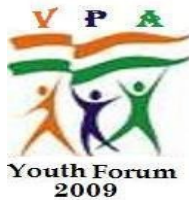




11th VPA National Convention Houston, Texas July 2-4, 2009

Celebrating our Legacy, Forging our future.

PROGRAM & EVENTS SCHEDULE



Program Schedule:

	Thursday, July 2 nd	Friday, July 3 rd	Saturday, July 4 th
		7.00 A.M - 11.00 A.M - Registration - Foyer	7.00 A.M - 8.00 A.M - VPA Board Meeting - Director's Room
		7.00 A.M - 10.00 A.M - VPA HEALTH SCREEN by Jayanthi Ramu Family Practice - Breakout Room - Westheimer	7.00 A.M - 10.00 A.M - VPA HEALTH SCREEN by Jayanthi Ramu Family Practice - Breakout Room - Westheimer
Morning Session		7.00 A.M - 8.00 A.M - Yoga - Breakout Room - Richmond	7.00 A.M - 8.00 A.M - Yoga - Breakout Room - Richmond
		7.30 A.M - 9.00 A.M - Breakfast - BALLROOM	7.30 A.M - 9.00 A.M - Breakfast - BALLROOM
		8.45 A.M - 9.00 A.M - Assemble for Procession - Directed by: Shamala Chidanand & Shobha Ramaiah - Foyer	9.15 A.M - 9.25 A.M - 'Shradhanjali'
		9.00 A.M - 9.30 A.M - Procession - "VOORA HABBA" - Front Desk Area - Everyone is invited to join us.	9.25 A.M- 9.55 A.M - Vishwa Vokkaliga Directory Release
		9.30 A.M - 9.40 A.M National Anthems of India & USA	9.30 A.M - 10.15 A.M - Singles Meet - Mix, Mingle & Coffee Talk - Breakout Room - Woodway
		9.40 A.M - 9.55 A.M Lighting the lamp by Chief Guest & Opening remarks by the Convention Chair Venkatesh Gowda	9.55 A.M - 10.30 A.M - Recognition of Indian Delegates & Awards.
Afternoon Session		9.55 A.M -10.10 A.M Swagatha dance by VPA South - Directed by Yamuna Srinidhi	10.30 A.M - 10.40 A.M - Bollywood Dance by VPA East
		10.10 A.M - 10.55 A.M Welcome speech by the VPA National President Halekote Viswamitra, Introduction of the Chief Guest Shobha Karandlaje followed by speech by the Chief Guest and Guests of Honor.	10.40 A.M - 11.05 A.M - Muvaru Kivudaru Comedy skit by VPA West - Directed by Raghu Halur
		10.55 A.M - 11.25 A.M - "Tuttuttoo Tuttutaara " Comedy skit by VPA West	11.05 A.M - 11.20 A.M - The Teen Show stopper by VPA South - Directed by Parents
		11.25 A.M - 11.50 A.M - Seragina Sobagu by VPA South - Directed by Rashmi Surya	11.20 A.M - 11.40 A.M - Bedara Kannappa skit
		11.50 A.M - 12.30 P.M - COMEDY TIME by Comedian Mysore Anand	11.40-12.30 - Folk & Kannada songs by Y.K.Muddukrishna Mr.Kikkeri Krishnamurthy & Mr.Kappanna

