



Samachar

MAR - APR
2013

Official Newsletter of the India Association of Memphis

Dear Friends,

Greetings and welcome to this year's second edition of Samachar. The weather has finally taken a turn towards warming up and we see more people out and about in our neighborhoods. For those of us with allergies though, Spring might not seem to be the most favorable season of the year. Since I suffer from allergies myself, this is the only time of the year when I welcome the rain to wash away the ubiquitous green dusting of pollen all around. Nevertheless, rain or shine, team IAM has been in full swing whittling away at our goals for the year. As promised, here is an update on the activities of the extended executive team.

Most important amongst our current undertakings is to update the IAM website. This broad initiative has many constituents and interdependent goals such as an overhaul of the membership process, streamlining our event management efforts, simplifying fund-raising, sharpening our marketing and many more similar moving parts. Towards this, we called out to the community for proposals and the response was very good. We've been making a lot of progress in analyzing the bids and responses and we are close to making a recommendation to the board. Watch this space for an official launch by midsummer!

We've also been making passionate efforts to raise the bar at our get-togethers. We hope that you've noticed these efforts at our Republic Day and Holi celebrations, which we felt were great successes! In another first for us this year, we organized a workshop, introducing management of personal finances to our youth.

Our Co-Vice President Arjun Sardar has singlehandedly made significant progress in the collection and analysis of data regarding the setup of an IAM community center — something which has been on our community's wish list for many years. The next step in this effort is the consolidation of our financial figures for a feasibility study on sustaining such a center. We have also begun closing our financial books on a monthly basis to improve our overall record keeping. We aim to be able to publish this financial reporting to our website by the end of this year for the benefit of our members.

Another exciting horizon to report on is that the India Fest team is firming up and has already begun the strategizing process. You are all most welcome to reach out to our festival director Naveen Mamidipalli if you would like to join us in volunteering for India Fest 2013.

We will soon launch our summer sports campaign, so please stay tuned for news on that as well, and get ready to display your athletic talents! I also encourage our community members to support our sponsors featured in this edition.

I feel blessed to be surrounded with an immensely energetic and passionate team, which loves volunteering for the community. Enjoy the great weather and don't hesitate to contribute to Samachar! God Bless you all!

Best Wishes,

Navin Eric

IAM President - 2013

2013 Executive Committee:

- Navin Eric - President
- Manjit Kaur - Vice President
- Vidya Venkatesh - Secretary
- Sathish Venugopal - Treasurer
- Arjun Sardar - Co-Vice President
- Huzefa Mamoola - Marketing Director
- Raghu Guttikonda - Athletic Director
- Simanti Chatterjee - Cultural Director
- Surender Palle - IT Director
- Achint Choudhry - Chief Editor

Board of Trustees:

- Aparna Bhatla
- Srinivas Damaraju
- Anjali Hirurkar
- Anil Nair
- Vijay Rawtani

Upcoming Events:

- May 18 Tennis Workshop
- May 25 Cricket Tournament

Featured in this Issue:

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Youth Finance Workshop	16
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Hilton Worldwide - Proud Sponsor of India Fest 2012



Hilton New Delhi - Noida
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PROUD TO SUPPORT INDIA FEST 2012

To stay ahead in a global marketplace takes agility, connectivity and travel. Hilton Worldwide is committed to being everywhere business happens, in 91 countries and rising. Today, the increasing importance of India is prompting our own growth. By 2016, we will have over 35 hotels stretching from Ludhiana to Coimbatore. It's all part of our mission to bring people together through the light and warmth of hospitality – just like India Fest. **STAY AHEAD**



Aloha!

The chilled wintry fog is on it's way out,
We've put away the woolens, to get out and about...

Holi ushered in a summer somewhat reluctant,
But the promise of warmth 'springs' eternally expectant...

This summer we'll work hard so you can play harder,
From the lethargies of winter, comes a welcome departure...

Let's spring from our beds and head to the fields,
As sunshine breaks loose and the cloud canopy yields...

Of six issues this year that I shall craft,
You're perusing the second, which I hope isn't daft...

