singing. Dhanyabad Srikar Babu Ashankya Dhanyabad Manoj Joshi Jill It was such an enriching presentation. Thank You! So fortunate to hear Swami Adyananda Saraswati lovely and beautiful chanting Thank you Georgia chapter.A great evening with good memories spent with you all... Namaskar and ati sunder prastuti

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awesome program. Swamiji's sermon was just bliss...ll

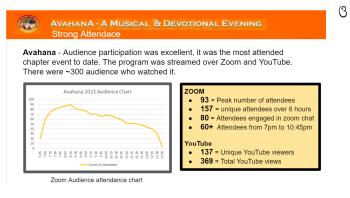
ବିଗତ ବରଷ 2020ରେ ମହାମାରୀ କରୋନା, ବିଶ ବ୍ରହ୍ମାଣ୍ଡକୁ ଭୟ ଏବଂ ଶୋକାକୁଳରେ ଆତଙ୍କିତ କରି ପାରି ଥାଏ, ମାତର ମନଷୟର ଆଶା, ଅଭିଳାଷ, ସ ୟଂ ମହାପରଭଙ୍କ ଆଶୀର୍ବାଦ ଓ ସଫଳତାରୁପି ସ୍ ପ୍ନର କବଚକୁ ଆକ୍ରମଣ କରିବାରେ ବିଫଳ ହେଇଛି. ଚାଲନ୍ତୁ ଦେଖିବା ଏହାର ଏକ ଚଳନ୍ତି ଉଦାହରଣ . ବସୁଧାକୁ କୁଟୁମ୍ଭ ବୋଲି ହୃଦୟରେ ରଖିଥିବା ,ଆମେରିକାର ଜର୍ଜିଆ ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ବାସ କରୁଥିବା ଓଡିଶା ନିବାସୀଙ୍କ ପ୍ରବାସୀ ଓଡ଼ିଆ ପରିବାରଙ୍କ ଉଦ୍ୟମ ଓ ସଫଳତାର ଯାତରା.. ସଦର ଆମେରିକା ମହାଦେଶର ଜରଜିଆ ରାଜୟ ଓ ଆଟଲାଣ୍ଣ୍ଟା ସହରରେ ବାସ କରୁଥିବା ପ୍ରବାସୀ ଓଡ଼ିଆ ପରିବାର ମାନେ, ଏକତ୍ରିତ ହେଇ, 'ଓଡିଶା ସୋସାଇଟି ଅଫ ଆମେରିକା, ଜର୍ଜିଆ ଅନୁଷ୍ଠାନ ' ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ, କରୋନାରେ ଅକ୍ରାନତିତ ହୋଇଥିବା ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ବହୁତ ସ୍ାଭିମାନୀ, ସ୍ାବଲମ୍ବୀ

କଳାକାର ମାନଙ୍କୁ ଆର୍ଥିକ ସହାୟତା ପ୍ରଦାନ କରିବା ପାଁଇ ଗୋଟିଏ ଆଧ୍ୟାତ୍ମିକ ଓ ଭଜନ ସମାରୋହ , କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ 'ଆବାହନ', ଗତ ଜାନୁଆରୀ 16ତାରିଖରେ , ପବିତ୍ର 'ମକର ସଂକରାନତି' ଅବସରରେ ପରିବେଷଣ କରିଥିଲେ. ସମଗର ଆମେରିକା ମହାଦେଶର 50ଟି ରାଜ୍ୟର ଲୋକଙ୍କ ସଂଗେ ଓଡ଼ିଶଷ ବସି ମଧ୍ୟ ଏହି କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମରେ ଯୋଗଦାନ କରି, ଆବାହନ କୁ ସଫଳତାର ଉଚ୍ଚତମ ସୋପାନରେ ପହଞ୍ଚେଇ ପାରିଛନ୍ତି. ଏହି ଆବାହନ କର୍ଜ୍ୟକ୍ରମର ଶୁଭାରମ୍ଭ ହେଇଥିଲା ଗଣେଶ ବନ୍ଦନା ଓ ମନ୍ତ୍ରର ଉଚ୍ଚାରଣରେ .