		12.30 P.M - 2 P.M - Lunch - Theme 'SURPRISE' - BALLROOM	12.30 P.M - 2 P.M Lunch & Honoring VPA 2009 Convention Committee Members (Via Video Collage)
		2.30 P.M - 3.30 P.M - Women's Forum - Bollywood Dance Workshop - BALLROOM	1.00 P.M - 3.00 P.M - Rummy Tournament - Breakout Room - San Felipe B
		3.30 P.M - 4.30 P.M - Women's Forum - Makeup Workshop - BALLROOM	2.00 P.M - 3.30 P.M - Women's Forum - Main Session - Breakout Room - Westheimer
		2.00 P.M - 5.00 P.M - Continuing Medical Education - Breakout Room - Westheimer	2.30 P.M - 5.00 P.M - General Body Meeting & Elections - BALLROOM
		2.00 P.M - 5.30 P.M - Business Forum - Breakout Room - San Felipe A & B	3.30 P.M - 5.00 P.M - Rummy Tournament - Breakout Room - San Felipe B
Evening Session	5.30 P.M- 8.30 P.M - Registration - Foyer	5.00 P.M - 6.00 P.M - Social Hour - Foyer	3.00 P.M - 5.00 P.M - Singles Meet - Wine and Cheese Event - Breakout Room - Woodway
	7.00 P.M - 8.30 P.M - Light Music - BALLROOM	6.00 P.M - 6.15 P.M Bollywood dance by VPA Midwest	6.00 P.M - 6.15 P.M - Raj Nenapina Angaladalli by VPA West - Directed by Ashitha Kunjali
	8.30 P.M -10.00 P.M - Dinner - BALLROOM	6.15 P.M - 6.30 P.M - Light Music by VPA East	6.15 P.M - 6.40 P.M - Skit by Mysore Anand & Local Artists
	9.00 P.M - 12.00 A.M - Rummy Tournament - Breakout Room - San Felipe B	6.30 P.M - 7.10 P.M - Vijayanagara Vaibhava by VPA South - Directed by Yamuna Srinidhi	6.40 P.M - 7.40 P.M - The Incredible India Fashion show - VPA South
		7.10 P.M - 7.40 P.M - Comedy time by Mysore Anand	7.40 P.M - 7.45 P.M - Announcing the Raffle Winners
		7.40 P.M - 7.50 P.M - Puppet dance by VPA West - Directed by Ashitha Kunjali	7.50 PM - 8.20 P.M Announcing the New Executive Office Bearers for 2010-2011
		7.50 P.M - 8.25 P.M - Gandhada Gudi By VPA South - Directed by Yamuna Srinidhi	8.20 P.M - 8.45 P.M - Dinner & Honoring VPA Board Members, Facilitating Platinum Sponsors on stage
		8.30 P.M - 10 P.M - Dinner	8.45 P.M - 9.00 P.M - Vote of Thanks
		9.00 P.M - 12.00 A.M - Live Orchestra by Heartbeats & Dance	8.30 P.M - 10 P.M - Dinner
		9.30 P.M - 11.00 P.M - Singles Meet & Greet - Location - Canyon Café- Opposite to the Hotel	9.00 P.M - 12.00 A.M - Rummy Tournament - Breakout Room - San Felipe B
		9.30 P.M - 12.00 A.M - DJ & Dance	

Program Highlights

Thursday, July 2, 2009

7.00 - 8.30 PM - Light music

8.30 - 10.00 PM - Dinner

Friday, July 3, 2009

8.45 - 9.00 AM Assemble for Procession - Everyone is invited to join us at the front reception area

9.00 - 9.30 AM Procession - Voora Habba - A celebration of our culture - Hosted by VPA South

Directed by: Shamala Chidanand & Shobha Ramaiah

9.30 - 9.40 AM National Anthems of India and USA

9.40 - 9.55 AM Lighting the lamp by the Chief Guest and Opening remarks by the Convention Chairman Venkatesh Gowda

9.55 - 10.10 AM Swagatha dance by VPA South

Description:- This enchanting and mesmerizing dance marks the opening of the convention and begins with salutations to Lord Ganesha the dispeller of all impediments and seek his blessings for the success of the convention. A colorful and feet tapping music set to different popular folk dances from Karnataka fellows next.

