

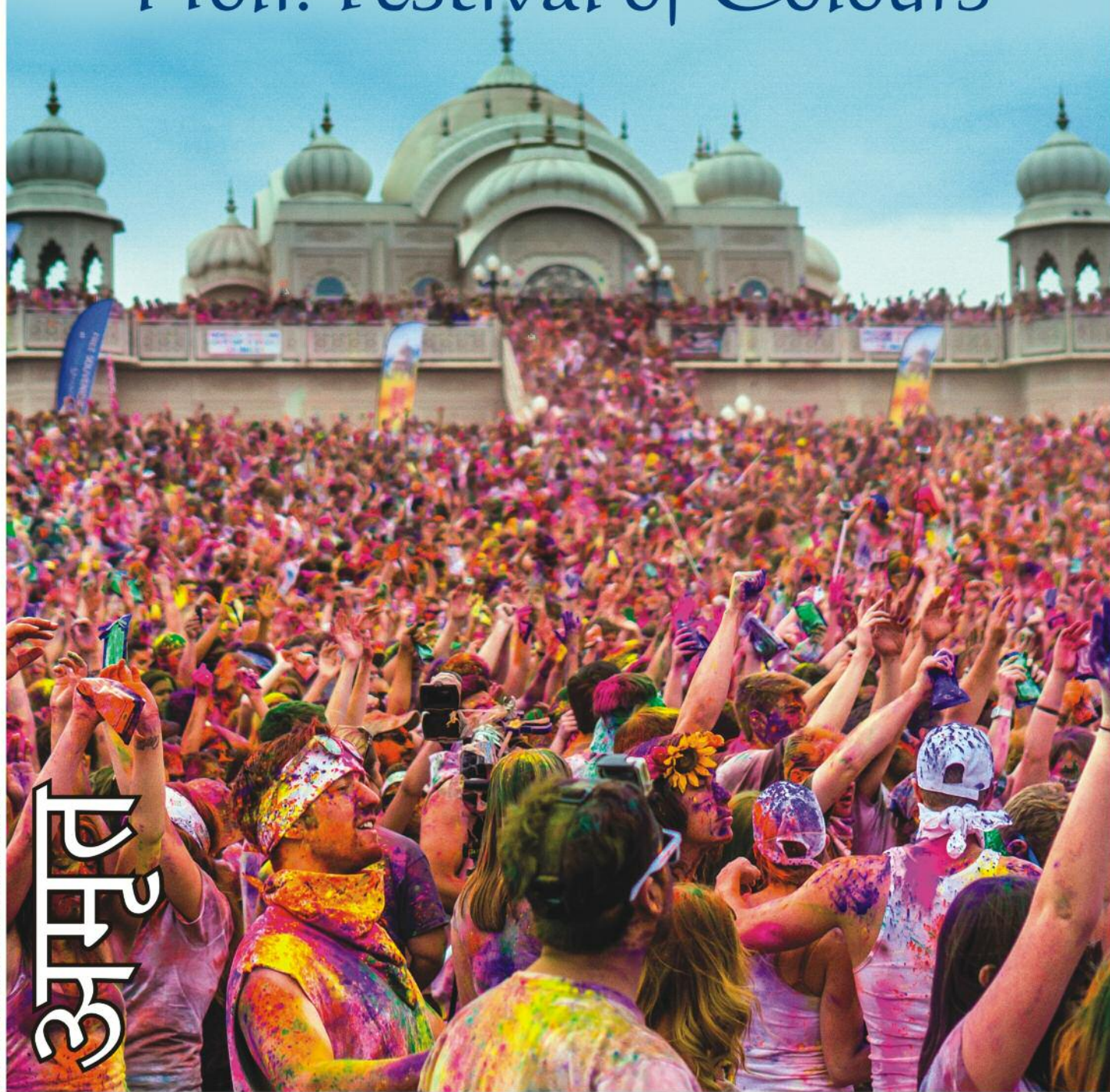
# AMRIT

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World Culture Festival

## Holi: Festival of Colours



अमृत



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## AMRIT

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## Exhibition opening in Kaposvár

On 8th February Ambassador and Madam Chhabra traveled to Kaposvár on the invitation of the Government Office of Somogy County to inaugurate the photo exhibition titled 'India - The Country of Soul' by Mr Gábor Klencsár. The guests were also welcomed by dr. Zsolt Neszményi, government commissioner. After viewing the exhibition, Ambassador and Madam visited the breathtaking Hall of Coats and took a guided tour in the beautiful historical center of the town of Kaposvár.

In the months of February and March Ambassador paid courtesy visits to several prominent leaders of the Hungarian political scene. During the meetings the parties discussed relevant aspects of bilateral relations between the two nations and current issues of politics, defence and culture while strengthening their relationship and paving the road to close cooperation in the near future.



Ambassador delivering his inauguration speech at the opening

## Meeting with Hon'ble Minister of Defence, Mr. István Simicskó

On 12th February Ambassador accompanied by First Secretary, Mr. Vijay Khanduja paid a courtesy call on Hon'ble Minister of Defence, Mr. István Simicskó. During the meeting bilateral relations, particularly in the field of defence were discussed. Hon'ble Minister, a Kung-Fu master himself who had also been our chief guest during the first International Day of Yoga celebrations in Budapest last year was briefed about plans to celebrate 2nd IDY in a major way across Hungary in Szentendre, Esztergom, Szeged, Debrecen, Nagykanizsa and Budapest on 18-19th June as part of Ganga-Danube Cultural Festival. Photos courtesy of Mária Krasznai-Nehrebeczky.



Mr. Vijay Khanduja (FS) and Ambassador Chhabra at the meeting with Hon'ble Minister of Defence

## Indo-Hungarian Parliamentary Friendship Meeting



Ambassador speaking at the Friendship Group Meeting in the Parliament

As the National Assembly returned to session on 15th February, the Indo-Hungarian Friendship Group with Mr. Péter Cseresnyés in the presidential seat called for a meeting with Ambassador Chhabra. He was accompanied by Mr. Vijay Khanduja, First Secretary. During the session the key aspects of bilateral relations were discussed in an interactive dialogue such as economic cooperation, investment potentials, culture, education and even sports. This first, introductory meeting laid down the foundation of a strong relationship between the Embassy and the Group with plans of co-operation already in motion for organising the Ganges-Danube Festival in several cities throughout Hungary in the summer.



## Meeting with Hon'ble Minister of Human Capacities, Mr. Zoltán Balog



Ambassador with Hon'ble Minister of Human Capacities, Mr. Zoltán Balog

Ambassador Chhabra and First Secretary, Mr. Vijay Khanduja paid a courtesy visit to Mr. Zoltán Balog, Hon'ble Minister of Human Capacities on 16th February. During the introductory meeting ongoing and future cooperation in the field of culture and education was discussed with a special interest on the upcoming grand project of the Ganges-Danube Cultural Festival of India to be organised in the summer. *Photos by: Balázs Farkas-Mohi.*

## Meeting with Mr. László Kövér, Hon'ble Speaker of the National Assembly

On 2nd March Hon'ble Speaker of the National Assembly, Mr. László Kövér received the courtesy call of Ambassador Chhabra and First Secretary, Mr. Vijay Khanduja. During the meeting the parliamentary aspects of bilateral relations between India and Hungary were discussed. The



Ambassador with Hon'ble Speaker of the National Assembly, Mr. László Kövér

talks also covered the investment opportunities for both Indian and Hungarian companies with Ambassador extending the invitation of the 'Make in India' project for Hungarian investors to set up business in India. Hon'ble President was also informed about the current projects of the Embassy such as the organisation of the Ganges-Danube Cultural Festival of India and the International Day of Yoga.

