

KOA Youth Initiative

December, 2016





Kashmiri Overseas Association, Inc.

www.koausa.org

Program Director



Maneesha Munshi, Northern CA

Maneesha was born in Sheetalnath, Srinagar and was there until the beginning of her 3rd grade. Post exodus, her parents; Ashok, Meena and sister, Aneesha moved to Hyderabad which eventually became their second Home. She has been in the United States since 2008. She is a Speech Language Pathologist and practices in San Jose.

She loves to travel, learn new cultures and languages, go to art shows and museums, and listen to Kashmiri and Native American music.

Maneesha was first elected to KOA Board of Directors in January of 2014 and has been the Director of Zone 9 since then.

Her passion for Kashmir started from seeing how her parents and grandparents longed to go to this place they once called 'home'. She thinks that the youth with their enthusiasm and the elders with their experience can bring the community together and help every one of us stay connected to the land of our roots.

Her goal for KOA Youth is to identify the key initiatives that the Youth would like to undertake, to integrate youth activities within the existing structure of KOA and to continue to lay the foundations for the future leaders and office bearers of KOA.



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Objectives

- To establish KOA Youth with their Zonal Directors and Chapter Presidents.
- To identify key initiatives that youth would like to undertake.
- Create a database of youth with the help of youth representatives at zonal and chapter levels.
- To identify need for regional youth camps.



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Activities

Meetings

Setup and invitations : prepares agenda, sets up google hangouts and youtube stream, sends invitation and makes sure of participation and smooth running of program.

Moderator : Makes sure the discussions are based on agenda. Takes questions from audience and addresses them

Minutes Master : Notes the action items and goes through them at the end of the session. Builds on previous action items.

Media advertiser : Publishes meetings well beforehand, advertises before/during/after event. Publishes the recordings, newsletter, minutes after session

Koshur (Zone 4 language lesson and Zone 7 monthly program)

Setup, invitations and moderator : Need one volunteer for each zone 4 and 7 to take ownership. takes questions and answers them online

Media advertiser

Video & audio expert : Need a volunteer to edit videos and equalize audio and place banners, text, title etc in the videos. Clip videos based on time and relevant content



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Activities

Kath-e-Baath (Showcase youth talent, ideas and discussion)

Setup, invitations and host : Invite guest and guest's friend, setup hangout/youtube stream

Prepare interview questions : Research and prepare questions

Video & audio expert

Media advertiser

Sharadapeeth (Religious lectures)

Setup, invitation and moderator: Invite and set-up appointment and youtube/hangout with religious speaker

Media advertiser

Video & audio expert

Kaar-Baar

Same as above

Arts & Talent Contests



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Online Resources

- Online Courses with audio clips:
 - An Introduction to Spoken Kashmiri - Prof. Braj B. Kachru
<http://koausa.org/spokenkashmiri/toc.html>
Selected Topics:
<http://koausa.org/spokenkashmiri/Selected/index.html>
 - Basic Reader for Kashmiri Language - M. K. Raina & Neelam Trakru
Section 3 ~ Translation Vocabulary:
<http://koausa.org/Reader/index2.html>
 - Spoken Kashmiri - Omkar N. Koul
<http://koausa.org/Kashmiri/index2.html>
- Project Zaan (KPA, Mumbai)
 - Information Digest - Vol. 1 through Vol. 4
<http://koausa.org/zaan/contents.html>



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Past KOA Youth Activities

- Board Meeting Minutes - October 21, 2001, 11/20/01
 - **Kashmiri Institute:** In year 2001 for the first time Youth Culture/Language Camp was organized in Washington DC. This was an initiative taken by Komal Bazaz (VA) and Sonal Bakaya (MD) under the able guidance of Shri Lalit Wanchoo. The camp was attended by 13 young adults for duration of 10 days and was taught By Prof. Brij Kachru from University of Illinois (IL) and Prof. Ashok Kaul of Brown University (RI). Board thanked: Both Professors; all the community members who supported the activities in Washington area; and the guest lecturers who came from various parts of the country to teach the Kids. KOA contributed \$ 2000 for this course and the rest of the expenses for this Camp were met by registration fee and generous donations by few community members. KOA pledged to support for such activities in future to be arranged both on the East coast and the West coast. For Next Year, Smriti Nakhasi and Preeti Wali have agreed to coordinate the youth camp.
 - **Culture and Language School for young children:** This year Arti Kaul (MA) initiated a new Sunday school program in Boston area for our children. Monica Dhar and others have initiated similar program in Northern California. These programs were initiated to give information to our children about Kashmir, teach them Kashmiri culture and language in a classroom environment. This is an experiment. To develop a broader structure for holding similar classes for our children in other parts of the country, Artiji has been developing course structure so that the experience can be shared with other Zones.



