

# BULLETIN of ROTARY CLUB OF SURAT WEST



Rotary Year **2024-25**  
Charter Date : **30-4-96**  
R.I. Dist. **3060** Zone **4-B**  
Club No. : **31549**  
Vol. **29**

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**20/2024-25**

## **NEXT MEETING**

**\* Sunday, January 19**

**Program: Movie Fellowship**



- **Detailed information in club WhatsApp group.**
- **Program Co-Ordinator: Rtn. Gaurang Goel**

### **Wedding Anniversary Greetings**

PDG Devendra- Nilima Shastri - **January 22**  
PP Bhavesh- IPP. Sonal Shah - **January 24**  
PP Hitendra- Sonal Mody - **January 25**  
PP. Ashit- Dr. Purvi Kothari - **January 26**  
Rtn. Vijay- Kajal Nihlani - **January 29**  
Rtn. Ajay- Arpita Varshney - **January 31**

### **Birthday Greetings**

January 22: **Rtn. Jayprakash Dhanuka**  
January 27: **Ann Chaitali Rahul Mandyan**  
January 28: **Rtn. Dr. Vishal Mandlewala**  
January 29: **Ann Madhavi Vijay Mevcha**

### **Forthcoming Programs**

**\*Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> January: Meeting of Club Board of Directors**

**\*Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> January: Seminar on "Women in Nation Buliding"**

**\*Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> January : Movie Fellowship**

**\*Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> January: Battery Operated Artificial Hand Project  
Jointly with All Rotary clubs of Surat Area**

# Last meeting – Wednesday, January 8, 2025

## Speaker meeting: - Shri Sanjay Choksi

### Topic: - "सुरत सोना नी मुरत"





Our club held a highly engaging and insightful speaker meeting of **Shri Sanjay Choksi**, an eminent writer and historian, a well-respected figure in the industry. Shri Choksi, an expert in various sectors, spoke on the fascinating topic of "**Surat Sona ni Murat**," a subject that resonates deeply with the rich heritage and legacy of Surat.

After the delightful and sumptuous dinner and an enlivening fellowship, the meeting started out with the **welcome address by President PDG. Devendrabhai Shastri**, who not only piqued the audience's curiosity about the topic, "Surat Sona ni Murat," but also underscored Shri Choksi's reputation as a knowledgeable figure in the local community.

**PP. Shilpa Shah** eloquently introduced Shri. Sanjay Choksi, wherein she outlined Shri Choksi's extensive expertise and deep connection to Surat's cultural landscape.

In his power point presentation, Shri Choksi delved into the history and significance of Surat's association with gold and diamonds, often referred to as "**Sona ni murat**" which translates to "**The Image of Gold**," metaphorically represented Surat's enduring reputation as a centre of wealth and craftsmanship. His talk covered how Surat evolved as a thriving centre for the trade of precious metals and gems, showcasing the cultural and economic impact of these industries on the local community. Shri Choksi elaborated on Surat's historical role in global trade and its transformation into a hub for artisans and entrepreneurs.

Shri Sanjay Choksi painted a vivid picture of Surat's illustrious past, shedding light on the city's historical significance and its role in global trade. He began by highlighting a fascinating fact: Surat was the **only port in India** for the **export and import of goods** during the 17th and 18th centuries. The city was not only a key domestic trade hub but also had a remarkable reach, engaging in trade with a staggering **84 ports worldwide**. This vast network of international trade established Surat as a bustling cosmopolitan city, rich in cultural and economic exchange long before it became a modern-day business powerhouse.

Shri. Sanjay Choksi further captivated the audience with an intriguing historical tidbit: the **castle of Surat was built in 1373 AD**, marking the city's strategic importance as a trading centre in ancient India. The castle, an emblem of the city's long-standing prominence, served as both a fortification and a symbol of Surat's connection to maritime trade.

He also spoke of the **diamond trade**, which was started in **1900** by two visionary brothers. This pivotal moment in Surat's history laid the foundation for what would become a global leader in diamond cutting and processing. Over the years, Surat has earned its reputation as the "**diamond city**," contributing significantly to the global diamond industry.

Additionally, Choksi touched upon **the textile industry**, which was already well-established during those times. Surat's cloth industry was thriving with a **turnover of 30 lakhs per day in the olden times**, further solidifying the city's status as a major commercial centre. The combination of the flourishing textile and diamond industries contributed to Surat's remarkable economic growth, making it a symbol of prosperity and craftsmanship.

