

Happy New Year!!!

from

Matyia World

www.matiyaworld.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Term 2009 - 2011

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Namaste,

It is my privilege to be able to serve Matyia World for the next two years as President. Matyia World plays a critical role in fostering our cultural values and facilitates a sense of belonging through out the Country.

It is always a relatively simple matter to take over an organization that is flourishing and much of the credit for the development of Matyia World needs to go to Dilip Dahya, the immediate past President, past Board Members and the Steering Committee. The financial situation of Matyia World is much healthier than it has ever been and the membership base is growing.

A number of very important projects will be commenced by Matyia World over the next two years, including a Singles Platform, Scholarships for our Youth, Mentoring for our Youth by Matyia Professionals, and a Committee will be formed, from within our Community, that will be charged with identifying Matyia's around the country that are in need of assistance. If you are interested in serving the community and would like to participate in any of the programs identified above please let us know. With your help Matyia World can do so much more for the community. Matyia World needs your expertise and your guidance. Please participate, be vocal, and make a difference.

Join me and the Matyia World Board of Directors in making Matyia World a world class organization that is the envy of all Samaj's.

With Gratitude and Respect, Tushar.





SAMAJ'S PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE 2nd Matiya World Convention

The Matiya World (MW) and Dallas Host Committee successfully hosted the 2nd Matiya World Convention at the Hyatt Regency in Dallas, TX. The convention was over 2 ½ days, starting on Friday, July 17th through Sunday, July 19th with the theme being, "Explore our Samaj's Past, Present & Future!"

The MW Board would like to sincerely thank everyone who attended the 2nd Matiya World Convention and being part of its' grand success. We are pleased to share that there were approximately 1,400 people in attendance, an increase of 33% from the 1st Matiya World Convention in 2007. The increase in attendance only authenticates the support and excitement from Matiyas across the globe. The convention provided everyone, from all ages (children, youth & seniors), an opportunity to come together and celebrate with everyone. We should all be proud of how far we have come as Matiya's.

On Friday, the day began at 9am with Golf Tournaments for all the die-hard golf players and MW organized youth excursion offsite where youths enjoyed flag football, food and drinks. The main event kicked off at the Hyatt on Friday at 5pm with a Welcome Address and Children's parade. The Gam wars, a game where you had to name the Gam, was a creative and fun way to get all Matiyas involved.



Friday evening was celebrated with authentic Gujarati dinner followed by Raas/Garba from a local band. The ball room was filled with beautiful garba and churidar outfits and the local band did an outstanding job with their performance. MW organized and planned on site gatherings and singles mixers for young adults.

Saturday began early at 7am with prayers & aerobic class followed by breakfast. There were terrific talent show performances, breakout sessions for general, youth and seniors, and vendor exhibits through out the day. The seniors particularly enjoyed the 'Bhajan' session and the professional panel was a great hit and was greatly appreciated among the youths. There was something for everyone to get involved in. In the evening, everyone celebrated a gala dinner followed by entertainment by professional entertainment group. DJ and dancing was organized as well for younger children and for youths ages 15 to 30, a poolside gathering was organized.

Sunday began with prayers and yoga at 7am. Everyone enjoyed watching the Matiya World Future presentation. After a few Board speeches & acknowledgments, a new Board was announced. The Matiya World Convention concluded at 2pm.

MW Board would like to thank everyone who completed the survey and provided us your feedback and suggestions. We received 'congratulations' and 'kudos' from many who completed the survey. We are dedicated to better ourselves and your opinions are very important to us. We look forward to your support and commitment for the 2011 convention. For those Matiyas who haven't been able to attend the conventions, we remain hopeful that you will be able to attend in 2011.

VIEW INTO THE FUTURE...

CHILDREN'S CORNER

After a great turn out at the Convention this past July, we felt that we could do more for the younger generation. At our board meeting in Los Angeles, we came together to create a Children's committee to bring more to the children between 1 to 16 years of age. Our goal is to establish a strong connection between today's children with their roots. We want to ensure that our children get the best by incorporating Eastern values in a Western world. At the same time we want to encourage the children to engage with others in our community.



