

# Odisha Society of Americas - Georgia

ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଖବର

## Georgia Khabara

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### Chapter Newsletter - 2021 Quarter 1 (Makar Sankranti Edition)

Georgia, USA

Date: March 31, 2021

#### 1. Overview

Welcome to the second edition of our newsletter. We have fondly named our newsletter as **Georgia Khabara** (ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଖବର). We will release it every quarter; our last update was in November last year, so this edition contains all the updates for the Georgia Chapter from December 2020 through March 2021. The first quarter is named “Makar Sankranti Edition” after one of the most celebrated functions falling in the quarter. In these four months, we have come a long way as a chapter. We have participated and conducted many events, formed different initiative teams and made our chapter presence felt locally, nationally and back in our motherland Odisha too. We are proud to say that we have a very energetic and active chapter team with members taking leadership in different areas and making our young chapter vibrant and visible. In the subsequent sections of this edition we cover all the events we participated and conducted.

#### 2. Bali Jatra:

In the Hindu month of Kartik (October - November), Odisha celebrates the renowned festival known as Bali Jatra. The name Bali Jatra means 'A Voyage to Bali'. This popular festival of Odisha marks its beginning from the day of auspicious Full moon and continues for the next seven days.



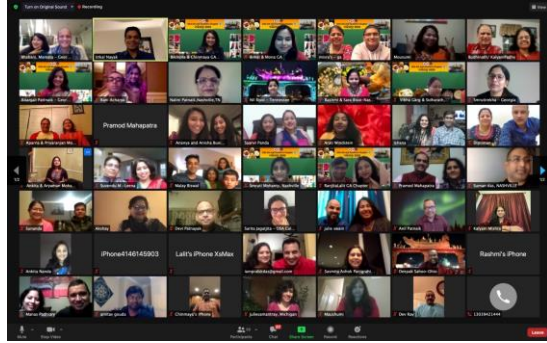
Through this festival, the locals also commemorate the day when sailors of Odisha first crusade to distant lands of Java, Bali, Borneo, Sri Lanka, and Sumatra. To pay their homage, regional people make the artificial boat (made up of paper, barks of the banana tree, and cork) light mud lamps and float it in the water, which is called Boita Bandana.

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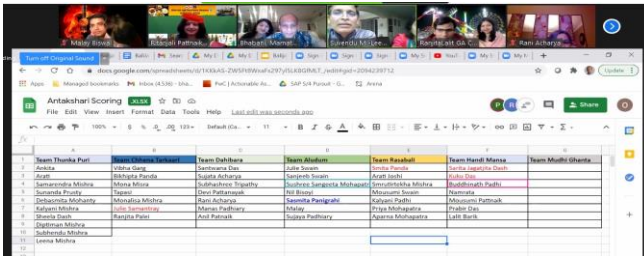
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## Georgia Khabara

On 5th Dec 2020, Georgia OSA Chapter in association with the Southern OSA chapter, celebrated 'Bali Jatra 2020' with grand success and happiness. The event began with a warm welcome session called: Chinha-Achinha, Gapa-Sapa, BaliJatra-AbhulaSmruti.



Following which, the eclectic performances and talent showcases kept audiences spelled under its charm. While adults were completely mesmerized by the event's program, the younger generation didn't leave behind, they kept spreading their charisma through - 'Kahoot Game', fun filled Question & Answer sessions and joyous interactions.



Team Thumka Puri	Team Chena Tarkari	Team Aludam	Team Rasabali	Team Handi Mansa	Team Madha Ghanta
1. Anika	1. Lohita Das	1. Sambarna Das	1. Julia Soren	1. Anika Ghanta	1. Anika Ghanta
2. Anika	2. Anika Ghanta	2. Anika Ghanta	2. Anika Ghanta	2. Anika Ghanta	2. Anika Ghanta
3. Anika Ghanta	3. Anika Ghanta	3. Anika Ghanta	3. Anika Ghanta	3. Anika Ghanta	3. Anika Ghanta
4. Anika Ghanta	4. Anika Ghanta	4. Anika Ghanta	4. Anika Ghanta	4. Anika Ghanta	4. Anika Ghanta
5. Anika Ghanta	5. Anika Ghanta	5. Anika Ghanta	5. Anika Ghanta	5. Anika Ghanta	5. Anika Ghanta
6. Anika Ghanta	6. Anika Ghanta	6. Anika Ghanta	6. Anika Ghanta	6. Anika Ghanta	6. Anika Ghanta

