

NEWS Bulletin

संगीत
नाटक
अकादेमी



Sangeet
Natak
Akademi

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
DANCE & DRAMA, INDIA

NUMBER 20 ♦ AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2007



OFFICERS OF THE AKADEMI

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'Incredible India @ 60', New York, USA

The Ministry of Tourism and the Ministry of Culture, Government of India in association with the Ministry of Textiles and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) organized a festival titled 'Incredible India @ 60' in New York from 23 to 26 September 2007, celebrating sixty years of India's Independence. At the request of the Ministry of Culture, Sangeet Natak Akademi presented the dance and music component in the event, including classical dances of India and folk and tribal dances of various States (Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, West Bengal, etc.) The inaugural event was presented on 23 September at the Avery Fisher Auditorium, Lincoln Centre, New York. The folk music and dances of

India were presented at Bryant Park from 23 to 25 September and at Pier 16 and 17 of the South Street Seaport from 24 to 26 September 2007.

A short invocatory composition was designed and presented by Maitreyi Paharai with Pung Cholom, Yakshagana, Theyyam and Mohiniattam, followed by a group choreographic presentation by Madhavi Mudgal including Odissi, Bharatanatyam, Kathakali, Manipuri and Kathak dance. The Odissi group was led by Madhavi Mudgal, the Bharatanatyam group by Geeta Chandran, the Manipuri group by Charu Sija Mathur, and the Mohiniattam group by Vijaya Lakshmi. The repertory of Kathak Kendra, Delhi which presented the Kathak component, was led by

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An Odissi dance presentation.



Giddha, a folk dance of Punjab.

Prerana Shrimali, and the Kathakali component was presented by the International Centre for Kathakali, Delhi. A repeat show was held with solo performances by Madhavi Mudgal, Geeta Chandran, Charu Sija Mathur, and Prerana Shrimali.

The inaugural programme was held at the Lincoln Centre, which was attended among others by Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. Chidambaram, Finance Minister Shri S. Wagela, Minister for Textiles and Chief Ministers of some of the North-eastern States. India's ambassador to the United States, Shri Ronen Sen, was also present. Shri Kabir Bedi compered the inauguration at Lincoln Centre.

The folk dance programme was inaugurated at Bryant Park on 23 September 2007. The show at both the venues at Bryant Park and South Street Seaport started at 11 a.m. and ended at 9 p.m. every day in which as many as seventy folk and tribal artists representing various states participated. Apart from folk and

tribal dances of India, the Akademi also presented at the event the Colonial Cousins, Remo Fernandes and Shivamani invited by the Ministry of Tourism. The performances at Bryant Park were presented by Shri Raghav Raj Bhat, Programme Officer in Kathak Kendra.

Apart from Shri Jayant Kastuar, Secretary, Sangeet Natak Akademi, the following experts, technical personnel and officers of the Akademi were deputed to present the programme in New York: Gautam Bhattacharya (lighting designer), Ved Pohoja (stage designer), Samir Vishnu Kriplani (sound expert), D. Dasgupta, Deputy Secretary (Coordination), and Helen Acharya, Deputy Secretary (Dance).

Sangeet Pratibha, Pune

Sangeet Partibha, Pune focusing on young musicians of Western India, was held from 11 to 14 August, 2007 in collaboration with Bhimsen Joshi Chair at Lalit Kala Kendra, University of Pune at the Garware College Auditorium and the Centre for Performing Arts, Pune University, Pune. Dr Shreeram Lagoo, eminent theatre person and recipient of Akademi Award, inaugurated the festival on 11 August, 2007.

A notable feature of the event was the presentation of Borgeet of Assam, Natasankirtan of Manipur, Odissi sangeet of Orissa and instrumental music of Rajasthan besides the rich recital of Carnatic music on Veena, Jaltarang, Sarangi, Shehnai, Sundri and Sarod.