Ambassador received several invitations these two months to visit and speak at internationally acclaimed universities of Hungary. The lectures at Pázmány Péter Catholic University of Budapest and Széchenyi István University of Győr provided a unique forum for all students and professors to widen their knowledge of international relations, economy and human studies through an engaging interactive session with Ambassador after his presentation. *Photos courtesy: Ms. Zsuzsa Pető, National Assembly.*

## Visit to Széchenyi István University in Győr

On 4th March Ambassador traveled to Győr to visit the Széchenyi István University in Győr whereupon he was received by Prof. Dr. Péter Földesi, the Rector. After their meeting over a pleasant breakfast Ambassador gave a lecture titled 'The Economic Development of India' to the students of International Studies, International Management and Economy and Management. After a fascinating Q&A, Ambassador met with the representatives of the International Affairs Office of the University. During his visit the parties discussed the possibilities of extending the international student exchange programme to the University of Győr with further talks planned for the future. *Photos courtesy by the University of Győr.*



Ambassador speaking to the students of faculty of Széchenyi István University

## Lecture at Pázmány Péter Catholic University



Ambassador engaging in a dialogue with the students

Upon the invitation of the Modern East Asia Research Group of the Pázmány Péter Catholic University, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Ambassador gave a lecture titled 'Indo-Hungarian relations on a changing world' to students and academic staff alike. Upon his arrival he had been received by Mr. Csaba Szilágyi, the Dean of the Faculty who also joined the gathered audience for Ambassador's presentation. Keeping interaction with students in a high regard, Ambassador also dedicated time for a lively Q&A. *Photos courtesy by the staff of the Research Group.*

## Visit to the Eszterházy Károly University and the city of Eger



**LEFT:** Ambassador and Madam Chhabra arriving at the University.



**RIGHT:** Madam Chhabra giving a talk on women in politics and public life

On 24th March Ambassador and Madam Chhabra traveled to the town of Eger to give a lecture to students of the Eszterházy Károly University of Applied Sciences. Arriving at the Campus, the guests were received by Dr. Dávid Lóránt, the Dean of the Faculty of Economy and Social Sciences and leaders of the University. Students, professors and invited guests gathered together at the great lecture hall to attend Ambassador's presentation on India of the Modern days, the country as a dominant and key superpower in the modern world and with glimpses at the continent of a social and economic perspective. In the meanwhile Madam Chhabra joined a selected group of students for a seminar during which she talked about the role of women in politics and public life in regards to India throughout history and the modern days.

As the official programme at the University concluded,

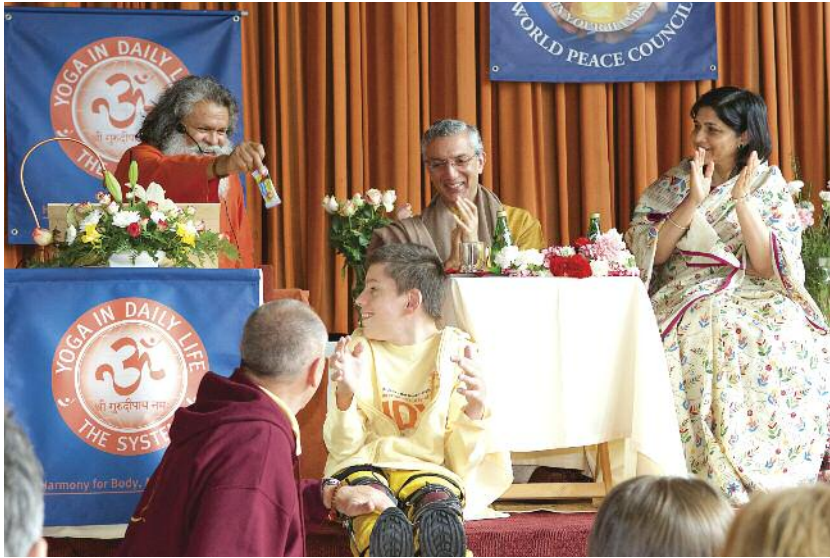
Ambassador and Madam Chhabra called upon Mr. László Habis, the Mayor of Eger.

After a guided tour around the breathtaking historical town, the guests met with representatives of the press and gave interview for the local papers and tv channels alike.

At the evening, members and invited guests of the Agria Universitas Society gathered together to meet and listen to the presentation of Ambassador. The audience was consisted of mayors, deputy-mayors and colleagues at the Mayor's office of Eger and the surrounding towns and settlements, entrepreneurs and several prominent figures of the cultural and public life of the region. The gathering ended with an engaging dialogue between the guest speaker and the audience.



# YOGA SEMINAR IN VÉP



**LEFT:** Ambassador and Madam Chhabra with Swami Mahaswarananda at the Yoga Seminar.



**RIGHT:** Ambassador and Swami Mahaswarananda on their way to the seminar

In the company of Madam Chhabra Ambassador traveled to Vép to participate in the winter yoga seminar organised by National Centre of Yoga in Daily Life - Hungary. Upon their arrival they were received by H.H Vishwaguru Swami Mahaswarananda, the founder and author of the internationally acclaimed System - Yoga in Daily Life and Mr. Károly Kovács Krishnanand, president of the Hungarian Centre. After a pleasant conversation, Ambassador greeted the gathered devotees and delivered a

welcome speech in which he highlighted on the importance of peace in our turbulent world of today. He also explained that in order to achieve peace in the world each has to find peace within, making the practice of yoga an important journey. Finally Ambassador extended the invitation to all participants and asked for active participation from all devotees in the upcoming International Day of Yoga celebrations in June. *Photos courtesy of Yoga in Daily Life Centre – Hungary.*

## “Make in India” Trade and Investment Seminar

Embassy of India, Budapest, in cooperation with the Bacs-Kiskun Chamber of Commerce and Industry, organized a "Make in India" Trade and Investment Seminar in the city of Kecskemet on March 21, 2016.

President of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Bacs-Kiskun County, Mr. Jozsef Gaal, appreciated the initiative taken by the Embassy to reach out to the region. He offered the help of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Bacs-Kiskun to the Indian companies, who may be willing to invest in the region. He also welcomed the idea of having trade delegations from India visit Bacs-Kiskun County, and vice versa.

Ambassador Rahul Chhabra, in his speech, gave an overview of the reform measures undertaken by the Government of India, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi,



Ambassador meeting Jozsef Gaal, President Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Bacs-Kiskun County, since taking over in May 2014. He highlighted the salient features of Indian economy and the unique investment



**LEFT:** Ambassador speaking on the occasion. **RIGHT:** Dr Amar Sinha



**LEFT:** Mr Unnikrishnan, Longwealth GMBH. **RIGHT:** Kuchipudi dance performance by Ms Gabriella Tóth

opportunities that India presents in terms of domestic demand, demographic dividend and democracy. He presented in detail the flagship programmes of Government of India viz. Make in India, Smart Cities, Digital India, River Rejuvenation Programmes, and sought investments from the companies present in the region. Ambassador noted that a number of Hungarian companies had expertise in the sectors covered by these programmes. Ambassador noted that Indian investments in Hungary were of the order of \$ 2 billion, and Indian companies employ around 10,000 people in Hungary. India was, in fact, the largest investor in Hungary in 2014, with an investment of Euro 475 million by Apollo Tyres. However, the investments from Hungary to India were rather small and not commensurate with the potential. The bilateral trade, which is hovering around \$ 600 million per annum, also needs to be given special focus. In this connection, Ambassador sought ideas for the forthcoming meeting of the Joint Economic Committee, which is scheduled to be held in June 2016, and which would also feature a business seminar.

Dr. Amar Sinha, President-elect of the India-Hungary Business Association, informed the audience of the status on the formal registration of the Association and called on the participants to become members of the Association, to give a thrust to the bilateral trade and economic linkages. Mr.

Kannan Prabhakar, Managing Director, Apollo Tyres, Hungary, gave an overview of the company and its investments in Hungary, highlighting quality and their aim to be the best employer in Europe.

