



WELCOME TO KOA'S Quarterly Newsletter

Sonth Edition



Cover Art by Savi Bhat

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- KOA NATIONAL CAMP IN COLORADO
- KOA YOUTH CAMP IN DC

INSIDE THIS EDITION:

- MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE TEAM
- ZONAL ACTIVITIES
- SHAIVISM WORKSHOPS AND MUCH MORE.....

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DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Dear Biradari,

This past year KOA has been a part of some truly Historic events which will be remembered by our volunteers for a long time.

The first ever KOA Float in India Day Parade in NY 2023. Last October we were part of a National India Day Parade in NY. The KOA float in was first of its kind as we presented our religious heritage and our way of life to thousands of people watching the parade in NY. Our participation in the **World Culture Festival at the National Mall** in Washington DC was attended by millions of people and the world celebrities, dignitaries, and politicians.



This year we continue to promote KOA on the national level.

Invitation to Kalash Poojan for the Consecration of the Ram Temple at Ayodhya by BAPS Robbinsville. A historic moment for Hindu Dharma! Devotees thronged the Temple in NJ to participate in this sacred ceremony on a freezing day! KOA was invited to the Kalash Pooja, along with other major organizations of the area. I had the honor of carrying the Holy Kalash along with other dignitaries participating the Prana Pratishtha Poojan for Lord Rama welcoming him home! It was a powerful moment to participate in an historical event that will define Hindu Dharma for a long time. KOA was also recognized as a premier organization at this event in front of thousands of devotees!

Exodus Day Commemoration and Interview with PadmaShree Mr. K. N Pandita.

January 19th, this year remembrance was done in the form of a video message by the KOA Board and KOA youth by sharing our heartfelt message about our Genocide. It has been 34 long years, but the emotions are still fresh and painful! We invited one of our eminent scholars of Kashmir history Padma Shri K.N. Pandita on this commemoration to discuss the 7th Exodus and the effects of generational genocide on our community under the brutal and tyrannical Muslim rule for 700+ years. The Seventh exodus and the Genocide of our community has not yet been recognized by the world. We continue to seek Justice for crimes committed against our community since 1990.

Community Visit To Austin. Earlier this year, I visited Austin, Texas at the invitation of zone 5 Director Mrs. Anjana Kaul. It was wonderful to be among our vibrant Austin community. I thank them for the love and hospitality they showed me during that visit. It was indeed a family get-together with delicious home cooked meal and lots of fun! A range of topics were discussed at this community meeting, including hosting the KOA national camp in Colorado. Seeing the enthusiasm and the passion of the volunteers, it was decided that the KOA Annual camp will be held at Estes Park Colorado this year. We are looking forward to seeing all of you at Estes Park among the beautiful Rocky Mountains.

KOA calendars and Tithi Panchangs. As a tradition this year also, we have shared the KOA calendar with our community irrespective of their membership status. Those who are lifetime members, and some annual members were mailed a printed copy of the same. We also shared this calendar with our community in Canada.

DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

I thank Mrs. Neelam Wali of Boston, who has been compiling and designing these calendars for decades. Her volunteerism and commitment to the community is commendable.

In addition to the traditional calendars, **KOA also created Four Time Zone Tithi Panchangs, which are specific to EST, CST, MST AND PST time zones.** These Panchangs were compiled by Jyotshi Puneet ji from Jammu. This is an additional religious resource specifically created by KOA for those community members who follow the time zone Tithi Calendar in USA.

Hindu Educational Society of Kashmir-KOA Scholarship Program

Keeping up with the our mission and commitment to those Education Institutes that are contributing towards enhancing our culture, spirituality, and philosophy, this year KOA has started a scholarship program with the Hindu Education Society of Kashmir. This college is based in Jammu and is an extension of the well-known and recognized Gandhi College of Srinagar. The scholarship program was created in lieu of donations made by Dr. Ashoke Raina of Maryland to the college. This scholarship will be provided to 4 college going students in Jammu coming from under privileged families who are seeking courses at the HESK college. This is a 4-year scholarship program. The selection of the scholarship recipients will be done collaboratively by the KOA and HESK committee. This program will provide scholarships in addition to the existing KOA's EAP program for college bound students.

Revival of the Heritage Committee- The KOA Board this January voted to Revive the Heritage Committee, which had been discontinued years back. The objective of this committee is to work on specific projects and programs in concordance with KOA Board on area of Language, Religious philosophy, Kashmiri Pandit art and literature, help in raising funds to preserve religious places and shrines in J&K. In 2023, KOA raised funds to renovate a section of Shivalun Temple in Srinagar. In January this year we collaborated with Aalath.com run by Mr. Vishal Kachroo to bring Kashmiri language classes to our community here in USA. The classes are ongoing and many young adults and children are taking advantage of it. Currently the Heritage committee is presenting workshops on Kashmiri Shaivism that will run through June 2024.

