

Newsletter

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Nehru Centre



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Events At a Glance...

Cultural Wing

"SUMMER CAMPS"
(Nriya & Abhinaya)

Kathak Darpan
(A Workshop on Kathak Dance
by Pt. Birju Maharaj)

5th June to 9th June 2017
10.00 am to 7.00 pm each day
Nehru Centre Auditorium

Appreciation of Theatre
(A Workshop on Theatre
by Shri Vijay Kumar)

5th June to 9th June 2017
10.00 am to 1.00 pm each day
Hall of Harmony

Art Gallery

Chatak - 2017
(A Monsoon Show of
Professional Artists)

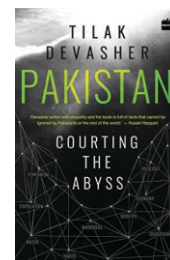
Thursday, 29th June 2017 to
Saturday, 8th July 2017
(AC & Circular Gallery)

Dear Subscribers

You are requested to renew your subscription for the year 2017-2018 (April to March) if not already done, so that the Newsletter can be sent to you without any break. The cheque should be drawn in favour of Nehru Centre only.

Book Discussion

'Pakistan: Courting the Abyss'



A new book on Pakistan by Tilak Devasher was discussed at Nehru Centre on 20th April, 2017. The author, a former Special Secretary in the Cabinet Secretariat was present. He first gave a gist of

the book and was later engaged in a dialogue by Shri V. Balachandran, former Special Secretary in the Cabinet Secretariat and an expert on security.

contd. on page 2

HOMAGE



Smt. Bakul Patel, Joint Secretary, Nehru Centre paying tribute to late Shri Rajni Patel, Founder Member and Former General Secretary, Nehru Centre, on his 35th Death Anniversary. Also present on the occasion were Shri I. M. Kadri, General Secretary, Nehru Centre and staff of Nehru Centre.

The book covers a vast canvas and begins with the 'Pakistan movement' as that helps in understanding the then rationale for its creation which was that of a common religion. But the provinces which formed Pakistan had never before shared a common history, culture, language or ethnicity.

After it came into being, Pakistan had to create its identity which necessarily had to be devoid of "Indianness". It was, therefore, based on religion, centralization of power, the Urdu language and an anti-India sentiment. The enforcement of Urdu had disastrous consequences in East Pakistan leading to the creation of another country.

The book also tells the reader about the importance of Pakistan army which is the eighth largest in the world. Since the 1950s, the Pakistan army has directed the affairs of the Pakistani state, its strategic concerns and policies. The army is not only the guardian of the territorial frontiers of Pakistan but also of the ideological frontiers.

There has also been an Islamization of the army from the very beginning. In 1947 itself the General Headquarters of the army (GHQ) adopted number 786, a religious symbol, as its identification number. In the beginning the motto of Pakistan's army was "Unity, Faith and Discipline". General Zia-ul-Haq, as Chief of the army staff, changed it to "Faith, Obedience to God and Struggle in the path of Allah." Islamic teachings were introduced into the curriculum of the Army Command and Staff College. Thus religious orthodoxy got into the armed forces and resulted in weakening of discipline.

In most democracies, armed forces are responsible to the civilian government. It has not been so in Pakistan since the fifties and Pakistan's political class should be blamed for such a state of affairs. Former Pakistani President, Musharraf summed up the situation thus "Our democracy is not mature. I think many politicians do not behave in a mature manner... I have a belief that democracy has to be modified to an environment; that is the reason of my retaining the power of dismissing an assembly."

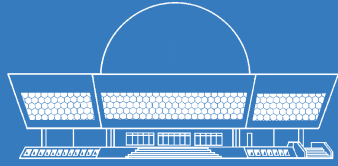
... to be continued

What Nehru said...

HOPEFUL PROSPECTS

For many years we have had to face tremendous difficulties in the matter of food. Partition of India, overwhelming natural disasters in the shape of earthquakes, floods and drought and the growing population created a heavy deficit of food in the country. Food is after all a primary necessity and if we fail in feeding our people adequately, we can make little progress in other directions.