Shri Kavalam Narayana Panikkar, Vice-Chairman of Sangeet Natak Akademi graced the valedictory function. The festival



Top: Dr Shreeram Lagoo, eminent theatre person and Akademi Awardee inaugurated the Sangeet Pratibha in Pune. Shrimati Rita Swami Choudhary, Deputy Secretary, SNA and Shri Raju Das, Programme Officer are also in the picture.

Top right: Rupayan Sansthan, Jodhpur: Traditional Instruments of Rajasthan

Middle right: Stuti Bani Thakuria (Borgeet).

Bottom right: Shri Kavalam Narayana Panikkar, Vice-Chairman, Sangeet Natak Akademi, visited Kala Chhaya — a Cultural Centre for Education, Performance and Research in Performing and Fine Arts, Pune — on 15 August, 2007. He is seen watching exhibits at the art gallery.



received enthusiastic response from the discerning audience of Pune.

11 August, 6:00 pm

Ahmad Abbas Khan & Hasan Haider Khan, Kolkata: Shehnai

Chetna Banawat, Vanasthali: Hindustani Vocal

Milind Tulankar, Pune: Jaltarang

Vikas Bharadwaj, Kota: Sitar

12 August, 10:00 am

Gopal Jadhav & group, Latur: Pakhawaj

Amiruddin Khan & Farooq Khan, Jaipur: Sarangi

Pushkar Lele, Pune: Hindustani Vocal

12 August, 6:00 pm

Devanand Yadav, Aurangabad: Hindustani Vocal (Dhrupad)

D. Srinivas, Hyderabad: Carnatic Veena

Arti R. Nayak, Goa: Hindustani Vocal

Himanshu Mahant, Baroda: Tabla

13 August, 6:00 pm

Allarakha Kalawant, Ahmedabad: Sarangi

Saniya Patankar, Pune : Hindustani Vocal

Arnab Chakrabarty, Mumbai: Sarod

14 August, 6:00 pm

Vishwajeet Borwankar, Mumbai: Hindustani Vocal

Bhimanna Jadhav, Solapur: Sundri

Rupesh Kashinath Gawas, Goa: Hindustani Vocal

Ankit Bhatt, Jaipur: Sitar

Special Session:

Regional Traditions of Music

Namdeo Sabhagriha, Arts Faculty University of Pune

13 August, 10:00 am

Stuti Bani Thakuria, Guwahati: Borgeet, Assam

Rupayan Sansthan, Jodhpur: Traditional Instruments of Rajasthan

14 August, 10:00 am

Bharati Jena, Bhubneswar: Odissi Sangeet, Orissa

Gayatri Devi & Group, Imphal:

Natsankirtan, Manipur

AKADEMI'S MONTHLY PERFORMANCES IN DELHI

Traditional Puppetry / Theatre / Films / Video Reports

KATHPUTLI KA KHEL

Under the series of Akademi's monthly programmes, a performance of *Kathputli ka Khel*, the traditional string puppetry of Rajasthan was held on 21 September 2007 at 6:30 p.m., at the Meghdoot Theatre-II, Rabindra Bhawan, New Delhi. Shri Prem Bhat and his group from Jodhpur performed *Amar Singh Rathore*.

The Kathputli artists, who perform with this puppet of *kath* or wood, are *nats* or *bhats*, a wandering community who earlier performed only during the dry season and returned to their villages to cultivate the fields after the rains.

The stories in Rajasthan's performing arts revolve round the exploits of folk heroes. Amar Singh Rathore, the ruler of Nagaur in the seventeenth century, from where the puppeteers' community claims its origin, was a great patron whose heroic deeds and death are sung and enacted. The puppet performance as of now shows him appear at the court of the Badshah (believed to be the Mughal emperor

Akbar), along with other rajas and nawabs. Tricks and turns are performed for their amusement by a magician, an acrobat, the dancer Anarkali, the drummer Kharbar Khan, etc. Among the cast of characters are the juggler and *bahurupia*, *dhoban*, Sakru Julahi, mat weaver who steals cotton, and Nau Gaz Peer. The Kathputli's heads are carved mainly from mango wood, and their large stylized eyes are painted white or yellow. They are up to 60 centimetres tall, costumed in the Rajasthani style seen in medieval paintings, with bodies made of cloth and stuffed rags. With a few exceptions, the puppets are made without legs and from waist down they wear long, heavily pleated skirts of light material.