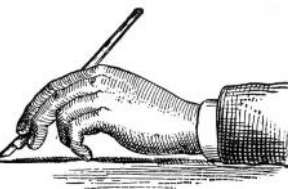
Honest to my word last time, *Samachar* is yours to read, yours to write, and yours to be read as well. I cheerfully poke you again to churn the creative juices and autograph these memoirs by contributing articles & thoughts to it. Share your reflections, feedback or critiques with us by sending an e-mail to samachar@iamemphis.org

Our editorial room is a temple to creativity where color and creative craft rule and criticism from discerning patrons is welcomed as happily as words of loving praise.

Sincerely,

Achint Choudhry

Chief Editor, 2013



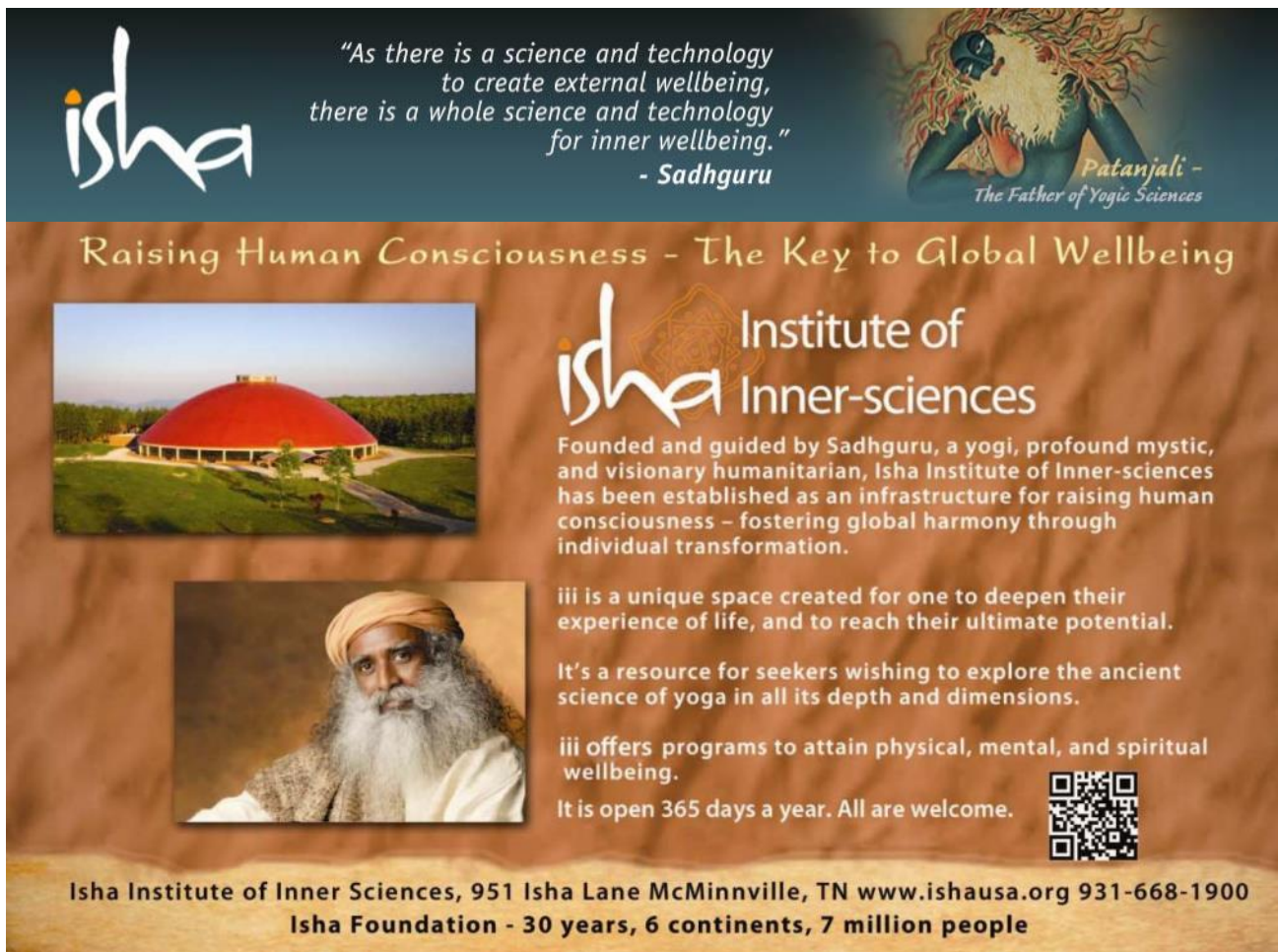
2013 Event Calendar

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
IAM			
Republic Day	Jan 26	2pm - 5pm	Bert Ferguson
Kids Financial Workshop	Feb 23	2pm - 4pm	Library
Holi Celebrations	Mar 23	1pm - 4pm	ICCT
Tennis Workshop	June (TBD)		LOG
Sporting event - Cricket	Jun 01 - 16		Nikki McCray Park
Sporting event - Tennis	Jun 08 - 23		Powell Park, Collierville
Sporting event - Volleyball	Jul 13 - 14		TBD
Sporting event - Indoor Soccer	Jul 20 - 21		Dulins Sports Complex
Sporting event - Carrom, Chess	Jul 27		Cordova CC
India Nite	Aug 31		White Station High
SEVA	Oct 05	9am - 4pm	ICCT
India Fest	Nov 02	10am - 7pm	Agricenter
General Body Meeting	Dec 07	1pm - 4pm	Cordova CC
Taranga Kannada Sangha			
Dasa Aaradhane	Mar 16		
Ugadi Program	May 4	2pm - 6pm	Singleton CC
Picnic	Sep 7		
Ganesh Visarjan	Sep 14		
Rajyostava and Deepavali	Nov 16		
Mid South Punjabi Heritage Foundation			
Baisakhi	Apr 19	6pm onwards	Esplanade
Tian Festival	Jul 27		
Picnic	TBD (Sep)		
Kids' Workshop	TBD (Oct)		
Malayalee Association of Memphis			
Mid South food Bank	May 04	9am - 12 noon	
MAM Picnic & Sports Day	Aug 17	All day	
Mid South food Bank	Sep 07	9am - 12 noon	
Mid South food Bank	Dec 07	9am - 12 noon	
Greeting cards for Charity	TBD		
Book collection for Charity	TBD		
General Body Meeting	TBD (Dec)		
Memphis Marathi Mandal			
Gudhi Padva (Marathi new year)	Apr 20	11am - 2pm	HW Cox Park
