



Website: [www.kojain.com](http://www.kojain.com)

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Jai Jinendra and Pranam to all my KOJAIN Community members,

With the clock springing forward an hour, the spring season is here and hopefully the long winter is finally moving on. I am sure everyone is looking forward to the new season and making plans for summer.



During the upcoming summer, there is an opportunity to meet fellow KOJAIN community members during JAINA convention in July in Florida. KOJAIN community meeting will be held on July 1 St, Saturday from 1 pm to 3 pm. All those who are registered for JAINA are welcome to join and meet in person after 4 years since our last meeting was during JAINA in 2019 in California.

We have several activities like Matrimonial program, Annual scholarship for high school seniors, KOJAIN website updates and launching the directory project. KOJAIN BOD is thankful to all the volunteers for helping with various activities. You will read more about these activities in this newsletter.

We look forward to your continued support for various activities and encouraged by inquiries and support to our donation requests for scholarship and loan program. Community support and participation makes each of the initiative successful. We also want to invite any region or any city who is interested in hosting KOJAIN sammelan in 2024. Due to covid we had to cancel the sammelan in 2020 and subsequent years didn't provide the opportunity due to uncertainty. Now with all the in-person events starting back, we are looking forward to KOJAIN sammelan in 2024.

Last we had many students from India enrolled in universities across North America and our Host Family program provides that support most students value as they start their course and also allows them to build relationships within community. We are looking for families/host and volunteers who can help out, please reach out to us via [hostfamily@kojain.com](mailto:hostfamily@kojain.com)

We look forward to hearing from you so please send your views/reviews and articles to [newsletter@kojain.com](mailto:newsletter@kojain.com) .

Jai Jinendra and Best regards,

Manish Mota

President | KOJAIN, 2022-23



A onetime KOJAIN Merit Scholarship is awarded to North American High School graduating qualified students, entering college/university to pursue further studies. Up to three \$1000 scholarships will be offered. **KOJAIN is soliciting applications for the 2023 Merit Scholarship.** Eligibility Criteria and submission requirements for the Scholarship are listed below:

**Please note:**

- Last day of the submission of application is May 31, 2023. Applicant will be notified of Judges' decision by the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of June 2023.
- A list of winners will appear on the KOJAIN website at [www.kojain.com](http://www.kojain.com) and will be published in the September 2023 issue of KOJAIN newsletter.
- The KOJAIN Scholarship program is administered by the scholarship committee appointed by the KOJAIN Board of Directors and is made possible by KOJAIN members' tax-deductible contribution to the KOJAIN scholarship fund.

**Eligibility Criteria:**

- Graduating High School seniors planning to attend an accredited college or university full-time in the fall of 2023.
- Applicant whose parents are KOJAIN Life Members.
- Grade point average of at least 3.0 on an unweighted 4.0 scale.

**Your application must contain the following:**

1. Submit an unofficial 4-year high school transcript, including the 2022-2023 school year. Photocopies are acceptable.
2. Copies of American College Testing (ACT) or Scholastic Aptitude Testing (SAT), or any other entrance examination scores.
3. List and briefly describe any extracurricular services and activities. Please provide enough information so that the selection committee will understand the nature of your services and activities.
4. Photograph of your face (head and shoulders only) in jpg format.
5. Essay Requirements & Topics are given below.

Write a 500-word essay in which you develop your point of view on any one of the topics presented below. Support your position with reasoning and examples taken from your readings, studies, experiences, or observations.

**Essay Topics:**

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. Reflect on something that someone has done for you that has made you happy or thankful in a surprising way. How has this gratitude affected or motivated you?
3. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.

**Where to send your application:**

Upload your documents and essay by using the following Google Forms link:

<https://forms.gle/A6oyR2FjbKdSoqHGA>



Winter Walkathon

**Rain or shine KutchValley folks love to keep themselves fit and fine!!**

KutchValley began the first event of the year 2023 with a Walkathon at Shoreline Park in Mountain View on Sat, 11th Feb. Approximately 100 KVites got together to walk, breathe fresh air, enjoy beautiful views and above all to catch up with each other. This year the San Francisco Bay Area has seen unexpected heavy rains and severe cold but the spirit of KutchValley for medavo and gathering shines out. It was fun to see a rocking number of KV Vadil's enthusiastically walking during walkathon along with an equal number of energetic kiddos running, biking and geo-tracking!!







