



BHARATI **भारती**

A Publication of the India Association of Indianapolis, Inc.

Vol. 31, No. 5

A Magazine with a Mission - to Inform, Communicate and Enlighten

September-October 2007

India Association of Indianapolis -
Fine Arts Committee and
Pakistani American Friendship Association
Present

Shaame-e-Ghazal



Sudhir Narain
also featuring



Kathak Dance by
Anindita Sen

Sunday, Sept. 9, 2007, 6 P.M.
Clowes Common at Park Tudor School
7200 North College Avenue, Indianapolis

Contribution: General-\$15, Students - \$10
Sponsors - \$50 or \$100 (2 or 4 Seats)
Free for ICMCI Members

Shri Sudhir Narain, from Agra, India, a disciple of Ustad Shabbir Ahmed Khan of Agra gharana, will present an evening of ghazals (Urdu poetry set to music) and geets. He is a regular All India Radio and Doordarshan TV artiste. Sudhir has performed all over India and in the UK, Canada, Africa and the Caribbean. He has sung for Indian and Pakistani audiences in many cities in the US, including a performance at the Indian Embassy in Washington, DC. He has recorded many CDs.

Anindita Sen, an exponent of the Lucknow gharana of Kathak dance, is a disciple of Shrimati Amita Dutt of Kolkata who in turn is a disciple of Pandit Birju Maharaj. Anindita has had the opportunity to perform at several venues within India (Kolkata, Simla, Assam to name a few) and in the UK and US.

IAI-FAC Contacts

Arvind Thakkar 317-872-0740 (athakkar@iquest.net)
Kalpana Merchant 317-733-9720 (kmmerchant2003@yahoo.com)
Chetan Shukla 317-876-5195 (chetanshukla@hotmail.com)
Chad Bauman 317-769-5426 (cbauman@butler.edu)
M.S. Anand 317-566-9555 (msanand1@yahoo.com)

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India Association of Indianapolis
&**

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Pinky and Azher Khan 317-509-9207 (akhan@calderontextiles.com)
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Congratulation Graduates...

In the last issue of Bharati, India Association of Indianapolis congratulated the graduates for their achievements and future goals. IAI wishes them all the best and may God bless them to fulfill their dreams. We are sorry that some names of the graduates were not listed.

Kashyap D. Patel, son of Deepak and Raxa Patel graduated with his masters in Biology Degree from IUPUI. He will be attending Howard University School of Dentistry starting August 2007.

EDITORIAL BOARD

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Bharati is a bimonthly newsletter of the India Association of Indianapolis, Inc., dedicated to communicate, inform and enlighten the Community and be a forum for fostering Indian arts and culture. It reaches all the Indian American Community

of Central Indiana. Bharati invites advertisements, articles and letters to the editor. Articles should be of general interest and not be more than 600 words. Letters to the editor should not exceed 200 words. Letters should be typed double spaced and must include your name. The editor reserves the right to edit any material selected for publication.

The deadline for receiving articles and advertising for the November-December issue is October 15, 2007.

The advertisement rates are as follows. Please make checks payable to India Association of Indianapolis.

	one issue	six issues
Full page	\$300.00	\$1400.00
Half page	\$150.00	\$ 750.00
Quarter page	\$ 80.00	\$ 400.00
Business Card	\$ 50.00	\$ 250.00

Preprinted Full Page Insert - \$220 per issue.

IAI is not responsible for ad formatting and misprint. Please provide pre-formatted ad to our publisher and verify ads prior to print by request. Business Card size advertisements will be provided free to Non-Profit Sister Organizations.