Ganesha Chaturthi	Sep 14		
Diwali Celebrations	Nov 16		
Mid South Tamil Sangam			
Chitirai Gallata	Apr 13		
Drama (Tentative)	May 19		

We will duly communicate detailed updates by e-mail, on our website and on our Facebook page ahead of each event

Our complete and updated event calendar can also be found at: <http://www.iamemphis.org/home>


Isha Foundation - Proud Partner of India Fest 2012



isha "As there is a science and technology to create external wellbeing, there is a whole science and technology for inner wellbeing."
- Sadhguru

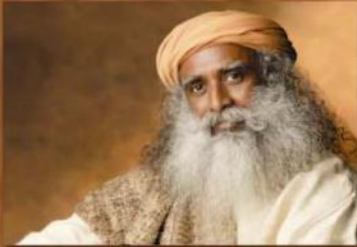
Patanjali - The Father of Yogic Sciences

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Isha Foundation - 30 years, 6 continents, 7 million people



India Fest featured at On Location Memphis



This year, Team India Fest partnered with On Location: Memphis, an international movie and music festival and screened two Indian movies - Bedabrata Pain's **Chittagong** and Deepa Mehta's **Midnight's Children** at the 4 day festival which was held at Malco Paradiso from April 25 -28.

The movies were well received and there was visible excitement in the audience when the India Fest 2013 teaser rolled on the screens.

Kudos to team India Fest 2013 for success in this effort!

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Wings of Camaraderie

- Bryan D'Souza

Early one morning, on an overcast day in late April this year, a handful of Indians showed up on Riverside Dr in Memphis with dual goals in mind. One, to win top honors at the 11th annual Southern Hot Wing Festival (SHWF) and two, raise more money for charity this year than they had done a year ago. They went fifty-fifty on the goals.

Rewinding back to twelve months ago, for the first time ever, there was an Indian team competing in the SHWF. The idea to participate in the contest was spear headed by Sharan Salian. Many of you are familiar with his work, especially with his leadership role in past India Fests. Certainly this would be much easier to accomplish?



