

## SYDNEY KANNADA SANGHA RAJYOTHSAVA 2005 PROGRAM REPORT

### **‘Karnataka Ithihasa’**

Sydney Kannada Sangha (SKS) successfully presented the Rajyothsava 2005 program titled “Karnataka Ithihasa” at the Riverside Girls High School, Huntleys Point on 12 November 2005.

On the eve of the ensuing 50th anniversary of Kannada Rajyothsava, the program “Karnataka Ithihasa” presented by SKS was a fitting tribute to the huge cultural heritage of Karnataka. This program gave the Sydney Kannadigas an opportunity to introspect on the history of Karnataka. The program consisting of vocal music, Choir singing, musical drama, dance sequences, audio visual presentation, humorous anecdotes were presented by families and members of the local community. “Karnataka Ithihasa” was brilliantly compered by Mrs Aparna Nagashayana whose introductory remarks are worth quoting “It is true that people take great pride in Kannada as a language, understanding the true essence of the language doubles this pride. Everyone present appreciated Aparna’s passion for Kannada and her rendering in a clear and eloquent manner.



**Mrs Aparna Nagashayana**

Dr Nagamma Prakash, Vice – President, Sydney Kannada Sangha in her welcome speech announced the forthcoming program in May/June 2006 in association with Asia Pacific Kannada Okkuta the visit of renowned playback singer from Karnataka Mrs Manjula Gururaj and well-known humorist Krishna Gowda. Dr Orekondy, President, United India Association delivered a special message on the occasion.



**Dr Nagamma Prakash**  
**Vice – President,**



**Pushpa Jagadish**

The program started off with the brilliant rendering of the song “Rama Emba Erudu Akshara” by Pushpa Jagadish written by the greatest of the Kannada poets Sri Purandara Dasa. This was followed by the rendering of the song “Navodayada Kirana Leele” written by G S Shivarudrappa by upcoming child artists Puja Murty and Pallavi Murty. The background music was provided by Adithya Prasad on Tabla and Varun Sivaram on Keyboard.

“**ITHIHASA KARNATAKA**” written, composed and choreographed by Narayana Kanakapura was sung by a galaxy of local artists to present all the eminent personalities born in Karnataka starting since 1<sup>st</sup> Century to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century to name a few Purandara Dasa, Kanaka Dasa, Ranadheera Kanteerava, Hakka Bukka, Hoysala etc.

These personalities were portrayed by children in the traditional dress with the appropriate dialogues. It was a treat to watch this segment with up to 50 participants including visiting IT professionals from Bangalore Lakshman Bharadwaj and Manohar Ramkumar. The background music was handled by Mrs Sheela Nagesh on Keyboard, Srinath on Tabla, Saranga on the guitar and Manohar Ramkumar on the drums.



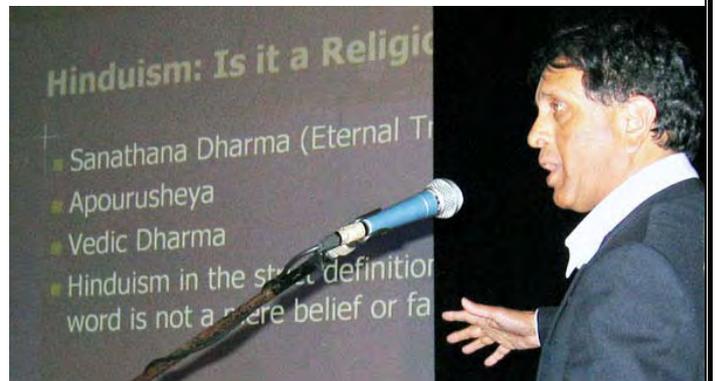
Sugama Kannda School Children



Sugama Kannda School Children

Akshay Rao, Amita Rao and Nikhil Nanjangud

**“KARNATAKADA ITHIHASA”** a song by Dr S P Balasubramaniam was adopted for a dance presentation by Akshay Rao, Amita Rao and Nikhil Nanjangud accompanied by visual presentation handled by Sudhakar. This was choreographed by Anu Raminder and Mrs Hema Rao.



Adithya Prasad, Puja Murty and Pallavi Murty. Varun Sivaram

Dr Harish presenting- Sanathana Dharma

**“ TENALI RAMAKRISHNA “** a variety drama program by Smruthi Rao and Gargi Bellave, Script by Bellave Nagashayana, Music by Aparna Nagashayana was based on Tenali Ramakrishna, one of the cleverest Minister to King Krishnadeva Raya. Smruthi Rao and Gargi Bellave also danced to the song “ Apara Keerthi Galisi “ and all the dialogues were spoken by them in Kannada extremely well.

