

Newsletter

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Nehru
Centre



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Events At a Glance...

Cultural Wing

Mehfil

(An Evening of Classical Vocal Recital & Jugalbandi of Sarangi and Hindustani Flute)

10th March 2016, 6.30 pm
Hall of Culture

Library

Book Launch

A Busy Bee Buzzes by Katie Bagli

5th March, 2016, 10.00 am to 12.00 noon

Hall of Harmony

For children aged 5+

Book Discussion

This unquiet land: Stories from India's fault lines by Barkha Dutt

31st March, 2016, 4.30 pm

'Who Are We' Hall

Open to all

Space Science Lecture

Siddharth Pandey, Doctoral Researcher (Space Engineering), School of Engineering and IT, University of New South Wales- Australian Defence Force Academy, Northcott Drive, Australia will speak on "Astrobiology in Ladakh: NASA Spaceward Bound India 2016".

26th March 2016, 5.00 pm
Hall of Culture

India's Defence Preparedness

A seminar on India's Defence Preparedness was organized by Nehru Centre recently. The seminar covered all the three wings of defence preparedness namely, Army, Navy and Air Force. The first one was Army. Major Shashikant Pitre (Retd) spoke on defence preparedness of the Indian Army. His presentation was covered in the monthly Newsletters for June, August and September 2015.

Vice Admiral Vinod Pasricha presented a paper on the state of Indian Navy. Some excerpts from his speech were published in the monthly Newsletter for October, November and December 2015.

Air Marshal (Retd) B. N. Gokhale, PVSM AVSM VM, Former Vice Chief of the Air Staff gave his presentation on the state of Indian Air Force Challenges and Opportunities. Some excerpts from his presentation were published in the monthly Newsletter for January and February, 2016. Following are some more excerpts from his presentation:

It was to the credit of leadership and synergy that India emerged

victorious in the 1971 Bangladesh war. In the interim years the IAF strength had been increased to 45 squadrons including 35 for combat role. Pakistan on the other hand possessed 13 combat squadrons. This higher strength of IAF was adequate if China did not interfere. The TAP was well equipped and trained; it was motivated and was used in unison with the overall joint plan. Not only did the IAF ensure air superiority over PAF in the East but it also ensured that PAF was almost ineffective in the Western theatre of war.

The IAF had established Helibridging over Padma and Meghana rivers by helicopters to rapidly advance towards Dacca and had successfully carried out one of the biggest airdrops over Tangail in Bangladesh on 11th December 1971. Then came the bombing of Governor's Palace in Dacca on 14th Dec, which hastened the surrender by Lt. Gen AAK Niazi on 16th December. IAF had thus ensured that the overall war aim of early fall of Dacca was achieved by an effective air campaign. Although MiG-21 aircraft were used for the

contd. on page 2

bombing raid, they had achieved strategic effect in this war.

Dwindling Strength of IAF

The Defence Plan of 1966-71 had reiterated the need for 64 squadron air force. However IAF was able to achieve the sanctioned level of 45 squadrons only by 1971. After the war, strength of IAF was allowed to dwindle possibly because of the perception that Pakistan had been cut to size and that Chinese PLAAF was yet to be modernized. However, an important aspect was missed out that of human resource. The pilots and technicians need to be kept abreast of technology and also need adequate flying experience to ensure operational capability.

Later when the Siachin conflict took place in 1984, IAF realized the need for multi-role platforms capable of operating also at high altitudes. The MiG-23 and MiG-27 were used in this conflict but their numbers had started dwindling rapidly. The lack of new induction resulted in IAF getting caught on the wrong foot during Kargil War of 1999. Constrained with the Government directive of not crossing the Line of Actual Control (LAC), it lacked aircraft, which could carry out accurate and effective attacks on the infiltrators using higher reaches of the mountains. It is only when the IAF used Mirage-2000 aircraft with Laser Guided stand-off weapons that the enemy logistics build up was destroyed, in turn shortening the war in India's favour.