As we found out, not quite! If the idea was to simply participate, perhaps things would have been easier. But honestly, have you come across a *desi* bunch that goes into a competition with the

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Wings of Camaraderie *continued...*

lofty goal of just participating? And our group that had come together, albeit from different backgrounds, wanted to win it all. Naturally, the question on everyone's minds was: what sauce can we come up with that will make the judges think 'good God! This is delicious!?' The answer



would take almost six weeks of experimenting with Eastern spices. In the end, after a few weeks of sauce-off, two were left standing. One was tamarind based. The other was mango-ginger. Both delicious!

The Hot Wing Festival is usually held in Memphis two weeks before

the Memphis in May Barbecue Fest. The goal of the festival is to raise money for the Ronald McDonald house. The Ronald McDonald House program provides a "home-away-from-home" for families so they can stay close by their hospitalized child at little or no cost. They believe that 'when a child is hospitalized the love and support of family is as powerful as the strongest medicine prescribed'. A cause worth supporting and a good way to get to know other volunteers in the community thought the team.

The event attracts 50 to 60 teams on an average, competing against each other. Teams in the competition are not allowed to 'sell' their wings. Funds are collected from donations made by people who visit your booth and taste your wings. If your wings are delectable, words spread quickly and before you know it, a crowd throngs around your booth. We were fortunate to draw such attention. In 2012, we ran out of wings by mid-afternoon. This year, we hauled around 120 pounds of wings which lasted us till late in the evening. At the end of the day, we faced both happiness and disappointment. More on that later.

As an avid volunteer for IAM, I have reflected in the past about increasing our community involvement. Many of us volunteer as individuals or sometimes in groups at work or through regional organizations. And that is brilliant. To those who do this, I say, please keep it up! But honestly, people around us do not wonder about what region in India we come from. To them, we represent India. Just that! And this is where IAM becomes important. If we could go out in groups and volunteer on a regular basis, it will paint a very positive picture about our community. We are seen as a community with resources. Most of us do fairly well for ourselves. Does it not then make sense for us to give back? In these times, where our skin color is not the most popular

Wings of Camaraderie *continued...*

one because of the acts of a few, it would benefit us and our future generations greatly if we tried harder at integrating ourselves. We need to show that we do care. That many of us consider this our home now. And we wish good things for Memphis.

Without giving too much away, the cooking style we decided to go with was deep-fried. The other options were to grill or smoke them. There were teams that did both. They first fried or grilled and then smoked the wings. Just before you serve them up, you toss the wings in your top-secret, "are you guys selling this sauce?" sauce! Our families chipped in with their expertise to perfect the sauces. This year, in addition to master chef Leo's tamarind goodness, we featured sauces made by the kids. Nikhil and Elina Salian wowed us with their creativity while budding chef Andrew Thomas drew many accolades for his finger-licking recipe. The kids also did a fantastic job in manning the register and bringing visitors to our booth.

This year, team WingSutra (that's what we call our motley crew), placed 19th out of 48 teams. While we did not meet our goal of winning it all, we did raise close to \$500 for the Ronald McDonald House. This was more than what we had raised in 2012 when we had placed 4th out of 62 teams. Beginners luck perhaps? While disappointed with our placing, we are raring to go again next year with new ideas and strategies. The overwhelming feedback we received from folks who tried our wings was that it was the best ones they had eaten that day. A tad on the spicier side, perhaps the professional judges from the Kansas City Barbecue Society (KCBS) found it too hot to handle!

It would be a hoot if more Indian teams can compete in the event. In fact, to flare up that competitive instinct, team Wingsutra challenges you to compete in the 2014 SHWF and beat us! And while you are at it, remember that you are putting smiles on the faces of kids facing unfair challenges and their families. Surely that's worth a shot? Here's looking forward to the smell of Garam Masala permeating the air on Riverside Dr. next year!



P.S: The 2012-13 WingSutra team included Sharan Salian, Leo D'Souza, Sreenath Shanker, Trushar Jeevan, Philji Johns, Binu Thomas, Navin Eric, Venkata Subba Rao and Bryan D'Souza. Thanks to our families who supported us and our sponsors, Genghis Grill and Sam & Maya Jeevan in particular for their generosity.

FROM DURHAM TO ASSAM IN THE SEARCH OF ROOTS

Kisan of Guwahati was asked by his mom, to take oranges from the kitchen, He went inside in search of them, and found himself trapped in the kitchen.

The four year old, in 1969, found that he was abandoned by his mother, In 2013, he looked back; he felt the urge to see his sister, dad and mother. Now a reputed professional at Durham, he was determined to get to his roots, The global social media helped him in this pilgrimage, to gather his roots.