Reviving the Folklores of Kashmir. We are currently working on our next project to preserve our language, art and folklores. We have collaborated with esteemed and respected literary figures in Jammu to create audio books on our folklores. For the pilot project 2 well known Folk tales were chosen Hemal Naigray and Akanandun. Work is being done in Jammu.

The SAC and EAP educational programs for year 2023 were closed and both surpassed the number of scholarships given out for the previous year.

Under SAC KOA granted 461 scholarships to School going children and under EAP we gave out scholarship to 240 College going students coming from poor families. The SAC program for 2024 is open for donations. I request an appeal to you all to donate to this program so that we can help educate more students this year.

DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

THANKS TO ALL THE DONORS who make our programs successful and invaluable. Lastly, I want to thank all the volunteers who have dedicated their personal time in volunteering for our community. “Volunteers are the human beings who reflect a community’s true compassion, unselfish character, patience, and love for each other”

Orzu te’ Namaskar.
Archana Kokroo.

SECRETARY'S CORNER



Namaskar Dear Members,

Welcome to the first edition of the newsletter in 2024. The Zonal Directors and the Executive Team are working towards creating a pleasant, rewarding and memorable membership experience for you all.

In January we started the **membership drive and called it 'Membership Matters'** because 'you matter'. You all are at the heart of the organization. Thank you to those who renewed/signed up for the membership. Though this drive continues into the year, we have again kick started the membership drive month effective April 15th. As a way of thanking you, we will be sending a **gift of your choice for signing up this month**. We have added 170 Lifetime members in the past three years.

It has been our effort to have KOA recognized as a premier Kashmiri organization globally. We keep in touch with Consulate General, New York and our embassy in Washington DC. President Dr. Archana Kokroo and myself met with the Hon'ble Ambassador Ms. Sripriya Ranganathan on invitation and introduced our organisation.

Our forced exodus has scalded us and we can never forget. It is an outcome of historic events that took place almost 75 years back. A movie 'Article 370' inspired by these historic events and produced by our own Aditya Dhar and Lokesh Dhar was released in February. Since this is an issue very close to our hearts, the ZoomDub team interviewed the team of 'Article 370'.

As it has become a tradition, this year again KOA celebrated Shivratri as a community partaking in the Samohik Puja. The priest, Pawan ji led the puja. It has given many families an opportunity to participate in a guided Herath pooja.

Our annual camps are at the core of KOA's activities. Apart from the National Camp and the West Coast camp, the Youth Trips have been a hit with our youngsters. This is the third year with a record 60 youth attending this trip in Washington DC and many could not be accommodated due to logistic reasons.

The National Camp is being held in Estes Park, Colorado. It is being organized in Zone 5 with Mrs. Anita Kaul as the Camp Commander and the Zone 5 director Mrs. Anjana Kaul and the team providing the support. We look forward to seeing you all there. The West Coast Camp will be held in the Greater Seattle Area. The details are being worked out.

As part of the KOA's mission of helping the Kashmiri brethren in Jammu Camps, we donated a mortuary van to the Jagati Camp earlier this year. When Archana Ji was visiting the camps in November 2023, the residents had requested her for it.

We hope to see you all at the camp.

Warm Regards,
Neeta Bhat

KOA YOUTH HQ

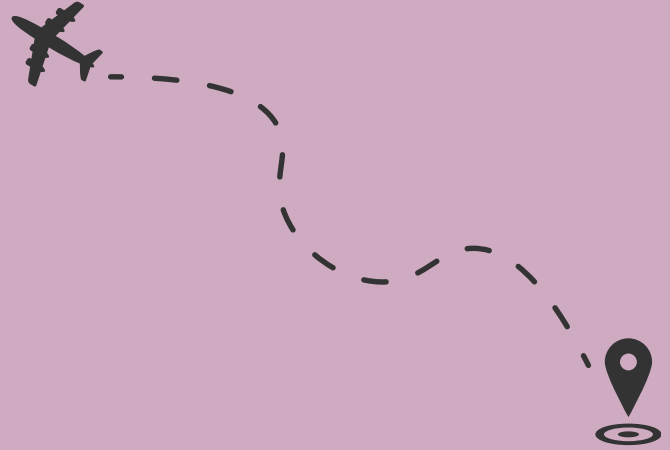
KOA Youth Trip 2024 - Washington D.C.