The mesmerizing segment of the event was 'Bali Jatra-Antakshari Dhamaka', which consisted of six mighty teams, who played the game with high spirit and utter happiness. The attraction point of the game was, all Teams named after famous BaliJatra Delicacies- 1/Team Thumka Puri, 2/Team Chena Tarkari, 3/Team

Dahibara, 4/Team Aludam, 5/Team Rasabali, 6/Team Handi Mansa. After 5 long hrs of Dhamakedar Performances, khattaMeetha-NokJhok, Games and Antakshari, we ended our day/event with lots of happiness and magical memories.

### 3. Global Odia Mahotsav

In the year 2020, when the whole world was in angst with the pandemic raging it's fury, the world and human race were resorted to socially distant from friends and family. Loved ones were forced to isolate and the need for interaction seemed like a distant future. Global Odia Mahotsav was the first ever event organized by the Odisha Society of the Americas (OSA) which was specifically targeted to bring together Odias and the Odia diaspora from all across the world. Spanning 3 days from December 26-28th 2020, it was a massive entertainment extravaganza featuring dances of Odisha, kabita patha, live singing with renowned artists of Odisha, celebrity talk shows, women empowerment forum, youth engagement activities and much much more!

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The Georgia chapter participated actively in the Global Odia Mahotsav. Members across all age groups prepared enthusiastically and provided very creative and beautiful contents for the virtual convention. Our smart and active chapter kids provided 21 family videos that got aired on Monday December 28th. Our chapter group cultural items (Odissi and Made in Odisha) were big hits. In addition, our chapter members were also featured in the



**ବିଶ୍ୱ ଓଡ଼ିଆ ମହୋତ୍ସବ**  
**Global Odia Mahotsav 2020**

- 30+ countries participated. 16 chapters participated
- Georgia led the effort in many areas
  - H&W Seminar
  - IT and Social Media
  - Youth
  - Cultural Coordination for the Americas
  - National Drama
- Georgia participated in all areas
  - 21 Family Videos, 2 Chapter Cultural, 2 inaugural videos, 2 Swadista Byanjana, 1 Drama
  - 80% of OSA chapter families + 6 non-OSA members participated

**Georgia led and participated significantly in GOM 2020**



**ବିଶ୍ୱ ଓଡ଼ିଆ ମହୋତ୍ସବ**  
**Global Odia Mahotsav 2020**

**H & W Seminar Leader for the Global Event**  
• Dr Devashish Ray

**Event Promotion & Social Media Comm.**  
• Ritanjali Patnaik • Ranjita Palei

**Overall Cultural Leader - Americas**  
• Bhabani Buxi

**National Drama Co-Scripting & Coordination**  
• Bhabani Buxi

**Inaugural Cultural Choreography**  
• Ananya Buxi • Bikhipta Panda

**Chapter Cultural Video Rec. & Editing**  
• Prabir Das • Bikhipta Panda  
• Ayush Panda • Rani Acharya  
• Ananya Buxi • Ranjita Palei  
• Mamata Buxi • Lalit Barik

**Family Video Consolidation - Americas**  
• Lalit Barik • Mamata Buxi  
• Bhabani Buxi

**Georgia volunteers led diff areas in GOM. THANK YOU**

national opening cultural and BOG drama. Several members from our chapter also led various national activities such as H&W forum, Americas cultural program, BOG drama (scripting and logistics), Event Promo and Social Media, Inaugural Cultural choreography, Family Video consolidation, Youth forum etc. We conducted a Global Mahotsav replay with Georgia family and friends on December

30<sup>th</sup>, watched the Georgia contents together and appreciated all the volunteer work done by our members. Georgia is the youngest chapter to date, but is very proud of the way our active, committed and passionate members stepped up to contribute significantly to the Global Odia Mahotsav 2020.