We as a committee want to provide a core foundation of principles that will allow our children to be leaders, contributors, and citizens of the world who can make a difference. In saying that, the committee has come up with wonderful ideas to help foster this growth. One idea is to have an Essay and Poetry contest for the children where we aim to go on to publish it for the 2011 Matiya World Convention. We will also have a Why Do We section to answer common questions that children may have about our heritage or culture. Finally we are wanting to hold Family Volunteer Trips so that families can go on a vacation while also making a difference in our world.

As we start working to achieve our objectives, we welcome any suggestions that you may have. We are also looking for anyone willing to support these up coming programs in any way they can. Please feel free to contact Rita Patel at ritahpatel@sbcglobal.net, so that we can address your needs and concerns. We are excited to push forward these programs over the next 2 years and hope to hear from you all soon!



WHY DO WE?

What better way to welcome spring then with celebration of colorful festival of Holi. Hope you all felt the warmth and positive energy this wonderful festival brings... **Why do we celebrate Holi?**

The festival of Holi is celebrated by all Hindus on the day after the full moon in early March every year. This "Festival of Colors" welcomes spring and celebrates the new life and energy of the season.

Originally a festival to celebrate good harvests and fertility of the land, Holi is now a symbolic commemoration of a legend from Hindu Mythology. The story centres around an arrogant king who resents his son Prahlada worshipping Lord Vishnu. He attempts to kill his son but fails each time. Finally, the king's sister Holika who is said to be immune to burning, sits with the boy in a huge fire. However, the prince Prahlada emerges unscathed, while his aunt burns to death. Holi commemorates this event from mythology, and huge bonfires are burnt on the eve of Holi as its symbolic representation.

This exuberant festival is also associated with the immortal love of Krishna and Radha, and hence, Holi is spread over 16 days in Vrindavan as well as Mathura - the two cities with which Lord Krishna shared a deep affiliation. Apart from the usual fun with colored powder and water, Holi is marked by vibrant processions which are accompanied by folk songs, dances and a general sense of abandoned vitality.

Today Holi is a day of spring fever and Big Fun...celebration of our love and victory of good over evil.

To learn more about Holi or other upcoming festival like Ram Navmi, Rakshabandhan or Why Do We? of our culture visit "Children's Corner" at www.matiyaworld.com.

MATIYA WORLD TODAY MENS AND WOMENS CORNER...



As we reflect on the success of the 2009 convention there were many people that reconnected with families and friends. The activities such as the line dancing, the not so newlywed game, the gam wars etc... Were just some that brought everyone together and just have fun.

We are planning several events so that we can continue to bring everyone together from all regions. These events will be announced in our next newsletter and on matiya world website. One of our long term plans is to create a help line; we are planning to cover as many areas as we can to help anyone that requires it. As the year progresses we will update you.

We welcome your involvement and suggestions as we take next step forward in creating a strong and caring community.

OUR STRENGTH...OUR VOLUNTEERS:

It's 2010 and Matiya World (MW) is looking for 'YOU' to get involved and take MW to the next level. At MW, we have a tradition of volunteering and as volunteers we aim to foster community integration through 'UNITY AND COMMUNICATION' by encouraging members, friends, colleagues, and neighbors to work together through sharing of a common goal. Each of us recognizes the commitment we have made to serve MW and the fundamental reason we volunteer is TO GIVE BACK TO OUR MATIYA COMMUNITY.

There are a lot of ideas floating around in the air and over the next 2 years we want to be able to deliver and capitalize on these ideas. We can only be successful in executing MW events with 'YOUR' involvement in preparing and planning for these events. We are looking for driven & dedicated individuals with creative ideas, who want to get involved in making MW successful and who wants to make a difference in our community.

We need YOUTH leaders to help MW in bringing innovative ideas and solutions. MW needs our SENIORS who can help our younger generation of all ages with their senior wisdom of knowledge and culture. It's with your help that we can bridge the gap between our youths and seniors.