ପରବର୍ତୀ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ 'ଯୋଗ ଓ ମେଡ଼ିଟେସନ" ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ , ସାନଫ୍ରାନସିସ୍କୋ ସହର ବାସିନ୍ଦା ଯୋଗ ଓ

Great program 💍 💍 💍

wellness ଗୁରୁ ଶ୍ରୀଯୁକ୍ତ ମନୋଜ ଯୋଶୀ, ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କୁ ଅବଗତ କରେଇ ପାରିଥିଲେ.ଶାରୀରିକ ମାନସିକ ସୁଖ ଶାନ୍ତି ପ୍ରାପ୍ତିର ସାଧନା. ତତ୍ପରେ ସ୍ ାମୀ ଆଦ୍ୟାନନ୍ଦ ସରସ୍ବତୀ, ଯିଏକି , ଜର୍ଜିଆ ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ଜଗନ୍ନାଥ ମନ୍ଦିରର ସ୍ଥାପନରେ ମୁଖ୍ୟ ଭମିକା ଗ୍ରହଣ କରିଥିଲେ, ମକର ସଂକ୍ରାନ୍ତିର ତାତ୍ପର୍ଯ୍ୟ ଉପରେ ଶ୍ରୋତା ବନ୍ଧୁମାନଙ୍କୁ ଜ୍ଞାନ ପ୍ରଦାନ କରିଥିଲେ. ବାବାଙ୍କ ଭାଷଣ ପରେ ପରେ ଶ୍ରୋତା ବନ୍ଧୁମାନେ ଶୁଣିବାକୁ ପାଇଥିଲେ ସ୍ ାମୀ ସର୍ ପ୍ରିୟନନ୍ଦ, ଯିଏ କି ବିଶ୍



ନେବୟରଙ୍କ ସହରର ନିବାସୀ ବେଦାନ୍ତ ସମାଜର ମୁଖ୍ୟ କର୍ତ୍ତା. ଏହାପରେ ଭଜନ ସନ୍ଧ୍ୟା ସମାରୋହର ଶୁଭାରମ୍ଭ ହେଇଥିଲା. ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ସୁ ିଖ୍ୟାତ କଣ୍ଠଶିଳ୍ପୀ ଶ୍ରୀକର ପାଢ଼ୀଙ୍କଠୁ ଶୁଣିବାକୁ ମିଳିଥିଲା କିଛି ଭାବସ୍ପର୍ଶୀ ମର୍ମସ୍ପର୍ଶୀ ଭଜନ. ଏହି ଭଜନ ସମାରୋହରେ 40ର ଉରଧ ପରବାସୀ ଓଡିଆ ଭାଇ ଭଉଣୀମାନେ ନିଜ ନିଜର ଭଜନ ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ

ମହାପ୍ରଭୁଙ୍କ ଗୁଣଗାନ କରି ଶୁଭ ସନ୍ଧ୍ୟାକୁ "ଆଶୀର୍ବାଦ ଓ ସୁଭାଶିଶ" ସୁନାମିରେ ରୂପାନ୍ତରିତ କରିଦେଇଥିଲେ. ସମ୍ପୂର୍ଣ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମଟି ZOOM ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ ଆୟୋଜିତ ହେଇଥିଲା. ଏହି କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ ଏକତ୍ରିତ ହୋଇ ଥିବା ପୁଞ୍ଜିକୁ ଓଷା ଜର୍ଜିଆ ଓଡିଶାର କଳାକାର ମାନଙ୍କ ସହାୟତା କରିବା ନିମନ୍ତେ ବିନିଯୋଗ କରିବାକୁ ନିଷ୍ପତ୍ତି ନେଇଛନ୍ତି।

5. Republic Day

The Republic Day observance and celebrations were carried out with dignity and pride

by OSA GA. All Patriotic songs were sung by our beautiful singers. To keep the spirit of Republic Day, we all wore colors coordinated with the tricolor flag. Some of the OSA GA kids played instruments on patriotic songs. Everyone shared their childhood experiences of Republic



day back in Odisha which refreshed all our memories of home.

6. Valentine's day

As Pravasi Odias of OSA GA Chapter, we celebrated festivals of our Matrubhoomi and also celebrated a few festivals of our Karmabhoomi(USA). One of them was the Valentine's day celebration celebrated by OSA GA on February 20th. All of our participants were



looking fabulous in valentine's day colors. The main attraction of the event was when the couples of GA shared their thoughts about each other(2 things which they like about their better half and one thing which they don't like about their better half).Dance and songs were also presented making it a memorable and fun-filled evening.