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#### 4. Avahana

ମାତୃଭୂମି ମାତୃଭାଷା ରେ ମମତା ଯା ହୃଦେ ଜନମି ନାହିଁ, ତାକୁ ଯଦି ଜ୍ଞାନୀ ଗଣରେ ଗଣିବା ଅଜ୍ଞାନୀ ରହିବେ କାହିଁ.. ଆସନ୍ତୁ ଦେଖିବା ଆମେରିକାର କିଛି ପ୍ରବାସୀ ଓଡ଼ିଆ ପରିବାର ଏହି ସନ୍ଦେଶ , ଏହି ବାର୍ତାକୁ କିପରି ବଜାୟ ରଖୁଛନ୍ତି .

ବିଗତ ବର୍ଷ 2020ରେ ମହାମାରୀ କରୋନା, ବିଶ୍ୱ ବ୍ରହ୍ମାଣ୍ଡକୁ ଭୟ ଏବଂ ଶୋକାକୁଳରେ ଆତଙ୍କିତ କରି ପାରି ଥାଏ, ମାତ୍ର ମନୁଷ୍ୟର ଆଶା, ଅଭିଳାଷ, ସ୍ୱୟଂ ମହାପ୍ରଭୁଙ୍କ ଆଶୀର୍ବାଦ ଓ ସଫଳତାରୁପି ସ୍ୱପ୍ନର କବଚକୁ ଆକ୍ରମଣ କରିବାରେ ବିଫଳ ହେଇଛି. ତାଲକ୍ଷ୍ମୀ ଦେଖିବା ଏହାର ଏକ ଚଳନ୍ତି ଉଦାହରଣ . ବସୁଧାକୁ କୁଟୁମ୍ବ ବୋଲି ହୃଦୟରେ ରଖୁଥିବା ,ଆମେରିକାର ଜର୍ଜିଆ ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ବାସ କରୁଥିବା ଓଡ଼ିଶା ନିବାସୀଙ୍କ ପ୍ରବାସୀ ଓଡ଼ିଆ ପରିବାରଙ୍କ ଉଦ୍ୟମ ଓ ସଫଳତାର ଯାତ୍ରା., ସୁଦୂର ଆମେରିକା



ମହାଦେଶର ଜର୍ଜିଆ ରାଜ୍ୟ ଓ ଆଟଲାଣ୍ଟିକ୍ ସହରରେ ବାସ କରୁଥିବା ପ୍ରବାସୀ ଓଡ଼ିଆ ପରିବାର ମାନେ, ଏକତ୍ରିତ ହେଇ, 'ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସୋସାଇଟି ଅଫ ଆମେରିକା, ଜର୍ଜିଆ ଅନୁଷ୍ଠାନ ' ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ, କରୋନାରେ ଅକ୍ରାନ୍ତିତ ହୋଇଥିବା ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ବହୁତ ସ୍ୱାଭିମାନୀ, ସ୍ୱାବଲମ୍ବୀ କଳାକାର ମାନଙ୍କୁ ଆର୍ଥିକ ସହାୟତା ପ୍ରଦାନ କରିବା ପାଇଁ ଗୋଟିଏ ଆଧ୍ୟାତ୍ମିକ

**AVAHANA - A MUSICAL & DEVOTIONAL EVENING**  
Positive Feedback

**Avahana** - Audience were actively engaged in conversation and chat feedback. The program received tremendous positive feedback through multiple channels. True reflection of the teamwork and effort of everyone from the chapter!

Excellent start on this auspicious occasion, thank you Georgia Chapter.  
Aahankya Dhanyabad Mono! Jeshi Ji!! It was such an enriching presentation. Thank You! So fortunate to hear Swami Adyananda Saraswati  
Namaskar and ati sunder prasuti awesome program. Swamiji's sermon was just bliss...!!

Best regards to Swami Ji, so fortunate to hear Pradachan in Odia.  
Bahut badhiya lyrics and singing Dhanyabad Sinker Babu lovely and beautiful chanting  
Thank you Georgia chapter. A great evening with good memories spent with you all...  
Great program 🙏🙏🙏

Note: Over 700 chat messages received in zoom during the session. The word cloud shows the summary of all 700 messages. The snippets above are just a very small subset to show the type of comments received.