Kisan's father, in the late sixties, had served the twenty fourth Assam Police Battalion He immediately sought help from relatives in Nepal, for his children's protection

He sent his two children, through a messenger to Nepal, to relations therein, It's fate, luck or ill luck, that the messenger could not succeed in this mission Kisan and his eight year old sister, for survival, begged in the Nepalese streets, Maya, his only sister, nurtured Kisan, from the alms collected from the streets.

The children got separated. Kisan fell sick and he landed up in a hospital, An American doctor of repute, noticed this sick patient, from this hospital. This doctor liked him, he offered him a scholarship for studies in America, Kisan availed this generous offer, and he completed his college studies in USA.

Kisan, now an IT specialist of repute, serves several universities in USA, He's married, has two kids, and is held in high esteem in social circles in America. He on many occasions, felt pained, when he thought about his boyhood days, Then Facebook came to his rescue, for his research on the childhood days.



“From Durham to Assam” *continued...*

He with great hopes contacted the Commandant of the Assam police battalion,
Several friends in the social media, searched the old records of this battalion.
Later, after some research, it was found, that his father died in nineteen eighty eight,
A vigorous search continued, and full information about the family came to light.

His sister Maya was still alive, she'd loved him, she'd fed him from street collections,
He was excited beyond limits, he decided to re-establish his past connections
He immediately planned a pilgrimage to see his dear sister and others in India,
That was an emotional flashback, for him, his family and many others in India.

C. P. Chandra Das

Former Visiting Professor, IIT Chennai

Note-- The title is a headline sourced from an article in Times of India, Mumbai, dated 10th April 2013, relating the story of Kisan Upadhaya of Guwahati, Assam. He is presently at Durham in the USA as a computer specialist, offering technical support to many universities. Orphaned At 4, he was connected with his family after four decades

The writer may be contacted via e-mail: cpcdas@gmail.com



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Kitchen Couture Mixed Nut Chikki / Mixed Nut Brittle

Chikki, or Nut Brittle is a popular sweet snack from India. It is widely enjoyed across the country especially in winters and is an excellent accompaniment to the evening tea. Enjoy this unexpectedly simple recipe from the comfort of your home!

Ingredients:

Mixed Nuts	1 cup (I usually use Almonds, Pistachios and Cashew nuts)
Sugar	3/4 th cup
Clarified butter (Ghee)	1/2 tbsp. (and a little more for greasing the rolling pin and cookie sheet/foil)
Baking soda	1 pinch

Method:

1. Grease a cookie sheet/tray or a sheet of aluminum foil with some ghee. Similarly grease a rolling pin which will be used for flattening the chikki mixture after laying it in the tray/on the foil.
2. Lightly roast the nuts in a dry pan and allow them to cool down to room temperature.
3. Once cooled, chop the nuts roughly and set aside.
4. Heat the pan again and add 1/4th tbsp. ghee and swill the pan to coat the surface lightly with ghee.
5. Now add the sugar and allow it to melt and caramelize to a light amber color.
6. As soon as the sugar achieves the desired amber color, remove the pan from the heat and add a pinch of baking soda and the chopped nuts.
7. Mix thoroughly. Note that this must be done very quickly, to ensure that the sugar does not overcook and the ingredients are mixed well before the caramel cools down.
8. Pour the mixture into the greased tray or sheet of foil.
9. Flatten the mixture out to a uniform thickness of about 1/2 inch using the greased rolling pin.
10. While the mixture is still warm, use a sharp knife to cut lines through it in the desired shape and size.
11. Allow the mixture to cool down to room temperature
12. Once it is cooled break the pieces apart and store in an air tight container.

Suggestions:

- You may use your choice of nuts and follow the same procedure
- You may also add Sesame seeds to the recipe along with the nuts
- Caramelized sugar is very hot and should be handled carefully
- You must work quickly from steps 5 through 10 as the caramel thickens quickly as it cools, and it becomes harder to stir and flatten the mixture

Recipe courtesy — Pavithra Elangovan

Pavithra is a recipe developer, food photographer & food stylist. For more recipes and detailed stepwise instructions, please visit her blog — www.dishesfrommykitchen.com



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*Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities

Holi Celebrations — Thanks for being there!

