

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL EVENTS

A number of social and cultural events were organised for the participants during the Conference. These are briefly described here.

Welcome Lunch : A lunch was arranged on Jan. 10, 77 in the Vigyan Bhawan Cafeteria just after the opening ceremony. This lunch was attended by about 1000 persons including participants, ladies and guests.

Reception at Rashtrapati Bhawan : On the same day, the President of India hosted a reception at 4.30 p.m. for the delegates and accompanying members in the Moghal Gardens of Rashtrapati Bhawan (President's House). National delegates and others were presented to the President by Dr. Jai Krishna, Chairman, Organising Committee of the Conference.

National Delegates's Dinner : A dinner was arranged for the National delegates, members of the IAEE Executive Committee and the Organising Committee of the Conference in the evening of Jan. 10, 77 at the Banquet Hall of Ashoka Hotel.

Visit to the Prime Minister's Residence : Smt. Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, received the National Delegates and representatives of various countries attending the Conference at her residence on Jan. 11, 1977 at 8.30 a.m. The meeting was very cordial and informal.

Cultural Evening : A cultural programme was arranged in the evening of Jan. 11, 1977 at Jawahar Lal Nehru Auditorium of All India Institute of Medical Sciences to which all participants, their families and guests were invited. The following programme was presented by the Ashoka Hotel Cultural Wing of the India Tourism Development Corporation, which was highly appreciated and applauded by the participants.

SITAR — by Debu Chowdhary

MANJEERA — Folk by Indian Revival Group

An invocatory piece, dedicated to Shiva, the Lord of Dance, performed to the rhythm and clang of cymbals held in the hands of the dancers

PALLAVI — Odissi by Sanjukta Panigrahi

Pallavi means elaboration. It is applicable here not only to the dance but also to the music which accompanies it. The movements in this item are very graceful and lyrical. It is distinct in its exceedingly intricate interwoven rhythmic patterns of singular beauty laying emphasis on Pure Nritya

JUGMA DWANDA — Odissi by Sanjukta Panigrahi

In this dance a spirit of competition is shown between the vocalist and the dancer. Both of them try to outdo each other with the mastery of their respective arts.

MOKSHYA — Odissi by Sanjukta Panigrahi

The dance of Liberation, through abundance of joyous movements, through the body and soul of the dancer.

CHHARA — Folk by Indian Revival Group

The dance of gypsy-women from the Rajasthan-Gujarat border.

KATHAK SALAMI — Kathak by Harshlata and Pradeep Shankar

In Kathak Salami, Kathak is seen at its charming best, as rendered in a Mughal Court, bringing out all the mid-eastern refinement and elegance lent to this ancient North Indian temple art by the Muslim rulers of India. The vocalist and the dancers offer obeisance to the presiding noble and sing his praises, equating him with the heroes of yore.

KRISHNA SHABDAM — Kuchipudi by Radha Reddy

The dance depicts a young Gopi, offering her love to Krishna, the Divine Charmer, with the Flute. The refrain of the love-song reads, "Come, my Lord, come, thou moon arisen from the ambrosial seat."

SHIVA — Kuchipudi by Raja Reddy

This solo dance depicts Shiva as Nataraja, Lord of the dance. Through mime and movement Raja describes Shiva's five fold cosmic activities; Creations—playing of the sacred drum; Preservation—the hand of hope; Destruction—the holding of fire; Abode for the soul-indicating the sacred foot, and Salvation—aspiration to the lifted foot.

TARANGAM — Kuchipudi by Raja and Radha Reddy

The dance from the traditional Kuchipudi repertory and descriptive of Krishna, evinces a special element of virtuosity, the dancer executing some complex rhythmic patterns while standing on the edges of a brass plate.

RANG RASIA — Folk by Indian Revival group

After the day's toil, men and women in Gujarat villages assemble in the open, under the moonlit sky. They regale themselves with their folk dances, such as the Garba, performed with claps, the Rupal, where they hold colourful kerchiefs, and the Dandia Ras, rendered to accompaniment of the striking of sticks.

Conference Banquet: A banquet was arranged at Oberoi Intercontinental Hotel Banquet Hall in the evening of Jan. 13, 1977. The banquet was attended by about 800 persons, including participants and guests.

Farewell Tea : A get-together at tea was arranged in the Vigyan Bhawan Cafeteria on Jan. 14, 1977 just after the closing ceremony to bid farewell to the Participants. The get-together was also attended by Hon'ble Mr. Hitendra Desai, the Minister for Works and Housing, Government of India.