



INDIA-CANADA CULTURAL ASSOCIATION

BOX 7194, SASKATOON, SASK.
S7K 4J2

"Civilization is the encouragement of differences. Civilization thus becomes a synonym of democracy. Force, violence, pressure, or compulsion with a view to conformity is therefore both uncivilized and undemocratic."

M. K. Gandhi

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President's Message

The fall has arrived, schools have reopened, and the weather has cooled down, but do not despair the I.C.C.A. has some exciting events planned for the next few months. Remember to mark October 5 on your calendars. We are bringing a *Kathak* dance performance from India. These very talented artists will perform at Castle Theatre. **(See Page 4)**

I would like to give a big thanks to those who have participated in Folkfest 2002. You have greatly contributed to our success. This year we collaborated with the Afro-Caribbean and the Australia-New Zealand pavilions at the Saskatoon Soccer Center. This was a unique experience as we were able to learn about the similarities and differences of each other's cultures, which complements the Folkfest theme of "One World". Because of a joint pavilion we attracted many more visitors. The combined Entertainment, Food and display areas were huge hits. I would like to receive your feedback regarding our collaboration and whether we should pursue this joint-venture next year.

I would also like thank all those who came out for the Gazal concert in the temple on July 23rd. This concert was free for I.C.C.A. members. This wonderful concert was performed by Kiran Ahluwalia of Toronto.

Your comments and suggestions are always welcome. Take care and see you soon.

Namaste,

Mrs. Sushama Shrikhande

Sushama Shrikhande,
President, ICCA

Quotation

In religion, India is the only millionaire... The One land that all men desire to see and having seen once, by even a glimpse, would not give that glimpse for all the shows of all the rest of the globe combined. (Mark Twain, American Author)

Radio Committee Report

The Annual Fundraising event for CFCR FM 90.5 would be on during the last two weeks of September, starting September 21. As we know CFCR is always on a tight budget and we get the opportunity of promoting our culture and broadcasting our ethnic music/songs, news and community announcement and actively participating in the program called Sangeetmala because of our volunteers, community members and sponsorship of CFCR. Therefore, it is very important to see that we can continue it and CFCR prospers. Hence, we request you on behalf of ICCA Radio Committee please come forward and donate with open mind as you have done in previous years. Look forward for your help. Our hosts will ask for your pledge during the Sangeetmala Program on Sept 21 and Sept 28 and also anyone can pledge their donations by calling Palok (652-1908) or any other ICCA board member or any radio committee member.

Thank you once again in advance.

Quarterly Report

Dear Friends,

Summer was good; extremely busy, but a “nice” busy. After managing to get some flowers and veggies planted, we can now sit back and enjoy the fruits of our labour...that is, if the mosquitoes would let us!! Honestly, I feel like a walkie-talkie blood bank!

Talking of blood...after much sweat, blood and tears, it felt like we ‘veni-ed, vidi-ed and vinci-ed’ Folkfest ‘02! (We came, we saw, we conquered – my apologies to Julius Caesar)! On the entertainment front I applaud the choreographers and participants of each and every performance. For those who could not join us, I offer you a synopsis.

Sticking to our theme ‘Mela’, our opening item was a dance based on Ila Arun’s famous song called “*MELA Mein Le Chaal Sajna*” – with the beautiful dancing of our ‘banjaras’, the colours, and the support of all the “on-stage” vendors, we were able to experience, feel and share the core of rural India. We also showcased 3 folkdances and one Phys.Ed. routine – Bhangra, Adivasi, Thille-le and Lezim,

covering the Northern, Eastern, Southern and Western parts of India respectively.

The *Bhangra* group from Regina managed to keep the stage intact and yet get a lot of people off their seats and join them in front of the stage! The *Adivasi* dance left us in a trance with its live drumming and fluting; the *Thille-le* got us clapping to the rhythm and the *Lezim* made us nostalgic and proud of such a wonderful routine. In keeping with the cultural diversity that makes up India, a dance-drama to show how *Holi* is celebrated throughout the country was enacted in a series of short and poignant vignettes. A *musical duet* on *Veena and Flute* was not only enthralling, but also a mystical collaboration of the east-meets-west experience! In a macro sense, we realize how the language of music can cross international boundaries.