India Association of Indianapolis
Cordially invites you and your family to attend our
ANNUAL DINNER

Featuring

Local Professional Entertainment Orchestrated
By the legend of Indian Music - ANIRUDDH

Friday, September 28th, 2007
India Community Center
4420 W. 56th St., Indianapolis, IN 46219

7:00 p.m. Registration
8:00 p.m. Dinner and Entertainment

\$75.00 per person /
\$1000 sponsorship per table (8 seats)
RSVP by September 15th

For more details:
www.myiai.org
Archana Thaker 297-9470
Raju Chinthala 339-7461



**India Association of Indianapolis
Annual Dinner
Friday, September 28th, 2007**

- _____ Yes, I would like to attend the Annual Dinner for \$75 per person. There will be _____ people/person in my party.
- _____ Yes, I would like to purchase a table of 8 for \$1000 at the dinner. The name on our table tent should be _____
- _____ Yes, I would like to be an event sponsor at the **Silver** (\$1000), **Gold** (\$2500), or **Diamond** (\$5000) level. Please contact us to arrange sponsorship.
- _____ No, I will not be able to attend the dinner, but enclosed is my contribution for _____ in support of the India Association of Indianapolis.

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$_____.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

*Please make checks payable to: "India Association of Indianapolis." and return by September 15th to:
Kanchana Ishwar, 1845 Knaphill Ct., Carmel, IN 46033*

Please list the names of the members of your party.

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

Thank You!

India Association of Indianapolis - Fine Arts Committee
Presents
Pandit Kaivalya Kumar Gurav



Pandit Kaivalya Kumar Gurav hails from Dharwad, Karnataka. He was initiated into the Kirana gharana (style) of classical song by his father Pandit Sangameshwar Gurav. Endowed with a mellifluous, fluid and high-pitched tenor voice, he has achieved much recognition, "Surmani" puraskar and "Pt. Jasraj Gaurav" puraskar from Mumbai, "Sarva Shreshta Kalakar" puraskar from Kolkata, to name a few. He has performed at the Tansen Sangit Samaroh (Gwalior), Sawai Gandharva Festival (Pune), Gunidas Sangit Sammelan (Mumbai). He has several cassettes and CDs to his credit.

A message from 2007
IAI Directory editor

2007 IAI directory has been in circulation for few months. Our Team had made extraordinary efforts and taken utmost care to assemble accurate information for this Directory. Any inadvertent mistakes detected in this Directory are unintentional. If you have found a mistake in the Directory, please forward the corrections to the Editor, Ajai Chaudhary, either by email at ajai1010@gmail.com or by mail at 13949 Saben Court, Carmel, IN, 46032. The corrections will be published in the next issue of Bharati.

Regards.

Ajai Chaudhary

Tabla: Ravindra Yavgal, Harmonium:
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Friday, Sept 21, 2007, 7:30 P.M.

Venue: Clarion at the Water Front,
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Mallige Kannada Koota Contacts

Sharadamani Kote

317-361-2930 (kote005@gmail.com)

Hemachandra Venkatesh 317-582-0132

(hemachandravenkatesh@yahoo.com)

M.S. Anand 317-566-9555 (msanand1@yahoo.com)

Classical Vocal Recital

Saturday, Sept 22, 2007, 7:30 P.M.

Venue: Eidson-Duckwall Recital Hall in
Robertson Hall, Butler University, Indianapolis

Admission: General-\$15, Students - \$10, Free
to ICMCI members

FAC Contacts

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Chad Bauman

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M.S. Anand

317-566-9555 (msanand1@yahoo.com)

INDIA DAY

Let us all wish our Mother India a very happy 60th Independence day!

The 60th Anniversary of India's Independence was celebrated in grand style in Indianapolis on August 19th, by an India Day Parade organized by India Association of Indianapolis (IAI). The regional associations like Greater Indianapolis Telugu Association, Kannada Association, Tamil Sangam, Maharashtra Mandali, Punjabi Association and other associations are proud to be a part of this celebration.

Mayor Bart Peterson, Indianapolis was the Chief guest and actively participated in the parade from Monument Circle, Downtown to Military Park.

There were two floats and one float was a work of art, from the front arches to the Temple background. Of course, the real attractions were the delightful children on board, waving to the onlookers and keeping up the spirit of the day. But these children were not just there to look pretty. There were also the beautiful dances. In the gaps between the acts, beautiful and heroic music was streaming out of the float, to bring out the patriotic spirit in onlookers of all languages.