June 14, 1952



NEHRU PLANETARIUM

SKY SHOW : 'Stars & Wonders of the Universe'

Timings

12 noon (Hindi) 1:30 pm Marathi)
3:00 pm (English) 4:30 pm Hindi)

(MONDAY CLOSED)

A Special Astronomy Lecture by Dr. Robin Catchpole

Dr. Robin Catchpole, Institute of Astronomy Cambridge, UK delivered a Special Astronomy Lecture on 'Are We Star Dust or Nuclear Waste?' on Friday, 27 January 2017. We bring you the summary of the talk.

The first stars, formed about 400 million years after the formation of the universe, were made of hydrogen and helium and were drawn together by gravity. These stars were made of only hydrogen and helium, they could be 1000 times the mass of the sun and lived short lives before creating and spreading the first batch of heavy elements into space. When they died they left behind black holes that may be the origin of the 1000 million solar mass black holes we see in the centre of galaxies today.

Successive generations of stars have been born out of the giant molecular clouds. Each generation incorporates material processed by previous generations of stars and as a result, we see a steady increase in the number of atoms of elements heavier than helium, in interstellar space.

The more massive a star is, brighter it shines and the shorter it lives. Stars more than about 5 times solar mass build up successive nuclear fusion layers inside their cores, containing elements all the way up to iron. Each element, that is the end product of the previous series of nuclear fusion reactions, becomes the fuel for the next. Once the core contains iron, it cannot be fused to release energy. With no source of energy, gravity takes over, compresses the core until it becomes so hot the iron is destroyed and turned into neutrons, that continue the collapse to form a tiny neutron star, or if the star is massive enough, a black hole.

The outer layers of collapsing star, bounce off the core, creating an outgoing shock wave that races back to the surface, exploding the star. It called supernova. For a few days it outshines the galaxy. The high temperatures produced by the shock, make all elements of periodic table, which are spread into space by the explosion.

Stars like the sun will not explode and will only manufacture elements in their cores up to carbon or nitrogen, before their outer layers detach to become beautiful planetary nebula and later fade away and become inert white dwarfs.

However, many stars form close pairs orbiting around each other. If one star has already become a white dwarf and its companion evolves to be a red giant and enough of its extended atmosphere spills over onto the white dwarf, it can push the white dwarf over what is known as the Chandrasekhar (Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar 1910 - 1995) limit of 1.4 solar mass. If this happens, nuclear fusion will again burst into life making elements all the way up to iron, creating an explosion known as a Type I Supernova, that leaves no remnant and again enriches interstellar space with heavy elements.

This cycle of star birth and death had been going on for two thirds the present age of the universe, before our sun and planets and eventually ourselves were born. So we are indeed made of star dust or the nuclear waste of stellar evolution. ■

School Students' Science Laboratory

Executive committee of Nehru Centre had suggested that the basement area of the planetarium where Nehru Centre library was earlier housed may be used for setting up hands on Science Laboratory for the students from middle school to higher secondary school students.

From the month of April 2017 the lab has started functioning with laboratory facilities for doing experiments in Electricity and Magnetism, Optics and Astronomy. In addition to the exercises being closely related to those given in text books, children are encouraged and are given freedom to explore higher level of experimentation on their own.

Use the Chart :

Early month : 10 p.m.
Middle month: 9 p.m.
Late month: 8 p.m.