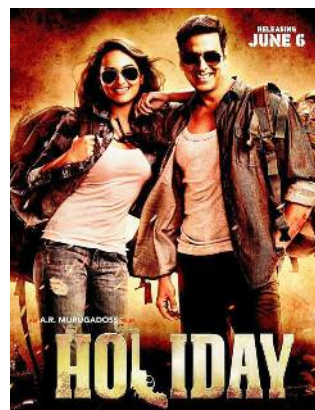
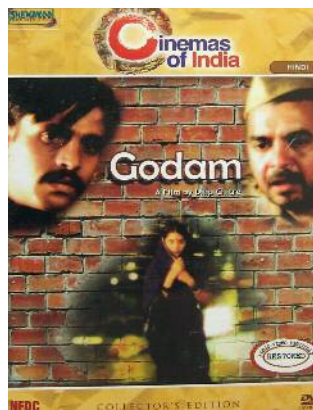
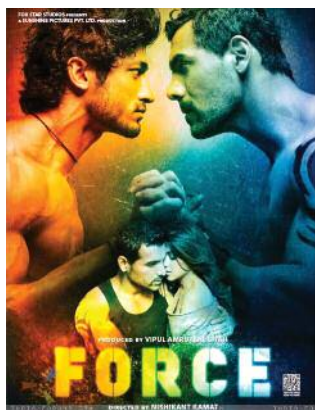
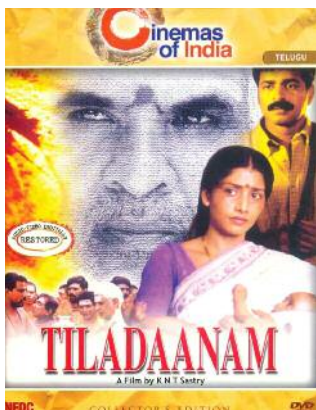
Mr. Unni Krishnan, Longwealth Gmbh, a consultancy firm, gave a presentation showcasing cultural differences while trying to break the myths and shibboleths of doing business in India. Mr. Tibori Levente Pal, Executive Vice President East-Europe and Germany, SMR (an Indian company) gave a presentation on the activities of SMR. He also drew attention to the new SMP factory being constructed in Kecskemet, which is slated for completion in 2017, and which will produce plastic parts for the local Mercedes factory. The final presentation was given by Mr. Joachim Rilling, Managing Director of Axon Kabelgyarto Kft, manufacturers of cables for the aviation and defence industries, highlighting the growing presence in India.

The seminar was attended by around 60 CEOs and entrepreneurs from the region. Embassy recently published a special supplement on "Make in India" in Hungarian language, which was well-received.

The programme concluded with Kuchipudi dance performance by Ms. Gabriella Garima Toth. ■



# ASCC ACTIVITIES



## Film Club

On every first and third Friday of every month film evenings are arranged at the Amrita Sher-Gil Cultural Centre. Four films were screened at the Cultural Centre in February and March 2016 under the aegis of the Indian

## Cine Club:

<b>Tiladaanam (2002), Telugu</b>	<b>05.02.2016</b>
<b>Force (2011), Hindi</b>	<b>19.02.2016</b>
<b>Godam (1983), Hindi</b>	<b>04.03.2016</b>
<b>Holiday (2014), Hindi</b>	<b>18.03.2016</b>

## Indian fusion music performance by SamSaRa Trio

9 February 2016

Embassy of India and Amrita Sher-Gil Cultural Centre organized a fusion music concert on 9 February, 2016 in the Amrita Sher-Gil Cultural Centre. The SamSaRa Trio, who last time performed in the Centre in 2012, gave a fantastic concert with a very special atmosphere.



SamSaRa Trio performing



Audience listening to the music

The band brought to life in 2000 by the world renowned violinist Zoltan Lantos, the jazz-guitarist Gábor Juhász, chosen for the guitarist of the year in 2001, and the percussionist, disciple of Ustad Alla Rakha, Péter Szalai. Lantos and Szalai spent several years in India, acquiring the methods of treatment of classical Indian instruments and the unique world of harmonies and rhythm. Meanwhile, Lantos got a special resonant violin constructed for him; with the help of this instrument he is able to implement such a full sound which incorporates all the qualities of the traditional violin and the Indian Sitar or Sarangi. Samsara prepared its album "Bindu" in 2002, which was introduced with great

success throughout the world. The artists were very well received by the audience.

## 'Over the Moon'—Bharatanatyam performance by Dóra Bittner Meenakshi

23 February 2016

Meenakshi Dora Bittner is not

unknown to the audience of ASCC. She is one of the Bharatanatyam performers of Hungary. She has been trained in this traditional dance form by Jayanthi Subramaniam, founder of Kala Darsana Foundation of Art. Dora started her classical Indian dance studies in Budapest in 1997. She had her Arangetram (first solo performance), accompanied by distinguished Carnatic musicians in Chennai, South India in 2005. She has performed in Hungary and abroad at various cultural events and festivals, including the Kumbh Mela, the biggest spiritual festival of the world, in North India in 2010. In 2008, the first Hungarian Bharatanatyam dance film was produced and released, starring Meenakshi Dora Bittner.

This time the artist brought her new experimental film to the people titled Over the Moon. The 17 minute film progresses along the undulating motion and refined aesthetics of our emotions, beliefs and uncertainties inspired by the Moon. The camera joins an elaborately dressed dancer (Dóra Bittner) and follows her through the woods. We encounter





Dóra Bittner performing

generally applicable symbols from a new angle of view, targeting in this way our deeply hidden emotions and instincts. It is indeed a baffling, realistic and, at the same time, fabulous reality through which the path of the heroine leads. It looks as if we were moving on two planes simultaneously, just like on our innermost paths, where we have to cut across the thick of the forest on our own. Over the Moon associates the art of South Indian sacred dance with the plot of the film, alternating archaic and realistic acting. As for the director of the film, Tamás Tóth, this is his fourth film with an Indian theme. Although his approach is always unique and experimental, presenting our common cultural assets plays a major role in his works.

The film was followed by Dóra Bittner's dance show, where all the items were chosen carefully to

symbolize the Moon and the themes brought up in the film. The enchanting evening concluded with questions towards the artist. The first time in the history of the Centre a small service of Indian drinks & eatables were available before the start of the programme.

### **Mohiniattam dance performance by Brigitta Hegedűs, Katrin Thierfelder and Ksenia Lawrence**

**1 March 2016**

Amrita Sher-Gil Cultural Centre organized Mohiniattam dance performance by Brigitta Hegedűs, Katrin Thierfelder and Ksenia Lawrence on 1 March 2016. Mohiniattam, one of the most beautiful classical dances of India is rarely seen in Hungary as there are no representatives of this style in the country. Therefore the occasion was much more unique than usual; moreover, one of the performers, Ms Brigitta Hegedűs is of Hungarian origin (living in Germany).

The performance was set up as follows:

1. Ganapathi sthuthi: prayer to Lord Ganesh
2. Varnam: a story about the Nayika and her feelings towards Krishna
3. Three girls playing with a ball. One of them is very sad. Life is like the ball, when being thrown up in the air: once up, once down. But life is going on, if we accept it as it is.
4. Padam: a lyrical piece; a mother trying to put her baby to sleep in a full Moon night.
5. Thillana: the dance of joy, introducing the beauty of Mohiniattam.

Brigitta Hegedűs was born in Budapest, Hungary, but she moved to Munich, Germany 19 years ago for her studies in "German as a Second Language" and "Intercultural Communication and Linguistics" at Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich. After her studies in Germany, she moved to Vancouver, where parallel to her work as a teacher, she



Brigitta Hegedűs and Ksenia Lawrence  
The group performing together



Bouquets are given by Mme Kavita Chhabra to the artists

continued with her training in different artistic fields. She took acting lessons and was involved in movies and theatres. She developed passion for dance and she earned more experience

in stage performance while performing oriental dance, and choreographing fashion and dance shows. In 2004, she moved back to Munich and started her training in Bharatanatyam (Kalakshetra style) under the direction of Chandra Devi, a student of Smt. Shyamala Surendran. Through the years, Brigitta has developed a strong bond with the Classical Indian Dance form, and completed her Bharatanatyam dance training both in Munich and India, and did her first Arangetram in June 2009. Afterwards she started her training in the South Indian classical dance style Mohiniattam by travelling to India every year to the dance school Dharani, located in Cochin (Kerala), where she has taken intensive classes from her teacher Smt. Shyamala Surendran. Her Arangetram in Mohiniattam was held in March 2012 at the Fine Arts Hall Cochin.

She has been invited to perform several times in India, in highlighted festivals and locations, for example the Indian Habitat Centre, Delhi; the Natyananjali Festival in Chidambaram at Shiva Temple; in Bhubaneswar in a Krishna Temple, and many other events during her visits to Cochin. In addition, she performs Bharathanatyam, Mohiniyattam and Bollywood style in Switzerland, Austria, Canada, England, Hungary and Germany. Since 2007 she has been teaching Bharatanatyam, however since 2010 she has added Mohiniyattam into her teaching repertoire. She holds regular classes at the Natyadhara (Zentrum für indischen Tanz & Kultur) in Munich and gives workshops all over Europe.