A large number of people, members of IAI as well as most of the Executive Committee along with Mayor Bart Peterson marched in front of the float, with banners and slogan chanting "Bharat maata ki jai" "God Bless America".

There were 96 children who participated in cultural programs at Military Park and approx 400 people attended it.

IAI is proud to announce that Governor Mitch Daniels proclaimed August 19, 2007 as Celebration of India Independence Day in the State of Indiana, and invited all citizens to duly note this occasion. It is a good gesture from Governor to present proclamation to India Association of Indianapolis.

Raju Chinthala, President, IAI said in his speech "Lord Sri Rama said "Janani Janmabhoomischa Swargadapi Gariyasi". That means "Mother and Motherland are greater than Heaven". Wherever we are and whatever we do, our Motherland India is always dear to us. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to you all for coming here today to celebrate our beloved India's 60th India Independence day. Let us imagine ourselves in

New Delhi and as if we are witnessing the spectacular Independence day parade and remember about our Mother India."

While the country is not totally free of problems like ever increasing population, poverty etc., the situation has certainly improved during the last 15 years. We now have an ambitious program called "Vision 2020" in place-the goal of which is to transform India into a developed nation before 2020.

We are all very fortunate to have taken birth in such a great Vedic soil that has offered so much to the world over the last 7 millennia. On this patriotic day let us take a moment to wish our country a glorious future in all of its endeavors.

IAI expresses sincere thanks to all the sponsors for their generous donations.

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http://picasaweb.google.com/rajuslp/IndiaDay2007

Ustad Rashid Khan's Indianapolis Concert: A Review

By Melkote K. Shivaswamy, Ph.D.

Years ago, our friend the accomplished percussionist Srinivas Krishnan, told us not to miss a concert by Ustad Rashid Khan if he ever came to Indianapolis. Srinivas, founder of the Global Rhythms program at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, had the privilege of providing tabla accompaniment to Rashid Khan and held him in very high esteem. On May 6, an opportunity to listen to Rashid came knocking when he was invited to perform in Indianapolis by the Fine Arts Committee of IAI. The program was presented in collaboration with the Pakistani American Friendship Association. We were in for a treat! Rashid Khan enthralled an audience of avid listeners in a packed auditorium at Butler University with his masterly presentation of the Hindustani ragas – Bhimpalasi and Desh. He also presented a mishra thumri based on Kirwani, a Carnatic raga. He concluded the program with a traditional Bhairavi. The combination of serious ragas as well as lighter thumris allowed the artists to reach both connoisseurs as well as neophyte listeners in the audience. At the end of the program, no one in the audience wanted to leave so, for an encore, the maestro sang another thumri based on Bhairavi. Pandit Anand Gopal Bandopadhyay ably accompanied him on the Tabla and Pandit Jyoti Goho on the harmonium. His pupil Shri Pinaki Bose provided vocal support. Indeed, Rashid carried classical music to new heights. His exquisite rendering of a tarana in raga Desh sent the audience into raptures. Was it any wonder that the artists received a prolonged standing ovation from the audience? I came away

Glimpse of India Day



with a strong feeling that the concert may have kindled interest in vocal classical music in those who have had little exposure to it. The only disappointment, voiced by many in the audience, was that the concert was too short, just under two hours.

I would like to commend Arvind Thakkar, Director, and Kalpana Merchant, M.S. Anand, Chad Bauman and Chetan Shukla, members of the IAI - Fine Arts Committee, for bringing artistes of Rashid's caliber to Indianapolis. More strength to their elbow! It is my hope that they will bring to Indy many more such fine artistes and the public will be generous with their moral and financial support.