STAR CHART FOR JUNE 2017

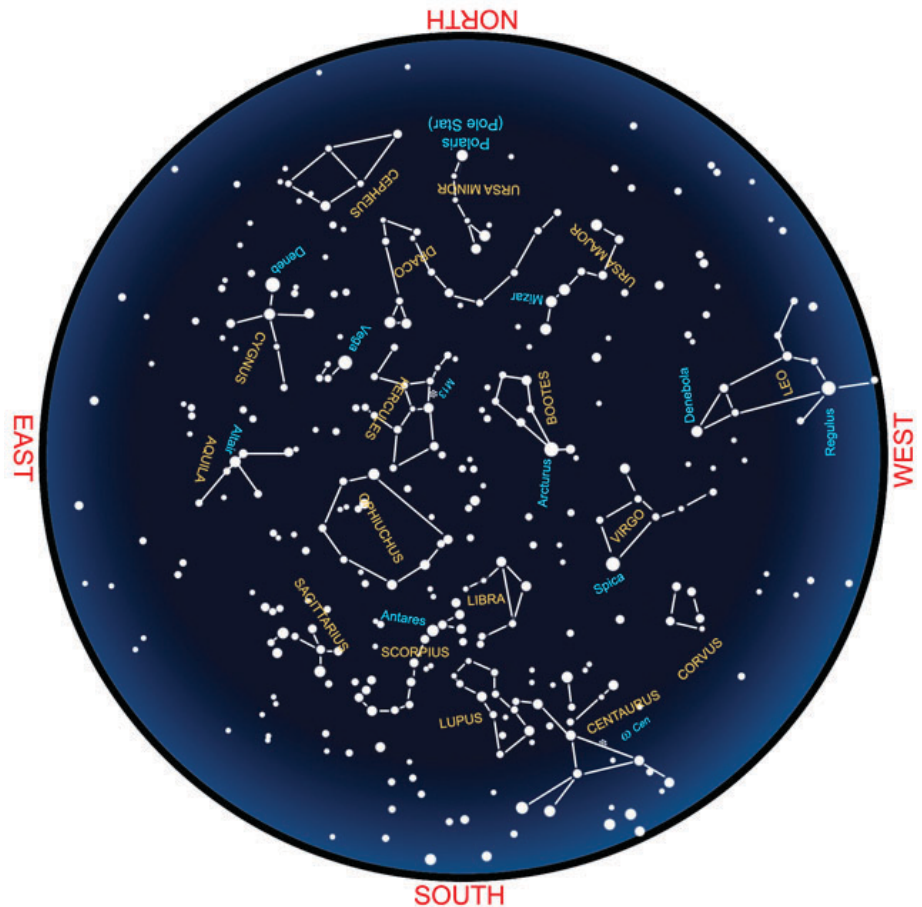
Month of June is the beginning of monsoon in India and even though it may not rain most of the time the skies are covered with clouds, giving us less chance to do sky watching. However, these months have some advantages too. The rain washes out all the dust and smog from the atmosphere and when the sky clears up, and it does happen now and then, we have literally crystal clear sky.

This month Venus reaches its Maximum western elongation of 45.9° on 3rd June and later on 15th, Saturn will be at opposition and is observable all through the night. Also it will be closest to Earth than any other time of year. At this distance light would take 1h 15m 12s to reach us. If you are observing that night then remember that the light you are observing has started from Saturn more than one hour ago.

On 3rd June in the evening soon after the sunsets we can see 70% illuminated disk of the Moon next to Jupiter. As the moon marches on it passes close to Saturn on 10th. It will be within about 3 deg from the planet.

These days Venus is less than 3 degrees from Uranus and both the planets can be spotted in same field of binoculars. Note that even though Uranus was discovered after the advent of telescopic observations the planet can be seen with naked eyes.

The moon in its thin lunar crescent avatar passes within 3 deg of Venus on 21st of June. This day is also the June solstice day, which occurs at 09:54. The North Pole of the earth will be tilted toward the Sun to its maximum and the sun-rays would be perpendicular over the Tropic of Cancer.



