

Message from the President

Dear Friends,
Saprem Pranam and New Year greetings to everyone.

I hope everyone had a relaxing, joyous and great time with family and friends over the holiday season.

Wind chill factors of minus 30 degrees celsius could not keep us away from doing what we know needs to be done and to do it with a smile. As always we, your committee members have been busy planning events for this year. And, we have another GREAT year planned for us all.

Please take note of all the events and dates and mark them on your calendars. There are some 'firsts' that you really do not want to miss. I am confident you will all have a wonderful time at all the functions.

A big THANK YOU to all our very generous sponsors, donors and each of you for your tremendous support last year and we look forward to continuing this wonderful Samuh Shakti throughout this year again.

My deepest appreciation to all our MGM committee members who have relentlessly, unconditionally and happily worked so hard throughout the year. They served well beyond official job titles to incorporate one single vision, and that is to do what is beneficial and right for our community. A Great Team!

Let's all look forward to another wonderful year together.

Anupama Parmar

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Mind Without Fear

Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high;
Where knowledge is free;
Where the world has not been broken up into fragments by narrow domestic walls;
Where words come out from the depth of truth;
Where tireless striving stretches its arms towards perfection;
Where the clear stream of reason has not lost its way into the dreary desert sand of dead habit;
Where the mind is led forward by thee into ever-widening thought and action---
Into that heaven of freedom, my Father, let my country awake.

~Rabindranath Tagore, Geetanjali

'ROSHNI' DIWALI AND BESTU VARSH 2004

Our annual MGM Diwali Cultural Show and Dinner took place on Saturday, November 13th, 2004 at the Sangeet Banquet Hall in Etobicoke. And what a great time we all had! This year was particularly special as our event was held on same day as Bestu Varsh. We had a great turnout as people came out to celebrate both Bestu Varsha and our traditional Diwali Show. MGM presented each of our guests with a complimentary box of mithai as an auspicious welcome to all. The evening starting off with lots of socializing, followed by our opening prayers and vadeel swagatum. Our cultural program was very entertaining and enjoyed by all. The theme of the night was 'Roshni', which was well suited for the occasion because it means divine lights and the bright future that comes along with it.

Our customary award presentations were held after dinner. Our hearty thank you to our generous sponsors: Bhupendrabhai & Kokilaben Kuntawala and family for donating trophies for all participants and Rameshbhai & Prafulaben Parmar and family for donating the trophies for our new graduates. The evening ended off with garba, and dancing and clearly everyone's spirit of fun and friendship was in the air!

MGM would like to thank everyone for making this year's Diwalli program an especially successful and memorable one!

To view these pictures please visit our website:
www.mgmontario.com

~ Rina Arya, Secretary

Gujarati Kshtriya World Federation

On January 29th and 30th in Navsari India, the first convention was held by the World Federation which was established last year. We have not received any information about the event but will announce it as soon as reports are received by MGM.

On behalf of MGM, we sent a letter of congratulations and good wishes to the World Federation to be read at the convention by Mr. Maheshbhai Solanki from Brampton who planned to attend the Convention during his visit to India. We trust Maheshbhai was given this opportunity on behalf of MGM.

Dinner & Dance

With MGM, Modh Gandhi Samaj and Panchal samaj and live band.

May 21st – Satuday (6pm – 1am)

Maharaji Banquet Hall, 6915 Bramsteele Rd, Brampton.

A new event which is sure to be a great success...

Three samajs – MGM, Modh Gandhi and Panchal are planning a dinner dance just to meet, mingle and enjoy an evening together. All three mandals had a very successful navratri garba in 2004 and we thought why not take it a step further.

Guaranteed to be fun for all. A chance for all the youths from all the samajs to make new friends...

Tickets: \$25 per adult. 6-12 years - \$12

We will confirm further information when details are finalized.

Upcoming Events

Ladies Potluck

March 5th – Saturday
4pm at Anupama's place
83 Leander Street, Brampton

Back by popular demand !!!

For ladies of all generations – babies, girls, teens, youths, mothers, grandmas, aunts

The first potluck was a tremendous success with nearly 87 ladies coming together with feasting, connecting, making new friends and at the same time exploring new possibilities for our community.

Let's do it again !

Guy's Club

March 5th – Saturday
4pm at Dilip Arya's home
12 Stonegate Drive, Brampton

The very first of its kind!

Here is an opportunity for all gentlemen of all generations of our community to get together to do what they do best!

Gentlemen – bring your beer, some munchies (potluck) and some real ingenious ideas may just overflow into the creation of a 'pragati mandal' !!!!!

Or just come and enjoy....

MGM ELECTIONS 2005 with Bhajan Evening and Dinner

May 29th, Sunday

3pm – 9pm

Where: Mandir to be finalized

It is time again for our Bi-annual Elections and General Meeting!

This is the time when each of you has a great opportunity to really participate in the future direction of MGM while enjoying bhajans and dinner with your fellow community members.