The KOA Youth Planning Committee is thrilled to announce the upcoming KOA Youth National Trip 2024 taking place in Washington DC in May! This year, they've received an overwhelming amount of interest, with 60 enthusiastic youth attendees joining from across the United States and Canada.

Notably, the Bay Area (Zone 9) and Texas (Zone 5) are leading the pack in participation. Excitingly, this will be the first year they have representation from 9/10 KOA Zones (Zones 1-9), and are eager to extend our reach to Zone 10. If you have connections with families in Zone 10 with youth members who are not connected with KOAY, please reach out to Sidhi Raina, our Youth Director, at youthdirector@koausa.org.

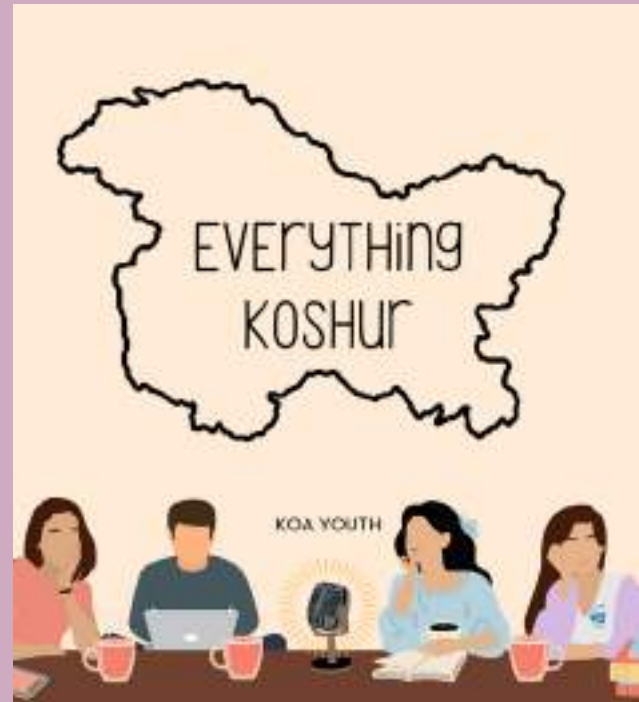
KOAY can't wait to meet everyone next month in DC and create lasting memories together!

Planning Committee:
Sidhi Raina
Arushi Kotru
Heeya Trisal



Everything Koshur Podcast: Season 2

🎬 Our Season 2 of Everything Koshur is HERE, and we're thrilled to share the news with you! ✨ Join our fantastic new hosts, Aarav Raina & Surbhi Bhat, alongside Sheerin & Sidhi from last season 🎙️ ✨ We've already released 3 exciting episodes this year and can't wait for the guests lined up for this season.




Listen to our new episodes on Spotify & Apple Podcasts:

Season 2, Episode 3: Nurturing Heritage and Mental Health with Jyotsna Dhar (Joy), a Counseling Psychology PhD student and therapist, to explore the significance of cultural traditions in fostering well-being.

Season 2, Episode 2: Discovering Kashmiri Shaivism's Timeless Teaching with Vijay Dhar, a student of Kashmiri Shaivism. Discover the universal values it offers, extending beyond cultural boundaries for personal growth.

Season 1, Episode 1: 34 Years Later: How the History of Genocide has Shaped the Experiences of Kashmiri Pandit Youth Today with Sidhi Raina and Surbhi Bhat. Reflect on our roots and the importance of acknowledging our history, even from afar. Discover why this matters on a larger scale and feel empowered to take action. Remember, there's strength in amplifying the voices that have been silenced.

Play this quarter's Wordle! 
Hint: Navreh

HOW TO PLAY WORDLE:

- Each guess must be a valid five-letter word.
- The color of a tile will change to show you how close your guess was.
- If the tile turns green, the letter is in the word, and it is in the correct spot.
- If the tile turns yellow, the letter is in the word, but it is not in the correct spot.
- If the tile turns gray, the letter is not in the word.

ZOOMDUB

ZoomDub- Special Edition

Movie 'Article 370' was released on Feb 22nd, 2024. The topic in the movie is very close to our hearts and touches the core of our being as Kashmiri Pandits. It was inspired by actual events.

KOA president, Dr. Archana Kokroo, along with Mr. Sanjay Kaul, our dynamic Communications Director, Mrs. Geetha Ganju (Cultural Director) and Ms. Sidhi Raina (Youth Director) interviewed the cast and crew of the movie 'Article 370' on our program 'ZoomDub-Special Edition'



The invited guests included the Director, Aditya Suhas Jambhale, Producers - Aditya Dhar and Lokesh Dhar, and the star of the movie- Yami Gautam.