If you want to make a difference in our Matiya Community and would like to become a MW VOLUNTEER, simply answer a few questions below. Your answers to these questions will provide MW a good insight on how to maximize your skills. This form can be filled online at www.matiyaworld.com or simply fill, cut out and mail it to Matiya World.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank You!

Full Name: _____ Birth date: Month___/Year_____

Location: _____ Phone: (____) ____ - _____

Email: _____ Cell Phone: (____) ____ - _____

Major (if currently in college): _____ Employer (if currently working): _____

Skill Set: _____

Why do you want to get involved? _____

What ideas can you bring to the table? _____

After you've answered these questions, please email back to us at matiyaworld2009@gmail.com. If you would like to speak to a MW Board Member regarding Volunteer opportunities, please call Rita Patel at 949.310.3936.

Thank you and we look forward to your involvement with Matiya World!!!

OUR GUIDING LIGHT...

VIEW FROM MATIYA YOUTH...



Pranav at Pranav@tnjgroup.com.

The Youth Committee has an exciting and action-packed agenda planned for the next term. The first and biggest event we have planned for the year was decided after we unanimously gathered that the youth wanted to get more involved and give back to the community during the 2009 convention. Well guess what, we listened! This year Matiya World will be hosting a Matiya Youth trip in the summer where we are going to take part in a community service project. We are already in talks with Habitat for Humanity to get a firm date set and more details will follow soon. This is a chance for us again to come together and make a difference. But, we're not stopping there. Giving back to the community through our local chapters is just as crucial for Matiya Youth to connect, interact and engage in projects that strengthen our community. We are in the process of setting up a nationwide feed the homeless project where the major local chapters will all participate in a unanimous charity project on the same weekend. Talk about exciting! Another highlight in our Youth action plan is to begin the Matiya Mentors program, which creates a mentoring platform for our youth! We hope to expand this into a future event where the youth can successfully utilize the power of our network and professional resources. Remember, an agenda is in the works for the summer community service project but in the meantime if there are any ideas or anyone who wants to be a part of the conference young or old, please feel free to contact Devesh at deveshmpatel@gmail.com or

Don't forget to join our Facebook page (just search Matiya Youth) for the most up to date info on all Matiya Youth activities and events and constantly surf www.matiyaworld.com for more in depth info!

COMMUNICATIONS:

This Newsletter is created by your Communications Sub-committee on behalf of the Matiya World Board of Directors. Through this Newsletter, it is our intention to provide regular and pertinent Matiya relevant news and information:

- What is your MW Board planning?
- Current events
- Announcements
- Educational / Informative articles
- Youth activities.....and much more.

It is our hope that the MW Community at large adopt this Newsletter and our Website at www.matiyaworld.com as their own form of Communication by feeding us with your input, suggestions, ideas etc.

Furthermore, your team is establishing the Matiya World Newsgroup – This will help us make communication more time and cost effective. Please visit us at www.matiyaworld.com and join this Newsgroup and be a part of this ambitious journey!



COMING SOON!!!!

“MATIYA CONNECTION” – A PLATFORM FOR ELIGIBLE MATIYA SINGLES TO CONNECT



We Hindus believe that... “Marriages are made in heaven”.....yes maybe they are...yet, in most cases it's been either the parents, relatives or community members or certain community events that have sown seeds for most marriages that exist today or existed in the past. Many Matiya children remain unmarried in spite of having attained marriageable age. This is a huge problem facing our Samaj today.

Historically parents, relatives & community members have played the role of match makers bringing two souls together.....time has come that we step up and aggressively direct our role as facilitators in helping our Matiya Youth to find their life partners from within the community before they look outward. Migration to different parts of the world and distances has made matters worse for many Matiya's living in isolated or smaller pockets with fewer Matiya families in their neighborhoods. During the last convention an attempt was made to have parents or relatives tagged with “Red”

dots, suggesting that they were seeking a match and to a certain extent it was successful. But more needs to be done....should be done...and can be done.

Matiya's are only a few decades away from extinction if we do not take aggressive steps to provide a platform and do our part of acting as facilitators in helping find life partners from within the community. We at Matiya World have begun directing our efforts in tackling this huge problem facing the Samaj by working towards providing a web based platform on our Matiya World website, something similar to www.shaadi.com.