This Holi, despite the rain and cold weather, thanks to an unbelievably enthusiastic turnout and the resulting energy, we had an awesome and memorable splash of color at ICCT. The 2013 IAM team thanks members for their support and encourages everybody to keep the energy going!



PHOTO CREDITS

A word of special thanks to **Srinivas Posinasetty** for clicking these beautiful photographs!

☺ You are AWESOME! Thank you! ☺

2013 IAM Executive Team

FedEx - Proud Sponsor of India Fest 2012

Our support extends beyond our delivery routes.



We understand. Something this good deserves all our support. At FedEx our greatest delivery may be the resources we give to our communities. FedEx is proud to support Memphis IndiaFest 2012 and all those who strive to improve the lives of those around us and the many places we call home.

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IAM Youth Finance Workshop

On February 23rd, we conducted a Youth Personal Financial Education workshop - at the behest of Mr. Chirag Chauhan, who graciously volunteered to spend time with young attendees, introducing them to concepts that will hopefully build a foundation for lifelong financial wisdom.

The main aim of the workshop was to teach kids about personal financial management as they prepare for the next steps in life and education — going to college, having to manage their expenses independently on a higher level and planning their personal budgets. The workshop attempted to instill basic financial management skills in the attendees.

Community response to the workshop was very encouraging and the turnout was great! The workshop covered these topics:

- Budgeting
- Savings
- Credit Score
- Credit History
- Loans
- Co-signing watch outs
- Investing
- Credit vs. Debit Card

Chirag is an accomplished member of the Memphis community, and is a Certified Financial Planner of repute. More about his background can be read on the following website:

http://www.GoBarnett.com/Profile_Chirag_Chauhan/



Acknowledgement

Many thanks to **Chirag** for taking the initiative in conducting this workshop.

We also thank all parents who signed their kids up for the workshop. Encouraged by your participation and feedback, we will look for more opportunities to conduct such workshops for the benefit of our youth.

Sincerely,
IAM 2013 Committee

Best Compliments



In choosing Memphis as our global headquarters, International Paper made a statement and commitment. The statement is that this community is a great place to live, work and raise a family. The commitment is that we will continue to do everything in our power to make our hometown strong, giving our time and resources. It's just what good neighbors do.

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Collierville - Germantown - Bartlett (Opening Jan 2012)



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We thank the Indian community for your support and patronage.