It was an informal conversation and we called it 'Fireside Chat'. It was streamed live on Facebook and had an overall viewership of about 200 people on a week day.



If you missed it, it is available on KOA YouTube channel!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2MrICOTcWdo>

RAM MANDIR CELEBRATION

Shri Ram Mandir Vandana Celebration BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, New Jersey

On January 20, 2024, the Akshardham Swaminarayan Temple (BAPS) Robbinsville, New Jersey organized a special event to celebrate the Pran Pratistha of the Ayodhya Ram Mandir in India on January 22, 2024.



It was a moment of pride and honour for us that our community leader, Dr. Archana Kokroo, was invited and recognized at this massive event for her work and support of the BAPS community. The event entailed leading the 'Kalash Yatra Ritual' along with the Leadership of other Indian community organizations in the U.S., attending the spiritual discourses, Ram Puja, and various cultural programs depicting our scriptures from Ramayana.

Archana Ji was one of the ladies chosen for the symbolic Kalash Yatra at the Temple along with other dignitaries. Thousands of people from tristate area attended the 'Shree Ram Vandana'. This event symbolized a monumental milestone in our religious and cultural journey and offering a unique opportunity to come together in celebration and unity.

US AMBASSADOR MEET AND GREET

Meet and Greet with Hon'ble Ambassador Ms. Sripriya Ranganathan

The Consulate General New York held a Meet and Greet event in New York City for the Hon'ble Ambassador Ms. Sripriya Ranganathan. The executive team was invited. The KOA President and the Secretary attended the event. It was an opportunity to introduce our organization to her.



They also met the head of other organization in attendance and educated them about the KP Exodus and work the KOA is doing in the community here and back in India.



EDUCATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

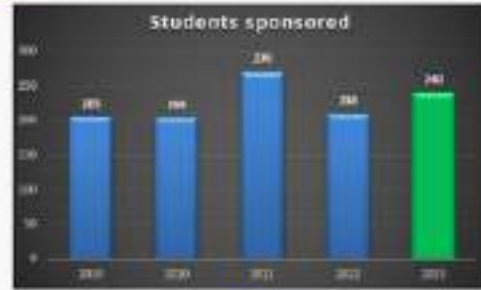
2023 Annual Report

Objective:

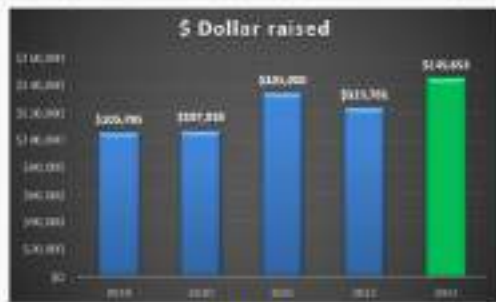
- Provide assistance in tuition, boarding & lodging expenses of college-bound migrant students to pursue professional training in various institutions in India.
- Let no child be left behind without education!

Five-year progression

Year	Students sponsored	Money raised
2019	205	\$105785 + INR 275,000
2020	204	\$107018 + INR 117,000
2021	270	\$135000 + INR 150,000
2022	210	\$123,761 + INR 350,000
2023	240	\$145,653 + INR 650,000



Students Sponsored → 14% ↑ Increase from 2022



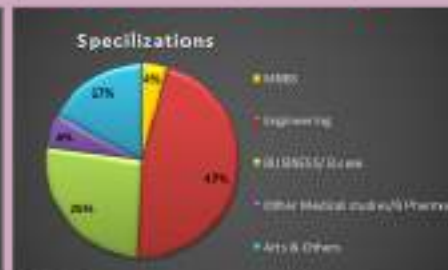
Dollars Raised → 18% ↑ Increase from 2022
Highest in last 5 years



INR Raised → 86% ↑ Increase from 2022
Highest in last 5 years

2023 Summary

- 240 → Beneficiaries sponsored
- 139 → Existing Students
- 101 → New students
- 54% boys, 46% girls
- 40 → orphans/Single parent child
- 74 → Residing (31%) in migrant camps



Top 3 Donors

- #1 Top generous donor paid \$10,000
- #2 Four Donors paid \$6250 each
- #3 Five donors paid >\$3000 each



EDUCATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Payment Options

\$625 per beneficiary starting 2022

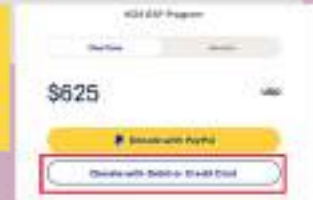
Check Option

Check should be made payable to:
Kashmiri Overseas Association (KOA), Inc.