ଓ ଭଜନ ସମାରୋହ , କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ 'ଆବାହନ', ଗତ ଜାନୁଆରୀ 16ତାରିଖରେ , ପବିତ୍ର 'ମକର ସଂକ୍ରାନ୍ତି' ଅବସରରେ ପରିବେଷଣ କରିଥିଲେ. ସମଗ୍ର ଆମେରିକା ମହାଦେଶର 50ଟି ରାଜ୍ୟର ଲୋକଙ୍କ ସଂଗେ ଓଡ଼ିଶୀୟ ବସି ମଧ୍ୟ ଏହି କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମରେ ଯୋଗଦାନ କରି, ଆବାହନ କୁ ସଫଳତାର ଉଚ୍ଚତମ ସୋପାନରେ ପହଞ୍ଚାଇ ପାରିଛନ୍ତି. ଏହି ଆବାହନ କର୍ତ୍ତୃକ୍ରମର ଶୁଭାରମ୍ଭ ହେଇଥିଲା ଗଣେଶ ବନ୍ଦନା ଓ ମନ୍ତ୍ରର ଉଚ୍ଚାରଣରେ .

ପରବର୍ତ୍ତୀ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ 'ଯୋଗ ଓ ମେଡ଼ିଟେସନ' ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ , ସାନପ୍ରାନ୍ତସିନ୍ଧୋ ସହର ବାସିନ୍ଦା ଯୋଗ ଓ wellness ଗୁରୁ ଶ୍ରୀଯୁକ୍ତ ମନୋଜ ଯୋଶୀ, ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କୁ ଅବଗତ କରେଇ ପାରିଥିଲେ. ଶାରୀରିକ ଓ ମାନସିକ ସୁଖ ଶାନ୍ତି ପ୍ରାପ୍ତିର ସାଧନା. ତତ୍ପରେ ସ୍ୱାମୀ ଆଦ୍ୟାନନ୍ଦ ସରସ୍ୱତୀ, ଯିଏକି , ଜର୍ଜିଆ ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ଜଗନ୍ନାଥ ମନ୍ଦିରର ସ୍ଥାପନରେ ମୁଖ୍ୟ ଭୂମିକା ଗ୍ରହଣ

**AVAHANA - A MUSICAL & DEVOTIONAL EVENING**  
Strong Attendance

**Avahana** - Audience participation was excellent, it was the most attended chapter event to date. The program was streamed over Zoom and YouTube. There were ~300 audience who watched it.

Zoom Audience attendance chart

**ZOOM**

- 93 = Peak number of attendees
- 157 = unique attendees over 6 hours
- 80 = Attendees engaged in zoom chat
- 60+ Attendees from 7pm to 10:45pm

**YouTube**

- 137 = Unique YouTube viewers
- 369 = Total YouTube views

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କରିଥିଲେ, ମକର ସଂକ୍ରାନ୍ତିର ତାତ୍ପର୍ଯ୍ୟ ଉପରେ ଶ୍ରୋତା ବନ୍ଧୁମାନଙ୍କୁ ଜ୍ଞାନ ପ୍ରଦାନ କରିଥିଲେ. ବାବାଙ୍କ ଭାଷଣ ପରେ ପରେ ଶ୍ରୋତା ବନ୍ଧୁମାନେ ଶୁଣିବାକୁ ପାଇଥିଲେ ସ୍ଵାମୀ ସର୍ବପ୍ରିୟନନ୍ଦ, ଯିଏ କି ବିଶ୍ଵ ନେତୃତ୍ଵର ସହରର ନିବାସୀ ବେଦାନ୍ତ ସମାଜର ମୁଖ୍ୟ କର୍ତ୍ତା. ଏହାପରେ ଭଜନ ସନ୍ଧ୍ୟା ସମାରୋହର ଶୁଭାରମ୍ଭ ହେଇଥିଲା. ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ସୁବିଖ୍ୟାତ କଣ୍ଠଶିଳ୍ପୀ ଶ୍ରୀକର ପାଢ଼ୀଙ୍କଠୁ ଶୁଣିବାକୁ ମିଳିଥିଲା କିଛି ଭାବସ୍ଵର୍ଣ୍ଣା ମର୍ମସ୍ଵର୍ଣ୍ଣା ଭଜନ. ଏହି ଭଜନ ସମାରୋହରେ 40ରୁ ଊର୍ଧ୍ଵ ପ୍ରବାସୀ ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଭାଇ ଭଉଣୀମାନେ ନିଜ ନିଜର ଭଜନ ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ ମହାପ୍ରଭୁଙ୍କ ଗୁଣଗାନ କରି ଶୁଭ ସନ୍ଧ୍ୟାକୁ "ଆଶୀର୍ବାଦ ଓ ସୁଭାଶିଷ" ସୁନାମରେ ରୂପାନ୍ତରିତ କରିଦେଇଥିଲେ. ସମ୍ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମଟି ZOOM ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ

