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## AKKA meet to showcase state history

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S L Bhyrappa, Chandrashekar Kambara, Jayant Kaikini and Swami Sukhabodhananda (clockwise from top) will participate

**Bangalore:** Preparations are going on at a hectic pace for the 5th AKKA World Kannada Conference to be held in Rosemont, Illinois (US) from August 29 to 31.

The host organisation, Vidyaranya Kannada Kuta of Illinois, one of the oldest Kannada Kutas in the US, is making every effort to make this event an enjoyable experience.

The host city, Chicago, is the third largest city in the US and has many beautiful sight-seeing places. The Rosemont Convention Centre is close to O'Hare international Airport and is a famous convention centre in the US. Chicago has the advantage of having several Kannada Kutas located nearby in Detroit, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Indianapolis, St Louis and Columbus.

This year's conference is expected to draw large number of Kannadigas from across the US, Karnataka and other parts of the world. Some of the unique features of the conference, which is coordinated by 35 committees, comprise a Karnataka history exhibition showing 1,000 years of history up to the present 'Silicon Valley' revolution; a music show 'Kannadave Satya' by C Ashwath's group, and a film nite

featuring leading Kannada stars Puneet Rajkumar, Ramesh Aravind, Upendra and music director Guru Kiran.

There will also be a 'Janapada sangeetha' by folk group Honnaru Janapada Gaayakaru and a magic show by Ganesh Kudroli. The AKKA Lifetime Achievement Award will be given for the first time to persons who have made outstanding contribution in arts, business, science, technology and literature.

Some of the people attending the event are Chandrashekar Kambara, S.L.Bhyrappa and Jayant Kaikini, music maestros Mysore Nagaraj and Manjunath and Swami Sukhabodhananda. Dr Omkar will teach yoga to the participants. Former chief minister M Veerappa Moily and Knowledge Commission chairman Sam Pitroda have already accepted the invitation to be at Akka.

And finally, there'll be delicious Kannada food to add a fine taste to participants from all over the globe.