This evening she performed with two of her colleagues: the Russian Kseinia Lawrence and the German Katrin Thierfelder. We were the witnesses of a wonderful show full of emotions and very descriptive performance of the skilled artists.

**Music performance by Ms Anuradha Pal and the Stree Shakti**



Stree Shakti Group performing



Ambassador, Mme Kavita Chhabra and Mr Vijay Khanduja enjoying the performance

#### group

**16 & 17 March 2016**

Amrita Sher-Gil Cultural Centre had the privilege to receive the world famous female Tabla performer in Budapest. The group arrived on 15 March and held two performances in Budapest and in Esztergom. The first performance was held in ASCC in front of a full house audience. There were even people standing next to the walls as nobody wanted to miss the opportunity to hear them to play. Mr Vijay Khanduja, First Secretary greeted the audience and introduced the artists. Then the wonder started. Ms Anuradha held a very professional and well-setup performance explaining to the audience the secrets of Tabla and percussion instruments. She had brought 9 instruments and did a very interesting and rich performance with her colleagues.

The Hungarian News Television



Stree Shakti Group in Esztergom

was present at the event.

Ms Anuradha Pal is hailed as the first professional female tabla virtuoso in the world by the prestigious Encyclopaedia Britannica, Who's Who journal of the World and the Limca Book of Records (1991) and holds the distinction of being the first & youngest female Indian Musician to have performed at two of the Worlds' biggest music Festivals, WOMAD Festival (Reading, UK) and the Woodstock Festival (Poland). Expertly trained by Tabla Legends late Ustad



Alla Rakha & Ustad Zakir Hussain, she has accompanied India's veteran & young musicians in very prestigious festivals in India, USA, U.K. Europe, Japan, Brazil, Australia, New Zealand, Africa, Singapore, Bangkok and the far east. As the first female professional in the male-dominated world of Tabla players, she broke the myth about the Tabla being a No-Go zone for women, shattering gender biases & empowering women to pursue more creative paths.

The second day started with sightseeing with the group. After seeing the famous sites in Budapest, the group departed to Esztergom city, north of Budapest, on the Slovakian border. This was the very first Indian music performance in Esztergom, so the Stree Shakti Group can claim the name of the pathbreakers. In spite of being a weekday, the hall was well crowded in the evening. Ms Anuradha gave a detailed explanation of her music and instruments to the audience. She gave improvisations as well showing to the audience the method and style of Indian classical music. She drawn in the people to clap the rhythm, and support her music with their hands. It was again a very professional and amazing performance. After the performance the group was invited to a Hungarian dinner with organizers. It was a "cultural exchange dinner" in the sense that there were spontaneous poem recitations and Hungarian folk song singing with the artists during dinner.

The tour was a must see experience for all Hungarian India lovers.

**Visit of 5K Rockers of American International School of Budapest in Amrita Sher-Gil Cultural Centre  
23 March 2016**

On 23 March 2016, the 5K Rockers class of the AISB visited Embassy of India and ASCC. After a guided tour in the Embassy, the children were given an introduction of India by Mr Vijay Khanduja, First Secretary. They were exchanged views and questions on India's economy, politics, culture etc.



**Ambassador and Mr Vijay Khanduja interacting with the children**



**5K Rockers group photo**



**Ms Saumya Shukla performing**

Then Ambassador came and interacted with the children. The talk was followed by Kathak performance by Ms Saumya Shukla, India based teacher of ASCC. The children were amazed by her grace and skills. The programme concluded with refreshments and distribution of gifts to the children.

**Lecture about the South Indian works of Mr Péter Márkus sculptor and documentary screening by Tamás Tóth film director  
29 March 2016**

Amrita Sher-Gil Cultural Centre organized a very unique programme on 29 March 2016 in the Centre. A lecture about the South Indian works of Mr Péter Márkus sculptor was held which was clubbed with a documentary



**Audience questioning the artist**



**Mr Péter Márkus explaining the method of sculptoring**



**Audience listening to the sculptor**

screening by Tamás Tóth film director. The film titled Szentendre-Swamimalai (Szentendre is a town in Hungary) presents the Munkácsy Award winning Hungarian sculptor's spiritual journey to India through his works.

The artist shared with us his knowledge about unique cultural history, philosophy of art and craft ideas through multiple parallel series of sculptures made by him. One of the most important creative ways that Peter Markus has is the artworks of Indian gods, masterpieces created by the South Indian Dravidian culture. Markus is an excellent master of this ancient sculpture-making technology in Hungary. The film encounters a variety of artistic ideas, trends being in unique

harmony in the works of the sculptor.

After the 52 minute film screening, an interview was taken by the director of the film, Mr Tamás Tóth with the sculptor. The audience got the opportunity to ask questions and develop their knowledge in this art form.

The evening was very well received by the audience.

### **Hindi Divas Celebration & Opening of the exhibition titled 'Indian Canvas by Mária Fekete'**

**31 March 2016**

Amrita Sher-Gil Cultural Centre organized World Hindi Divas and inauguration of Ms Mária Fekete's painting exhibition on 31 March 2016. The programme started with the ribbon cutting ceremony in the Exhibition Hall. Ambassador Rahul Chhabra opened the exhibition and greeted the audience. Ms Mária Fekete spoke a few words about her artworks.

She was born in Vecsés, living in Budapest. She has been drawing and painting from her childhood. Mainly portraits (animals and people), and also landscapes and still life as well. Her first exhibition was in 1988. Since then she has had the possibility to exhibit and take part in common exhibitions, about 40 times up to now. She has received many appreciatory certificates and the price of the Artist Scholarship Base. Her paintings can be found in collections of the Hungarian and Italian collectors. She has been attracted to India and Indian culture strongly, which can be feel on her paintings and drawings. She is a founder member of the Independent Hungarian Salon Artist Society, and a member of the Artist Friend Society.

After the inauguration the Hindi programme started in the Auditorium. TPS Rawat, Director of ASCC welcomed the audience. It was followed by Kathak performance of Ms Saumya Shukla, India based teacher in ASCC. After the calligraphy competition was



Ribbon cutting ceremony



Director speaking on the occasion



Dr Négyesi addressing the audience



Dr Dileep Shakya reciting his poem



Students singing Hindi songs



Mr Ali Jouher reciting his poem



Mme Kavita Chhabra giving gifts to winners



Pt Rajesh Gangani and Ms Saumya Shukla performing

announced and the Kavita Path began. Students of the Hindi classes and members of ELTE University and Embassy of India recited poems in Hindi. There were Hungarian poems included, translated into Hindi. Mr Roland Ferenczi and Mr Dénes Molnár sang Hindi songs escorted by guitar.

The programme continued with

music: Mrs Dilip Shakya gave a Tabla performance. After the distribution of gift items to the participants and for the winners of the calligraphy competition, Ms Saumya performed again, escorted by Pt Rajesh Gangani, India based Tabla teacher. The evening concluded with refreshments and those who wanted to enjoy the exhibition more, visited again the Exhibition Hall. ■



# Kathak Dance & Human Emotions

by Saumya Shukla



**LEFT:** Nrityashri Alaknanda Ji Depicting lord Krishna through Abhinaya of Kathak (Courtesy Iija Van de Pavert).

**CENTER:** Ms Saumya Shukla Kathak Dance Teacher and Performer at Amrita SherGil Cultural Center Budapest (Courtesy Rijil KS).

**RIGHT:** Padmashree Shovana Narayan Ji Captures doing the pirouettes of Kathak (Courtesy Payal Kakkar)

*'Katha kabe so Kathak kahave'*

'Katha' means a story, and 'Kathak' is the process of storytelling. The ones who tell a story were also called Kathak or Kathavachaks. Kathak is one of the Classical dances of India. To enhance & beautify the entire process of storytelling, singers & instrumentalists who played various instruments like the Mridangam & Tabla (percussion), Sitar & Sarangi (strings) etc also became part of a Kathavachak's entourage. Kathak dance is predominantly divided into two types – Nritya and Nritya. Nritya means pure technique where dance involves detailed footwork, intricate movements of the ang (body parts) and pirouettes (spins or Chakkars) in systematic yet complex rhythmic patterns, in slowest to fastest speed. The dancer dances mainly to the beats (bol), sounds of the nature, instruments and maintains a strong control over rhythm, ankle bells and their body. Nritya is predominantly the expressional or Abhinaya part of the Kathak dance where dance is more lyrical. Words of Poetry (in Hindi or Urdu language), Prose, Narratives are all brought to life by the dancer who use both expressions and body to portray emotions, words & moods.