You have the voice and the vote to choose your representatives for MGM to take us through the next two year term. This is also your chance to serve your MGM community by standing for any of the open committee positions and put your passion in practice.

I urge all the young adults, to create the time and energy to really establish a vibrant Youth Committee. Many of our young adults are now out of university and in full time employment – which can be a perfect time to think about community service.

Further details of the Election and Bhajan evening will be published in our Spring Newsletter. In the meantime, please start thinking of what you can do for MGM.

CASINO TRIP – Casinorama

April 23rd, Saturday

Time: 1.30pm pickup from Hy 400/7

Colossus Theatre Car park

Back again by popular demand!

Last year's trip was a great success. The weather was perfect and everyone had a lot of fun – with or without winnings!!

We had fresh nasto on the bus compliments of MGM. So again we offer another trip to try your luck at big winnings!

Tickets \$10 includes bus and buffet.
(pre-confirmation a must – no refunds on cancellation)

Details will follow in the Spring Newsletter

PICNIC#1(Non Veg)

July 10, Sunday 10 am onwards
Bruce Mills Con. Park
Stouffville, Road
Markham

Full meal (including non-veg) cooked on site.
Great fun time to start the summer.

Generous Sponsorships for the meal items are **most lovingly welcomed**. Please call
Anupama (905) 457 8623 or Ramesh (905) 303 6112

PICNIC#2 BYO BBQ

August 28, Sunday 10am to evening
Wildwood Park (Area B)
Mississauga

This is the time when our MGM puts together our famous vegetarian meal!

Cooked onsite with condiments, our MGM khichadi is what we all wait for all year – so bring your family and friends and taste it for yourselves.

Sponsorships for meal items are again **most graciously accepted**. Please call Anupama (905) 457 8623 and Ramesh (905) 303 6112

Diwali Show 2005

November 5th or 19th (tentative dates)
Details to be finalized

This year we thought we would focus on a theme that would take us back in time – the good ol' days!!

Our annual Diwali Program means tradition. It would be great to reminisce on our traditional culture as well introduce it to our new generation living so far from our roots – Bharat Desh.

To all Directors, dancers, performers and artists – please get your creative energies working on items that bring forth our tradition – in terms of music, dance, drama and most important costume.

This will make it a special Diwali and that truly will be a 'cultural show'.

Sponsors for trophies and gifts are most graciously welcomed – please speak with Anupama (905) 457 8623 or Ramesh (905) 303 6112

Navratri Garba

With Modh Gandhi and Panchal Samaj

October 8, Saturday
(Tentative date)
Details to Be finalized

A repeat of last year's success.
Will publish final details in future newsletters.

Events at a Glance

UPCOMING EVENTS – 2005

.... At a glance.....

- ★ March 5th – Saturday
Ladies Potluck and Guys Club
- ★ April 23rd – Saturday
Casinorama Trip
- ★ May 21st – Saturday
Dinner and Dance
With Modh Gandhi and Panchal Samaj
Maharaja Banquet Hall
6915 Bramsteele Road.
Brampton
- ★ May 29th – Sunday
MGM Election, Bhajans/Dinner
Location to be finalized
- ★ July 10th – Sunday
Summer Picnic #1
Bruce Mills Park,
Stouffville Road, Markham
Full Veg and Non Veg Meal on site
- ★ August 28th – Sunday
Summer Picnic #2
Wildwood Park, Area B, Mississauga
Bring your own BBQ
MGM Khichadi Event
- ★ October 8th – Saturday
Navrati Garba
With Modh Gandhi and Panchal Samaj
Location to be finalized
- ★ November 5th or 19th (Tentative dates)
MGM Diwali Cultural Show
Location to be finalized

HINDU CALENDAR FOR 2005

January 14,	Makkar Sankrant
February 13	Vasant Manchmi
March 8	Maha Shivratri
March 25	Holi
April 18	Ram Navmi
July 21	Guru Purnima
August 10	Naag Pancham
August 11	Randhan Chhat
August 12	Sitala Saatam
August 14	Noli Naum
August 19	Raksha Bandhan
August 27	Krsna Janmashtami
September 18	Shraddha Begins
October 4	Navratri Begins
October 12	Dashera
October 16/17	Sharad Purnima
October 30	Dhanteras
October 31	Kali Chaudas
Noverember 1	Diwali
November 2	Bestu Varsh
November 3	Bhai Beej

Z

Contact Sheet - Feel free to contact any one of these reps for any MGM Community questions.

Cut this portion out and keep on your fridge for quick easy call access.

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Donations reflect the Spirit of Our Community A big THANK YOU to you. Your support is invaluable.

All our FREE events are only possible with your help. We appreciate and thank all our members who every year generously support our community through sponsorships of meals, location fees, equipment, awards, gifts and dollar donations. If you would like to donate or sponsor a particular event, then please call Anupama Parmar or Ramesh Parmar for details.