Online Option

Visit https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=LEYU6KF3T3WG4
<http://koausa.org/site/donate/>
and choose the category for EAP program



"Giving is not just about making a donation,
it's about making a difference"

Program Directors

Directors:

Tej Nath Kaul, NY



Shivas Dhar, MI



Rohini Ganjoo, VA



Ayush Kotru, GA



Intern EAP

Please reach us at
eapkaoteam@gmail.com

HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Revival of KOA Heritage Committee

The Kashmiri Overseas Association (KOA) has revived the Heritage Preservation Committee. The Committee's mission is to globally preserve and promote Kashmiri Pandit heritage. This includes safeguarding literature, fostering art and science, documenting history, and promoting cultural and spiritual heritage.



Key Initiatives:

- **Kashmiri Shaivism Workshops:** Introductory workshops led by Vijay Dhar with over 70 participants were started. Plans for advanced workshops with renowned experts are underway.
- **Kashmir Heritage display:** Partnered with Avanti Foundation and KHF to set up a Kashmir Heritage display in Fremont, CA library for the month of April.



KOA in collaboration with aalath.com started online Kashmiri Classes. This is our continued effort to preserve our culture of which language is the cornerstone.

We request the community to proactively partner with us so that our youngsters learn to speak the language by having them join the classes. If you have any questions, please reach out to us.

They started on January 28th, 2024 for age group 10-18 for beginners

Lessons and curriculum are developed by Mr. Vishal Kachroo of Zone 9. Lessons were conducted once a week. The age group targeted in the first session was 10-18 years. Lessons will be interactive.