Dance Style: Folk (Semana Kunitha & Kamsaale), Classical & Semi-Classical

Music: Folk, Contemporary Fusion

Directed & Choreographed by: Yamuna Srinidhi

Participants - Chaitra Sudhakar, Asha Satish, Jayanthi Ramu, Suman Rangappa, Hema Narayan, Raji Gowda, Kavitha Gowda, Veena Vasudev, Mamatha Balachandra, Anjani Ganesh, Srinidhi Desikanani, Ranegowda Belakere, Chidananda Rangaswamy, Tyagi Rangappa, Sanjana Balachandra, Menica Gowda, Shreya Narayan, Gautam Rangappa, Kishan Dayananda, Akash Jayram, Sidharth Satish, Vibhav Ganesh, Rehan Robinson, Arvi Nandish, Ashwarya Chitnis, Stacy Thomas, Divya Kurian, Julitta Tickareth & Yamuna Srinidhi.

10.10 - 10.20 AM Welcome speech by the VPA National President Dr. Halekote Viswamitra and

Introduction of the Chief Guest Ms. Shobha Karandlaje

Guests of honor Mr. Sanjiv Arora

Guests of honor Mr. Ashok

Guests of honor Mr. Kumaraswamy

10.20 - 10.55 AM Keynote Address by Ms. Shobha Karandlaje

Speech by Consulate General Mr. Sanjiv Arora

Speech by Mr. Ashok

Speech by Mr. Kumaraswamy

10.55 - 11.25 AM "Tuttuttoo Tuttutaara" Comedy skit by VPA West

Description:- A hilarious skit with a genuine message that highlights the importance of communal harmony in our country. Originally performed by Johnny Lever on "Jeena Isi ka naam hai" TV program. Translated, adapted, customized (added more characters) and directed by: Raghur Halur.

Participants- Raghur Halur (role: a drunkard), Ravishankar Byrappagowda (Doctor-wala), Shivaraju Thammaiah (a restaurant owner), Govardhan Gowda (waiter in the restaurant), Ram Thammannan (First cop), Vijay Lakshman (Second cop).

11.25 - 11.50 AM Seragina Sobagu by VPA South

Description: Folklore Lavani musical show based on the day to day life of ladies of Karnataka.

Directed by: Rashmi Chidanand Surya

Choreographed by: Shamala Chidanand

Participants: Shamala Chidanand, Nandini Chandra, Shebha Ramesh, Bharathi Gowda, Hema Shivakumar, Dharani Senappa, Kavitha Shashikumar, Rameeshree Gowda

11.50 AM - 12.30 PM Comedy Show by Mysore Anand

6.00 - 6.15 PM Bollywood dance by VPA Midwest

Description- Dance to a Bollywood song

Participants:- Indu Vence & Namratha

6.15 - 6.30 PM Light Music by VPA East

Description- Kannada light music

Participants-Tejasvi Gowda & Shyam Gowda

6.30 - 7.10 PM Vijayanagara Vaibhava by VPA South

Description:- The glory and the grandeur of the bygone era of Vijayanagara empire will be recreated for your viewing pleasure in this dance drama. The once flourishing empire with Sri Krishnadevaraya at its helm is well known for the richness in literature, promotion of fine arts and architectural beauty. Hampi is an excellent proof of this dynasty. Great poets like Kumaravyasa, Timmana Kavi, Tenali Ramakrishna, Saint Sri Purandara Daasa & Saint Sri Kanaka Daasa belonged to this period and added to the literary richness. This dance drama attempts to bring the empire to life....