Lessons of Kargil once again brought into focus the issue of adequacy of strength and also that of quality of platforms. Since the First Gulf war of 1991 and later Kosovo, it was evident that newer generation of aircraft and weapons

would be needed. While the IAF possessed a number of MiG-21, MiG-23 and MiG-27 squadrons, it lacked adequate numbers of 4th and 5th generation aircraft such as the Mirage-2000 and Su-30. Delay in induction of LCA was also affecting the IAF strength.

Meanwhile, the PLAAF is armed with F-16 and Chinese J-10 aircraft and the Chinese PLAAF was also modernizing rapidly with aircraft like Su-27 and indigenous J-10 and FC-20, 5th generation fighter aircraft. Apart from combat aircraft the Chinese have been rapidly building infrastructure in terms of airfields, logistics depots, supply routes and radar cover in Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR).

Since the 80s, IAF had been demanding for increasing the strength of fighter fleet including additional Mirage-2000 aircraft, which could have been operationalized very quickly since IAF had enough experience and trained manpower. However, this case was not sanctioned and IAF had to upgrade the older aircraft like MiG-21, MiG-27 and Jaguar.

During the year long standoff known as Op Parakram, after attack on Indian Parliament on 13th Dec 2001, IAF had to move the combat squadrons from Central and Eastern sectors to the West. This once again brought into focus the inadequacy of strength to cater to both the Pakistan and China fronts.

IAF currently has only 33 combat squadrons, which is hopefully the lowest it can get. Amongst these only about 15 squadrons consisting of Sukhoi-30 and Mirage-2000 can be considered as modern 4th and 5th generation aircraft. This is woefully short of the desired strength of 45 squadrons. There is

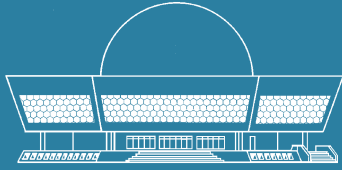
need therefore to induct 126 MMRCA Rafale aircraft along with FGFA being developed with Russia. If adequate budgetary support is made available, it is expected that by 2027 IAF would once again build-up to strength of 42 squadrons. In comparison "China can throw at least 21 fighter squadrons against India, from its eight airbases in Tibet and other airfields to their north. More Chinese fighters can join forces if they are allowed to overfly Myanmar. Similarly, Pakistan can deploy 21 to 25 fighter squadrons against India." With limited strength presently, IAF will need to use squadrons from either fronts with air-to-air refuelling in a 'swing role' as was practiced in a major exercise 'Live Wire' in Mar-Apr 2013.

to be continued...

What Nehru said...

We chose the system of parliamentary democracy deliberately; we chose it not only because, to some extent, we had always thought on those lines previously, but because we thought it was in keeping with our own old traditions, not the old traditions as they were, but adjusted to the new conditions and new surroundings.

March 28, 1957



NEHRU PLANETARIUM

SKY SHOWS : 'Wonders of the Universe'

Expected New Show: "Age of the Darkness"

Timings

12 noon (Hindi) 1:30 pm Marathi

3:00 pm (English) 4:30 pm Hindi

(MONDAY CLOSED)

21st Space Level Science Exhibition

Nehru Centre participated in the 21st State Level Science Exhibition, held at Baramati between 31st January and 3rd February 2016.

The exhibition was organized in the campus of Vidya Pratishthan, Baramati in Vidyanagri. Nehru Centre had put up a mobile planetarium with seating capacity of 90 children.

There was an enormous response. It was estimated that on an average about 50,000 people visited the exhibition every day. Most visitors were students and teachers coming from different parts of Maharashtra.

Keeping this large response in mind astronomy the shows of 10 minutes were shown to the students. The shows were highly enjoyed and appreciated by them.

In addition Nehru Centre team with one volunteer had installed a telescope to show live image of the Sun and sunspot. They also answered questions by the visitors.