The map shows slightly more sky than that will be visible from a given location. Thus the map can be used elsewhere in India at 21:00 hrs Indian Time. Hold the chart vertically before your eyes and turn it until the geographical direction you are facing shows at the bottom of the chart.

| Phases of the Moon (timings in IST hh:mm) | | | |
|---|-------------------------|---|------------------------|
| First Quarter (Shukla Paksha Ashtami) | Full Moon (Poornima) | Last Quarter (Krishna Paksha Ashtami) | New Moon (Amavasya) |
| 1 June, 18:12 | 9 June, 18:40 | 17 June, 17:03 | 24 June, 08:01 |

(Disclaimer: The Indian names of the stars and planet, given in parenthesis for the purpose to remind the reader that India has a rich astronomical tradition. We do not subscribe to astrology.)

Cultural Wing

Summer Camps (Nritya & Abhinaya)

On the onset of summer, Nehru Centre has organized SUMMER CAMPS as detailed below

नृत्य



Kathak Darpan

A Workshop on Kathak Dance conducted by Pt. Birju Maharaj

Birju Maharaj is a leading exponent and torch-bearer of the Kalka-Bindadin gharana of Lucknow. He has performed in almost all the countries of the globe. He is a wonderful singer with a strong grip over Thumri, Dadra, Bhajan and Ghazals. He gave his first performance at the age of seven. Pandit Birju Maharaj is not only a Kathak dancer but also a sensitive poet and captivating orator.

Birju Maharaj, the master of Kathak, taught in Sangeet Bharati, Bharatiya Kala Kendra and headed the teaching faculty Kathak Kendra (a unit of the Sangeet Natak Akademi) in Delhi, After his retirement from Kathak Kendra, in 1998, Birju Maharaj started his own Kathak and Indian Fine Arts academy, Kalashram.

Pt. Birju Maharaj has won several honours and awards including the coveted Padma Vibhushan (1986). He has also been awarded with the Kalidas Samman by the Government of Madhya Pradesh, Soviet Land Nehru Award, Sangam Kala Award in 2002. He was the recipient of the Lata Mangeshkar Puraskaar. Pt. Birju Maharaj has also been conferred with the honorary Doctorate degrees from Benaras Hindu University and Khairagarh University.

Date: 5th to 9th June 2017

Venue: Nehru Centre Auditorium

Timings: 10.00 am to 7.00 pm each day

अभिनय



Appreciation of Theatre - Workshop on Theatre by Shri Vijay Kumar

Mr. Vijay Kumar, an alumni of National School of Drama (1994), Film & Television Institute of India (F.T.I.I. 1996), Central School of Speech and Drama, London (2001). He has directed more than 60 plays. He is a leading voice and speech teacher in India. He is also a visiting faculty of different theatre and films schools.

Mr. Vijay Kumar has acted in more than 20 feature and short films, Television advertisements and serials.

Date: 5th to 9th June 2017

Venue: Hall of Harmony

Timings: 10.00 am to 1.00 pm each day

Entry: Forms of the above workshops can be collected from the office of the Culture Wing or can be downloaded from the Nehru Centre's website : www.nehru-centre.org.

Programmes for June 2017

MANGAL GOGTE

Mangal is a self-taught artist. She worked in the capacity as Director International Relations and have taught in many Universities in India and abroad. She has had painting exhibitions in India, Russia and Helsinki. Her water colour paintings are landscapes and mainly on nature.

**Tuesday 30th May to
Monday 5th June 2017
(AC Gallery)**

SAGAR SALVE . M. PADMA CHARI . MAYUR SHRIVARDHANKAR

Sagar has completed B.F.A. from Sir J. J. Institute of Applied Art, Mumbai. His paintings are figurative compositions and he paints in acrylic on canvas.

M. Padma Chari is a self-taught artist. Her drawings are figurative on various subjects and she paints in acrylic on canvas.

Mayur secured G.D.A. and B.F.A. from L.S. Raheja School of Art, Mumbai. His paintings are mostly based on various subjects and he paints in acrylic and mix media on canvas.