Ranchhor and Suresh Bhat manipulated the Kathputlis. The accompanying musicians, Prem Bhat and Feroze Khan sat in front of the stage. The former played the dholak while, Feroze Khan, the singer played the harmonium and Kadtaal. Prem Bhat played the role of Sutradhar. At the end of the show, children in audience were allowed to hold the strings of Kathputlis, which they enjoyed. An audience of about two hundred persons attended the performance, many coming in drenched from the heavy shower before the show.



Kathputli: String puppetry of Rajasthan.

Hindi Pakhwara in the Akademi

A Hindi Pakhwara was organized in the Akademi from 14 to 28 September 2007 at Meghdoot Theatre II, New Delhi. The Pakhwara opened up with a message from Secretary advising all officials to make progressive use of Hindi in their day to day official work. It was followed by four competitions i.e Hindi dictation, noting and drafting, essay writing and translation. More than 50 employees of the Akademi participated in these competitions. The participating employees were awarded cash prizes by Shri Jayant Kastuar, Secretary, in a function.

In pursuance of recommendations of the Parliamentary Official Language Committee, a quarterly Hindi workshop was also conducted on 11 September 2007 in which more than 25 employees participated. The workshop was conducted by Shri S.C. Bhutani, retired Senior Parliamentary Interpreter and Consultant (Rajbhasha), on the subject of art and technique of translation.

Documentation

Sangeet Swarna Tula (Marathi musical theatre) organized by Dr. Vasant Rao Deshpande Pratishthan at India International Centre, New Delhi on 4th August 2007. *Video 02:42 hours. Photographs 25.*

Sangeet Pratibha: Festival of Young Musicians, Pune 11-14 August 2007. *Audio and video 17 hours. Photographs 250.*

Special Documentation of the Carnatic Classical (Vocal) Music by Shri Thirupoonthuruthy V. Venkatesan, New Delhi on 13 September 2007. *Audio and video 2 hours. Photographs 30.*

Glimpses of Folk Traditions of Performing Arts, New Delhi from 18-19 September 2007. *Video 2:30 hours. Photographs 300.*

Octave 2007 — Celebrating the North-East, Hyderabad, 19 September 2007, 18-25 March 2008. *Video 16:33 hours. Photographs 300.*

Notable Acquisitions — Library

Books in English

Encyclopaedia Britannica 2007: book of the year / editor: Karen Jacobs Sparks, Chicago, USA: Encyclopaedia Britannica, Inc., 2007.

Dey, Manna
Memories Come Alive: An Autobiography, translated from the Bengali into English by Sarbani Putatunda. New Delhi: Penguin Books, 2007.

Hejmadi, Priyambada Mohanty & Ahalya Hejmadi Patnaik
Odissi: An Indian Classical Dance Form. New Delhi: Aryan Books International, 2007.

Durga, S.A.K.
Voice Culture: The Art of Voice Cultivation. Delhi: B.R. Rhythms, 2007.

Wadia, Angela
Broadcast Management in India: Major Guidelines and Policy Frameworks. New Delhi: Kanishka Publishers, Distributors, 2007.

Misra, [Pt.] Chhote Lal
Playing Techniques of Tabla: Banaras Gharana. New Delhi: Kanishka Publishers' Distributors, 2007.

Zaidi, Zahida
Modes of Communication: Essays and Studies in Modern Drama. Aligarh, UP: Aabshar Publications, 2005.

Sinha, Biswajit
South Indian Theatre. New Delhi: Raj Publications, 2007.

Tagore, Rabindranath
[English Works] *The English Writings of Rabindranath Tagore, Vol. 3: A Miscellany*, edited by Sisir Kumar Das. 2nd rep. ed. New Delhi: Sahitya Akademi, 2006

Encyclopedia of Asian Theatre, Vol. 1: A-N, edited by Samuel L. Leiter. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 2007.