### Shuudh Desi Jukebox

KutchValley Sakhi's had their annual meetup "Shuudh Desi Jukebox" on Fri, Mar 17th with a record breaking 102 attendees for an evening of Karaoke - an event planned for Sakhis by Sakhis. The meetup received overwhelming support, both for participation and singing. Variety of old and new Karaoke songs were presented as solos/duets. Couple of groups sang theme based medleys and a custom song was also presented to highlight the skills of some Sakhis. It was truly an evening filled with talent, laughter, melodious music, DJ while connecting with old friends, making new bonds with newcomers, and singing along with visiting moms from India.







## Achievement



Kayan Shah received his Eagle Scout rank in February 2023. This is the highest rank in Boy Scouts. Kayan's eagle project was writing a curriculum on financial literacy and teaching a class twice to underserved middle school students at the local library. He spent over 200 hours working on his eagle project. His Nana, Navin S Dedhia was so excited for Kayan to get his eagle scout, so Kayan has credited his achievement to everything he learned from Nana. Please visit his website: [www.kayandevshah.com](http://www.kayandevshah.com)

## Congratulations



Kalpa and Jaideep Shah, residents of San Jose, California are proud to announce that their daughter Miloni Shah (KOJAIN Youth Coordinator) has taken the first step into the next phase of her life. She has accepted Arsh Shah's proposal to get married. Over the last 2+ years, they have gotten to know each other really well and have now decided to take their relationship to the next level.

Miloni graduated with her MSN from Saint Louis University and has been working as a Registered

Nurse in UC San Diego hospital for over a year. She is currently pursuing her certification to become a Family Nurse Practitioner from SLU. She also practices beaded jewelry artistry in her spare time.

Arsh is the son of Bhavi and (late) Ketan Shah, a Gujarati Jain family residing in West Bloomfield, Michigan. Bhaviben is from Vile Parle and Ketanbhai from Howrah, Kolkata. Both have been professionals in the automotive industry.



## Regional News: Region 4

### Annual Holi Celebrations

We will be having our annual Holi celebration on April 16th from 1 pm to 6 pm at Abhyudaya Retreat Center, 11S250 IL-83, Willowbrook, IL 60527. The event is open to all Kutchi families and will include lunch, board games and Holi outdoors. If interested, please fill out our registration form <https://forms.gle/LwCugfmYjGUC8E4C6> . Please contact Vipul Dedhia 708-539-3961 with any questions.

## Regional News: Region 5

### New Year Jalsa Party

New Year Jalsa Party with 67 people in Atlanta, GA on Sat Jan 28, 2023, had lots of fun, music, dance, children's games, high tea, Jain snacks and Jain dinner. This get together Jalsa was super successful. We had a great time meeting new people and made some great new friends. It was a lot of fun for adults and kids. Kids were not ready to go home. The food was so delicious and scrumptious.





## Holi Event Participation

Participated in group dance in a big Holi Program of Sewa International on Sat Mar 11, 2023, in Atlanta, GA.



Congratulations

For the first time in history of Jain Society of Greater Detroit (JSGD), the Executive committee of JSGD is an all women team and that too all “Kutchi Women”!! Team is very talented, creative, and excited to serve next 2 years. So proud of this committee!

The following are the members of the Executive Committee:








- Jaya Shah - President
- Kavita Shah - Vice President
- Nisha Dedhia - Secretary
- Chaitali Lalan - Treasurer
- Dixita Haria - Publications
- Niru Maru - Facility Director
- Bharati Doshi - Food Coordinator

On 19th March, on occasion of International Women’s Day they had organized Ladies only celebration. Afternoon was full of fun, friends, games. Singing by our own society female singers entertained the crowd followed by Chauvihar dinner.

We wish them all the very best for their next 2 years!

**Executive Committee** – ec@jsgd.org

JSGD.org  
jain society of greater detroit

 <b>Jaya Shah   President</b> (248) 227 - 4449 president@jsgd.org	 <b>Kavita Shah   Vice President</b> (734) 272 - 2262 vicepresident@jsgd.org	 <b>Nisha Dedhia   Secretary</b> (517) 974 - 4171 info@jsgd.org	
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Congratulations – Newborn announcement

Name: Ahaan Gogri  
Birth Month: June 2022  
Mother's Name: Puja Sangoi Gogri  
Father's Name: Maulin Gogri  
Kutch Village: Donn, Mandvi  
City: New Orleans, LA



