

Sydney Kannada Sangha Inc.

Hasya-Sangeetha Utsava

Report by Mrs Geetha Gopinath

Sydney Kannada Sangha celebrated its annual cultural event titled "Hasya - Sangeetha Utsava" on 26 June 2010. The Venue was "Sydney Bahai Centre" in Silverwater. The invited artists for this function were Smt Sunitha Sudheendra a well known playback singer and also accomplished Sugama Sangeetha singer, who shot to fame in Play back singing in films, with her hit song "Ello Jogappa" from the movie "Jogi", and Sri Mysore Anand, a very popular comedian and mimicry artist who has performed over 1000 shows in India and abroad.



The show commenced with lighting of the inaugural lamp by the invited guests and President of Sydney Kannada Sangha Mrs Geetha Gopinath. After the welcome speech by Smt Smitha Karki, Secretary of Sydney Kannada Sangha,



Smt Lakshmi Sekhar took over as the Master of Ceremonies for the function. The programme started with an invocatory song on Lord Ganapathi by Kumari Siri Srinivasa. After a brief introduction of the artists by the MC, Sunitha commenced her singing with the melodious Bhavageethe "Karunalu Ba Belake" which introduced Sunitha's melodious music to the audience. Sunitha's songs and the melody in her voice, took the audience to the mesmerising world of music. Her beautiful rendering of Bhavageethe and Patriotic song "Navu Bharathiyaru" was a treat to the audience.



A special feature of this evening's programme was the two dances performed by our young dancers. Amitha Rao and Nithya Bangalore danced very gracefully for the melodious rendering of bhavageethe, written by the famous Kannada poet Sri D.S. Karki "Hachhevu



Kannadada Deepa". The dance was choreographed by Mrs Gayathri Krishnamurthy a renowned Bharathanatya dance teacher in Sydney and the dancers danced to the live music by Sunitha.



The 2nd dance was performed for the fast beat film song "Ello Jogappa" by Jyothsna Shimoga, Smrithi Sekhar, Smrithi Rao and Pranali Rao was well received. This dance was choreographed by the young dancers themselves. This was a great opportunity for the dancers and for SKS to showcase the talent of the young dancers.



Sri Mysore Anand did not fall behind in entertaining our audience. His comedy which is based on day today life of common man was hilarious and brought lot of laughter to the audience. This was the day when all the worries were put aside and audience laughed to their heart's content. His rendering of cricket commentary in various styles namely a priest at the temple, a drunkard on the street and Michael Jackson was very entertaining.



The first half of the programme concluded with the official proceedings. The invited guests were Hon. Amanda Fazio, President, Legislative Council of NSW and Smt. Aruna Chandrala, President of United Indian Associations. Smt. Geetha Gopinath, President of Sydney Kannada Sangha welcomed the invited guests, audience and spoke about the achievements of SKS during the financial year 2009-2010. A commemorative brochure to mark the occasion was released by the chief guest Hon. Amanda Fazio.



A very first in the history of Sydney Kannada Sangha was to outsource supply and sale of dinner by external caterers. This was very successfully done and well taken by the audience.



It is important to mention that Smt Lakshmi Sekhar did a commendable job as the Master of Ceremonies. Her confidence, fluency both in Kannada and English languages made her a very appropriate choice as MC for the programme.

The programme was divided into two segments. The second segment commenced after the interval, with Sunitha singing some film melodies from yesteryears and duets with local singers from our own community. The youngest singer to accompany Sunitha for the song "Naguva Nayana" was Akshay Rao. I am sure Akshay has inspired lot of youngsters to perform for Sydney Kannada Sangha. The other singers who accompanied Sunitha were Srinivas Rao, DV Srinivasa and Chowdappa Narayan. It has been the tradition of SKS executive committee members to sing a patriotic song in chorus with the invited artists.





The song "Elladaru iru enthadaru iru Kannadave Sathya Kannadave Nithya" by Rashtrakavi Kuvempu was chosen and performed for this occasion . The fast beat film songs which show cases Sunitha's versatile singing "Kalla Chandamama" "Shiva Shiva" "Jo..ke nanu balliya minchu", brought audience as young as two year old to come on the stage to dance for Sunitha's vibrant rendering of the songs.

Mysore Anand brought more laughter to the audience in the second half with his humour on Indian cinema and how shooting of film songs were done in olden days with limited technology. The comedy of Anand is unique due to his body



movement and his facial expression when performing any comedy.

Sri Giri Bhat, Vice president of Sydney Kannada Sangha delivered the Vote of thanks.

The programme concluded with Sunitha rendering the bhavageethe "Ede Thumbi Hadidenu" in memory of her respected guru Late Dr C Ashwath.

A well deserved standing ovation was given to the artists.



Sydney Kannada Sangha Executive committee members have one more feather in the cap with the successful organising of the event "Hasya-Sangeetha Utsava" .

The artists performed in the recently incorporated " Western Australia Kannada Sangha" on 3rd of July 2010 in Perth under the umbrella of Asia Pacific Kannada Okkoota.

Sydney Kannada Sangha takes this opportunity to thank all the sponsors, advertisers, local artists, volunteers for their contribution for the success of this programme.