**Tuesday 30th May to
Monday 5th June 2017
(Circular Gallery)**

KISHORE SALI

Kishore completed B.F.A. in Fine Arts. Kishore's work is on various subjects. Also on landscapes and

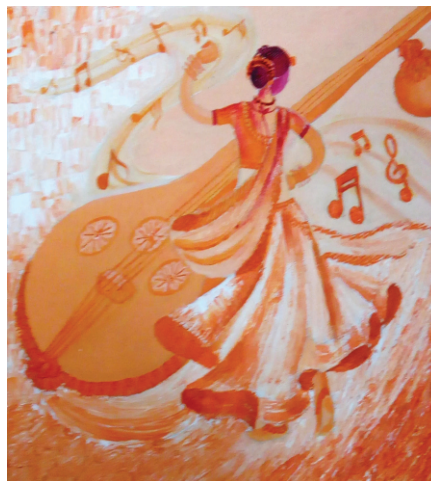


Painting by Kishore Sali

dance series in contemporary style. He has had many shows in India.

**Tuesday 6th June to
Monday 12th June 2017
(AC Gallery)**

SHARYU FARKANDE

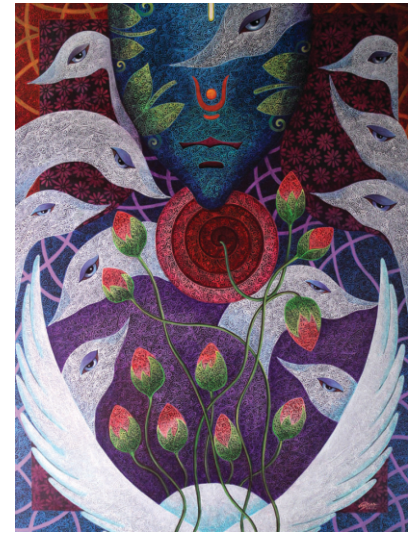


Painting by Sharyu Farkande

Sharyu has done A.T.D.; M.A.B.Ed. and one year B.F.A. from Pune. She has had exhibitions of her figurative paintings in Pune.

**Tuesday 6th June to
Monday 12th June 2017
(Circular Gallery)**

TUSHAR SHINDE . DAMODAR AWARE



Painting by Tushar Shinde

Tushar secured B.F.A. from Sir J. J. School of Art, Mumbai. He has participated in many shows and won awards. He has also received scholarship from University of Mumbai. His figurative paintings are in various mediums.



Painting by Damodar Aware

Damodar obtained B.F.A., Dip.A.Ed in Painting and M.F.A. in Portrait Painting from Sir J. J. School of Art, Mumbai. He has exhibited his works in many shows and won awards. His paintings are compositions in acrylic on canvas.

**Tuesday 13th June to
Monday 19th June 2017
(AC Gallery)**

ALOKE ADHIKARI

Aloke received B.F.A. and M.F.A. in Painting from Shantiniketan. He has had many exhibitions to his credit, done many murals and attended workshops in Port Blair. His figurative paintings are in acrylic, pastels and charcoal on canvas.

**Tuesday 13th June to
Monday 19th June 2017
(Circular Gallery)**

EXHIBITION OF CHILDREN ARTISTS



Painting by Snehee Chheda



Painting by Arushi Vinod



Painting by Chirag Vaity

YUVRAJ PATIL



Painting by Yuvraj Patil

Yuvraj secured A.T.D. and G.D.A. in Painting from Kolhapur and Dip.A.Ed. from Pune. He has had many solo and group shows in India and won awards. His landscapes are in charcoal on canvas.

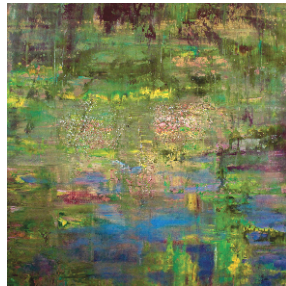
**Tuesday 20th June to
Monday 26th June 2017
(AC Gallery)**

The participant students in this exhibition are from the age of 8 to 15 years. Their works are on various subjects. They are being guided by Santosh Goriwale who is an artist himself.