Muncie, IN, May 2007

My Thoughts on this Occasion of the Golden Anniversary of India's Independence Day

Ram S. Ravindran

Recently, I heard from someone that Singapore celebrated its 45th anniversary of its independence from the Malaysian federation. I believe, in Singapore at the start of the day in schools and in offices they take the following oath of allegiance to their tiny county

We, the citizens of Singapore, pledge ourselves
as one united people,
regardless of race, language or religion, to build
a democratic society
based on justice and equality so as to achieve
happiness, prosperity and
progress for our nation.

How I wish we had such a tradition of reciting an inclusive oath of allegiance in India as well. Perhaps in the Indian oath they should include caste and region as well. Why wish for it? .It is not too late to start reciting it. I believe such oath of allegiance will do wonders for bringing about emotional unity which I think is sorely lacking.

India has been a single political entity for the last 60 years. Yet it is sad to realize that the people of India are not emotionally united even now. People of one region feel a sense of apathy to those of another region. Neighboring states hate one another. People who have migrated to this country, who should have reasonable command of English language, who are supposed to be the cream of Indian society also don't have a sense of emotional unity and practice it in their lives here.. To make matters worse we even seem to pass on our divisive sense to the next generation of Indian-Americans who should not have any emotional baggage of the old country.

How can we bring about greater emotional integration? It should start off from the national

leaders. The elected leaders, during the years of their tenure at the center, should make it a point to visit various states and union territories and meet with the elected representatives and people in those areas and make them feel that they are all part of one nation... They should not just stay put in Delhi. National TV channels should make it a point to show the happenings of various parts of India daily and not simply concentrate on the doings of the politicians. How nice could it be if the religious heads were to point out that the soul inhabiting in our body could have been inhabiting the body of another unfortunate Indian and help us develop a sense of compassion and caring for another Indian. People should concentrate on the things we all share than the things that divide us. Like for example the history (Ashoka, Buddha, Mahavir, St. Thomas, Guru nanak, Alexander's invasion, Mogul rule) and so forth, the traditional marking of life events we all share, the common values we all hold on to, the respect for elders, family orientation, and high regard for education and tolerance for differences. We should make it a point to invite for dinner or get together Indian friends of ours who are not from the same region of India that we came from or speak the language we speak. When we meet an Indian in the shopping mall or in public places we can simply recognize them and not figure out what part of India they may be and just look away from them if they are from different regions of India... In the interest of national unity and emotional oneness we should not carry on activities that promote casteism, regionalism and linguistic or religious exclusiveness... It is funny that some of us feel more togetherness with the American community than Indian community. I don't know what to think of an Indian who has been in Indianapolis for many years and yet has not head of India Association of Indianapolis organization? If we don't have an emotional unity as Indians how can we become a full citizen of this country of "One nation under God indivisible"?

visit www.myiai.org

IAI welcomes you as a member of the India
Association of Indianapolis and look forward to your
active involvement.

Bangalore 18 months later

By Melkote Ramaswamy

We tried very hard to get a direct flight to Bangalore via Europe. We ended up going via Mumbai, which we were dreading. The only redeeming part was the delicious and sumptuous food on Jet Airways' 90-minute service to Bangalore, which came as a refreshing contrast to domestic service inside the US, where no food is served on most of the flights.

As we landed, we spotted several foreign air carriers such as British Airways, Singapore Airlines, Air France, Emirates, Malaysian Airways, Sri Lankan and Thai Airlines. Bangalore has truly become a mini Asian hub.

A convenient service that is available to passengers at the airport is pre-paid taxi. However, one has to watch out—there are two such counters one private and one government, the latter being much cheaper.

As we drove to our home in Malleswaram, we noticed an increase in traffic lights and some of them were solar-powered (installed by BEL, Bharat Electronic Limited)!

Just as Carmel has become a city of roundabouts, Bangalore is fast becoming a city of fly-overs. The Metro rail project running east to west and north to south, when completed, should provide some relief to the crowded fly-overs.

Any new construction means lot of constrictions. This is true in Malleswaram, where an underpass that is being built, has resulted in traffic diverting to several residential streets, This has made it virtually impossible for pedestrians to cross the streets safely.

