

International Gammonati Conference 2013

DATE: SUNDAY 28TH JULY 2013

UK Time: 10 am

Venue:

UK: Shree Mandhata Samaj Sahayak Mandal
1 Hartington Road
Leicester
LE2 0GP.

INDIA: Kashyap Gandhi Rotary Hall.
Nilanjali Complex.
Opp. Shri Arvind Ashram
(Behind Gohel Hospital)
Dudhiya Talav.
Navsari – 396445.

OBJECTIVES

The most important questions we ask ourselves are: who are we, where do we come from and what are our values. The answer is closely connected to our relations with the villages that we originate from. We originate from the villages around the district of Navsari in India. Our people have migrated to all parts of the world from Canada to New Zealand. However, there remains a strong bond between us and the villages in India. The bond is related to the cultural connection with them. Many believe that once we break off this tie with the villages, our original culture will also be in free-fall. Where ever we settle in the world our culture develops, but once we forget our roots and the culture we brought with us a very important question arises: who have we become?

The Gammonati is a sub-committee of Amsuk, it meets only annually. The Gammonati was formed to support the Gam Mandals in the UK. In a roundabout way it exists to promote the welfare of the villages (gams) from which we originate. The objective is to discuss the work done by the gam mandals, what problems persist in the villages, how the mandals are identifying their role and how they help the villages. A key objective of our meeting is to learn from each other, see how the other gam mandals are implementing their strategy and ask ourselves if there is room for improvement in the way we run our own individual mandals.

The UK Gam Mandals are the final connection to our villages. The villages remain the birthplace of our culture and heritage. For decades this connection has been of paramount importance to protect our culture.

Last year we linked – up our village colleagues from a hotel in Surat to our Gammonati meeting in Leicester. The very successful international link-up was the first of its kind. We in Leicester discussed with the village reps all issues related to the villages. This year

1. The event will be recorded and presented live on the internet and the whole event will be presented on DVD and internet at a later stage in edited format.
2. The event will be open to wider participation both here in the UK and in India:
 - a. Here in the UK the event will be open to the public not just the Gam Representatives.
 - b. From India there will be representatives from all the villages in and around Kantha Vibhag.
3. There will be two events this year:
 - a. A General Meeting – Gam Sammelan
Time: In India- 9am in UK – 4.30am
 - i. The agenda is suggested from the UK but the Gam Reps may choose to develop their own agenda.
 - ii. The Gam Reps will have complete control over this meeting.
 - iii. Representatives from each of the main villages will be invited.
 - b. International Gammonati Conference
Time: In India – 2.30pm in UK 10.30 am

4. The Association of Mandhata Samaj UK (AMSUK) has agreed to fund the event. The Gammonati is a sub-committee of Amsuk. The members of the Gammonati committee are very grateful to Amsuk for this visionary funding.
5. The event this year is much bigger than last year. As there will be a General Meeting of all the reps in the villages, each Gam will be represented by larger numbers than last year. The International Gammonati Conference will therefore be conducted with a team of representatives from each Gam in India with a team of representatives from the UK Gam Mandals.
6. PLEASE ENSURE YOUR UK GAM MANDAL IS WELL REPRESENTED AT THE GAMMONATI MEETING IN LEICESTER.
7. The whole event, the General Meeting in Navsari and Gammonati Conference, will be covered and presented at the Leicester Hall on a large screen and speakers beginning at 4.30am UK time. The Gammonati Conference will begin at 10am UK time. Please come as early as possible to participate in both events.

THE AGENDA

(a) Navsari: Gam Sammelan 2013

Start: Indian Time – 9am UK Time - 4.30am

1. Prayers
2. Selection of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer
3. Address by the Chair
4. Discussion of problems and issues in the villages:
 - a. Lack of education and training
 - b. Unemployment
 - c. Poverty
 - d. Alcohol and Drug abuse
 - e. Government welfare programmes – how to take advantage of them
 - f. Joint Projects between the villages – is this the way forward?
 - g. Health and Hygiene
 - h. Land Misuse
 - i. Clean and constant water
 - j. Constant electricity
 - k. Unacceptable standard of roads
 - l. Any other matters with the permission of the Chair
5. Selection of Shreeman Sevak 2013 (or Shreemati Sevak 2013)

(b) International Gammonati Conference 2013

Start: Indian Time - 2.30pm

UK Time – 10am

1. Prayers
2. Address by Chhaganbhai, the Convenor in Leicester.
3. Address by the Chair in Navsari
4. Introduction of the Gammonati Members present in Leicester
5. Reports presented by each village:
 - a. The representatives of that village will introduce themselves
 - b. They will then present their report
 - c. The UK Gam Mandal representatives of that village will receive and discuss the issues
 - d. Other members may join in with the discussion.
6. Summary and Future: the Chair in India, the Convenor In Leicester and other Senior members both in India and UK may offer summary and final observations. This can include a brief discussion of the future relations and co-operation between our two communities.
7. The Indian National Anthem.

For further information please contact:

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