## Human Emotions & Kathak

Humans have always been inspired by their religion and the God they worship. So strong is the ecstasy of worshipping to the 'power' that we have found ways to live & re-live the goodness it brings. People around the world have developed ways of worshipping, and interestingly, the purpose is mostly common for all - gratitude, peace, strength & happiness. Quite fairly then, the people who generated emotions while worshipping, found a way of expressing them through Dance, Music & Art. Almost 2500 years ago, many Hindus, both Men

and Women around the Indo-Gangetic belt of India, found Dance & Drama as a medium of showing these emotions, using their body parts and facial expressions. They were called the Kushilava, described as those who practice the art of drama (mime or oral) through story telling. Stories of different Gods, their characteristics, praises, legends, myths & even Vedic chants (shlokas) had a medium of expression through dance, not only for worshipping, but also to teach & preach them. Indian Scriptures are evidences that fine arts were a divine medium to connect with one's soul & God. These were also part of the highly evolved education system during the Vedic period. In The 'Brihadaranyaka Upanishad' (an important scripture to various schools of Hinduism), there is reference to Rishi Yagyavalkya who believed that the practice of the fine arts were paths to moksha (salvation).

The stories and their portrayal through dance were passed on from one generation to another. Kathak evolved with the change in Indian political and social systems. Towards the 15th century, when Mughals were establishing themselves in India, it gave rise to the Bhakti Movement. Music, dance and the art of narration were now being established. In a book called Rasarvasera, Swami Haridas encouraged Vithalani, son of Vallabhacharya to stage Lord Krishna's 'Raas Leela'. 'Raas' aesthetically means 'nectar' and 'Leela means 'act of play'. The Raas Leela was believed to be the 'Dance of the Divine' where Lord Krishna danced with Radha, along with all Gopis (village girls), thus elevating the entire Vrindavan (home of young Krishna, North India) to the highest level of emotions such as romance and happiness. During the later Mughal rule, evolution of the Nritya took place which saw creation of

rhythmic compositions such as Tukra, Tora, Paran, Aamad etc. Intricate footwork gained popularity with dancers using feet tapping interacted with the percussionists (especially the Tabla players) in the form of a jugalbandi (duet) or sawaal-jawaab (question-answer). In Nritya too, lyrical pieces like Ghazals, Rubai, Thumari etc were composed by the legendary artists. Slowly & steadily, the combination of Hindu-Muslim era, Nritya & Nritya gave a beautifully evolved, soul-connecting dance form to the world - Kathak. Since this art became widespread, various gharanas (schools) developed and took the responsibility to teach its future generations. Slight difference in technique, dialect, and costumes also occurred, however the core remains intact.

The one aspect of Kathak which has been a driving force of dances across the world is - Emotions. Emotions are predominantly the same in nature, and have no geographical, economical, communal or religious differences. The human body is a canvas where emotions draw and re-draw themselves every passing moment. Some get expressed through only the eyes, lips, nose / nostrils, eye brows, or the entire face, some get expressed in form of body movements, including legs, arms, vocal chords (music), and some even get expressed directly from the thoughts to words or actions. A young lady's gaze drops slightly down, with a shy smile on her lips, and body or neck slightly tilted towards her love interest is an expression of love blooming in her. Dance, simply put is a medium of expressing human emotions (Rasa). What differentiates one dance from another are the gestures used to express them. Indian scriptures have described nine types of Rasas for all Indian Classical Dances. Given below are the nine Emotions / Rasa and their portrayal in Kathak Dance.

**Shringaar:** Love, Attractiveness, Playful. Common portrayal – Lowering of the eye or looking in a shy playful manner, with a smile; getting dressed; wearing jewellery. Eg : When a lady prepares herself to meet her lover, Shringar Rasa is used, or in Raas-leela.

**Hasya:** Laughter, Happiness, Comedy. Common portrayal : Miming to laugh happily; having a little hop in your walk. Eg

: Witnessing Rain after a dry spell.

**Raudra:** Anger, Rage, Fury. Common portrayal : Eyes widen up but with curled eyebrows; nostrils flare; body takes stance of attacking. Eg : Goddess Durga or a Lady who's been angered by disrespectful actions of a demon or another man.

**Karun:** Compassion, Heartbreak, Tragedy, Sadness. Common Portrayal : Shoulders dropping; Eyes shrinking; Lips curling downwards etc. Eg : The news of a loved one dying.

**Bibhatsa:** Disgust, Loathing, Repulsion. Common Portrayal : Wrinkling of the nose and lips, eyes closed in disgust Eg : Walking on dirty water.

**Veer:** Valour, Pride, Heroic. Common Portrayal : Head held high and eyes looking far and ahead in confidence; Holding a weapon (sword or Bow. Eg: A warrior after winning a war.

**Adbhud:** Surprised, In-Awe / Wonder. Common Portrayal: Eyes wide open & eyebrows lifted high up; Smile with both lips apart or with mouth open. Eg : Witnessing a miracle.

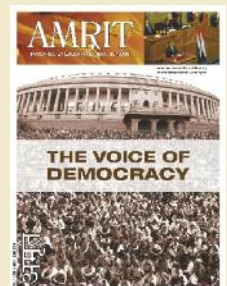
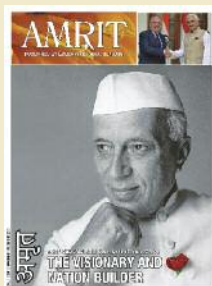
**Bhayanak:** Fear, Horror, Terror. Common Portrayal : Eyes wide open or tightly shut; Hands covering the face, ear or protecting body. Eg : A child or young girl getting scared with a sudden & loud sound of the lightning.

**Shaant:** Peace, Tranquillity. Common Portrayal: Eyes closed, almost like in meditation or sleep mode; no expressions on the face. Eg : The stance of Gautam Buddha while meditation; or a person while sleeping.

The western world has been able to love and also adapt a little to Kathak and other Indian Classical Dances, because in the end, human body, emotions and souls, are limitless, beyond boundaries. We all just have different stories and life experiences to tell. ■



## Some of the previous issues of *Amrit*





# MARS ORBITER MISSION

## MARS Exploration—Significance

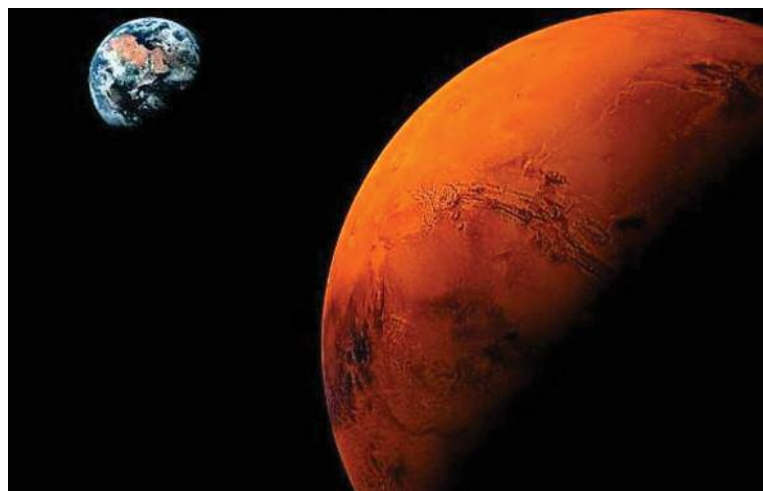
- ❖ Of all the planets in the solar system, Mars has sparked the greatest human interest as the conditions in Mars are believed to be hospitable since the planet is similar to Earth in many ways. Mars has surface features reminiscent of both the impact craters of the Moon and volcanoes, deserts and polar ice of Earth.
- ❖ Mars and Earth have almost equal period of revolution around its axis. Mars takes 24 hours and 37 minutes to complete one revolution around its axis. While Earth takes approximately 365 days to orbit around the Sun, Mars takes 687 days for the same. The gravity of Mars is roughly one-third of Earth's gravity and it has a thin atmosphere with a pressure of 1 % that of Earth.
- ❖ For ages, humans have been speculating about life on Mars. Recent discovery of Methane on Mars suggest that life could exist on Mars. It entails more and more understanding of the Martian surface, its topography, geology, landforms, mineralogy, and its upper atmosphere to understand the evolution of universe.
- ❖ The Indian Mission to Mars is primarily intended to establish Indian technological capability to reach the Mars, orbit around it and also provide an excellent opportunity, to the scientific community, to further understand the Martian Science. Also, having demonstrated the technological capability in reaching the Moon, the next logical step go forth into interplanetary space is Mars.