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What have we done so far?



KOA Youth Reps & Current Programs (Nov 2016) – Introduction

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i2Lu0oD2Ppo&app=desktop>

Social Media Links

- Instagram : <https://www.instagram.com/koayouth/>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/koayouth/>
- Yahooogroup: koayouth@googlegroups.com
- e-mail: kashmirioverseasyouth@gmail.com

Koshur Language and Culture Lessons

Youth members from Zones 4 and 7 have been conducting Kashmiri Language and Culture classes in their Zone once every 3 months.

List of Events:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/koayouth/events/?past>

Meetings of the Minutes:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1VbOOF07Hqo7vWN-VAWIU8kSHtWB5pW9cER6lwyHhsfg/edit?usp=sharing>
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1VbOOF07Hqo7vWN-VAWIU8kSHtWB5pW9cER6lwyHhsfg/edit?usp=sharing>



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What have we done so far?



Sharadapeeth

Discover history, heritage, values, culture and religion of Kashmir

Lecture by intellectuals on History, culture, religion, heritage and language of Kashmir.

- Sharadapeeth #1 ~ Sh Omanand Koul (Talk on Janamashtami & Pilgrimage to Amaranth Cave)
- Sharadapeeth #2 ~ Sh Omanand Koul (Discussing Deepavali – Unique KP traditions)
- Sharadapeeth #3 ~ Sh Bansi Pandit (Misrepresentation of Hinduism) – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xavYVOMa9Cc>
- Sharadapeeth #4 ~ Sh Rakesh Kaul (The Last Queen of Kashmir) – <https://goo.gl/hhMm5M>



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What have we done so far?



This is a chat show for KOA youth, showcasing talent of the Youth.

- Kath-e-baath # 1 ~ Zooni Thusoo (Winner, Miss India Worldwide Canada 2016) – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bypBt2V_sU4
- Kath-e-baath # 2 ~ Vivek Pandit (Author, We are Generation Z) – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p-mVbbh-q7I>
- Kath-e-baath # 3 ~ Tanvi Wattal & Niteka Raina (Bezzant online magazine) – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tLW_2T3xO18
- Kath-e-baath # 4 ~ Megha & Rashmi Koul (KOA achievement award winner 2016) – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tJgr3QbMoSs>



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What have we done so far?



- Kaar-Baar #1 ~ Sh Rakesh Kaul (Inner Game of Entrepreneurship)
– <https://goo.gl/i1YLb4>



National Youth Representatives



Arti Fotedar



Sahana Zutshi



Amrita Kar



Nisha Quasba



Sidarth Razdan



Somya Kaul



Nisha Munshi



Simran Moza



Kashyap Kaul



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Social Media

YAHOOGROUP: <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/koahealthcare/info>

TWITTER: <http://twitter.com/KOAorg>

YOUTUBE: <http://www.youtube.com/user/sathyuk>

FACEBOOK PAGES:

KOA: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/koausa>

Youth: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/koayouth>

Healthcare Network: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/koahealthcare>

Entrepreneurs: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/koaentrepreneurs>

LINKEDIN FOCUS GROUPS:

KOA Healthcare Partners Focus Group: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8559527>

KOA Technology Focus Group: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8559541>

KOA Entrepreneur Focus Group: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8559545>

KOA Executive Committee and Board (Year 2016)

Executive Committee



PRESIDENT
Sunil Fotedar



VICE-PRESIDENT
Sudesh Saraf
Illinois



SECRETARY
Ajay Tikoo
New Jersey



TREASURER
Rajeev Kaul
New York

Board of Directors



Anil Mattoo
Zone 1 Director



Sudesh Kaul
Zone 2 Director



Nirja Sadhu
Zone 3 Director



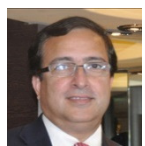
Shakun Malik
Zone 4 Director



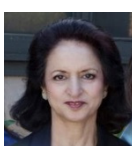
Randhir Wokhlu
Zone 5 Director



Suresh Sus
Zone 6 Director



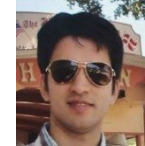
Sudesh Saraf
Zone 7 Director



Veena Kaul
Zone 8 Director



Maneesha Munshi
Zone 9 Director



Piyush Mattoo
Zone 10 Director