And did we cross boundaries!...To celebrate Independence Day, a stunning dance-drama, on the patriotic song “*Maa Tujhe Salaam*”, by A.R. Rahman was produced with the assistance of the Oriental Dance Arts of Saskatoon. The tribute included such national images as the green/white/saffron flag and the peacock (the national bird of India), all of which electrified a sense of belonging, freedom and pride. It was an ode to all Motherlands.

It was not only the commitment and perseverance of the performers that made the show a success, but also the patience and dedicated efforts of the choreographers, the acute alertness of the audio controller, the luminary vision of the light technician, the support of back-stage hands, the brilliance of the live musical talent, the communication by the Emcees, the sewing talents of some and the generous lenders of props and costumes! The synergistic efforts of all were evident. To accidentally omit any name would be unjust – you know who you are. A HEARTFELT CONGRATULATIONS AND A BIG THANK-YOU TO EVERYONE, WHO WAS INVOLVED WITH THE ENTERTAINMENT. YOU WERE AWESOME!!

Prior to Folkfest, ICCA also held a picnic with the Cricket Club of Saskatoon, at the Forestry Farm Park. Those who braved the heat had a good time playing cricket and some other games. On July 1st, we also took part in the Canada Day Celebrations

by presenting some dances. A similar participation was welcomed at the Ex, to promote Folkfest.

With the above to keep us culturally and socially active over the next few months, I leave you with a paradox of the English language – Why is it that when I wind up my watch, it starts; but when I wind up this chronicle, it ends?

Smita Garg

SOME EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO:

- ***Volunteer Appreciation Event***, ICCA is showing a movie, ***Hum Kisise Kum Nahin*** (★ing: Amitabh Bachchan, Ajay Devgan, Aishwarya Rai & Sanjay Dutt), at the ***Downtown Library on Sunday, September 15, at 1:30 pm***. Snacks and Coffee will be served.
- ***Gandhi Jayanti***, ICCA will perform a small ceremony to honour the Mahatma, at the ***Gandhi Statue (corner of 2nd Ave. & 21st St.) on Wednesday, October 2, at noon***.
- ICCA is proud to present ***Kaveri Agashe***, a young and very talented artiste in the world of ***Kathak***. Kaveri and her accompanists are coming from India and will be performing all over North America. I believe that Saskatoon is their first Canadian city!! Bring your family and friends and get enthralled by one of India's rising stars in the world of Kathak. Let us give them a true "Saskatoon" welcome! One show only on ***Saturday, October 5th, 2002 at Castle Theatre at 7:30 p.m.***
- The Oriental Dance Arts of Saskatoon, in collaboration with DancEgypt, the Chinese Dance School of Saskatchewan (Saskatoon Chapter), and the India Canada Cultural Association, will showcase some of their best works and collaborations on ***Saturday, September 14 at 8:00 p.m. in Castle Theatre at Aden Bowman Collegiate***. At this show, ICCA is proud to present "Maa Tujhe Salaam"! Additionally, the 2-hour variety program entitled "***Celebration***" offers both the beautiful and the energetic from Middle Eastern, Near Eastern and Far Eastern dance cultures. Do not miss this first-ever, impressive celebration of oriental and eastern-style multicultural dance! One show only! **Tickets are available at McNally Robinson Bookseller on 8th Street or**

by calling me at 384-2208. (\$8 single / \$30 family of 4) or at the door (\$15 / \$55).

- Visit <http://ca.geocities.com/edtoricca/> for the latest updates!

Community News

On September 1st, Dr. R. Balakrishna completed the 2002 Knights of Columbus Saskatchewan International Marathon. He finished 42.2 km marathon in little over 5 hours. The board congratulates Dr. Balakrishna for his achievement.