## Indian MARS Orbiter Mission

- ❖ Mars Orbiter Mission is ISRO's first interplanetary mission with an orbiter craft designed to orbit Mars in an elliptical orbit of 366 km x 80000 km. Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) is a complex technological mission considering the critical mission operations and stringent requirements on propulsion, communications and other bus systems of the spacecraft.
- ❖ Being the first Indian mission to the planet Mars, the primary technological objective is to design and realize a spacecraft with a capability to - perform Earth Bound Manoeuvre, reach Mars (Martian Transfer Trajectory) with the least amount of fuel, Mars Orbit Insertion and then to orbit around Mars. It has been configured to undertake limited scientific studies during the orbital life of the spacecraft, using the five Indian scientific instruments onboard to study the Mars surface and its atmosphere.

## Technological Challenges of Mars Orbiter Mission

- ❖ To provide robust thermal environment and augmented radiation shielding to the spacecraft & payloads to cope with a wide range of thermal environment (from Near



Earth conditions to Mars conditions) and harsh radiation conditions due to prolonged exposure.

- ❖ To build a robust and reliable propulsion system (Liquid Engine), which needs to restart after almost 300 days of voyage to insert the spacecraft into an orbit around Mars.
- ❖ To build high level of onboard autonomy within the Orbiter to deal with communication delay of the order of 40 minutes. Autonomy logics manage the spacecraft when communication interruptions occur when – (i) the spacecraft is occulted by planet Mars; (ii) Whiteouts/ Blackouts due to Sun; (iii) spacecraft enters Safe-mode
- ❖ To augment Deep Space Network to be able to command the spacecraft from the ground station when it is at a distance of nearly 400 Million km, which is 1000 times more than the distance Moon and earth.

## Launch and Post Launch Orbit Maneuvers

- ❖ The country witnessed with pride, when India's first interplanetary spacecraft "Mars Orbiter" was successfully launched on November 05, 2013 at 2:38 pm by India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle PSLV-C25 from Satish Dhawan Space Centre. Mars Orbiter was precisely injected into an elliptical earth orbit (with a perigee of 248.4 km and an apogee of 23,550 km, inclined at an angle of 19.27 deg to the equator).
- ❖ Subsequent to the six orbit-raising manoeuvres, crucial the Tran-Mars Injection Manoeuvre was precisely executed on December 1, 2013 and the Spacecraft was placed on course to the Red Planet along a helio-centric path of 680 million km.

## Mars Orbit Insertion on 24th Sep 2014

- ❖ After a 300 days journey in deep space, on September 24, 2014, India's Mars Orbiter Spacecraft successfully entered into an elliptical orbit around planet Mars by firing its 440 Newton Liquid Apogee Motor along with eight smaller

liquid engines.

- ❖ With successful Mars Orbit Insertion, ISRO became the fourth space agency to successfully send a spacecraft to Mars orbit and India became the first country in the world to do so in its first attempt.

#### **Mars Orbiter Successfully handled Solar Conjunction**

- ❖ Solar Conjunction is a natural phenomenon in which the Mars, the Sun and the Earth get aligned. Such alignment affects all communication signals from Mars Orbiter towards the Earth. Mars Orbiter is built with onboard autonomy to handle such blackout operations.
- ❖ Mars Orbiter went under 'solar conjunction' at Mars, which means the Orbiter, which is orbiting Mars, is behind the Sun as viewed from the Earth. As a result of this event, which happens once in 2.2 years for Mars, communication signals from the spacecraft are severely disrupted by the Sun's corona (outer atmosphere).
- ❖ Mars Orbiter was under solar conjunction from May 27th to 1st July 2015. The communications from ground to spacecraft were totally stopped with effect from May 28, 2015. No commands were transmitted to the spacecraft during this period and all payload operations were suspended.
- ❖ In the month of July, 2015; the Mars orbiter successfully came out of the solar conjunction. It is worth mentioning that No reconfiguration of the spacecraft was required, as the on-board autonomy properly functioned.

#### **Current Status**

- ❖ India's Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) has completed one year around Mars on September 24, 2015 and

accomplished its planned mission objectives. MOM and all its scientific payloads are in good health and it continues to provide valuable data of Mars surface and its atmosphere. The increased duration of observation of Mars by five scientific payloads will enhance the planetary science data and would also enable coverage of Mars in different seasons.

- ❖ The images of Mars captured by the Mars Colour Camera have been received and found to be of very good quality. The Mars Colour Camera has so far produced 513 images.
- ❖ Joint morphological studies using MCC and the high resolution mineralogical data with the NASA CRISM data was carried out, which enables the identification of different compounds like sulphates and ferrous based compounds.
- ❖ The dust patterns around high altitude regions and in Valles were studied and mean height of dust layer was estimated to be ~1.5 km. Albedo using the 1.65 micron studies of the reference channel of Methane sensor for Mars (MSM) was also estimated.

#### **Significant achievements & Recognitions**

- ❖ First interplanetary mission realized by India and first Indian spacecraft to incorporate full scale on-board autonomy to overcome the long distances and the communication gaps due to non-visibility periods.
- ❖ First Mars mission in the world to succeed Mars Orbit Insertion in first attempt.
- ❖ First Indian spacecraft to successfully survive Van Allen belt crossing 39 times. First Indian spacecraft to escape the Sphere Of Influence of Earth and orbit Sun.
- ❖ Most economical interplanetary mission in the world and

### **Scientific Instruments (Payload) on the Orbiter**

Science Theme	Payload	Primary objective
<b>Atmospheric studies</b>	<b>Lyman Alpha Photometer (LAP)</b>	Measures relative abundance of deuterium and hydrogen.  Measurement of Deuterium /Hydrogen (D/H) Ratio allows understanding of the loss process of water from the planet.
	<b>Methane Sensor for Mars (MSM)</b>	Measures Methane (CH <sub>4</sub> ) in the Martian atmosphere with high level of accuracy and map its sources.
<b>Plasma and Particle environment studies</b>	<b>Mars Exospheric Neutral Composition Analyser (MENCA)</b>	Map neutral composition in exosphere, Martian upper atmosphere
<b>Surface Imaging studies</b>	<b>Mars Color Camera (MCC)</b>	This tri-color Mars Color Camera gives images of Martian surface. It is useful for monitoring the dynamic events and weather of Mars. It will also be used for probing the two satellites of Mars – Phobos and Deimos.
	<b>TIR imaging spectrometer (TIR)</b>	Measures thermal emission and can be operated during day & night. It will map the surface and mineral composition of Mars.



paved way for cost-effective access to deep space.

- ❖ Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) - Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) team won the US based National Space Society's "Space Pioneer Award" for science and engineering category for the year 2015.
- ❖ The Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development is awarded to ISRO in recognition of its path-breaking achievement, culminating in Mars Orbiter Mission, its significant contribution in strengthening international cooperation in peaceful use of outer space.

### IRNSS: Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System

IRNSS is an independent regional navigation satellite system being developed by India. It is designed to provide the position and timing services through an independent Indian regional navigation satellite constellation of seven satellites. The main objective of IRNSS System is to provide positioning services with an absolute position accuracy of better than 20 meters over Indian Land Mass and a region extending to the about 1500 Kms around India.

IRNSS consists of seven satellites in a constellation, three satellites in geostationary orbit (GEO) and four satellites in geosynchronous orbit (GSO) with inclination of 29° to the equatorial plane. Three GEO satellites placed at 32.5°E, 83°E & 131.5°E orbital locations and two geosynchronous satellites each placed in the GSO with an equator crossing at 55°E & 111.75°E with an inclination of 29°.