Arvind Paranjpye, Director Planetarium gave a public lecture on Searching for Life in the Universe and in another session had interactive dialogue with a group of geography teacher



Occultation of Aldebaran by the Moon

On Monday 14th of March the Moon will come directly between the Earth and Aldebaran (Rohini) the brightest star in the constellation of Taurus (Vrushab). The event is called occultation.

By this definition the solar eclipse is a actually an occultation of the Sun by the Moon. The event that will take close to 8 p.m. Indian Time is visible only from the northern part of India. Times for disappearance and reappearance for the four major Indian cities are given below.

What will happen is as follows:- On March 14 about an hour after the sunset one would be able to see a the Moon and right above it will be the star Aldebaran. As the time marches on the gap between the two will start reducing. One might not be able to see the darker side of the moon as seen from earth. And then in a fraction of a second the star would be gone – gone behind the Moon. It would later reappear from the brighter side of the Moon.

More information will be available on the Nehru Centre website closer to the date.

City	Disappearance	Reappearance
New Delhi	20:07:25	21:19:24
Kolkata	20:31:55	21:30:20
Mumbai	20:27:14	20:59:01
Hyderabad	20:41:21	21:05:20

Cultural Wing

Mehfil

An Evening of Classical Vocal Recital & Jugalbandi of Sarangi and Hindustani Flute

Classical Vocal by
Deepika Bhide



Deepika Bhide is a 'B' High graded artist of All India Radio. She started learning music at a very tender age. Firstly, under the expert guidance of Pandit Vinayakbuwa Kale and Smt. Shruti Gokhale. She pursued her music under the guidance of very eminent artists like late Ganayogini Smt. Dhondutai Kulkarni. She has won prizes at State Level and National Level.

Accompanists:

Yati Bhagwat on Tabla
Omkar Agnihotri on Harmonium

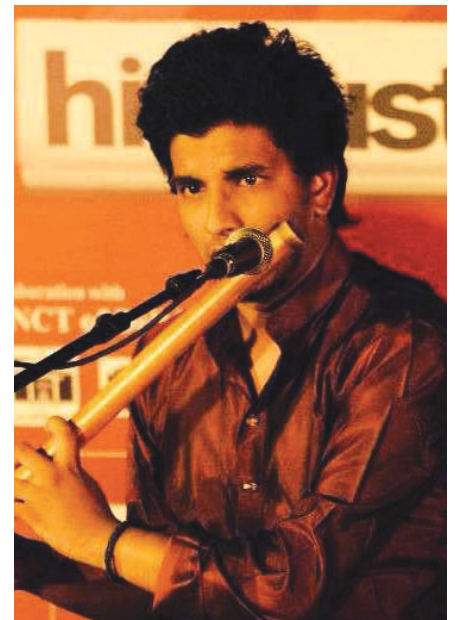
Sarangi Recital by
Sangeet Mishra



Sangeet Mishra hails from the renowned Sarangi Gharana of Benaras. From childhood he had strong inclination and talent for music and he developed an interest in playing the Sarangi and received training and guidance from his maternal grandfather, the world renowned Sarangi maestro Pandit Bhagwan Das Mishra and his father Pandit Santosh Kumar Mishra

A versatile performer, he is known for successfully collaborating with musicians from different genres and styles all over the world in creating a new musical language.

Hindustani Flute Recital by
Rajeev Prasanna



Rajeev Prasanna hails from a family of legendary flautists. Rajeev is trained and groomed under the expert guidance of his grandfather Late Pandit Raghunath Prasanna and father Pandit Ravi Shankar Prasanna. The music heritage has imbibed in him a very keen sense of *sur* and *taal* (Musical notes & Rhythms) so much so that various exponents of Indian Classical Music, have applauded his public performances in musical sittings. A daily practice session of minimum four hours from last ten years has enabled him to master the intricacies and the finer qualities of Indian Classical Music, developing a style that is respectful of traditions, yet full of innovation.