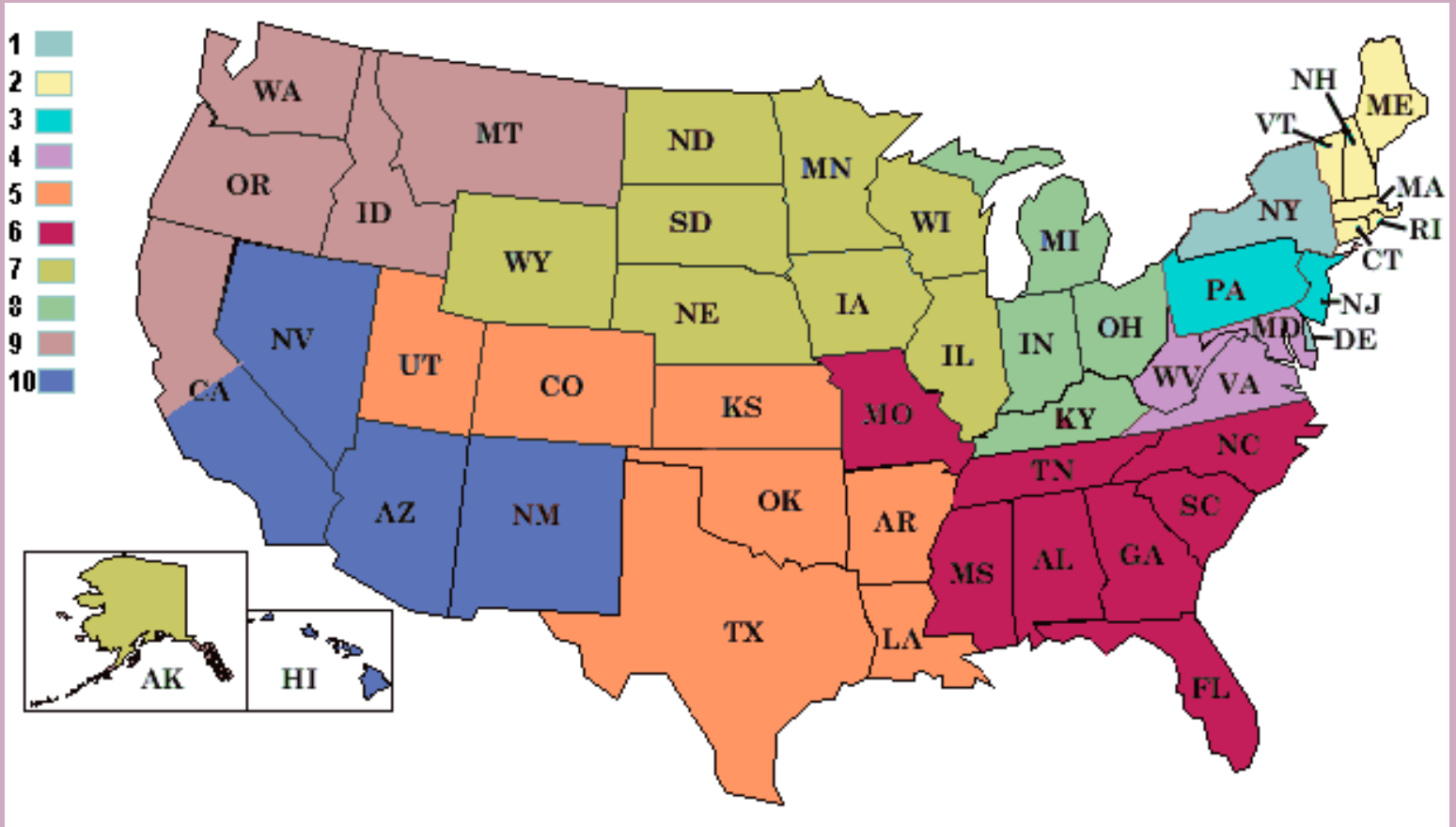


[Click here to register for the Shaivism Workshop Series!](#)

[Click here to learn more!](#)

ZONAL ACTIVITIES

Each of our zones have had a busy start to 2024!
Please read along to see what each zone has
been up to.



Zone 1: DL, NY

Zone 2: CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT

Zone 3: NJ, PA

Zone 4: Washington DC, MD, VA, WV

Zone 5: AR, CO, KS, LA, OK, TX, UT

Zone 6: AL, FL, GA, MO, MS, NC, SC, TN

Zone 7: AK, IA, IL, MN, ND, NE, SD, WI, WY

Zone 8: IN, KY, MI, OH

Zone 9: Northern CA, ID, MT, OR, WA

Zone 10: AZ, Southern CA, HI, NM, NV

ZONE 1

Shivratri

Zone 1 celebrated Shivratri on March 26, 2024 at Auntuns by Minar in Hicksville NY. Kashmiri attire fashion show was one of the attractions featuring good food, good company, and good music.



ZONE 2

Herath



Zone 2 celebrated Herath on March 30, 2024 with a Pooja led by Sanjay Ji and Bela Ji Kaul who shared the experience and prasad from their trip to Ayodya . They honored Mr. Omanand Kaul who has contributed tremendously to our knowledge of Herath and Shaivism. Doon was distributed and the children received their Herath Karch from elders.

Following the Pooja, they had Youth performances MC'd by Jaya Patel- including the rhythmic Neer Salman on Tabla, melodious singing of Kashmiri Bhajans by Arni Kaul, and a lovely dance performance by Diya and Arya Kaul. Diya Kaul also sang with her father Ajay Kaul along with other beautiful performances by the talented youth.



They enjoyed sumptuous food and were all transformed by an amazing performance by Ajay Kaul of the melodious songs of Kishore and Rafi which brought them to their feet to dance and enjoy the Herath Celebration in style. They also thanked their previous director Vikram Ji Salman for his dedicated service to the community and introduced the new chapter presidents- Neelam Wali and Neru Munshi.



ZONE 3

Herath

Zone 3 celebrated Herath on April 6th, 2024 at Ember Banquet Hall. The evening kicked off with bhajans at around 6:15 PM followed by a short break for appetizers.



The cultural event started at 6:45 PM with kids, youth, and adult performances. The music quiz and team games were other highlights of the fun evening. The event closed with a scrumptious dinner and dance with DJ Rajan.

ZONE 4

Navreh

Zone 4 celebrated Navreh on April 28th, 2024. Everyone was welcomed with nadir monj, kehwa, buzz wagon and maeshkraaiye. The community members reconnected with old faces and made new friendships. Attendees enjoyed a grand menu of meat yakni, tamatar wagon, paneer, palak nadur, chaman, rajma, chok nadur, maach, and tehr. The meal was ended with sheer chai, roth, and joyful conversations.



ZONE 5

Town Hall

On January 13, 2024, the first ever Townhall Event for Zone 5 was held in Austin. This was attended by community members across the zone in person and via zoom. KOA President Archana Ji graced the occasion with her presence. Zonal Director Anjana Kaul gave a presentation of programs and initiatives for Zone 5 for the upcoming year.



Literacy Drive

Zone 5 has started hosting bi-weekly Zoom Literacy Drive sessions. These free classes are run by Volunteers to contribute to the preservation of our culture and celebration of our language which is deeply intertwined with the identity of the Kashmiri community.