A first four IRNSS satellites viz., IRNSS-1A, 1B, 1C and 1D were successfully launched on July 02, 2013, April 04, 2014, October 16, 2014 and March 28, 2015 respectively and are already operational in orbit. With the operationalisation of

four navigational satellites in orbit, it is now possible to provide Position, Navigation and Timing services.

### Launch of Fifth IRNSS Satellite - IRNSS-1E:

ISRO's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle, PSLV-C31, successfully launched the 1425 kg IRNSS-1E, the fifth satellite in the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS) on January 20, 2016 at 09:31 hrs (IST) from Satish Dhawan Space Centre SHAR, Sriharikota. This is the thirty second consecutively successful mission of PSLV and the eleventh in its 'XL' configuration.

IRNSS-1E Satellite was injected to an elliptical orbit of 282.4 km X 20,655.3 km inclined at an angle of 19.21 degree to the equator (very close to the intended orbit). After injection, the solar panels of IRNSS-1E were deployed automatically. In the coming days, four orbit manoeuvres will be conducted from Master Control Facility to position the satellite in the Geosynchronous Orbit at 111.75 deg East longitude with 28.1 deg inclination.

A number of ground stations responsible for the generation and transmission of navigation parameters, satellite ranging and monitoring, etc., have been established in eighteen locations across the country.

### Applications

- Terrestrial, Aerial and Marine Navigation
- Disaster Management, Vehicle Tracking, Fleet Management
- Precision timing applications viz. distributed survey systems, power grid synchronization
- Mapping and Geodetic data capture
- Visual and voice navigation for drivers

# THE HERITAGE OF INDIA

by Kin Bhattacharya

The past, present and future of any nation is directly created as a result of or seeded as a result of the Heritage of that country. India is one of the most culturally diverse and socially evolved countries in the world as a direct result of the past it has inherited from its ancestors. Our culture is a fusion of many ethnicities. Rich, poor, races of almost every color, Hindu, Muslim, Christian, Jains, Sikh's, Buddhist, and many other religions have made India their home. Hence we can say India has been a crossing point of various 'races' and ethnic groups. They have all made a major contribution to Indian history and culture. The people from other cultures and civilizations have strongly influenced and intermixed with pre existing Indian cultures. Hence the present India very strongly owes its diversity to its heritage it has inherited from its ancestors.

The Harappan culture was one of the first urban cultures to spring in India. Thereby showing how important a factor nature was in influencing our civilization. Without the presence of mountains or rivers this culture would not have thrived. Then in the 6th century B.C. came the Jains and the Buddhists. Lot of practices associated with Hinduism and Vedic religion originated during this period. Things like-saying Good-morning with folded hands, touching the feet of elders by the younger generation, elders putting their hands on the heads of the youth and blessing them and saying "May God give you a healthy and long life" and so on represent the cultural influences that came from this period. Later on lot of Buddhist art and Tamilian literature also played a major role in influencing our culture. After the fall of Buddhism in the 8th century other great civilizations like Gupta's, Chalukyas,

Maurya's and Pallava's came into existence. During their reign the traditional skills related to arts, decorations, fairs and festivals etc. and different varieties of paintings, architecture, dances, music, literature of different languages and dialects influenced and became a part of our culture and heritage. This all was enriched further into the medieval period in India under the influence of the Chola Kings and later on the Sultanate of Delhi. Arabic and Persian became a part of India's vast pool of languages. Sanskrit was replaced by Persian as the language of the courts and new forms of literature such as the Ghazal were introduced. Sikhism began to emerge as a new religion thanks to the teachings of Gurunanak. Another significant development was the emergence of a new language (Urdu). Modern India comes into picture towards the end of the 18th Century, although colonization of India by various European powers began in the 16th century itself. It was the beginning of the decline of the Mughal Empire and the emergence of a number of small independent states in different parts of the country. By the mid 18th century the conquest of India by the British began. For the first time India was subjected to foreign rule which resulted in drastic changes in the political and social

structures of Indian society. English became the official language of the Indian Diaspora. Later on various intellectual movements took place thereby challenging the status quo of the British rule. And one of the largest nationalist movements came into being thereby uniting India completely with their slogans such as "Unity in diversity" and recognizing India's composite nature ultimately leading to its Independence on August 15th, 1947.

There is no doubt that we are currently assimilating the culture of the west in spite of our rich cultural heritage. But as India has shown from its past no matter what it assimilates into its culture the vastness and diverse nature of our culture always overshadows the influence of the new. It takes the influence and makes it a part of itself. Just like the ocean takes the water of various streams of rivers on its basins. Unique in its own way, the charm and graciousness of the Indian way of life will continue. However much affected it may be by the fast life of the west. Our heritage will still fascinate people from all walks of life as it is a vast ocean compared to many cultures around the world. ■

## Art of Living celebrates World Culture Festival in New Delhi



The world's biggest celebration of cultures and peace took place last weekend on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of The Art of Living New Delhi, 16th March 2016 – The World Culture Festival, that was held in New Delhi from 11 – 13 March, was a musical and cultural ode to the spirit of humanity, teamwork and the diverse traditions that bind citizens of the world into a 'One World Family'-Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam.

People from 155 countries had travelled to India's capital to attend the celebrations and exemplify demonstrate the power of harmony in diversity. The three days program offered a cultural journey of extravaganza: From classical Indian dance with 1700 dancers to 1000 Chinese singers, a traditional Swiss

Alphorn show or Bavarian dance from Germany, the many thousands of international artists mesmerized the audience with performances from around the world. The Festival aimed to showcase the rich cultural traditions of music, dance and the arts from around the world along to foster a deeper understanding between people of different faiths, nationalities and backgrounds.

Besides an extraordinary cultural show program, the festival also offered a unique platform for spiritual and religious leaders, politicians, business leaders, peacemakers and artists to spread the message of global peace and harmony in diversity in all sections of society. Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, founder of The Art of Living and international



peace ambassador said on the occasion. “To all of you, who have come from nearby and faraway destinations, from different faiths and nationalities, a heartfelt thank you. I am delighted to see the confluence of great spiritual and religious leaders, politicians, peacemakers and artists who have joined us for this festival of music and dance. On the last day of WCF, I have a simple message to all of you – do remember that we are all Vishwa-maanav: we are world citizens first. Together, we all form a global family, and must spread the message of peace, harmony and human values.”

The traditional colors of India were showcased in the form of folk performances from Assam (Bihu), Rajasthan (Ghoomar) and Andhra Pradesh (Kuchipudi) among others. The international performances amongst others included Pakistani Sufi dancers, expressing the desire of unification with the almighty; and Tango dance by Argentinian performers. One of the highlights of the festival program was ‘Cosmic Rhythm’, where over 4600 artists presented a performance comprising 30 dance forms, as well as a grand orchestra comprising 8500 musicians. The World Culture Festival was inaugurated by India’s Prime Minister Narendra

Modi. Many international dignitaries from countries such as Germany, France, Norway, Lithuania, Belgium, USA, Colombia, Pakistan, UAE and many more participated. The World Culture Festival over three days underscored the human desire for peace, for unity and happiness despite the diversity of thoughts, cultures, art and languages

### About The Art of Living

The Art of Living Foundation (AOLF) was founded in 1981 by Sri Sri Ravi Shankar and operates in 155 countries. It is one of the largest independent, humanitarian nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) in the world. The AOLF holds a special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations (UN), and is active in numerous other international bodies and committees in the areas of health, education and sustainable development. The priorities include aid projects in developing countries, trauma and stress management in crisis areas and rehabilitation programs for victims of violence and prison inmates. In addition, yoga and meditation classes are offered. A key component is the Sudarshan Kriya™, a health-promoting breathing technique. For further information visit [www.artofliving.org](http://www.artofliving.org) ■

## HUNGARIAN SECTION

# World Cultural Festival

by Balázs Mohi-Farkas



A World Cultural Festival Indiában, Új-Delhiben került megrendezésre 2016 márciusában.

37 000 táncos és énekes érkezett a világ minden tájáról, hogy fellépjenek a 7 hektár méretű színpadon a több, mint 3,75 millió néző előtt. A legtöbb előadás során egyszerre több ezer táncos összehangolt koreográfiájával mutatta be a kultúrája sokszínűségét.