As the evening drew to a close, **PP. Setu Gandhi proposed a hearty vote of thanks**. With his warm and gracious words, PP Setu expressed the Rotary Club's sincere appreciation to the distinguished speaker, **Shri Sanjay Choksi**, and the members of **the Atulya Varso** team who had also graced the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned after **Hon. Jt Sec. PP. Ashit Kothari** made the necessary announcements of the forthcoming meetings and also the birthday and anniversary greetings.

## Rotary in Asia



**1919**

**ROTARY INTERNATIONAL ARRIVES IN ASIA**

**ROTARIANS ON THE INTERNET**

A Rotary club is chartered in Manila, Philippines, in June 1919, and in Shanghai, China, four months later. The Rotary Club of Calcutta becomes the first club in India in January 1920.

Rotary International logo is visible in the top right corner of the image.

Rotary



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### **1919: Rotary arrives in #Asia**

A Rotary club is chartered in Manila, **#Philippines**, in June 1919, and in Shanghai, **#China**, four months later. The Rotary Club of Calcutta becomes the first club in **#India** in January 1920.

## Rotary Rose Parade Float Parade- January 1



EXCITING NEWS! Congratulations! [#RotaryRoseParadeFloatCommittee](#) and all our participants. **Our Float won the Tournament Volunteer Award for the Most Outstanding Floral Presentation for a float under 35 feet in length.** It speaks volumes about the creativity, dedication, and hard work of everyone involved. Well done to the entire team! **Rotary International President Stephanie Urchick also participated in this annual event which takes place since 1913.**

# ROTARY WISDOM

**GOOD DEEDS SHOULD BE DONE WITH INTENTION, NOT FOR ATTENTION.**

OUR world Today

**THE FIRST EVER ROTARY PIN**

The first Rotary lapel pin was designed and made by New York Rotary Club member, **John Frick** on October 14, 1909 and worn by the club's first president Bradford Bullock from 1909 until his premature death in 1911 (At the time, he was serving as VP of the National Association of Rotary Clubs).

**Rotary International**  
People of Action  
SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Rotary

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Rotary members are in a special position to develop acquaintances. With members from around 100 countries, knowledge and acquaintance has taken on a whole new meaning and currency. Rotary members are in a position to further world understanding in a way few have ever experienced before.

The motto of Rotary is to apply modern information technology to enhance Rotary service, fellowship and knowledge, and to use Internet communications to further world understanding and peace.

**CLUB MODELS**

- CAUSE BASED
- ROTARACT
- HYBRID
- E-CLUBS
- TRADITIONAL
- ALUMNI BASED
- SATELLITE
- CORPORATE
- PASSPORT

Rotary

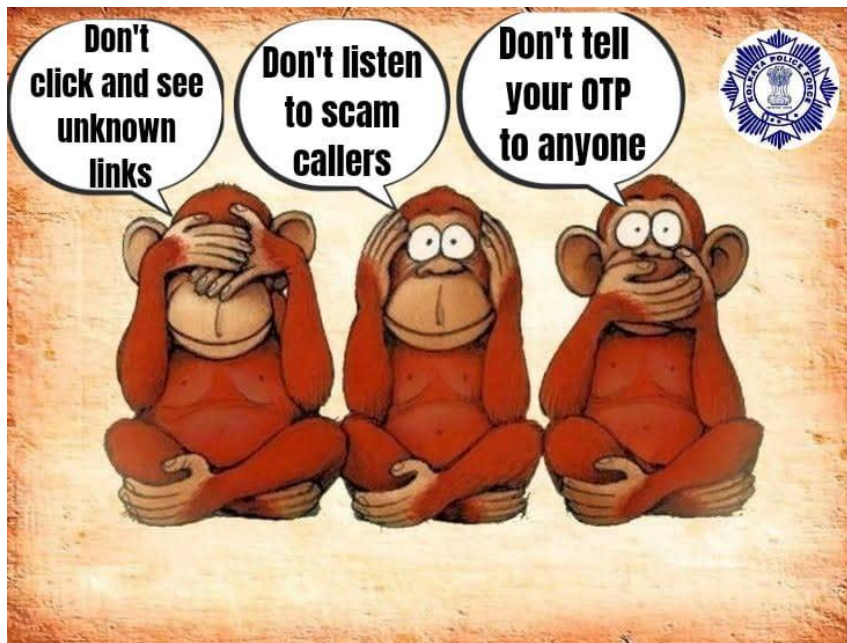
**Rotary**

*Each Rotarian is a connecting link between the idealism of Rotary and his trade or profession. To others in his vocation or trade he bears peculiar responsibilities of securing their cooperation in the development of the highest standards for his vocation.*