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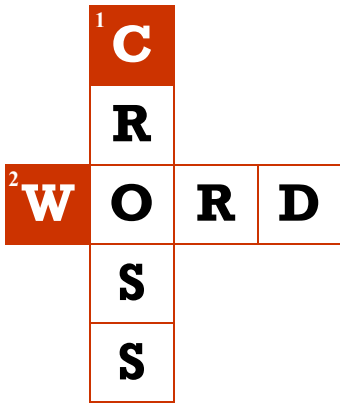
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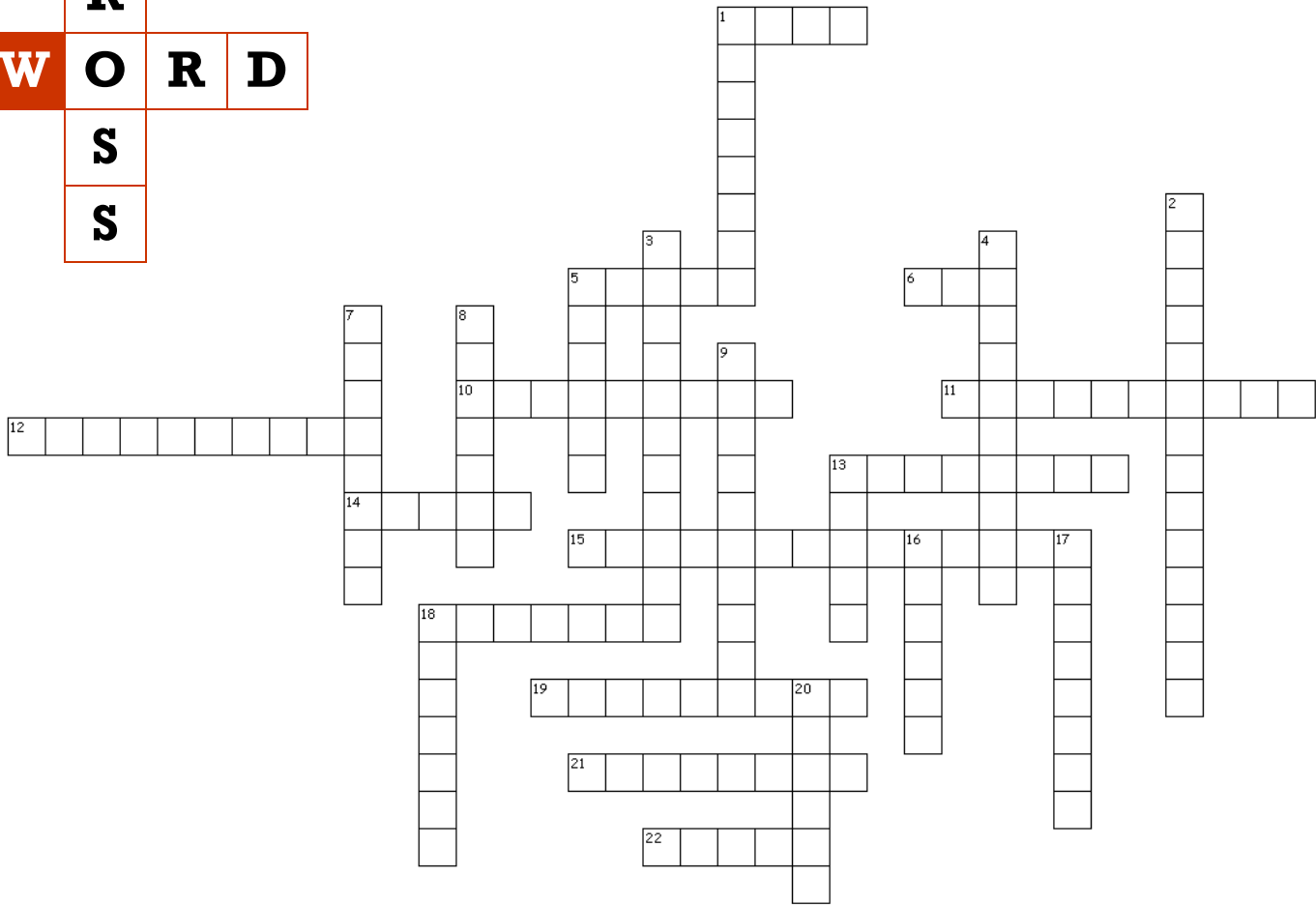
ADMISSION PREVIEW PROGRAMS FOR PK-8TH GRADE
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With an Indian Flavor



ACROSS

1. Clarified butter widely used in Indian food, especially sweets
5. The Indian concept of cause and effect from which the expression "what goes around comes around" is derived
6. India's smallest state and an extremely popular tourist destination
10. An Indian language which is also one of the longest known palindromes
11. The ancient city which was once the seat of the Mauryan empire, and is now the capital of the state of Bihar
12. The location of the world's highest international cricket stadium
13. The Indian sage also known as 'the father of surgery'
14. A traditional Indian garment for men - essentially a length of cloth wrapped in many styles from simple to elaborate
15. The Punjabi name of the world-famous Sikh shrine in the city of Amritsar
18. An implement used for spinning yarn and also a symbol of Indian resistance to British occupation
19. Cricket's most iconic batsman also known as the master blaster (last name only)
21. The ancient language from which most Indian languages are believed to have evolved
22. Four ancient scriptures believed to be the source of all knowledge

DOWN


1. The now ruined city which was once famous for diamond trade when India was the only known source of diamonds in the world
2. Famous Indian soccer player also known as the Sikkimese Sniper (2 words - First and Last name)
3. An award presented by the government of India for excellence in sports coaching
4. A method of non-violent protest championed by Mahatma Gandhi in the struggle for Indian independence
5. The city in Odisha where the famous 'Sun Temple' is located
7. First name of the great man known as the 'Mahatma' and 'Bapu'
8. The ubiquitous Indian greeting also conveyed by folded hands
9. The first name of the Indian prime minister also known as 'Chacha' and 'Pandit'
13. A deity in the Hindu faith also known as the destroyer
16. The town in Maharashtra known as the home of Sai Baba
17. The city where Siddhartha Gautama (Buddha) was born
18. A household flat bread which forms the staple food in central and north India
20. The principle of non-violence, an important tenet of Buddhism, Jainism and Hinduism

Answers on page 22

LANDERS CENTER


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KEN KEN — Puzzles that make you Smarter!