Dance style: Classical & Semi classical

Music: Classical, Semi-classical & Kannada movie

Directed & Choreographed by: Yamuna Srinidhi

Participants: Sudhakar Arakere (Sri Krishnadevaraya), Chidananda Rangaswamy (Tenali Rama), Daya Dayananda (Sri Kumaravyasa), Harish Narayanappa (Timmana Kavi), Ramegowda Belakere (narrator), Tyagi Rangappa (Sri Purandara daasa), Srinidhi Desikamani (Sri Kanaka daasa), Yamuna Srinidhi (Chennadevi), Ashwarya Chitnis, Stacy Thomas, Divya Kurian, Lalitta Aickareth (court dancers), Chaitra Arakere, Asha Satish, Jayanthi Ramu, Suman Rangappa, Hema Narayan, Raji Gowda, Kavitha Gowda, Veena Pasudev, Kshama Dayananda, Mamatha Balachandra, Anjani Ganesh, Sanjana Balachandra, Monica Gowda, Shreya Narayan, Akash Jayram, Sidharth Satish, Vibhav Ganesh, Rehan Rehinsen, Anvi Nandish (dancers).

7.10 - 7.40 PM Comedy time by Mysore Anand

7.40 - 7.50 PM Puppet dance by VPA West

Description :- Puppet dance based on Rajasthan folk culture

Directed & Choreographed by: Ashitha Kunjali

Participants: Ashitha Kunjali, Raghu Halur, Shivvaraju Thammaiah, Gowthami, Ravishankar Byrappagowda & Govardhan Gowda

7.50 - 8.25 PM Gandhada Gudi By VPA South

Description: Karnataka movie industry is well known as the Sandalwood industry. This colorful musical dance medley set to popular Kannada songs pays a tribute to our movie industry. The audience will witness the movie industry's transition from the 50's to the current day in this Sandalwood dances aptly titled Gandhada Gudi. You will laugh, cheer and take a trip down the memory lane and enjoy dance styles varying from Old Kannada, Bollywood, Rap, Salsa, Hip Hop. You will be amazed at the progress our industry has made thru the years..

Dance style: Folk, Bollywood, Rap, hip hop, Salsa, Contemporary

Music: Medley of Kannada movie songs

Directed & Choreographed by: Yamuna Srinidhi

Participants: Ashwarya Chitnis, Stacy Thomas, Divya Kurian, Lalitta Aickareth, Venkatesh Gowda, Raji Gowda, Chidananda Rangaswamy, Daya Dayananda, Tyagi Rangappa, Sanjana Balachandra, Monica Gowda, Shreya Narayan, Akash Jayram, Vibhav Ganesh, Rishit Sulladmat, Srinidhi Desikamani & Yamuna Srinidhi.

8.30 - 10.00 PM Dinner

9.00 PM - 12 .00 AM Live music band & DJ by Heartbeats

Live performance by Houston based group Heartbeats.

Performers: Nadeem Ashrafi, Geeta Kris, Darshak Thacker & Shridhar Udyavar

Saturday, July 4, 2009

9.15 - 9.25 AM Shraddhanjali for Narayanaswamy Krishnappa, Arakere C.Channaiah
Gowamma Krishnappa & Rama A. Krishna

9.25 - 9.55 AM Vishwa Vokkaliga Directory release

9.55 - 10.30 AM Recognition of Indian Delegates & Awards

10.30 - 10.40 AM Bollywood dance by VPA East

Participants: Nishita Kumar and Tejaswi Gowda

10.40 - 11.05 AM Muvuru Kivudaru Comedy skit by VPA West

Description:- A funny skit about three deaf people that get mixed up in a conversation.

Directed by: Raghu Halur

Participants: Raghu Halur (playing Subbabhata), Shivaraju Thammaiah (playing Rambhata) & Vijay Lakshman (playing Thippabhata)

11.05 - 11.20 AM The Teen Show stopper by VPA South

Description:- Dance group to perform a medley of Kannada film songs.

Directed & Choreographed by: Parents

Participants- Pravachan Lokesh, Preetham Lokesh, Michael Chandra , Monica Chandra , Anu Manjesh, Amogh Anar and Shardul Gowda.

11.20 - 11.40 AM Bedara Kannappa skit

Description:- Story of Lord Shiva's devotee Kannappa is shown through the songs.