**Tuesday 20th June to
Monday 26th June 2017
(Circular Gallery)**

'CHATAK' - 2017

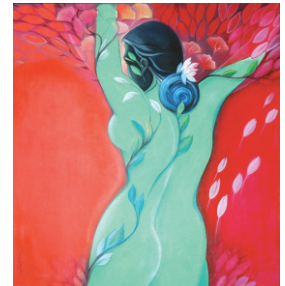
A MONSOON SHOW OF PROFESSIONAL ARTISTS



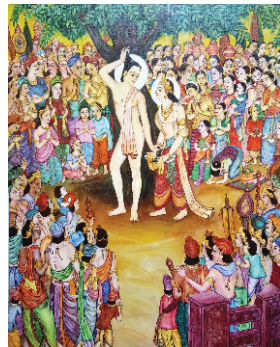
Painting by Anuja Sane



Sculpture by Nandkumar Kulaye



Painting by Rakesh Sharma



Painting by Nisha Jain



Calligraphy by Shubhangi Gade



Painting by Sohan Choudhary

The 25th year of 'CHATAK' - A Monsoon show of Professional artists will be on display with their paintings and sculptures.

There are thirtyfive artists participating from Mumbai, Thane, Raigad, Pune, Naded, Parbhani, Solapur, Haridwar and Hyderabad. Their works are in various styles and mediums. The art lovers can view different styles of paintings and sculptures under one roof.

**Thursday 29th June to
Saturday 8th July 2017
(AC & Circular Gallery)**

NEHRU CENTRE PUBLICATIONS

MUMBAI PAST & PRESENT * WITNESS TO HISTORY

* REMEMBERING EINSTEIN *

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VINAYAKRAO WAGH * RAJARAM PANVALKAR

KRISHNAJI KETKAR * DATTAJIRAO DALVI

* GOVIND MALADKAR

14. NAGESH B. SABANNAVAR

15. NARAYAN L. SONAVADEKAR

16. "GURU-SHISHYA"

BABA GAJBAR & GANPATRAO WADANGEKAR

17. D. G. KULKARNI (DIZI)

18. MILLENNIUM SHOW

(A Century of Art from Maharashtra)

19. BALAJI TALIM & HARISH TALIM

20. S. L. HALDANKAR & G. S. HALDANKAR

21. VINAYAKRAO P. KARMARKAR

22. GOPALRAO DEUSKAR

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New Arrivals: Some More Books for Children

| Sr. No. | Title | Author/s |
|---------|---|-------------------------------|
| 1 | First sun stories <i>Collection of folk tales from North East India, lovingly retold and illustrated for children</i> | T Bijoykumar Singh and others |
| 2 | 4 heroes and a green beard <i>This adventure story is witty, whimsical and full of funny situations</i> | Narayan Gangopadhyay |
| 3 | 4 heroes and a haunted house <i>This is quirky, eccentric, delightful book, it gives readers a rollicking good time</i> | Narayan Gangopadhyay |
| 4 | Reuben's adventures on uncle Ram's farm <i>With each adventure, Reuben & Andrew gain new friends and learn something along the way</i> | Ram Halady |
| 5 | Adventures of Reuben on uncle Ram's farm <i>Through the hot days of an India summer, the cousins meet different animals and learn about them</i> | Ram Halady |
| 6 | What shape is an elephant? <i>We try to understand life as people try to understand the elephant in the story</i> | Rumi |
| 7 | My first big book <i>This book is the perfect way to introduce toddlers to words, numbers, shapes and colours</i> | Mandy Stanley |
| 8 | Happy baby things that go <i>Soft to touch with colourful, labelled images that help develop vocabulary and speech</i> | Priddy Books |
| 9 | The pigeon wants a puppy <i>A pigeon that really wants a puppy, but on receiving the animal has second thoughts</i> | Mo Willems |
| 10 | Angry Angara <i>An ordinary, plain-looking boy who becomes a hero by caring for others and the planet</i> | Coomi Vevaina |

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