10th March 2016, 6.30 pm
Hall of Culture

Entry: Free to all music lovers
Online booking at cultshow@nehru-centre.org

Programmes for March 2016

PRADIP MAITRA



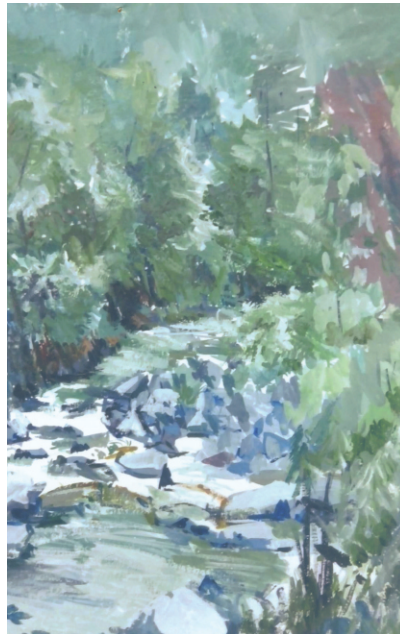
Painting by Pradip Maitra

Pradip graduated in Fine Art from Calcutta University with First class. He has many solo and group shows to his credit and participated in major shows in India and abroad. His paintings are figurative with abstract compositions in water colours.

**Tuesday 1st March to
Monday 7th March 2016
(AC Gallery)**

SHREDHYEYA TATKE .
NIKHIL SAYAL .
SUMIT KUMAR .
VISHWAJEET .
ABHISHEKH RATHI .
ANKUR SAGAR .
TUSHAR MADAN .
SANCHIT VERMA

Shredhyeya is studying in Fine Art from Govt. of NCT from Delhi. His landscapes are in water colours.



Painting by Shredhyeya Tatke

Nikhil is also studying at Govt. College of Delhi, graduated in Applied Art. His paintings are landscapes in water colour and pencils.

Sumit from Govt. College, Delhi studying for B.F.A. His figurative compositions are in water colour and mix media.



Painting by Vishwajeet

Vishwajeet studying Fine Art from Govt. College, Delhi. He does portraits in poster colours and Still Life in pencil on paper.

Abhishek from Govt.College, Delhi does compositions, Still Life in water colours, poster colours and pencil on paper.

Ankur studying Applied Art from Govt. College, Delhi. His abstract compositions are in acrylic and water colour.

Tushar does portraits and compositions in water colours and colour pencils.



Photograph by Sanchit Verma

Sanchit is a photographer. He does fashion and landscape photography.

**Tuesday 1st March to
Monday 7th March 2016
(Circular Gallery)**

MAHESH KARAMBELE

Mahesh has Fine Art training from Pranav Art Institute, Mumbai. His landscapes are in acrylic and water colours.

**Tuesday 8th March to
Monday 14th March 2016
(AC Gallery)**

ANKUSH DHUPKAR .
PRASANNA LAUD

Ankush is a self-taught artist. He has many shows to his credit. His landscapes are in pencil and pen & ink with intricate rendering.

Prasanna obtained B.F.A. in Applied Art from Sir J. J. Institute of Applied Art. His landscapes are in water colours.

**Tuesday 8th March to
Monday 14th March 2016
(Circular Gallery)**

ASHISH KUMAR DAS

Ashish secured B.V.A. in Sculpture from Govt. College of Art & Craft, Kolkata and M.F.A. from M.S. University, Baroda. He has had many solo and group shows in India. Won prestigious awards and scholarships. His sculptures are on display at Canadian Museum, Toronto based on Hindu Civilization. His sculptures are in wood and also with combination of glass and metal.

**Tuesday 15th March to
Monday 21st March 2016
(AC Gallery)**

PRAMOD GAWADE

Pramod has Diploma in Applied Art from Abhinav Kala Mahavidyalaya, Pune, specialization in Graphic Design and advertising. His landscapes are in water colour.