Everyday about 700 vehicles are being added to the already saturated Bangalore streets
With cars parked on either side of the street, pedestrians have nowhere to go.

City buses are always crowded and you can see streams of people especially at so-called peak hours filling over to the streets near a bus stop. It is not uncommon to see bus after bus stopping to pick up passengers.

Finding a typical south Indian meal is getting harder and harder. Even restaurants that serve such food have it only during limited hours. Extensive Chinese and Italian items are filling up the menu. Of course, Indian snacks are always there. In Adiga's Sampige restaurant, the upstairs is air-conditioned and, for some reason, you can not get what is available in the downstairs non-airconditioned darshini-style section.

We noticed a disturbing trend in the youths. Smoking has

become rampant. In one of the outdoor cafes on MG Road, we saw several girls smoking—a scene that I had seen on Delhi campuses in the late 70's. Cigarette packs have started carrying stern warning labels, but it has no impact on smokers who buy cigarette not by the pack but one at a time and light up at the corner store at the end of a burning rope!

Bangalore is truly becoming a megapolis boasting four mega-malls with more planned in the near future. We were quite impressed with the Forum Mall at Koramangala, which incidentally also is home to the Electronics City. The multi-floored mall beats any US shopping facility in elegance and opulence. It was hard to believe we were in India! What is more, the food court is fabulous with a large seating area and neatly kept premises. We noticed that outfits like KFC were hardly crowded and all the lines were at the traditional Indian food areas. However, we did enjoy a slice of vegetarian pizza. Talking of pizza, while there are chains such as Pizza Hut, Pizza Corner and US Pizza, we savored the Indian-style mini-pizzas for Rs.12 in Malleswaram. The only bad thing is you had to stand on the street and eat.

Autorikshas in Bangalore have become high-tech. Their fare meter is digital displaying both the fare and the distance in kilometers. They also come with radios and it is not uncommon for the driver to have a cell phone. However, there is no protection for the passengers against wind and rain.

There is a new chain of clean and customer-friendly pharmacies called LifeKen, in general, drugs are much cheaper in India than in US and many drugs do not require prescription, just the physician's name!

Bicycles are becoming scarce—motorized two-wheelers dominate the road. Hi-tech and low-tech coexist: They serve Aquafina water to all customers at KC Das near MG Road. At the other extreme at Sri Sagar restaurant in Malleswaram they would give sheets of newsprint for napkins.

We noticed that traffic does not stop for ambulances. Unfortunately, there is no place to pull to! Indian-made cars Maruti, Ambassador, Sumo, Indica, Indigo, coexist with imports such as Toyota, VW, Skoda, Fiat, BMW, Suzuki, and Honda (City, Civic and Accord), We did not see any British cars to speak of.

Cell phones have become a common sight. It is reported that in Delhi 60% of population have cell phones. Use of mobile phone is not allowed while driving, but not enforced.

It is a pleasure to see culture very much alive and vibrant in Bangalore.—I could walk to at least 4 places hosting Carnatic music concerts. Music goers are principally women—lots of youngsters are into learning vocal as well as violin and veena.

IAGA 13th Invitational Golf Tournament

Indian American Golf Association (IAGA) had its 13th Annual Golf Tournament on Saturday August 25th. It was excellent golf weather, and 20 players participated in friendly camaraderie. Golf is becoming a popular sport among the Indian Americans in our city; and five new players participated in the Tournament this year.

During summer we play every week. By joining IAGA, you have a friendly group to play with, you don't have to worry about reserving tee times and putting together a foursome. IAGA welcomes new players, of both sexes, and any age. If you are new to golf, we will help you learn the game, if you are good player, we will challenge your skills.

Contact persons:

Dan Trivedi ([_Udayan.Trivedi@rolls-royce.com](mailto:Udayan.Trivedi@rolls-royce.com) (mailto:Udayan.Trivedi@rolls-royce.com)),

Nag Nagarajan (_nag4980@aol.com (mailto:nag4980@aol.com)),

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Congratulations...