Participants- Sourav Babu Gowda, Reepa Babu Gowda, Siri Babu Gowda, Ben Kantharaju, Hema Kantharaju, Pavan Kantharaju

11.40AM - 12.30PM Kannada Folk songs by Y.K.Muddukrishna, Mr.Kikkeri Krishnamurthy
&

Mr. Kappanna

12.30 - 2.00 PM Lunch & Honoring VPA Convention Committee Members (Via Video Collage)

6.00 - 6.15 PM Raj Nenapina Angaladalli by VPA West

Description: A dance based on superhit songs of Rajkumar movies. This is a tribute to Dr. Rajkumar, a great actor of Kannada film industry who made his own place in our memories. Watch and enjoy the most popular songs of Rajkumar.

Directed & Choreographed by: Ashitha Kunjali

Participants: Shivraj, Govardhan Gowda, Ashitha Kunjali, Vijay Lakshman, Ragn Thammann, Ravishankar Byrappagowda, Raghu Halur.

6.15 - 6.40 PM Skit by Mysore Anand & Local Artists

Directed by: Mysore Anand

Participants: Mysore Anand, Vishwanath Rge, Srinidhi Desikamani & Yamuna Srinidhi

6.40 - 7.40 PM The Incredible India Fashion Show

The Incredible India Fashion show, on the occasion of the 11th VPA convention focuses on bringing the exuberance of Indian fashion tradition and heritage in vibrant colors on to the runway. Watch the models wearing cultural costumes with exclusive jewelry and accessories catwalk to the melodious music from some of the most famous Indian movies. The effort is to bring the essence of women, her beauty and substance and how Indian costumes blend in embodying her soul. Are you ready for it??!!

Choreographers: Bindu Mirle, Nandini Chandra, Dr. Chaitra Arakere, Kavitha Gowda, Rashmi Surya & Shebha Ramaiah.

MCs: Dr. Jayanthi Ramu & Dr. Ramegowda Belakere

Participants:

Ethnic Segment: Anisha Chandra, Brinda Gowda, Monica Gowda, Pooja Vasudev, Bindu Mirle, Akash Jayram, Sanjana Balachandra, Vanitha Reddy, Vibhav Ganesh, Vinay Prabhakar, Ranga Gowda, Charan, Gaurev, Koushik.

Family Segment:

Families from Houston:

Arakere: Sudhakar, Chaitra, Surya & Sitara

Bommana: Vasudev, Veena, Pooja & Sanjana

Dayananda: Daya, Kshama, Kishan & Dhavan

Srinidhi Desikamani, Yamuna Srinidhi, Vedanth & Lasya Srinidhi

Gowda: Venkatesh, Raji, Brinda & Monica

Narayanappa: Harish, Hema, Shreya & Shnavi

Rangappa: Tyagi, Suman, Gautam & Govind

Rangaswamy: Chidananda

Rohit Rebinsen, Kavitha Gowda, Rehan & Anya Rebinsen

Satish: Shiva, Asha, Siddarth & Anruth

Families from Dallas:

Chandra: Balu, Nandini, Anisha, Michael and Monica

Chidananda: Bangalore, Shamala, Rachana and Ranya

Gowda: Dinesh, Reepa, Shardul and Anshul

Gowda: Lokesh, Bharathi, Preetham and Pravachan

Kumar: Shashi, Kavitha, Isheta and Abhijeet

Rajasekhhar Reddy, Shebha Ramaiah, Rehana Rajasehkar

Rudraiah: Krishna, Suhasini & Veedha

Surya: Hari & Rashmi

Shebha Veernagappa & Anu Manjesh

Bollywood Segment: Anisha Chandra, Brinda Gowda, Monica Gowda, Pooja Vasudev, Akash Jayram, Sanjana Balachandra, Vanitha Reddy, Vibhav Ganesh, Vinay Prabhakar, Charan Satish, Gaurev and Koushik.