The purpose of “Matiya Connection” is to provide a protected & secured platform world over for eligible Matiya singles to connect, network, interact and interconnect for matrimonial reasons within the community. This would allow for a broader choice and widen the scope of potential options available and provide an opportunity to exhaust prospects inside the community before looking outward.

Matiya World does not encourage any youth to be forced in to marriage nor wants to be a match maker in any way but we are just merely attempting to help create a platform to meet and act as facilitators in the process and would welcome any suggestions you might have as we begin our work towards the “Matiya Connection” platform.

Please send your valued suggestions/inputs to nimesh@tnjgroup.com. A program of this magnitude would require financial support to cover the cost of designing the platform and we humbly urge Matiya's to come forward and contribute towards this specific cause.....wouldn't you want to be part of this program which is a burning issue for the whole community at large worldwide?. Your contributions in favor of Matiya World marked with a memo for “Matiya Connection” will be highly appreciated.

BODY & SOUL



We have searched God in our belief system or according to our beliefs and understood logically, intellectually, educationally, religiously and spiritually. We have tried every possible way like prayer, Offering, visiting holy places, and volition. In our belief system we are searching God in outside world, but until we experience Parmatma our self, it is not possible to know him...for more insight on this subject please go to “Body & Soul” link our “Our culture & traditions” page of our website at www.matiyaworld.com.



શ્રી મતિયા પાટીદાર સમાજ બારડોલી પ્રદેશ

સાર્વજનિક ટ્રસ્ટ રજિ. નંબર
એ/૨૪૧૧/સુરત તા. ૩૦/૬/૧૯૯૧



મતિયા વર્લ્ડને શુભેચ્છા સંદેશ

કોઈપણ જ્ઞાતિ સમાજનું સંગઠન એટલે તેની સ્વ-ઓળખ, અસ્મિતા અને સંસ્કારિતાને જાળવવાનો સહિયારો પ્રયાસ... આ દ્વારા પેઢીગત અંતર, ભૌગોલિક અંતર અને નાના મોટાના ભેદભાવોનું સામાજિક અંતર ઘટાડતા જતા એક સ્વસ્થ, સુદૃઢ અને સંવાદિત જ્ઞાતિ સમુદાયનું સર્જન થાય એ તેનો હેતુ છે. આ દ્રષ્ટિએ મતિયા વર્લ્ડની રચના અને ઉદ્ભવને અમારા સ્થાનિક સ્તરેથી અનેક શુભેચ્છા પાઠવીએ છીએ કે આપણું આગું જ્ઞાતિ સંગઠન વિશ્વસ્તરે વ્યાપક બને અને પ્રગતિ કરે!

જો કે ભારત આપણું માદરે વતન છે. અને આપણું ઉદ્ભવભિન્દુ છે. અહિંથીજ આપણે સૌ વિદેશોમા પણ જઈ વસ્યા છીએ. એટલે મૂળ માતૃભૂમિને ન વિસરાય તે જોવાનું કામ વ્યાપેલા વિસ્તારનું છે. વિદેશોમા ગમે તેટલું વસ્યે, સ્વસીએ પણ આપણી એક નજર માતૃમ પ્રત્યે પણ રહે, નવી પેઢીમાં પણ આ ભાવના જણવાય તેવી પ્રવૃતિ વિશ્વસ્તરે થવી ઘટે. નહિ તો બહુજ નિકટના ભવિષ્યમાં વિદેશમા જન્મેલી આપણી પેઢી માતૃભૂમિના ખોળાને વીસારે પાડી દેશે. તેમાં તેમનો વાંક નથી. આપણું વતન સાથેનું બંધન આવા મંડળો દ્વારાજ મજબૂત બનાવવાનું છે. અને એ નવી પેઢીને આપણે આવતી કાલે સમાજનું સુકાન પણ સોંપવાનું છે. હા, એમના અને ભારતીય મૂળના સંસ્કારગત ભેદો તો રહેશે, પણ Cultural Clash કે Cultural Collision નહિ પણ Cultural Harmony જળવાય તેવા પ્રયાસમાં પણ આવા જ્ઞાતિ મંડળો ખૂબ મહત્વની ભૂમિકા ભજવી શકે.