Congratulations



Manilal J. Savla, Manalapan, NJ (Kutch Mota Asambia) gave a presentation at the Annual Technical Conference of the Society of Plastics Engineers in Denver, CO on March 29, 2023. The title of his presentation was Dry Stereolithography, a new process he has developed in the field of 3D printing/additive manufacturing. <https://bcert.me/sccwjlxrs>

Regional News: Region 10

Winter Outing

During the President's weekend, Kutchi families enjoyed skiing together at Wachusett Mountain in MA. It was fun for the skiers to be together in company amongst all ages and skill levels. The non-skiers had their own fun along a winter hike and playing cards in the lodge. Skiers & hikers all enjoyed sharing chai and snacks. This outing, initiated by Himanshu Gosar, was enjoyed by everyone and will now be an annual event every winter for the New England Kutchis.







## Region 11 - Canada

### Canada Indoor Sports 2023



The first ever Indoor Sports event for Kojain Region 11 – Canada was successfully organized on 28 January 2023.

About 130 enthusiastic participants enrolled in one or more of the following sports events – Carrom, Chess, Table Tennis, Badminton and Box Cricket. All the rigorous and untiring efforts of the planning committee and volunteers ensured that a total of 176 matches for all these 5 sports were successfully concluded in a single day.



A huge thanks to the Jain Society of Toronto for providing huge premises with a well-equipped sports room, a large Atrium and the dining hall at Moti Champsee Cultural Centre. Multiple small and mid-sized business owners as well as Professionals of our Canadian Kutchhi community generously contributed to ensure the event was a super success.



As always, new residents and students got a great opportunity to connect with each other and with veteran Kutchhi families of the region.

Below are the winners for each of the Sports Event:

**Badminton (Men)** - Viral Shah, Harshal Gala

Badminton (Women) - Basvi Chheda, Mansi Gala

**Chess** - Somil Visaria, Abhishek Nagda

**Table Tennis** - Priyank Vira, Harsh Shah

**Carrom** - Jenil G Chheda, Hiten Dedhia

### **Disc & Belleville Canadian Kutchhi Cricket League (Box Cricket)**

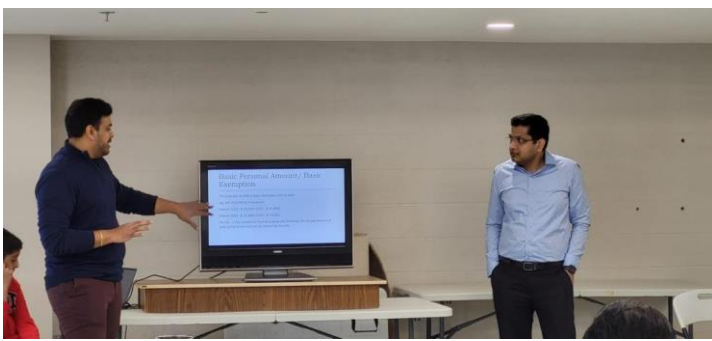
Team Gangar Kings (Dhaval Gangar, Viral Gangar, Kenali Gangar, Sanit Visaria, Karan Shethia, Anuj Dedhia, Abhishek Nagda, Nirali Dedhiya, Priyal Savla)

Team Sun Canada (Viral Shah, Jeet Furia, Dhairya Vora, Somil Visaria, Jayani Dharamshi, Jigna Chheda/Shital Chheda, Richa Gosar, Nirav Chheda, Jenil Chheda)

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/MsDFUW8KqhDN4nagZ>







On March 4th Kojain Region 11 Canada organized an Information session at JSOT Moti Champsee Cultural Center for our Kutchhi families and students.

A few short professional information sessions on Taxation, Healthcare, Immigration, and Job Search were planned and delivered by the respective professionals of our community:

- Taxation - Bhupesh Dedhia and Viral Haria
- Healthcare Tips and Awareness - Dr. Hinal Sheth
- Immigration Information - Tanvi Nagda
- Job Search and Application - Nikhil Nagda

The day began with a Snatra Pooja followed by the Information sessions and lunch.

This event was free for all Kojain families and despite the severe snowstorm, about 60 members attended the event.





## CommuTree – Community's Family Tree - by Narendra Shah, KOJAIN Region 5 Director

CommuTree is a unique platform that allows us all to create our own community's family tree and connect with our entire community. CommuTree is the trusted social platform where users create family trees and connect with their local Communities.