Folkfest Display Committee Report

Greetings,

I hope that everyone has recovered from the rush of Folkfest 2002. As we all know it was a great success: the food was good, the entertainment was excellent and we had a positive response from the attendees of Folkfest about the display we put up this year. We had an excellent display of musical instruments of India and we also had a live demonstration of how they were played. Following our theme of "MELA," we displayed the things usually seen in an Indian Mela, such as a very colorful display of jewelry and games, in which people had participated. The cricket display was good, and the balloons and Hindi name writing was very popular. The Indian dresses display and the photo taken in sari were popular as well. One of the most popular displays this year was the storytelling booth; kids really enjoyed it. We also had henna, spices, tea, giftware and even palmistry. Children and adults enjoyed the songs on the big-screen television as some of them dancing there in front of it. The mannequins had its own charm dressed in various costumes from the provinces of India. So, overall it was a great success and a good crowd puller. We had a very good response from the people.

Now, I would like to thank all the people who have helped me put up the great displays this year. We all worked really hard (we used to leave the building at 2:30 in the morning), but it was fun and it was worth it.

Note: I would like to congratulate and thank all the participants of the "Adivasi Dance" (musicians and dancers). It was great show.

Shailesh Nundy

India Canada Cultural Association
Presents

KATHAK DANCE PERFORMANCE

By Kaveri Agashe and Group
Accompanied by Live Orchestra

Saturday, October 5, 2002
7:30 pm

**Venue: Castle Theatre, Aden Bowman Collegiate,
1904 Clarence Avenue South**



"Dance is my life... my grand obsession, my prayer. In practice or performance dance is my meditation that lifts me into a transcendental world of a new reality... the fusion of rhythm & poetry, music and movement, expression and exuberance. To me life means the creation of a multifaceted musical picture of feeling and expression of surpassing beauty."

TICKET PRICES

SPONSOR..... \$25

NON-MEMBER\$15

MEMBER..... \$10

STUDENT\$5

Call any board members for tickets

Oriental Dance Arts presents

Celebration *Show*



Oriental Dance Arts • Chinese Dance School of Saskatchewan • India Canada Cultural Association • DanceEgyp



September 14, 2002 8 pm
Castle Theatre, Aden Bowman Collegiate

Tickets \$8 • Family of 4 \$30 (At the door \$15 or \$55)

Tickets available at McNally Robinson Booksellers on 8th Street

Interesting Facts about Indians

38% of Doctors in America are Indians.
12% of Scientists in America are Indians.
36% of NASA employees are Indians.
34% of MICROSOFT employees are Indians
28% of IBM employees are Indians
17% of INTEL employees are Indians
13% of XEROX employees are Indians

Source: www.tourismofindia.com

Interesting Fact about English

English is often called the unofficial language of the world community, which is no wonder when you consider that half of the world's scientific journals are written in English, three quarters of the world's mail is written in English and three fifths of the radio stations of the world beam their messages in the English language!

Source: www.linguaphoneindia.com

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Movie News: Hrithik, Go Goa!

The shooting of Rakesh Roshan's Koi Mil Gaya is fast progressing. After shooting extensively in the deep valleys of Manali, the unit just finished shooting another extensive schedule in Canada. What's more they returned back to Mumbai much before time sparking off all kind of wild speculations. But the chilled out Roshan junior clarified, "We could complete the shooting much before time because we had broad daylight for almost 16 hours. The location in Calgary was really exotic and beautiful." Hrithik Roshan is currently relaxing in Goa waiting for Koi Mil Gaya's release that is touted to catapult him back to the dizzying heights of success he saw with this debut film Kaho Naa Pyar Hai. The film is scheduled for the end of this year.

Source: www.b4u.com

2002 India Canada Cultural Association (ICCA) Membership Form

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

E-mail (optional): _____

Please select membership: Individual: [_____] Family: [_____] (\$10) (\$15)

Please send membership form and a cheque payable to I.C.C.A. to:
India Canada Cultural Association
Box 7194, Saskatoon, SK, S7K 4J2