7.40 - 7.50 PM Announcing the Raffle Prizes

7.50 - 8.00 PM Honoring Youth Members

8.00 - 8.20 PM Announcing the Newly Elected VPA National Executive Committee & Board Members for 2010-2011

8.20 - 8.50 PM Honoring VPA Board Members and Facilitating Platinum Sponsors on stage

8.50 - 9.00 PM Vote of Thanks by Roopa Gowda

8.30 - 10.00 PM Dinner

10.00 PM - 12.00 AM DJ and Dance

Forums & Services Highlights:

Continued Medical Education(CME)	
Event Date, Time & Location	Event Description
Friday - July 3, 2009 2- 3 PM - Breakout Room - Westheimer	Key Note Speaker: Dr. Alok Kalia, Clinical Professor, UTMB, Galveston Topic: Metabolic Syndrome in South East Asians.
Friday - July 3, 2009 3 - 4PM - Breakout Room - Westheimer	Speaker: Dr. Imran Mohiuddin, Clinical Assistant Professor, Weil Cornell Medical College, Houston Topic: New concepts in the management of the peripheral vascular patient
Friday - July 3, 2009 4- 5 PM - Breakout Room - Westheimer	Speaker: Dr. Shivaiah Balachandra, Assistant Professor, UTMB, Galveston Topic: Approach to evaluation of Kidney Disease
Note: CME accreditation provided through UTMB, Galveston	

Women's Forum	
Event Date, Time & Location	Event Description
Fri - July 3, 2009 - 2.30 PM - 3.30 PM BALLROOM	Enlighten -Bollywood Dance Workshop by Yamuna Srinidhi
Fri - July 3, 2009 - 3.30 PM - 4.30 PM BALLROOM	Enlighten - Makeup Workshop by Priti Patel
Sat - July 4, 2009 - 2.05 PM - 2.35PM Breakout Room - Westheimer	Educate - Guest Speaker - Mrs. Laxmi Parmeshan from organization 'DAYA' Topic - Parent Child Communication- Dealing with two different cultures
Sat - July 4, 2009 - 2.35 PM - 3.30PM Breakout Room - Westheimer	Empower - Guest Speaker- Mrs. Jesal Patel Topic: Financial & Tax Planning

Singles Meet

Event Date, Time & Location	Event Description
Fri - July 3, 2009 - 9.30 PM - 11.00 PM Location - Canyon Café (Across the street from the hotel)	Singles Meet and Greet - Ice Breaker and Socializing Event
Sat - July 4, 2009 - 9.30 AM - 10.15 AM Location - Woodway	Singles Meet – Mix, Mingle and Coffee Talk - A casual event
Sat - July 4, 2009 - 3 PM - 5 PM Location - Woodway	Singles Meet - Wine and Cheese Event - A chance to know your potential partner. Speed networking mix event

VPA Health Screen	
Event Date, Time & Location	Event Description
Friday & Saturday - July 3, 2009 & July 4, 2009 Time: 7 AM - 10 AM Breakout Room - Westheimer	Comprehensive Health Screening: This involves, BP screening, screening fasting/random blood sugar with chemistry and cholesterol, and weight screening including body mass index(BMI) - Sponsored by Jayanthi Ramu Family Practice

Rummy Tournament	
Event Date, Time & Location	Event Description
Thursday - July 2, 2009 - 9 PM - 12 AM Breakout Room - SAN FELIPE B	Round 1 - A Family Fun Event
Saturday - July 4, 2009 - 1 PM - 5 PM Breakout Room - SAN FELIPE B	Round 2 - A Family Fun Event
Saturday - July 4, 2009 - 9 PM - 12 AM Breakout Room - SAN FELIPE B	Final Round - A Family Fun Event