Paul Harris  
Founder of Rotary International  
'My Road to Rotary' - c.1945

JANUARY - VOCATIONAL SERVICE MONTH

## Cyber Wisdom



## News Maker



**Congratulations**  
to  
**Shilpa Vijay Shah**  
(Ph.D Research Scholar - Music)  
For Best Presentation Award

Research Paper  
at the  
**National Conference on  
Multidisciplinary Research for  
Viksit Bharat 2024**



**Rtn. PP. Shilpa Shah** was awarded **Best Oral Presentation Award** by Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar for her presentation on 28<sup>th</sup> December'24 on the topic "Jain Culture and Performing Arts"

## Seminar on "Women in Nation Building"

UGF IN ASSOCIATION WITH IIE SURAT

INVITATION TO ALL THE MEMBERS  
AN INITIATIVE BY UNIFIED GROWTH FOUNDATION

### WOMEN IN NATION BUILDING

EXPLORING WOMEN'S IMPACT ACROSS EVERY SPHERE

3rd floor, The Junomoneta Tower,  
Near Rajhans Cinema, opposite RTO, Pal, Adajan, Surat

Date	Time	Followed by
18th January, 2025	04:00pm - 05:30pm	Networking with Hi-Tea

Associate Partners: SWISS PAC, THE LAUNDRY HOUSE  
Media Partner: THE TIMES OF INDIA  
Supported By: Rotary Club of Surat West

SCAN TO REGISTER  
FREE REGISTRATION

This event celebrates the incredible contributions of women across sectors like business, education, technology, art, and more, while providing a platform to connect, collaborate, and inspire change.

### Event Details



**\*Date: 18th January 2025**



**\*Time: 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM (Followed by Hi-Tea)**



**\*Venue: 3rd floor, The Junomoneta Tower, Near Rajhans Cinema, opposite RTO, Pal, Adajan, Surat**

This is a unique opportunity to engage with thought leaders, share your ideas, and become part of a community dedicated to women's empowerment and nation-building.

**Entry is free, but registration is mandatory.**



**Register here:** [bit.ly/winsrt25](https://bit.ly/winsrt25)

# Kite Festival 2025 organized by Donate Life to Spread Organ Donation Awareness- January 12



**Our club members PP Hitendra Mody, PP Tinish Mody, PP Vivek Goel and Rekhaji, Rtn. Dr. Vishal Mandlewala, Rtn. Nirav Mandlewala and President PDG Devendra Shastri participated in the event. PP Hitendra Mody and Rtn. Nirav Mandlewala played important role in organizing this event at SDCA ground. State Home Minister Shri Harsh Sanghvi inaugurated the event which was attended by more than 2000 citizens of Surat. Donate Life President Shri Nilesh Mandlewala** said that first organ donation in Surat was done on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2006. Families of Organ Donation givers were felicitated at the hand of Home Minister. It was truly an event to celebrate the success of Organ Donation campaign in Surat.



## 'Mutlulugun Rsemi'



**The story goes that Nazim Hikmat, the great Turkish poet, once asked his friend Abidin Dino, a famous Turkish artist and painter, to create a picture of what was Happiness for him.** The dazzlingly creative artworks of Abudin, who was renowned for his diverse and versatile work, depict this picture of a family sleeping on a broken bed with their pets, under a leaky roof, in a shabby room – but with a smile on each member's face. He titled his painting 'Mutlulugun Rsemi' which in Turkish means 'Official Happiness'. Abidin knew that even when surrounded by negativity and hopelessness, one could still find happiness amidst gloom and despair. Happiness is not the absence of suffering. It is the acceptance of suffering and the gratitude for all conditions of life. **Life is man's greatest gift. No matter what your circumstances are, be grateful that you are alive.**

## HUMOUR

A non-medical student attended a medical exam by mistake. See his answers.

1. Antibody: - One who hate's his body.
2. Artery: - Study of Fine Paintings or Military, not sure.
3. Bacteria: - Back door of a Cafeteria.
4. Coma: - Punctuation Mark.
5. Gall Bladder: - Bladder of a Girl.
6. Genes: - Blue Denim.
7. Labour Pain: - Hurt at Work.
8. Liposuction: - A French Kiss.
9. Ultrasound: - Radical Sound that is above human hearing capacity.
10. Cardiology: - Advanced Study of Playing Cards...
11. Dyspepsia: - Difficulty in drinking Pepsi.
12. Chicken Pox: - A Non-Veg. continental dish.
13. CT scan: - Test for Identifying person's city