According to Indianapolis Business Journal (IBJ) our Beenu Sikand ranked 4th as top agent in Indianapolis in 2007. She has the most closed transactions totalling for 2005 and 2006.

Total Sales Volume: 440,746,718

Sales Volume 2006: \$27,799,350

Sales Volume 2005: \$12,947,368

Total Transactions Closed: 186

Transactions Closed 2006: 124

Transactions Closed 2005: 62

Largest Transaction 2005-2006: \$705,000

Primary Territory: Carmel, Fishers, Noblesville, Greenwood, Avon, Plainfield & Indianapolis

COME AND JOIN THE
 TempleFest 2007
Saturday, September 8, 2007
10 AM – 4 PM

AND

AKHAND RAMAYAN PAATH
Saturday, September 8, 9 AM to
Sunday, September 10 AM

Sunday, September 9, 10 AM: Geeta Mandal

For more information on the above events, please contact Rama Belagaje at (317) 815-5524 or the temple front desk. To read RAMAYAN during AKHANDA RAMAYAN PAATH, you can contact Rama Begaje or Deb Lahiri at (317) 297-9960, Anil Bajpai at (317) 873-5621, Pramod Khandelwal at (317) 872-4957 or the temple front desk.

Obituary

Pravin Desai's father Hariprasad Keshavlal Desai passed away in India on 7-30-2007. He was 81 years old. He is survived by Pravin's mother Madhukanta, sister Nalini and Pravin . Our deepest sympathies to both the families.

YOUR OWN IAI -

visit www.myiai.org

There can't be an India Association of Indianapolis or Bharati or ICC without members to support them. So If you are a person of Indian Origin, please join the organization by becoming either an Individual or family member. IAI preserves, and celebrates your culture and special festivals/ events. It provides you with a forum for exchange of social and cultural views.

Membership Application for the year 2007
Membership is valid from
January 1st to December 31st, 2007

Grand Patrons \$300	Patrons \$150
Family \$50	Individual \$25
Student* \$10	Seniors ** FREE

Student* = Full Time students enrolled with an accredited university
Seniors** = Over the age of 65
We welcome you as a member of the India Association of Indianapolis and look forward to your active involvement.

Pick up Your IAI Directory

The 9th edition (2007) of the directory of Indian-Americans living in central Indiana is available. Current members (2007) will get a free copy. Members can purchase additional copies by paying \$25. Non-members can also purchase it for \$25.

Due to high cost of mailing, we prefer if you can contact one of the following individuals to pick up your directory in person.

Directories will also be available at all IAI events.

Simmi Hedegard -- 317-780-7090 (South side)
Archana Thaker -- 317-698-9039 (West side)
Ajai Chaudhary -- 317-705-0278 (North / North-east)
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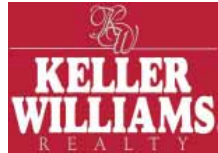
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Spoken Word

You can tell who and what you are, by what comes out of your mouth. Do you make others feel bad with your words or do you praise others, with loving positive words? Do you make others laugh or do you put people down?

Here are some things to be mindful about: If you don't believe it, don't say it. Speak which does not cause agitation, true, pleasant and beneficial. It is called discipline of speech!

If the truth is unpleasant, you may not speak that. Do not speak pleasant which is not true. Try not to be intimidated by people who use the spoken word, as a negative force. And always think before you speak, because if you make others feel good, you will BLESSED.

Submitted by Dr. Mohini Ahuja

2007 UPCOMING EVENTS

TEMPLE FEST - Saturday, September 8
SHAAME-E-GHAZAL - Sunday, September 9
KUMAR GURAV DEVOTIONAL MUSIC - September 21
KUMAR GURAV CLASSICAL MUSIC - September 22
IAI ANNUAL DINNER - Friday, September 28
TAMIL SANGAM - MUSIC MASALA - Sunday, September 30
KALAKSHITI - DANCE - Saturday, October 6