



**Celebrating India @ 70**  
High Commission of India,  
Colombo

presents  
an evening of scintillating music  
featuring

**RHYTHMSCAPE**

by

**Maestro Bickram Ghosh**

with

Pt. S.Sekhar - Mridangam

Pulak Sarkar - Keyboard

Abhisek Mallick - Sitar

Satyajit Mukherjee - Drums

Shamik Guha Roy - Sound Engineer

Ambarish Das - Vocalist

at 6.45 p.m on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> August 2017

at Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall  
Buddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 07

Supported by



Ministry of Internal Affairs,  
Wayamba Development & Cultural Affairs.



Admission by invitation only

Contact: Indian Cultural Centre | Tel: 2684698 | E-mail: iccrcolombo2@gmail.com

**Cultural Calendar - August 2017**

**8**

**Tuesday**  
6.00 pm

**Bharatha Natyam dance recital**

by Krishna Zivraj-Nair

Artistic Director | Sanskruti School of Dance

Cambridge, UK

Venue: ICC Auditorium

**Jonathan Livingston Seagull – A musical play**

by Shankar Foundation, India

(NGO that nurtures minds,

souls and spirits of children with special needs)

in association with Sunera Foundation, Sri Lanka

Venue: Lionel Wendt Memorial Theatre, Colombo 07

**23**

**Wednesday**  
6.30 p.m.

**25**

**Friday**  
9.30 a.m. - 12 noon  
1.30 p.m - 4.30 p.m.

**Kathak workshop**

by Shashthrapathi M. P. Sadara Supathum Peiris,

M.A. in Kathak from Indira Kala Sangeet university, India

Venue: ICC auditorium

**Workshops & Performance by Santiniketan Friends**

Drama workshop

Conducted by – Thilini Munasinghe

M.A. Drama, Vishva Bharati, Santiniketan

Age group-open

**29**

9.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.

Art and Music Workshop

Conducted by

Anusha Wijesinghe

B.Fin.hon, Textile Designer, Vishva Bharati, Santiniketan

Thilini Rodrigo

M.Music, Hindustani Classical Vocalist, Vishva Bharati, Santiniketan

Age group- 10 years +

**30**

3.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m.

**31**

5.00 p.m. - 6.30 p.m.

**Cultural Program by – Chandana Wickramasinghe**

Renowned Dancer and Choreographer and his students,

Vishva Bharati, Santiniketan

Venue: ICC Auditorium. For registration please contact Tel : 0777 256 595

Programmes subject to change

Admission to all programmes are on first come first serve basis except 15<sup>th</sup>.

**All are cordially invited**

UNIE ARTS, 2330195



Indian Council for Cultural Relations  
भारतीय सांस्कृतिक संबंध परिषद्

*Sanskarika*

Newsletter of the Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo

August 2017



# Cultural Tapestry

## Patriotic Songs:

### Legacy of the Flag Continues

Patriotic songs are musical equivalents of a country's motto and aspirations. In the words of Joel Barlow (1754-1812), an American revolutionary war song writer, 'One good song is worth a dozen addresses and proclamations.' Patriotic songs are audible symbols, just as the tricolour flag or the three-faced lion of the Asoka pillar is India's visible national symbol. Many patriotic songs composed at different times and in different Indian languages have references to the flag. Such songs emphasised patriotic sentiments and helped in uniting the people in their common hopes and aspirations.

The stirring 'Thayin manikodi pareer' (Behold our Mother's great banner) written by Subramania Bharathiyar (1882-1921) was very popular amongst Tamil-speaking people in India.

*Kambathin keelnitral kaneer - engum  
Kanarum veerer perunthiru kuttam  
Nambar kuriyarav veerer - thangal  
Nalluyi ranthunk kodiya inai kapper  
Thayin manikodi pareer!*

(Behold our Mother's great banner!  
Under the flag-mast are patriots.  
Loyal and faithful  
Ready to sacrifice their very life



Special postmark, dated 17 December 1982, issued from Anna Road Head Post office, Chennai, to mark the valedictory day of the birth centenary celebrations of the poet Bharathiyar.

To keep the flag flying high.  
Behold our Mother's great banner!