Encyclopedia of Asian Theatre, Vol. 2: O-Z, edited by Samuel L. Leiter. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 2007.

Ethnomusicology: A Contemporary Reader, edited by Jennifer C. Post. New York: Routledge, 2006.

Govan, Emma, Helen Nicholson & Katie Normington
Making a Performance: Devising Histories and Contemporary Practices. London: Routledge, 2007.

Clayton, Martin
Music, Time and Place: Essays in Comparative Musicology. Delhi: B.R. Rhythms, 2007.

Books in Hindi

Aabid, Zaafar
Sadabahar Cinema. Mumbai: The Author, 2006.

Tendulkar, Vijay
Kutte, Hindi translation by Sushma Bakshi. New Delhi: Rajkamal Prakashan, 2007.

Varma, Ram Gopal
Mirza Ghalib: Rangmanchiya Natak. New Delhi: Kitab Ghar, 2007.

Makhmur Sayedi and Anis Azmi, eds.
Urdu Theatre: Kal aur Aaj. Hindi translation. New Delhi: Rashtriya Natya Vidyalaya, 2006.

Ray, Satyajit
Vishya: Chalchitra, translated from Bengali into Hindi by Ramashankar Dwivedi. Noida, UP: Rema Dhav Publications, 2007.

Rathor, Vikram Singh
Rajasthan Ka Sanskritik Itihas: Marawar ke Sandarbh Mein. Jodhpur: Rajasthan Sahitya Sansthan, 2007.

Roy, Raj Narayan
Talaash (natak). Patna, Bihar: Janaki Prakashan, 2007.

Sinha, Surekha
Bharatiya Rangakur. Jaipur: Shyam Prakashan, 2006.

Gopi Chand Narang, ed.
Beesveen Shatabdi Mein Urdu Sahitya. New Delhi: Sahitya Akademi, 2005.

Mohammad Yaku
Urdu Se Anuvad. New Delhi: Sahitya Akademi, 2005.

Devdhar, Suneel Keshav
Mohan se Mahatma tatha anya roopak. Delhi: Shipayan, 2007.

Jaiswal, Naval
Photo Patrakarita. New Delhi: Samyik Prakashan, 2007.

Anand, Mahesh
Rang Dastavez: Sau Saal (1850-1950). New Delhi: Rashtriya Natya Vidyalaya, 2007.

Anand, Mahesh
Rang Dastavez: Sau saal (1850-1950), Vol. 2. New Delhi: Rashtriya Natya Vidyalaya, 2007.

Bhardwaj, Mahesh
Bharat Ki Shreshtha Lok Kathayen. New Delhi: Sunil Sahitya Sadan, 2007.

Prasad, Jai Shankar
[Historical Plays] *Prasad Ke Aitihasik Natak*. Delhi: Megh Prakashan, 2007.

Manral, Kundan Singh 'Pahari'
Kumauni Ramayan. New Delhi: Takshshila Prakashan 2007.

CONSTITUENT UNITS OF SANGEET NATAK AKADEMI

KATHAK KENDRA NEW DELHI

Dikshant Samaroh, 2007

Dikshant Samaroh of Kathak Kendra was held on 6 September 2007 at Meghdoot Theatre, Rabindra Bhawan, New Delhi. The ceremony was inaugurated by Shri Kavalam Narayana Panikkar, Chairman, Kathak Kendra Advisory Committee. Eminent Kathak dancer Smt. Kumudini Lakhia delivered the convocation address. Shri Jayant Kastuar, Secretary, Sangeet Natak Akademi, Smt. Kiron Bhatnagar, Director, Kathak Kendra and Members of

Advisory Committee of Kathak Kendra and host of other invitees were present on the occasion.

Smt. Kumudini Lakhia awarded diplomas to 28 students of various courses. The Dikshant Samaroh was followed by the solo and duet dances by some of the passed out students of the Kendra and group choreography by Shri Jai Kishan Maharaj.