8. 'Tribeni Dekha Sakhyat'

We held an outdoor picnic 'Tribeni Dekha Sakhyat' on Saturday 20th of March 2021. About 20 families joined the event with a lot of enthusiasm at the Sims Lake park in Suwanee, Georgia. The youth team had a get together at the venue, spent a lighter moment getting to know each other and also took time to discuss their upcoming activities. The adults enjoyed some fun time





together. Everyone enjoyed hot breakfast and chai before going on a walk around the lake. Upon completing the walk, people joined a group Surya Namaskaar session led by one of our members. There was a Zumba session led by one of our youth member sand all attendees across all age groups were seen dancing and having fun. It was a day very well spent with members getting to spend quality time together

after a long gap.

https://youtu.be/8YjF1JGjq9s

9. Youth Initiative

Georgia's youth have taken action and created a GroupMe to discuss events/activities they could undertake as the youth team. This past February, they held a meet and

greet, which many had shown up to, to get to know each other. The meet and greet consisted of ice breakers and a fun Kahoot, all created by the youth for the youth! It was enjoyed by all ages from 8-18! They discussed some of their hobbies which varied from coding and drawing all the way to wrestling! Everybody loved the way the meet went,



Odisha Society of Americas - Georgia ଜର୍ଜିଆ ଖବର

Georgia Khabara

the amount of interaction they had and the opportunity they got to know each other. They were excited about having more such events and also to meet in person soon when the conditions allow!



10. Utkala Dibasa

Our new born Georgia chapter of the Odisha Society of the Americas is celebrated our first Utkala Dibasa this year on April 10th at 6:30PM EST. Together we remembered our Odisha- Aama mamatamayi matrubhoomi in all her glory and beauty with lots of tenderness, longing and fond memories !! We showcased the richness of Odisha with her vivid and vibrant cultural panorama. Here are a few snippets from the impressive lineup of amazing programs

- We had an array of mouthwatering delicacies from Odia Cuisine that will left a lingering taste in our mouth and made us hungry for more.
- Odisha being a prominent handicraft and handloom state of India in Weaves of Odisha we promoted the intricate Kalashilpa o KaruKarjya of exquisite textiles and design. This was a unique program and was appreciated hugely by the audience.
- The most heartwarming tales are one of love and care and the relationship of grandparents with their grandchildren speaks this language most eloquently. This was portrayed in an informal chit chat of our young ones with their Aja/Aai/JejeBapa/JejeMaa back in Odisha



• The evening had an interesting conversation in Youth connection, with a panel of Young and famous Talents from India who make us all proud to be Odias!! We had eminent young personalities from different fields, Ms. Dutee Chand (sports), Mr. Chiragdeep Panda (music) and Mr. Pranav Khaitan

(Technology) interacting with our youth in a live conversation and shared their stories of success and achievements

- An evening dedicated to Odisha cannot be complete without an Odissi repertoire-- and just not this lyrical classical dance alone- we brought together the other rare dance forms and rhythmic Folk dances from Odisha and made the audience groove to the beat!!
- To sparkle this evening even more, we had Zee Sarthak Lil Champ Sa Re Ga Ma Pa Winner 2018 ChiragDeep Panda and the talented Adruta kids entertain the audience with their melodious voice.
- We had a rocking fun filled Mehfil with our very own talents and to top it with our Gapa Sapa au Khatti -the heartbeat



of OSA get togethers which went on until very late in the night.

11. Bana Bhoji

With the vaccination being rolled out and more and more members getting vaccinated, we held our very first Bana Bhoji on May 15th this year. We went to the scenic

Amicalola falls and cooked delicious Odia food on site.