An excerpt from www.kenken.com/about



What Is KENKEN?

It's not a crossword, and it's certainly not an extreme version of tic-tac-toe. So what is KENKEN anyway, and where did it come from? Simply put, KENKEN is a grid-based numerical puzzle that uses basic math operations — addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division — while also challenging one's logical reasoning and problem-solving skills. By altering the size of a KENKEN grid, from 3 x 3 to 9 x 9, and employing varying combinations of math operations, a scale of five difficulty levels can be generated, resulting in a seemingly endless number of puzzles (many players seem determined to try them all)! In a way, KENKEN is like a game of pool or even chess: The more you think ahead to your next move and consider all the possible outcomes, the better you'll get—and the smarter you'll become!

KENKEN was developed in 2004 by... no, it was not two guys who were both named Ken ☺. The creator was acclaimed Japanese mathematics instructor Tetsuya Miyamoto. His goal was to improve his students' math and logic skills, while keeping it fun. What better tool than a puzzle can achieve this? So he developed one that would be challenging, yet understandable and fun for any level of student. Most importantly, he wanted the puzzle to encourage independent thinking, emphasizing on trial and error, concentration, and perseverance. Mr. Miyamoto's educational philosophy boils down to "The Art of Teaching Without Teaching.™" His methods and the puzzle were immediately successful.

9x9
8x8
7x7
6x6
5x5
4x4
3x3

What's your challenge?

[Rules](#)
[Having Trouble?](#)
[Tips to Play Online](#)

36x	100x	1--		2÷		240x	3--		
			14+	56x		1--		1--	
3+				24x				24÷	
		36x				33+			
940x	14+			13+				2÷	
		3÷		216x				4	22+
	40x	2÷				7--	8+		
96x				19x				6--	
		1--		8+				8--	

Example Only

Don't simply take our word for it though! Go to www.kenken.com to try the game for yourself and give your brain a workout.

Courtesy — Bryan D'Souza

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Crossword Answers

Across

1. GHEE
5. KARMA
6. GOA
10. MALAYALAM
11. PATLIPUTRA
12. DHARAMSALA
13. SUSHRUTA
14. DHOTI
15. HARMANDIRSAHIB
18. CHARKHA
19. TENDULKAR
21. SANSKRIT
22. VEDAS

Down

1. GOLKONDA
2. BAICHUNG BHUTIA
3. DRONACHARYA
4. SATYAGRAHA
5. KONARK
7. MOHANDAS
8. NAMASTE
9. JAWAHARLAL
13. SHIVA
16. SHIRDI
17. BODHGAYA
18. CHAPATI
20. AHIMSA

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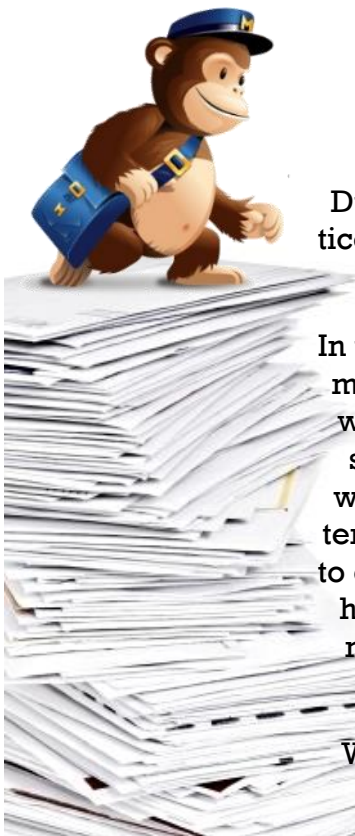
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A Word of Thanks



During the last few months, you may have noticed a subtle change in the e-mail communication we send your way.

In the past, we relied on PHPlist for e-mail communication with the community, and though it worked, the system was extremely time consuming and painful to use. By February, we were scouting options for a better e-mail system. It was then, that **Shaji Thomas** advised us to give MailChimp a try. So we did, and it was a hit for us from the word 'go'! Sending new e-mails now takes us barely 10% of the time it used to, and it's free!

We are grateful to Shaji for the excellent advice. Thank you, sir!



MailChimp



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