ଆୟୋଜିତ ହେଇଥିଲା. ଏହି କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ ଏକତ୍ରିତ ହୋଇ ଥିବା ପୁଞ୍ଜିକୁ ଓଷା ଜର୍ଣ୍ଣା ଓଡ଼ିଶାର କଳାକାର ମାନଙ୍କ ସହାୟତା କରିବା ନିମନ୍ତେ ବିନିଯୋଗ କରିବାକୁ ନିଷ୍ପତ୍ତି ନେଇଛନ୍ତି ।

### 5. Republic Day

The Republic Day observance and celebrations were carried out with dignity and pride by OSA GA. All Patriotic songs were sung by our beautiful singers. To keep the spirit of Republic Day, we all wore colors coordinated with the tricolor flag. Some of the OSA GA kids played instruments on patriotic songs. Everyone shared their childhood experiences of Republic day back in Odisha which refreshed all our memories of home.



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**6. Valentine's day**

As Pravasi Odias of OSA GA Chapter, we celebrated festivals of our Matrubhoomi and also celebrated a few festivals of our Karmabhoomi(USA). One of them was the Valentine's day celebration celebrated by OSA GA on February 20th. All of our participants were looking fabulous in valentine's day colors. The main attraction of the event was when the couples of GA shared their thoughts about each other(2 things which they like about their better half and one thing which they don't like about their better half). Dance and songs were also presented making it a memorable and fun-filled evening.



**7. 'Tribeni Dekha Sakhyat'**

We held an outdoor picnic 'Tribeni Dekha Sakhyat' on Saturday 20th of March 2021. About 20 families joined the event with a lot of enthusiasm at the Sims Lake park in Suwanee, Georgia. The youth team had a get together at the venue, spent a lighter moment getting to know



each other and



also took time to discuss their upcoming activities. The adults enjoyed some fun time together.

Everyone enjoyed hot breakfast and chai before going on a walk around the lake. Upon completing the walk, people joined a group Surya Namaskaar session led by one of our members. There was a Zumba session led by one of our youth member sand all attendees across all age groups were seen dancing and having fun. It was a day very well spent with members getting to spend quality time together after a long gap.

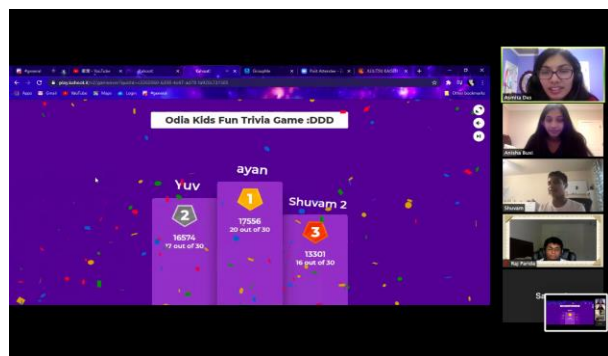
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### 8. Youth Initiative