'Jhanda ooncha rabe Hamara' (May our flag always fly high) penned by Shyam Lal Gupt 'Parshad' aroused more patriotic fervour than any other battle cry. The soul-stirring song was first sung on 13 April 1924, at Phoolbag, Kanpur, in remembrance of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre of 1919.

*Vijayi bishwa tiranga pyara  
Jhanda ooncha rabe hamara...*

(World-conquering tricolour dear to us,  
May our flag always fly high)



FDC commemorating Shyam Lal Gupt. The postmark features the national flag.

In 1923, Gulab Singh Lodhi was shot dead by the police while unfurling the Swaraj flag at Lucknow's Aminudulla park. The park was renamed Jhandewala Park after the incident. *Jhandewala* means 'standard bearer.' The park became the epicentre of political activities in the city of Lucknow. There is a memorial of the 'Jhanda Gaan' (song of the flag):



Paying 'Homage to Martyrs' on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of Independence.

*Jhanda ooncha rahe hamara ...  
Sada shakti barsane wala ...  
Iski shan na jane paaye ...*

(May our flag always fly high...  
Constant source  
of undying strength...  
May its glory never fade...)

A patriotic matchbox label depicts the *Purna Swaraj* flag with the caption:

On one side of the matchbox appears a picture of Subhas Chandra Bose and the pledge to give complete support to the leader.



*Hamara azadi ka jhanda  
Iski izzat hame janse zyada pyari hai.*



The *Purna Swaraj* flag and patriotic motto inscribed on the other side of the same matchbox depicted in illustration 4.

(The flag of our freedom Its honour is dearer to us than our lives.)

Subhas Chandra Bose made it his declared intention to raise the 'flag of freedom' atop Delhi's Red Fort. His slogans of 'Jai Hind' (Victory to India) and 'Chalo Dilli' (Onward to Delhi) have been immortalised in many post-independence Indian postage stamps.

*Sabse ooncha bai duniame  
Jhanda hamara  
Netaji zindabad...  
Azad karenge, azad kerenge  
Chalo bahai Dilli cholo  
Jhanda laberake chalo ....*

(Our flag flies the highest in the whole world Netaji zindabad...  
We will take our freedom,  
we will take our freedom  
Comrades to Dilli March with the flag)



'Jai Hind' and 'Chalo Dilli' inscribed on the stamp in Hindi.

The songs of the Indian National Army (INA) captured the hope harboured in every Indian mind-that the 'flag of freedom' will soon be hoisted in Delhi's Red Fort, ushering in India's independence.

## Our national Flag's Legacy

*Tomor pataka jare dao  
Tare dao bahibare sakati*

(Give strength to the bearer  
of your flag)

- Rabindranath Tagore

The Children's Day stamp of 1962 carries the theme of the year as conveyed by the International Union for Child Welfare, Geneva: 'The rights of every child; the responsibility of every adult and community.'

Let us repeat together with folded hands the words inscribed in the Flag Code of India, 2002, for the edification of school children, 'I pledge allegiance to the National Flag and to the Sovereign Socialist Secular Democratic Republic for which it stands.'

The development of the historic consciousness of the youth of the contry depends upon an



Stamps depicting the national flag being handed over to the youth, issued to mark Children's Day on 14 November 1962

understanding of the imperatives and the deeply-felt beliefs that informed the creation of the national flag. A concerted attempt will have to be made to educate the generations to come if they are to see the history, the cherished principles and the significance of its very appearance when they see their national flag.

Source: The Indian National Flag unfurled through Philately by **Sekhar Chakrabarti**

**Sekhar Chakrabarti** is an internationally famed senior philatelist and postal history collector. Born in 1946, he began collecting stamps in the early 1960s when "Thematic Philately" as a discipline was in its fancy in India. His other passion is Vexillology, which he has clubbed in to his philatelic collections. His collection "Flags on Stamps" have been highly appreciated and brought laurels to the country from several international stamp exhibitions held under the auspices of Federation Internationale de Philatelie (FIP). His name found a place in the Limca Book of Records for his collections of most stamps issued from foreign countries featuring the Indian national flag. He has curated philatelic exhibitions on Rabindranath Tagore in Kolkata and Cairo (Egypt) organized by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations. He has also served as a jury member at several philatelic exhibitions organized by the Dept. of Posts and other philatelic organizations. He is at present a retired engineer and lives in Kolkata.