Sponsored Programme: Celebrating 60 years of India's Independence in Bhutan

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations, New Delhi invited the Kendra to present programmes from 13 to 21 August 2007. The Kendra presented group items namely *Shiv-Shakti*, *Saheli-*

Chandalika, *Tarana* and *Vande Matram*, choreographed by Gitanjali Lal.

Kathak Kendra Repertory

Kathak Kendra re-opened its repertory from 1 August 2007. Smt. Purna Shrimali was appointed as Chief of Repertory. Four core dancers and three casual dancers were also engaged for the Repertory.

Smt. Kumudini Lakhia conducted a workshop for repertory from 1 to 14 August 2007. A Kalari workshop for repertory dancers was also held by Shri Gopinath, a Kalari expert from Chennai on 11 August 2007.



Top: A Kathak performance choreographed by Jai Kishan Maharaj.
Below: Shrimati Kumudini Lakhia awards diploma to a student in the presence of Shri Kavalam Narayana Panikkar, Chairman, Kathak Kendra (in the middle), Shri Jayant Kastuar, Secretary, Sangeet Natak Akademi (extreme right), and Shrimati Kiron Bhatnagar, Director, Kathak Kendra (extreme left).

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU MANIPUR DANCE ACADEMY, IMPHAL

Workshop and Lec-Dem Programme

Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy organized a five-day workshop on Seraikella Chhau from 17 to 22 August 2007. The artistes of the Production Unit participated in the workshop conducted by Shri Shashadhar Acharya.

Programme at Aizawl

The JNMDA presented a two-day cultural programme at Aizawl on 31 August and 1 September 2007, organized by the Assam Rifles on the occasion of its 125th Rising Day.

Chakkardhar Samaroh

A twenty-four member troupe of JNMDA participated in the Chakkardhar Samaroh organized by Government of Chhatisgarh. A programme of Manipuri Dance and Music was presented on 1 September 2007. The programme was well received.

VIDEO/AUDIO PRODUCTIONS OF SANGEET NATAK AKADEMI

S.No. Title	Directed/Compiled by	Language	Colour/ B&W	Duration	Price (Rs)
VIDEO CDs					
1. Ustad Bade Ghulam Ali Khan	Hari Das Gupta	Hindi/English	B&W	29 minutes	295
2. Ustad Allauddhin Khan	Hari Das Gupta	English	B&W	24 minutes	295
3. Ramayana in Koodiyattam & Kathakali	Sangeet Natak Akademi	English	Colour	21 minutes	295
4. Chhayanatak	Jiwan Pani	English	Colour	20 minutes	295
5. Folk & Tribal Dance of India	Sangeet Natak Akademi	English	Colour	18 minutes	295
6. Tanavarnam	Sangeet Natak Akademi	Music	Colour	31 minutes	295
7. Sangai – Dancing Deer of Manipur	Aribam Syam Sarma	Music	Colour	44 minutes	295
8. Bhootaradhna	B.V. Karanth	Music	Colour	22 minutes	295
9. Semmangudi	Bhaskar Chandavarkar	English	Colour	20 minutes	295
10. Semmangudi	Bhaskar Chandavarkar	English	Colour	30 minutes	295
11. Semmangudi	Bhaskar Chandavarkar	English	Colour	58 minutes	295
12. Parvati Viraham: Mani Madhav Chakiar as Ravana	K.N. Panikkar	English (subtitled)	Colour	35 minutes	295
13. Kanglai Haroba	Aribam Syam Sarma	English	Colour	36 minutes	295
14. Mani Madhav Chakiar: The Master at Work	K.N. Panikkar	English	Colour	30 minutes	295
15. Behdeinkhlam	Sujata Miri	English	Colour	16 minutes	295
16. Ang Tarang: Mayurbhanj Chhau	Jiwan Pani	English	Colour	17 minutes	295
17. Pandanallur: Subbaraya Pillai	Laxmi Viswanathan	English	Colour	26 minutes	295
18. Ang Tarang: Mayurbhanj Chhau	Jiwan Pani	English	Colour	41 minutes	295
19. An Octave in Harmony	Susmit Bose	English	Colour	32 minutes	295
20. K.P. Kittapa	Mana Srinivasan	Tamil (subtitled)	Colour	53 minutes	295