CommuTree is the No. 1, trustful social platform that allows users to create their Family Tree and connect with local Communities, that puts extended Family Tree connections in the center of various Interactions like Matrimony, Businesses, Games, Jobs, Classifieds, Donations. It is the #1 App of the Gujarati and Kutchi Community having one million plus downloads already and increasing daily rapidly. We all can see our community's daily updates like: News, Matrimony, Death, New-Born, New Marriage, Engagement, Social, Religious, Job, Property, Commercial, Buy–Sell, Congratulations, Thank you, Condolences, Birthday, Marriage Anniversary, Death Anniversary, Academic, Medical, General, Daily Newsletter [Patrika], Jain calendar and almanac [Panchang], Oath of fasting [Pachakhan], etc.

For Americans, Europeans, Russians, Latinos, Africans, Chinese, and most others worldwide, they have Ancestry, FamilySearch, MyHeritage, FindMyPast, and such websites and web searches available. For our KOJAIN community, our ancestry details will unfortunately not show up in such websites and web searches.

So, Kudos to two youngsters of our own community, Atul Jivraj Nisar [Thoriari, Vagad, Kutch – Dahisar, Mumbai] and Amit Lalji Chheda [Samakhiari, Vagad, Kutch – Dahisar, Mumbai], started this great revolutionary venture CommuTree [meaning Community Tree – like Extended Family Tree for the entire Community showing internal relationship], at a very young age of around 25 years old, together in June 2008. I have posted my family tree up to more than 21 generations going back more than 400 years, in this CommuTree for my whole family and for all to see. It has worked like a miracle and a great blessing for our whole community. They also incorporated names and photographs of all and allowed online edit facility 24/7. It helps us with the understanding of relationships with anybody and everybody in our own community. It is available on smartphones, so we all can use it globally too. They started with one community and today they have covered all the Jain and Non-Jain; Kutchi, Gujarati, Marwadi, Rajasthani, and other communities and sub-communities [400 plus] and are ever expanding rapidly.

They allow only one community on one cell phone to allow exclusivity but at the same time it is a totally free service to all, and they survive only on the advertisements to serve the community at large. For basic Matrimony service they provide free service but for premium matrimony there is a nominal charge and for VIP Matrimony there is a higher charge, but it is spread throughout all the communities at once.

I kindly appeal to all of you to add your updated full details, with latest photographs, in CommuTree to help yourselves, your families, and our whole community at large, as soon as possible.

## KOJAIN Host Family Program

We are approaching that time of the year again, we will have new batch of Kutchi students arriving in North America starting August. As you know our Host Family Program volunteers are ready to help settle these kids by connecting with local host families.

How to get connected with KOJAIN host family program:

**Students:** If you are parent or the student who is coming to US we request you to get connected with KOJAIN host family program via sending an email at [hostfamily@kojain.com](mailto:hostfamily@kojain.com) with details of which city/state you are coming and also the name of the University.

**Become a host family:** If you live in North America and are willing to help the incoming students then we request you to also send email [hostfamily@kojain.com](mailto:hostfamily@kojain.com) with your contact details.

## KOJAIN Matrimonial Initiative

With the goal to create a platform for North America based matrimonial candidates and their family to promote matrimonial alliances within the community, KOJAIN Matrimonial initiative was launched in 2022. We held 3 Parents Medavos (Gatherings), 2 Singles virtual mixers, and encouraged matrimonial advertisements in the KOJAIN newsletter in 2022.

Earlier this year (2023), we have launched the KOJAIN Matrimonial WhatsApp group for the candidates and their parents. This group has received enthusiastic response from the community so far. We have 38 male candidates and 13 female candidates actively registered in the group. Including the parents of the candidates, we have 120 active WhatsApp group members. These candidates are both from USA and Canada, with ages ranging from 25 to 44. The female candidate profiles are posted on Saturday and male candidate profiles are posted on Sunday. The group follows proper guidelines to handle the candidate information carefully. The candidates and parents have provided positive feedback so far.

KOJAIN BOD thanks the matrimonial committee volunteers Mulchand Gala (NJ/PA), Narendra Ramjibhai Shah (Visaria), Bhachau (GA), Dipti Shah (NC/NJ), Miloni Shah (CA), and Nisha Daulat (NV) for running this matrimonial initiative and managing this WhatsApp platform as it requires lot of verification, updates and weekly post creation.

If any eligible matrimonial candidate would like to become a member of KOJAIN Matrimonial WhatsApp group, please visit <https://kojain.com/matrimonial/> for signup details

The Matrimonial advertisements will be published in June 2023 newsletter.