



Indian Council for Cultural Relations  
भारतीय सांस्कृतिक सम्बंध परिषद्

SWAMI VIVEKANANDA CULTURAL CENTRE  
HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA  
COLOMBO  
SRI LANKA

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES HELD  
AT THE  
CENTRE DURING THE MONTH OF  
JANUARY 2019

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**Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre  
High Commission of India  
Colombo**

**Events of January 2019 with photographic impressions**

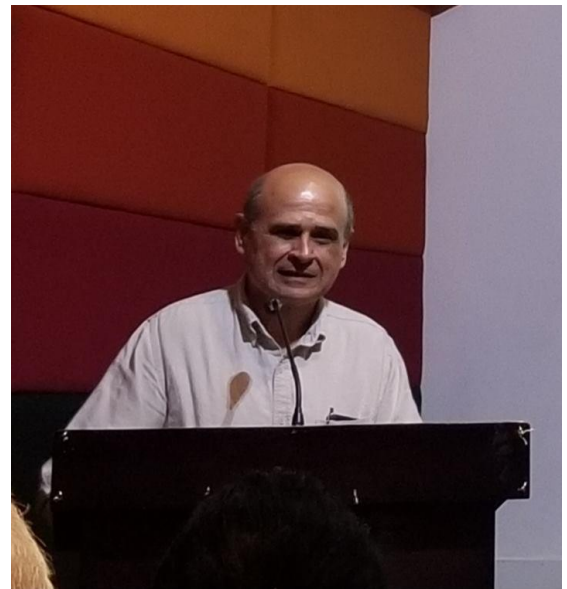
**8 January    Hindustani classical and semi classical music concert by  
Government of India scholarship holders from Bangladesh**

Prof. Asit Roy and Dr. Podminee Dey from Department of Music, University of Rajshahi, Bangladesh presented an evening of classical and semi classical music concert for the music lovers of Sri Lanka. The performance included evening ragas as well as well-known Bengali songs which was thoroughly enjoyed by the audience gathered at the Centre. Both the artistes did their PH.D degree at Rabindra Bharati University, West Bengal under ICCR scholarship scheme.



## 9 January Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2019

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2019 was celebrated in SVCC Colombo, with enthusiastic participation from GOPIO and Indian diasporas of Sri Lanka. Winners of Bharat Ko Janiye Quiz were awarded medals. A special cultural performance on Ramayana connecting India and Sri Lanka was presented by the students of SVCC.





## 10 January 2019 Vishwa Hindi Divas - 2019

Vishwa Hindi Diwas - 2019 was celebrated at Indian Cultural Centre on 10th January 2019. A special edition of "Nirantra"- Annual Hindi magazine of SVCC, Colombo dedicated to Mahatma Gandhi celebrating Gandhi@150 was released on the occasion. The winners of the competitions held in the month of December and January for the Vishwa Hindi Divas were awarded prizes and certificates. SL Army personnel learning Hindi at SVCC were also awarded certificates. Deputy High Commissioner Dr. Shilpak Ambule graced the occasion as Chief Guest. Students of SVCC presented Hindi songs celebrating Gandhi ji, Dance and skit in Hindi. Hindi enthusiasts of Sri Lanka, teachers and students were present.

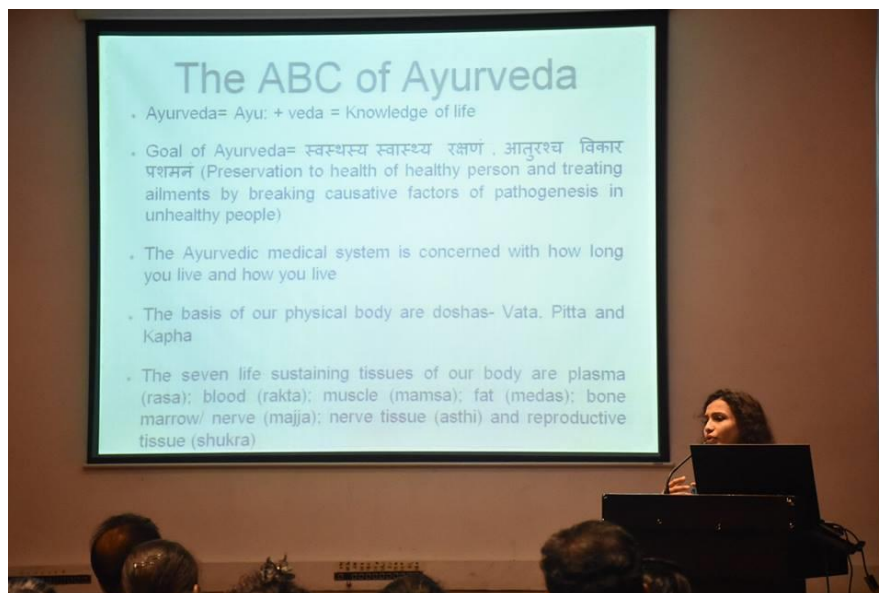






**13 January Ayurveda- Diet and Nutrition – workshop by Dr. Maitri Nagar , S Vyasa Yoga, Singapore**

Diet and Ayurveda - A Lecture by Dr. Maitri Nagar organized in collaboration with Astanka Yoga Mandhir & A.A.Y.U.S.H held at the Centre. She explained the Ayurveda aspects in our daily diet and the benefits.