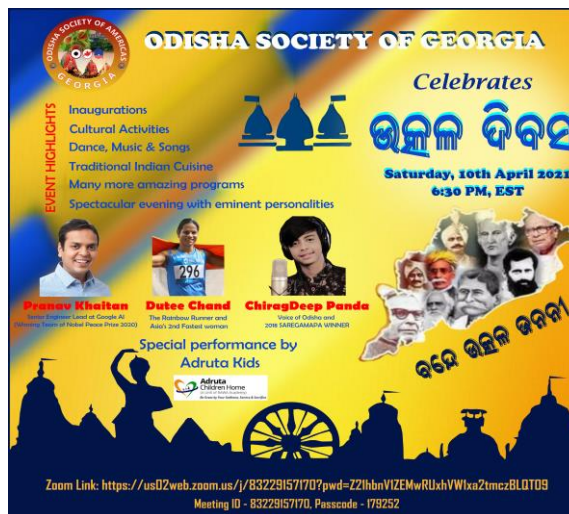
Georgia's youth have taken action and created a GroupMe to discuss events/activities they could undertake as the youth team. This past February, they held a meet and greet, which many had shown up to, to get to know each other. The meet and greet consisted of ice breakers and a fun Kahoot, all created by the youth for the youth! It was enjoyed by all ages from 8-18!



They discussed some of their hobbies which varied from coding and drawing all the way to wrestling! Everybody loved the way the meet went, the amount of interaction they had and the opportunity they got to know each other. They were excited about having more such events and also to meet in person soon when the conditions allow!

### 9. Utkala Dibasa

Our new born Georgia chapter of the Odisha Society of the Americas is excited and honored to be celebrating our first Utkala Dibasa this year --and we cordially invite all other chapters to join us on April 10th at 6:30PM EST. Together we will remember our Odisha- Aama mamatamayi matrubhoomi in all her glory and beauty with lots of tenderness, longing and fond memories !! We will be showcasing the richness of Odisha with her vivid and vibrant cultural panorama. Here are a few snippets from the impressive lineup of amazing programs this evening has to offer.



- There is an array of mouthwatering delicacies from Odia Cuisine that will surely leave a lingering taste in your mouth and yet hungry for more.

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### Georgia Khabara

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- Odisha being a prominent handicraft and handloom state of India - in Weaves of Odisha we are promoting the intricate Kalashilpa o KaruKarjya of exquisite textiles and design.
- The most heartwarming tales are one of love and care and the relationship of grandparents with their grandchildren speaks this language most eloquently. This will be portrayed in an informal chit chat of our young ones with their Aja/Aai/JejeBapa/JejeMaa back in Odisha
- The evening has an interesting conversation in Youth connection, with a panel of Young and famous Talents from India who make us all proud to be Odias!! They will be having a lively discussion with our youth and sharing their stories of success and achievements
- An evening dedicated to Odisha cannot be complete without an Odissi repertoire - and just not this lyrical classical dance alone- we will be bringing together the other rare dance forms and rhythmic Folk dances from Odisha to make you groove to the beat wherever you are!!
- To sparkle this evening even more, we have Zee Sarthak Lil Champ Sa Re Ga Ma Pa Winner 2018 ChiragDeep Panda along with the talented Aadruta kids will be bringing a special surprise for all of us.
- There of course , there will be rocking fun filled Mehfil with our very own talents and to top it with our Gapa Sapa au Khatti -the heartbeat of OSA get together!!

So extending our warm welcoming invitation again- please kindly participate in UTKALA DIBASA and join us from your cozy homes and zoom in with your lively presence, love and lots of laughter on April 10th at 6:30PM-**Jama Bhulibeni!!!!**

#### 10. Bana Bhoji

Out of abundance caution for health and safety amidst the pandemic, the Georgia Chapter have been holding off plans for Bana Bhoji (picnic) since December last year. With the vaccination being rolled out and more and more members getting vaccinated, we are planning to hold our very first Bana Bhoji in May this year. There is an active events committee already at work planning the details. We have learnt from reliable sources that there will be savouring Odia food (Bhata - Maunsa Jhola, Chhena Tarkaari, Dahi-bara Aludom, Mudhi Mixture, Chhena Tarkaari and what not), in-person cultural events, gapa-sapa, guli-khatti, taas khela and what not. Everyone is looking forward to it and by the next edition we will have sweet memories and pictures to share.