**Tuesday 15th March to
Monday 21st March 2016
(Circular Gallery)**

G. K. DHANOO & DEEPANJALI DHANOO



Painting by Shri G. K. Dhanoo

Shri G. K. Dhanoo a senior artist, obtained Diploma in Fine Arts from Mumbai. His paintings are attractive

and in naturalistic style. They are realistic with intricately adorned. His landscapes are as attractive as his figurative paintings, where the images are chosen with love.



Painting by Deepanjali Dhanoo

Deepanjali secured B.F.A. in Fine Arts from Sir J. J. School of Arts. She has had many exhibitions in India. Her paintings are on various birds with special rendering by giving the feel of Chinese and Japanese style & painting.

**Tuesday 22nd March to
Monday 28th March 2016
(AC Gallery)**

RAMKUMAR MAHESHWARI



Painting by Ramkumar Maheshwari

Ramkumar received B.A. and M.A. degree in Painting from Jiwaji University, Gwalior. He has won many awards. His abstract paintings in acrylic and oil are in unique style.

**Tuesday 22nd March to
Monday 28th March 2016
(Circular Gallery)**

VINAYAK BHOER



Painting by Vinayak Bhoer

Vinayak completed Commercial Art from Sir J. J. Institute of Applied Arts with a Gold Medal. He had worked with prestigious Ad Agencies in Mumbai as an Art Director.

He has won many awards for his works. His landscapes are in various mediums.

**Tuesday 29th March to
Monday 4th April 2016
(AC Gallery)**

JAGANNATH SARKAR . BISWAJIT CHOWDHURY . SAMPAD ACHARYA

Jagannath graduated from Govt. College of Art, Kolkata. He has had many solo and group shows in India.

His landscapes and paintings are in water colours and pen & ink.

Biswajit had his art education from West Bengal. He has had many shows in Kolkata. His landscapes are in water colours.

Sampad obtained Diploma in Fine Arts from Kolkata. He has many shows to his credit.

His landscapes and figurative paintings are in water colours.

**Tuesday 29th March to
Monday 4th April 2016
(Circular Gallery)**

NEHRU CENTRE PUBLICATIONS

MUMBAI PAST & PRESENT * WITNESS TO HISTORY

* REMEMBERING EINSTEIN *

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9. COLLECTOR'S PRIDE / 10. K. B. KULKARNI

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12. SAMAKALEEN (Contemporary Five Artists)

VINAYAKRAO WAGH * RAJARAM PANVALKAR

KRISHNAJI KETKAR * DATTAJIRAO DALVI

* GOVIND MALADKAR

13. NAGESH B. SABANNAVAR

14. NARAYAN L. SONAVADEKAR

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BABA GAJBAR & GANPATRAO WADANGEKAR

16. D. G. KULKARNI (DIZI)

17. MILLENNIUM SHOW

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18. BALAJI TALIM & HARISH TALIM

19. S. L. HALDANKAR & G. S. HALDANKAR

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3.	The great cities: New York	9.	The great cities: London
4.	The great cities: Venice	10.	The great cities: Athens
5.	The great cities: Rio de Janeiro	11.	The great cities: Istanbul
6.	The great cities: Jerusalem	12.	The great cities: Tokyo

- Published by Time - Life Books

Book Launch

A Busy Bee Buzzes by Katie Bagli

Date: Saturday, 5th March, 2016

Time: 10.00 am to 12.00 noon



Venue: Hall of Harmony, Discovery of India Building, Nehru Centre

About the book: Mohan, a young boy, comes across a dancing bee. He befriends the bee and gets to enter its hive where he learns all about the secret lives of bees. He also realizes the importance of bees in pollinating flowers to produce the much needed fruits for us.

For children aged 5+

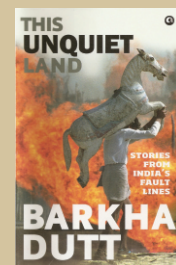
Book Discussion

This Unquiet Land: Stories from India's Fault Lines

Written by Barkha Dutt

Date: Thursday, 31st March, 2016

Time: 4.30 pm

Venue: 'Who Are We' Hall, First Floor
Discovery of India Exposition

Open to all

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