## 16 January Carnatic Vocal recital

Celebrating Thai Pongal , Dr Sakthi Ravitharan, a young talented Australian-Sri Lankan vocalist enthralled the audience with a soulful carnatic vocal recital with gracious presence of Hon. Minister Rauff Hakeem, Hon. Governor M. Azath Salley, Judge AHM Nawaz, Dr. Shilpak Ambule, DHC and other distinguished guests.

Sakthi Ravitharan is a versatile vocalist, musician and composer. Sakthi has been trained in Carnatic vocal since the age of four by Vidushi Shobha Sekhar based in Melbourne, a disciple of Sangeetha Kalanithis D K Jayaraman and D K Pattamal and receiving advanced training in Carnatic vocal from Vidwan Malladi Ravikumar.





## 18 January Kathak recital

Thilini one of the senior most Kathak students of SVCC presented a brilliant performance along with her students at the Centre. The performance comprised a variety of traditional Kathak performance with Bollywood songs in Kathak style.

ThiliniRangika has begun Kathak dancing from a very early age under the guidance of Mrs.MokshaSamarasooriya, who is a faculty at SVCC,Colombo. She has done her Bachelor degree at University of Kelaniya in performing arts,Master's degree at University of Kelaniya in drama & theater, post graduate diploma at University of Colombo in education and Nritya Bisharad degree at Bhatkande Sangeeth Vidyapith (Lucknow). She is currently working as a dance teacher at NimalaMariya Balika MahaVidyalaya, Ja-Ela and as Kathak instructor at RangaraKathak Dancing Academy.





**25 January Strings of peace –Celebrating 70<sup>th</sup> Republic Day of India Sarod recital by Ustad Amjad Ali Khan, Ayaan Ali Bangash and Amaan Ali Bangash**

A special cultural event "Strings of Peace" featuring legendary Sarod maestro Ustad Amjad Ali Khan along with sons Aman Ali Bangash and Ayaan Ali Bangash was organised by High Commission of India, Colombo on the eve of 70<sup>th</sup> Republic Day of India accompanied by eminent percussionists Mr. Satyajit Talwalkar and Mr. Shubh Maharaj.

Former President H.E. Chandrika Bandarnaike-Kumaratunga, Former President Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa, Hon. Speaker of Parliament Karu Jayasuriya, H.E. High Commissioner Taranjit Singh Sandhu, Ministers, Members of Parliament, Diplomats, senior officials, leaders from different professions were among those who attended the packed cultural evening at BMICH.

An exhibition of photographs from the life of Mahatma Gandhi- Father of the Indian nation and Khadi, a hand spun, sustainable fabric for the 150th Birth Anniversary celebration of Gandhi Ji was also held.

It was organized with the support of the Ministry of Housing, Construction and Cultural Affairs, Government of Sri Lanka, BMICH and Taj Samudra.







## 26 January 70<sup>th</sup> Republic day of India Celebrations – Flag hoisting ceremony at India House

The students of SVCC presented a cultural act in the praise of motherland at the India House on the occasion of 70<sup>th</sup> Republic Day of India flag hoisting ceremony.





## 27 January Mayurbhanj Chhau at City Centre and Indian Food Festival

As a part of 70th Republic Day of India celebrations Chhau group from Odisha, an Eastern state of India sponsored by ICCR, New Delhi performed at the Colombo City Centre. The group also performed at Indian Food Festival at the Hospital Street , Colombo organized by Fairway Colombo and India Sri Lanka Foundation. Deputy High Commissioner Dr. Shilpak Ambule graced the events as the Chief Guest. Students of SVCC also moved the audience with bollywood dance numbers and Hindi film songs . The event was attended by more than 5000 food lovers. Winners of online quiz for Gandhi@150 were given prizes by Dr. Shilpak Ambule, DHC.









## 29 January ParikshaPeCharcha

Students, accompanied by teachers and parents from schools of Colombo, Homagama, Nugegoda and other places of Sri Lanka enthusiastically participated in the live telecast of #ParikshaPeCharcha2 by Hon Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi.





### 30 January Remembering the Mahatma

A tribute to Gandhiji on His Death Anniversary by Natya Kala Mandhir through Bharatnatyam directed by Guru Kalasuri Vasugy Jegatheeswar was held at SVCC to a packed auditorium.

Prizes were given to the winners of Children Art Competition which was held on 17th November 2018 as part of the 150th birth anniversary celebrations of Gandhiji #BapuAt150