Sundays, Bi-Weekly at 6PM CST
Meeting ID: 856 3065 0583
Passcode: 351253



ZONE 5

Exodus Day

January 19 was commemorated in Austin to honor the resiliency and remember the sacrifices of our community during and after genocide. Austin **raised over \$2500** that was used to donate to Meals on Wheels Central Texas. These sincere efforts are to honor our KP community for remembering this day in the everlasting memory of those lost during the exile. Exodus day was commemorated on January 19th by the Houston Community at Sri Ashtalakshmi Temple in Sugarland, TX. Houston Community also arranged a pre-screening of the movie Article 370 in Sugarland, TX.

Havan (Austin)

On March 2, 2024, Havan was performed at Sai Temple in Austin. The devotees gathered around the sacred fire to perform Havan ritual, chant mantras, and seek blessings, protection, and spiritual enlightenment, fostering a profound connection with the divine and sense of communal unity. Austin Havan was also attended by guests from Houston and Brownsville, Texas.



ZONE 5

Herath (Colorado)

On March 31, 2024, Colorado KPs came together for their Herath Celebrations. The program began with announcements from Chapter President Ankit Koul. The event was also attended by *Zonal Director Anjana Kaul*, who emphasized the importance of KOA membership, participation in the national camp held at Colorado this year, and engagement in literacy drive during her address.



The pooja was followed with kid's performances and scrumptious Kashmiri cuisine.

Herath (Houston)

On March 17, 2024, Houston KPs got together for their annual Herath Pooza organized by TKB at the Hindu Worship Society Mandir.



The kitchen crew was up early and all smiles, as were the volunteers for all the other activities. The pooja began with Shiv Pooja, followed by Havan, Koshur Bhajans and Prasad.

ZONE 5

Herath (Utah)

On March 9, 2024, Utah Kashmiri community gathered for Herath celebration. Aditya Bakaya gave a talk about Herath significance with kids. Kids sang Kashmiri songs, and everyone sang Shiv Bhajans. Dinner was a scrumptious meal of Kashmiri delicacies.



Herath (Kansas)

On March 8, 2024, members of the Kansas Kashmiri Community came together for Vatuk Pooja. They recited mantras, sang bhajans and aarti, and relished the delicious Kashmiri dishes prepared by the host family.



Herath (Dallas)

On March 31, 2024, KP Community in Dallas got together for Herath. The cultural function had a wide variety of performances - Thuk Thuk - Kus chu, Herath Story, Shlokas, Bhajans, amazing dance performances by talented kids, Tabla performance, and Kashmiri Culture Kahoot. Ladies gathered for an early celebration of Zang Trey. A gift exchange of salt was done among the ladies.

Traditionally, salt was given to married women when they visited their parents' home on this day



ZONE 6

Herath (North Carolina Chapter)

KPs in the Raleigh/Durham Area got together for Herath on March 16th, 2024. The gathering was organized and hosted by Aakankhsha Kaul & Amit Kularkar. Everyone had a delightful time meeting each other, offering prayers and enjoying Kashmiri food cooked by all the attending families.



ZONE 7

Gaad Batt & Khech Mavas

On January 27, 2024, Zone 7 gathered for their inaugural annual community gathering of the year, drawing an impressive attendance of 130 community members. The event featured a Kashmiri cuisine potluck and captivating performances, including Chakri by talented singers led by Mrs. Vijay Pandit.



Shiv Abhishek

On March 10, 2024, a two-hour pooja took place at Kali Bari temple, followed by a simple prasadam arranged by Mrs. Vijay Pandit and other community members. The participation of enthusiastic kids added to the spiritual ambiance of the event.



ZONE 7



Maha Shivratri Dinner

On March 16, 2024, with 140 community members in attendance, this dinner witnessed the engagement of many new families, enhancing the community spirit. Highlights included a play by Zone 7 children titled "Shiva and Parvati-A sacred union," distribution of "Herath Kharach" to the kids, and the joyful participation of both adults and kids in Haree Gindun (shells).



ZONE 8

Maha Shivratri Prasad

On March 10, 2024, Zone 8 gathered together for their annual tradition of serving Prasad on Maha Shivratri. Together, they chopped, stirred, and served with a sense of camaraderie that transcended age barriers.



ZONE 8



With the youth leading the charge, they didn't just carry on the tradition; they elevated it to new heights, ensuring that the spirit of service and togetherness burned brighter than ever on this auspicious occasion of Maha Shivratri. More than 1200 people tuned in and enjoyed the prasad. All Youth Volunteers received free KOA T-shirts for their Sewa as Herath Kharcha!