“ KANNU KORISUVA KARNATAKA” was presented by the Students of Sugama Kannada Shaale ( Kannada School run by Sydnay Kannada Sangha). They traced the history of Karanataka ‘s arts and culture including Belur, Halebid, Shravana Belagola, Hampi etc in the form of a well-documented Audio-Visual presentation. Mr Narayana Kanakapura who runs the school every week assisted in putting together the presentation.



Bellave Nagashayana, Aparna Nagashayana, Geetha Muralidhar



Dr Siddalingeswara Orekondy

BELUR – KARNATAKADA KALA MUKUTA (BELUR – KARNATAKA’S CROWN JEWEL) depicted the visit of four teenagers played by Lakshman Bharadwaj, Manohar Ramkumar, Vijaya, Sudha to Bangalore and their visit to Belur accompanied by their grand parents played brilliantly by Ramesh Basavapatna and Parimala Hindupur. Belur full of fantastic sculptures was a dream come true of Dancer and Queen Shantala was brought alive by the dance choreographed and extremely well presented by Aarti Bakshi and supported by child artists Vamshika Bhakshi, Jyothsna Shimoga, and Aashi Bhatt. The whole concept was conceived and scripted by Mrs Anu Sivaram and directed by Ramaesh Basavapatna. An Audio-Visual presentation covering the sculptures and temple architecture served very well in taking the attendees to the Belur temple itself.



Dr Harish From New York, Dr Nagamma Prakash



Lakshman Bharadwaj, Dr Nagamma Prakash

**T P Kailasam** was a fitting tribute to the memory of T P Kailasam on his birth anniversary, and considered one of the greatest humour writers of Karnataka in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. This segment depicted the songs and humorous episodes of T P Kailasam by Aparna Nagashayana, Bellave Nagashayana and Geetha Muralidhar.

SKS introduced for the first time a special segment for contributions by visiting Kannadigas from Overseas to showcase the talents that kannadigas around the world have developed in promoting Kannada and culture. We were fortunate to have Dr Harish, a Veterinary Surgeon from New York, Lakshman Bharadwaj an IT Professional with Tata Consulting Services Bangalore is the son of the renowned Kannada Film writer and Director Mr Shivashankar, and Manohar Ramkumar and IT Business Analyst with Infosys Bangalore is a well-known mimicry and voice-over artist in Kannada film world.

Dr Harish presented a comprehensive insight into “ Sanathana Dharma “ with a well-documented visual presentation. Lakshman enthralled the audience with a short comedy segment and Manohar presented mimicry depicting film personalities such as Actors Ambarish, Balakrishna, Shanker Nag to name a few.



Mr Narayana Kanakapur- Dr Nagamma Prakash



Manohar Ramkumar - Dr Nagamma Prakash

Dr Nagamma Prakash Vice-President, SKS in keeping with its usual practice presented mementoes to visiting guests Dr Harish, Lakshman Bharadwaj and Manohar Ramkumar,



Mr Jagadish Sury, Lakshman, Manohar, Narayana



Dr Harish, Dr Prakash, Mr Onkraswamy Goppenalli

Momentoes was also presented to Narayan Kanakapura for running the Kannada Sugama Shaale so well. SKS also recognised the outstanding performance of 4 students in the Kannada School by honouring them and presenting prizes on the occasion



Dr Dagamma, Dr Harish and family



Suresh Bangalore, Dr Prakash, Chaya Suresh

The Vote of thanks was presented by Jagadish Sury, Secretary/SKS who specially thanked Mr Narendra Naik, Director/City Forex for his financial support as a sponsor of the event. He also thanked profusely the program co-ordinators, the participating children, the parents, members, volunteers and others for their support in presenting a well-received program. A special thanks to Jayaprakash of Woodlands Restaurant for supplying the tasty dinner.

The program ended with a sumptuous dinner of BB Bath, Curd Rice and Mysorepak and everyone enjoyed the program.

**Jagadish Sury**  
**Secretary**  
**Sydney Kannada Sangha**  
**12 Nov 2005**

The news letter and Photos by-Onkaraswamy Goppenalli- [www.kannda.org.au](http://www.kannda.org.au)