The extensive menu contained Bhata, Maunsa Jhola, Chhena Tarkaari, Bara, Ghughuni, Nadia Pachedi, Khata, Chicken Tandoori, Chicken Tikka, Paneer Tikka and what not! Many of us hiked to the top of the mountain to the origin of the falls. Kids had a



fantastic time playing in the swings, hanging out together and generally having fun. Everyone enjoyed the event with a lot of gapa-sapa, gulli-khatti, music and dance. We also cut a cake prepared by one of our chapter members to celebrate our first Bana Bhoji. The chapter members raised funds on this occasion and donated it to the COVID relief effort in Odisha conducted by the OSA H&W group.

https://youtu.be/wITcEh4pkLA

12. National Drama Day

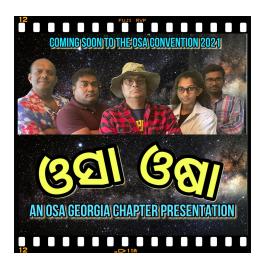
The Georgia chapter participated in the OSA National Drama Day, conducted on May 30, 2021. We presented an Odia drama "Aja Ayee nkara America Darshana " with a comic undertone and at the same time showing how people help out each other in times of need across language and cultural boundaries. The drama was very highly appreciated by the audience.



https://youtu.be/B2B1S3RKkdl

13. Convention

OSA Georgia participated actively in the OSA National Convention held in Houston. Some members of the chapter traveled to Houston to attend in person, and many others participated remotely. The members traveling there got an opportunity to spend time with many new odia families, connect with a few known faces and overall interact more. The convention team were very courteous to us, showered us with care and love during the three days. The Georgia teams in-person performance was very well appreciated. Our kids' performance was the highlight of Opening day



during the Subrina Biswal competition as also during the closing ceremony. The OSA-OSA drama presented by the Georgia chapter was very well appreciated as well.

Here's a summary of OSA Georgia participation in national convention

- In-Person
 - o Drama
 - Closing cultural

Virtual

- Devotional song/bhajana : 5 performances
- Mehfil virtual : 4 performances
- OSA Got Talent: 7 performances
- Odia Speech : 1 performance
- Chapter Cultural: 2 performances

https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLgJD2FM3uGC4emMT2zsLyDqBixToEDXTV

14. Pakhala Utsava

We had a great Pakhala Party on July 24, 2021. In the beginning of the week the weather had us worried a bit but the weather Gods smiled at us and ordered a bright, no rains weather for us.

For this party there was a lot of cutting, frying, grilling, cooking, etc that was done on-site during the picnic hours, and each and every one of us jumped in and lent a hand in all aspects. Saja & Basi pakhala, saga, badi choora, aloo bharta, baigana bharta, baigani,kalara chips, fish fry, chicken 65, dahibara, aloodum, pakudi, ampana, pampada and kakudi salad. There were fun activities including kids games, badminton, frisbee music and



dance to keep everyone active. After wrapping up the party some folks went to the reservoir to have some good family time in the cool water after a hot day!

A lot of effort went on to pull together this wonderful event; truly it was a SAMPOORNA SAMUHIKA PRAYASA.

https://youtu.be/BWPCqehXdPA



15. Kumara Utsava

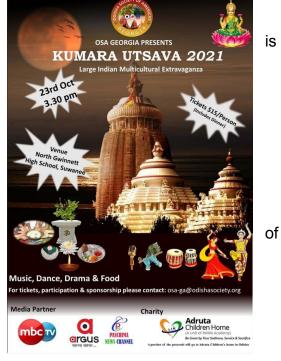
"Kuha jaye, Odisha re 12 Maasa re 13 Parba"

Festivals or 'Parba' are an expressive way to celebrate glorious heritage, culture and

traditions. They are meant to rejoice special moments with our loved ones and connect us with our roots. One such most important festival that of "Kumara Purnima" or "Sharad Purnima" which is celebrated with much pomp and show.

Kumar Purnima falls during the Hindu month of Ashwina, which marks the birthday of Kumar or Kartikeya, the handsome son of Lord Shiva. Young girls perform traditional rituals praying for a perfect life partner like Kumar or Kartikeya. Kumar Purnima also marks the start the 11 days of Gajalakshmi Puja across the state.

We will be celebrating Kumara Utsava on October 23rd at North Gwinnett High School in Suwanee. The Consulate General of India Dr



Swati V Kulkarni will be inaugurating the event. The evening will comprise of a kaleidoscope of cultural items by not only from our talented Odias but also from other Indian communities across greater Atlanta area. We also feature kids from Adruta Children's home and will have some charitable contributions from the chapter towards their cause.

We look forward to a great event and solicit everyone's active participation and good wishes!