AUDIO CDs

21. Wind Instruments of India	47 minutes	295
22. String Instruments of India	47 minutes	295
23. Percussion Instruments of India	54 minutes	295
24. Wind Instruments of India (SGM)	43 minutes	295
25. String Instruments of India (SGM)	47 minutes	295
26. Percussion Instruments of India (SGM)	54 minutes	295
27. Ahmadjan Thirakwa (Sa Re Ga Ma)	60 minutes	295
28. Amir Khan (Sa Re Ga Ma)	72 minutes	295
29. Bismillah Khan (Sa Re Ga Ma)	59 minutes	295
30. Bade Gulam Ali Khan (SNA)	68.37 minutes	295
31. Bismillah Khan (SNA)	43.25 minutes	295
32. Amir Khan (SNA)	62 minutes	295

The above video/audio CDs are available at 40 per cent discount for a limited period only at Sangeet Natak Akademi, Rabindra Bhavan, Feroze Shah Road, New Delhi 110 001.
 Phones: 23387246-8, 23382495, 23385709. Fax: 23385715/23382659.
 Email: sangeetnatak@bol.net.in. Website: www.sangeetnatak.org

IN MEMORIAM

The Sangeet Natak Akademi and its associate bodies deeply mourn the sad demise of Akademi Awardees, Shrimati Roshen Alkazi, an eminent costume designer and Shri Madan Mohan Lenka, a renowned Chhau dancer and guru.

Roshen Alkazi



Shrimati Roshen Alkazi was born in 1923, in Bombay. She studied costume designing at Victoria and Albert Museum, London.

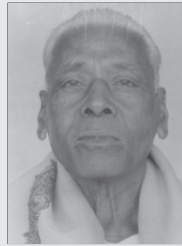
She had been a costume designer for over 50 years, first with the Theatre Group and Theatre Unit in Bombay, and later with the National School of Drama, Delhi. She designed costumes for over 70 productions, including *Danton's Death*, *Hori*, *Jasma Odan*, *King Lear*, *Othello* and the television serial *Mullah Nasruddin*.

Shrimati Alkazi had taught costume designing at New Delhi Polytechnic and was involved with children's theatre for several years. She had written extensively on costume design and her books on ancient Indian costumes and medieval Indian costumes were well received. She wrote two volumes of verse, *Seventeen Poems* and *Seventeen More Poems*. She was also the Director of Art Heritage, her own contemporary art gallery in Delhi.

Shrimati Alkazi received the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for her contribution to costume designing in Indian theatre in 1990.

Shrimati Roshen Alkazi passed away on 29 August 2007 in New Delhi.

Madan Mohan Lenka



Born in 1914 in Baripada, Shri Madan Mohan Lenka was trained in Chhau at the Uttarsashi Chhau Akhada patronized by the former princely house of Mayurbhanj. His gurus were Kandrababu, Chandra

Mohan Tarai, Brishnabajitbabu and Mukunda Chandra Samal. Shri Lenka was later a dancer in the Mayurbhanj court.

Both as a dancer and guru, Shri Lenka made vital contributions to Mayurbhanj Chhau. One of the finest dancers of the older generation, he is remembered for his superb performance in the Uttarsashi style. Several of his original choreographic works are now part of the standard Chhau repertoire. As a guru in Mayurbhanj Chhau Nrutya Pratishthan he trained a large number of students, several of whom are now prominent dancers. Over a long career Shri Madan Mohan Lenka received various honours and awards including the Orissa Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 1978.

Shri Madan Mohan Lenka received the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for his contribution to Mayurbhanj Chhau dance in 1987.

Shri Madan Mohan Lenka passed away in Baripada on 25 September 2007.