Zang Tri

All married Kashmiri Pandit women follow this tradition and also pay their malyun a short visit to receive good wishes for the New year. Veena Ji opened her house with feeling of Malyun, away from home, for every Koshur koor.



Every beautiful Batni was sent off with dashing Athur and Atghat as a token of good omen & prosperity.



ZONE 9

Herath (Bay Area)

Zone 9, Bay Area celebrated Herath via a gala with cultural performances that included classical dance by Kids, Koshur Chakri, Skit, etc. At the event, the first printed version of US edition Jantari for year 2024-2025 was distributed.



ZONE 9

Herath (Seattle)

The Greater Seattle Area Shivratri event in 2024 was another resounding success. The festivities included a community Rudra Abhishek and Havan. Thanks to an incredible team of volunteers, they prepared prasad for 350 people at the temple, ultimately serving 500 attendees. The essence of Shivratri was upheld with rituals like new authors, hearth kharach and heartfelt prayers, fostering a blissful atmosphere. With the blessings of Mahadev and Mata Parvati, they remain committed to strengthening our community bonds.



*Zone 9 is incredibly grateful to **Mrs. Neha Nehru** for stepping up and taking on the role of **Zone 9 Chapter President** for the state of Washington. Finding community away from home can be challenging, and we truly appreciate your leadership in fostering connections and support within our community.*

ZONE 10

Shivratri

On March 30, 2024, Zone 10 celebrated Shivratri at the Summit at Turtle Ridge in Irvine, CA. The event had an overwhelming response from members with more than 130 participants joining for the celebrations. The program commenced with a serene pooja and Abhishekam, setting a spiritual tone for the evening.



On the culinary front, they elevated the experience by offering a blend of catered and homemade food, inspired by the authenticity we all crave. One of the highlights of the evening was the talent showcase at the auditorium. It was truly breathtaking to see the young members perform various acts, demonstrating the enormous talent within our community.

Apart from welcome speech from zonal director, participants were given brief of KOA programs and were requested to help support membership drive and programs.

MEMEBERSHIP DRIVE

This year we kicked off the membership drive calling it '**Membership Matters**' in January.

In April, we started the membeship drive month and as a 'Thank you' gesture and letting you know that we appreciate your membership, we are offering choice of a gift.

We are offering it for the month of the membership drive.

You can become a member by visiting our membership drive landing page:

<https://members.koausa.org/#/>

Gift Choices

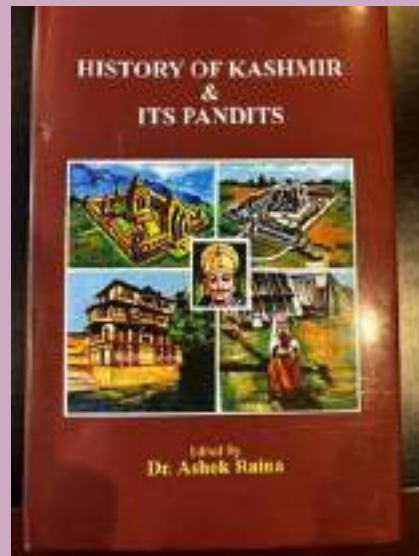
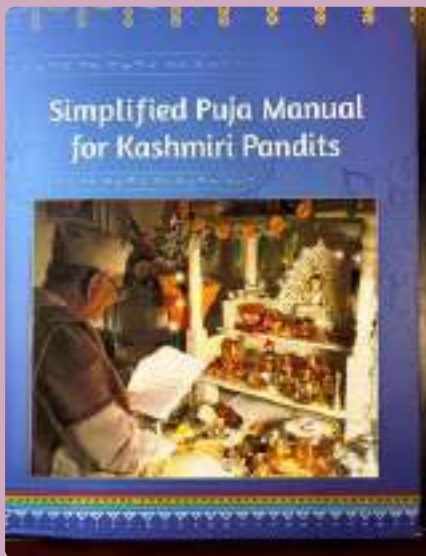
- 1. "Simplified Puja Manual for Kashmiri Pandits" by Mr. Piyaray Raina

OR

- 2. History Book by Ashok Raina

OR

- 3. Mugs: quote "don't judge a book by its cover, but always judge Sheer Chai by its Color"



If you have any questions or concerns, please email

secretary@koausa.org
vp@koausa.org
webmaster@koausa.org
president@koausa.org

KASHMIRI OVERSEAS ASSOCIATION

QUARTER ONE, 2024

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU IN ESTES PARK, CO
FOR OUR KOA ANNUAL NATIONAL CAMP!



CAMP REGISTRATION

YEARLY/NON MEMBERS

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CAMP HOTEL BOOKING

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