A színpadon a különböző népek tradicionális táncain át a mai modern táncokig sok színes előadást láthattunk. Lenyűgöző és csodálatos élmény volt fotósként ekkora eseményen részt venni, ennyi sokszínű emberrel találkozni. A lehetőséget ezúton is szeretném megköszönni a The Art of Livingnek!

A World Cultural Festival a The Art of Living jóga és humanitárius alapítvány fennállásának 35. évfordulójára



szervezték meg. Az Élet Művészete szervezet célja a Kulturális Világfesztivállal az emberiség sokszínűségének, összetartozásának, egységének erősítése és ünneplése volt.

Az eseményre nagy számú politikai, és vallási vezető is ellátogatott, támogatásukkal erősítve ezzel a nemzetek közti összetartozást. Magyarországot a Matyó Népművészeti Egyesület 50 fős néptáncos csoportja képviselte.

A fellépést az Az Élet Művészete Magyarországi Közhasznú Alapítvány finanszírozta, amelyet az elnyert támogatások tettek lehetővé.

A kirobbanó siker a többi fellépő műsorától jelentősen eltérő, ifj. Zsuráfszki Zoltán által készített változatos, dinamikus koreográfiának és a jól felkészült csapatnak volt köszönhető. ■

### **Hazatért a magyar delegáció és a Matyó Néptáncscsoport Új-Delhiből Milliók üzentek: egyek vagyunk!**

Miközben a terroristák robbantásokkal és tömeggyilkosságokkal próbálják megfélemlíteni a világot, Új-Delhiben közel négymillió ember gyűlt össze, hogy bebizonyítsa: a világ ereje éppen sokszínűségének harmóniájában van. A Világ Kulturális Fesztiválján fellépett ötven magyar matyó néptáncos is.\*\*\*

Elképesztő élmény, amikor 3 millió 700 ezer szív együtt dobban, mesélte lapunknak Farkas-Mohi Balázs fotóművész, aki huszonöt magyar társával és a Matyó Népművészeti Egyesület ötven táncosával a napokban tért haza Új-Delhiből, a Nemzetközi Élet Művészete Alapítvány 35. születésnapjáról. Három napon át 155 ország polgárai ünnepelték a kulturális sokszínűséget, a béke és boldogság utáni vágyat. A fesztivál egyedülálló lehetőséget kínált lelki és vallási vezetők, politikusok, gazdasági vezetők és művészek találkozására, a globális béke és harmónia üzenetének közvetítésére.

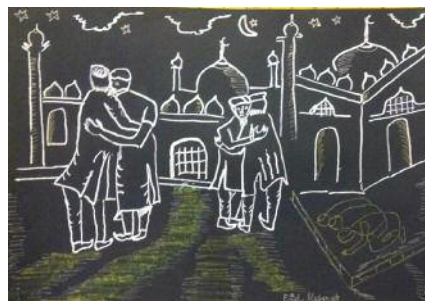
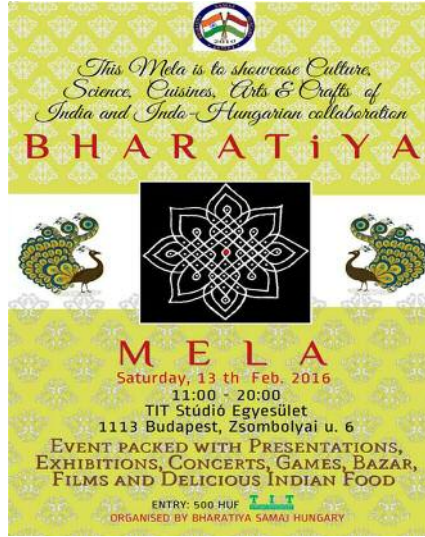
-Szívből köszönöm mindazoknak, akik különböző vallású és nemzetiségű közösségekből érkeztek, hogy itt vannak – köszöntötte a résztvevőket az alapító, Sri Sri Ravi Shankar. -Van egy roppant egyszerű üzenetünk mindenki számára: a világ egyetlen család, amelynek valamennyien tagjai vagyunk, tekintet nélkül a különbözőségekre. Terjesszük a béke és a harmónia üzenetét, az emberi értékek tiszteletét!

Magyar sajtófotók: Farkas-Mohi Balázs



# Gyermekrajz- kiállítás

A Magyarországi Indiaiak  
Közössége 2016 februárjában kiállítást  
rendezett egy rajzversenyre készült  
gyermekrajzokból a TIT Stúdióban. A  
kiállítás jelenleg az Amrita Sher-Gil  
Kulturális Központ folyosóján  
tekinthető meg. A verseny a "Kedvenc  
indiai fesztiválom" címet viselte, és 18  
év alatti gyerekek pályázhattak,  
bármilyen technikával. További  
válogatás a művekből:



## हुनरमंद कारीगर

बड़ा गुमान था नन्ही उँगलियों को  
अपनी कारीगरी पर  
ऐसे-वैसे-जैसे भी बन ही जाएगी  
ओढ़नी और सुंदर चदरिया भी!

ज़रा सा भी सल न पड़ने पावे  
लपेटकर सभालकर हर बार  
धर दिया करती  
हर एक धागा सुई पर लपेटकर

जितनी बार भी उलझे  
सूत के कच्चे तार,  
हौले-हौले सुलझा लिया  
नन्ही उँगलियों ने हर बार  
करके मेहनत अपार

गाँठ न पड़ जाए  
धागा न जाए टूट...  
इस हुनर से बचाती थी नन्हीं उँगलियाँ  
धागे को गाँठ से कि  
जैसे ब्याही बिल्ली हौले से  
उठाकर अपने मुँह से  
धर देती है नन्हें बच्चे को दूजे ठाओं

कितनी गिरहों को खोलती  
और कितनों को लगने से रोकती रही  
सारा जीवन यही जोड़-तोड़  
गुणा भाग चलता रहा

बचाती चली गयी अपनी ओढ़नी  
और चदरिया को  
सुंदर फूलों सजाती गयी नित  
पर खुद में जाने सुइयों से  
कितने घावों को वो  
गोदती गयी हर बार  
लगातार और लो! बन गयी...  
हुनरमंद कारीगर!  
झटपट बस यूँ ही!

-डॉ रमा यादव

# BENEDICTINE ABBEY OF PANNONHALMA



**F**ounded as the first Hungarian Benedictine monastery in 996 by Prince Géza, who designated this as a place for the monks to settle, it soon became the centre of the Benedictine order and today the Archabbey of Pannonhalma is one of the oldest historical monuments in Hungary. Passing centuries have left their marks and memories and nowadays the Abbey situated on the Mount of Saint Martin bears the characteristics of several architectural styles. Built in medieval times the oldest part of the structure is the Romanesque crypt and the Cloister – a corridor surrounding the rectangular inner courtyard of the Abbey which served as the centre of life in the Monastery. It was also called Paradisum (Paradise) metaphorically creating an earthly imitation of Biblical Paradise. In medieval times mainly herbs were grown here so that those in need would recover the body in its wholeness and health as it was in Paradise.

The present church of Pannonhalma, the Basilica built at the beginning of the 13th century is a crowning achievement of the early Gothic style. The monastery became an archabbey in 1541, and later enhanced with building components of the baroque and classicist style it gained its current form. One of the most breath-taking example of Baroque art is the Refectory designed and built in the 18th century.

The Arch abbey not only is a unique architectural monument but serves as a centre of cultural life as well. Organising several exhibitions each year and keeping a monumental Library with 360,000 volumes, and the Archabbey Collection. The Pannonhalma Archives of the Benedictine Archabbey contains one of the richest and most valuable collections of documents from the first centuries of Hungarian statehood. It includes the monastery's interpolated charter (1001–1002) from Saint Stephen, the founding charter of the Tihany Abbey (1055), the first known written text to include Hungarian words and phrases.

The territorial Archabbey also contains an Arboretum, Szent Gellért College of Theology, the Benedictine High School of Pannonhalma, a boys' boarding school and a Winery of 37 hectares.

In 1996, "the Millenary Benedictine Abbey of Pannonhalma and its Natural Environment" was elected among the World Heritage sites. Today there are about 50 monks living in the monastery.

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