Business Forum	
Event Date, Time & Location	Event Description
Friday - July 3, 2009 - 2.00 PM - 2.05 PM San Felipe A & B	Welcome and Introduction. "Vision for the future of VPA Business Forum" By the Chairman – Balu Chandra, MD
Friday - July 3, 2009 - 2.05 PM - 2.40 PM San Felipe A & B	"Wine is good for the heart but Winemaking is better for this Cardiologist!". A talk by Dr. Madaiah Revana
Friday - July 3, 2009 - 2.40 PM - 3.20 PM San Felipe A & B	"From NIH bench research to Marketing!" by Dr. Ashok Gowda

Friday - July 3, 2009 - 3.20 PM - 4.20 PM San Felipe A & B	“Owning a Business and being a Boss” by Hanumesh Srinivas
Friday - July 3, 2009 - 4.20 PM - 4.45 PM San Felipe A & B	“Are your ready for the Obamanomics!” by Dilip Shah
Friday - July 3, 2009 - 4.45 PM - 5.00 PM San Felipe A & B	Questions & Answers
Friday - July 3, 2009 - 5.00 PM - 5.30 PM San Felipe A & B	Thought leaders in the Vokkaliga Community : A special presentation. Stay tuned....

Baby sitting will be offered on both Friday & Saturday, July 3, 2009 & July 4, 2009 between the hours of 8 AM to 1 PM & 2 PM to 8 PM. This service comes to you courtesy of the 11th VPA Convention committee. More details to be available at the Registration Desk.

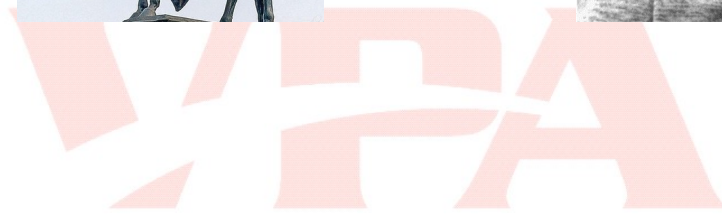
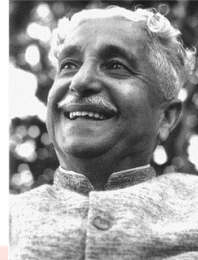
Vokkaliga's Legacy

Vokkaligas is a community in South [Karnataka](#) whose main profession is [agriculture](#). Vokkaliga means *one who tills land*. Vokkaliga Gowdas are known for their agricultural activities and recorded prosperity through cultivation. The common saying "Gowda chennagiddare ooruu Chennagiruthe" means "When a Gowda is happy the whole Village is Happy". The greatest Vokkaliga, Kempe Gowda was a great ruler, erected a fort and built the Township of Bangalore in 1537.

Today Bangalore is called the Silicon Valley of the East and is a success story by itself. Vokkaligas once known for their successful agricultural activities now have diversified in to different fields with amazing success. Since the early days Vokkaligas have played a very vital and dominant role in Karnataka Politics and also Union Politics. Mr. [K.C. Reddy](#) and Mr. [Kengal Hanumanthaiah](#) prominent among them were the Presidents of Mysore Pradesh Congress and after freedom became the Chief Ministers of Mysore State. Sowcar Channaiah and Mr.Nagaiah Reddy also became Presidents of Mysore Pradesh Congress, Mr. [Kadidal Manjappa](#) another freedom fighter also became the [Chief Minister](#) of Mysore State for a period of two months until the reorganization of States till [Mysore State](#) became of part of Karnataka. The former [Prime minister of India](#), [H.D. Deve Gowda](#) and the renowned Kannada poet [Kuvempu](#), who advocated the Universal Humanism ([Viswamaanava](#)) concept belong to this community.

Today about 2000-3000 Families of this community are settled in the USA. They are Eminent Physicians, Engineers, Scientists, Entrepreneurs and Business Owners. Vokkaligara Parishat of America(VPA), a non-profit organization established in 1991 is dedicated to assist and promote

literacy, cultural, educational, social, economic, health of the community. VPA has also involved in many charitable works. VPA celebrates its culture and heritage every two years at its National Convention.



HOUSTON