વતન અને વિદેશ વચ્ચે આવાગમન રહે, મંડળગત પ્રવૃત્તિઓ, સંમેલનો (કન્વેન્શન્સ), ઉત્સવોની ઉજવણી, તંદુરસ્ત સ્પર્ધાઓ, તજજ્ઞોના પ્રવચનો, મુલાકાતો વગેરે આયોજીત થતું રહે તો સેતુ બંધ જળવાય રહેશે આ માટે જ્યાં જ્યાં મતિયા પાટીદાર વસ્યા છે તે તે દેશમાં તેમના સંગઠનો થવાં જોઈએ, જે તે દેશના મતિયા વર્લ્ડ ચેપ્ટર બનાવવા જોઈએ વતન ભૂમિ ભારતનાએ ત્રણ મંડળો (મુંબઈ, નવસારી, બારડોલી)ને સામેલ કરી મતિયા વર્લ્ડ ફેડરેશન બનાવું જોઈએ અને તેનો વાર્ષિક પ્રવૃત્તિ અહેવાલ પણ પ્રકાશિત થવો જોઈએ, તે જે તે દેશોના ચેપ્ટર કે યુનિટ ના વાર્ષિક હેવાલોમાંથી બની શકે.

બીજું આપણી વચ્ચે નિયમિત આદાન પ્રદાન વિચાર વિનિમય થતું રહેવું જોઈએ. કમ્યુનિકેશન એ આજની તાતી જરૂરીયાત છે. કમ્યુટર-ઈન્ટરનેટ-ઈ-મેલના યુગમાં આપણે આ ટેકનોલોજીનો લાભ લઈ પરસ્પર નજીક આવવું જોઈએ જેથી અમે બારડોલી પ્રદેશના મતિયા પાટીદાર સમાજે ૧) કમ્યુનિકેશન એન્ડ ઈન્ફર્મેશન સેન્ટર ૨) રીસોર્સ સેન્ટર ૩) કમ્યુટર ટ્રેનિંગ સેન્ટર ૪) સીનીયર સીટીઝન કેર સેન્ટર જેવા મહત્વાકાંક્ષી પ્રોજેક્ટ હાથ ધર્યાં છે.

મતિયા વર્લ્ડની વેબ સાઈટ હોય અને તેના ઉપરથી જગતના કોઈપણ ખૂણેથી કોઈને પણ આપણા જ્ઞાતિ સંગઠન ઉપલબ્ધ થઈ શકે. હવે છપાવેલી જ્ઞાતિ ડીરેક્ટરી ઝડપથી Outdated બની જઈ રહી છે. કારણકે આ ઝડપી પરિવર્તનનો યુગ છે પરિવારોની-વ્યવસાય-નિવાસ વગેરે બાબતો બદલાતી રહેતી હોય આ બધી માહિતી નેટ ઉપર મૂકાયેલી હોય ને અપડેટ થતી રહેતી હોય તો તેવી ઈ-ડીરેક્ટરી પણ મતિયા વર્લ્ડ તેવાર કરે એ આપણું સહીયારુ સાહસ હોય શકે.

આવાં અનેક કાર્યો અને કાર્યક્રમો આપણે એકમેકના સંપર્ક ને સંયોજનમાં રહીને કરી શકીએ. મતિયા વર્લ્ડના કન્વેન્શન ભારતમાં પણ થાય (કારણકે આ માતૃભૂમિમા જ તો આપણા મૂળ છે) અને સૌનો સહકાર લેવાય એ જરૂરી છે અને અમે ભારતીયો મંડળો આપને વિશ્વસ્તરે આ સહકાર આપવા તત્પર છીએ. વ્યાપક વૈશ્વિક પ્રયાસો માટે મતિયા વર્લ્ડને શુભેચ્છા.

રમેશ વી. પટેલ

પ્રમુખ

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to society is the means
to promote it”



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