



Indian Cultural Centre

under the aegis of Embassy of India, Doha - Qatar

✉ iccqatar@gmail.com

☎ 4468 6607

ICC NEWS BULLETIN, Vol - 01/2024

www.iccqatar.com



ICC (Indian Cultural Centre) is the apex body of the Indian expatriate community functioning under the patronage of the Embassy of India for the purpose of advancement of social and cultural interests of the Indian community in Qatar. The Centre was formally inaugurated on October 26, 1992.

ICC is also the platform to serve the interest of almost 700,000 Indians residing in Qatar. This Cultural body is also committed to promote the rich Indian culture among Qatari nationals and the expatriate communities living in Qatar. It also functions as a body of the Indian Embassy to strengthen the deep-rooted Indo-Qatar friendship and cultural relationship.

Membership in ICC is open to all Indian citizens residing in Qatar. Currently, ICC oversees more than eighty socio-cultural organizations affiliated with it, functioning as an umbrella organization for these diverse groups. The Ambassador of India serves as the Patron of ICC, with one nominated officer from the Embassy acting as the Chief Coordinator.

ICC is a vibrant hub that organizes cultural programs, especially during India's Independence Day and Republic Day, featuring a range of events highlighting themes of National Integration and India's esteemed cultural

heritage. Additionally, ICC regularly hosts various social and cultural events in Qatar, providing a platform for community members to interact and fostering a sense of patriotism among compatriots.

Our facilities include a library-cum-reading room and a variety of executive Indoor halls such as the Delhi, Bengaluru & Mumbai Lounges which can host a variety of social activities that can accommodate up to sixty persons. ICC also has a community hall named Ashoka which is equipped with all the required utilities that can accommodate a gathering of three hundred.

A significant milestone for ICC was the establishment of the Indian embassy's consular services in Qatar on September 19, 2004. The consular desk at ICC has since garnered an overwhelming response from the community, offering services such as applications for new passports, passport renewals, and Police Clearance Certificates (PCC)

In its commitment to nurturing the well-being of future generations, the ICC conducts regular classes in Indian Classical Dance, Karate, Kalari, and Yoga, all under the guidance of qualified instructors. This holistic approach reflects the ICC's dedication to the development of both mind and body within the community.

MANAGING COMMITTEE



MR. SACHIN DINKAR SHANKPAL
Coordinating Officer



Mr. MANIKANTAN A P
President



Mr. SUBRAMANYA HEBBAGELU
Vice President



Mr. MOHAN KUMAR
DURAISAMY
General Secretary



Mr. ABRAHAM JOSEPH
Secretary



Mr. ARSHAD ALI
Head of Finance



Adv. JAFFARKHAN M
Head of Premises & Social Activities



Mr. SAJEEV SATHYASEELAN
Head of Affiliation, Consular Services & HR



Mrs. SUMA MAHESH
Head of Cultural Activities



MR. SHANTANU DESHPANDE
Head of School Activities



Mr. MALIREDDY VERAVENKATA
SATYANARAYANA
Head of Inhouse Activities



Ms. GARGYBEN VAIDHYA
Head of External Events &
Activity Coordinator



Indian Cultural Centre

under the aegis of Embassy of India, Doha - Qatar

✉ iccqatar@gmail.com

☎ 4468 6607



www.iccqatar.com



ICC WEDNESDAY FIESTA on 27th December 2023

On 27th December 2023, Indian Cultural Centre, under the aegis of the Embassy of India, conducted 'ICC Wednesday Fiesta', a weekly cultural event of the vibrant Indian community residing in Qatar. ICC's Youth Forum carried out various cultural performances on this occasion under the theme 'Merry-go-round'.

In his presidential speech, ICC's President Mr. A.P. Manikantan thanked the community for the response to the cultural events and explained various initiatives ICC is undertaking. Rest of the ICC Managing Committee members, Presidents of the associated organizations and senior community leaders were present on this occasion. Youth Forum of ICC managed the event proceedings.



EVENTS

On 3rd January 2024, Indian Cultural Centre, under the aegis of the Embassy of India, conducted 'ICC Wednesday Fiesta', a weekly cultural event of the vibrant Indian community residing in Qatar. Jayachandran Fans' Association in Qatar carried out various musical performances on this occasion to celebrate the work of famous singer Jayachandran.

Ms. Gargy Vaidhya, Head of Ext. Activities at ICC, welcomed the guests and dignitaries. In his presidential speech, ICC's President Mr. A.P. Manikantan thanked the community for the response to the cultural events and explained various initiatives ICC is undertaking. ICC's General Secretary Mr. Mohan Kumar, rest of the ICC Managing Committee members, Presidents of the associated organizations and senior community leaders were present on this occasion.



ICC PHOTOGRAPHY DAY CELEBRATIONS 2023

ON 15 & 16 DECEMBER 2023



The Indian Cultural Center and ICC Photography Club jointly hosted the inaugural ICC Photography Exhibition in Qatar on 15 & 16 December 2023 at ICC Ashoka Hall. The two-day event at the ICC brought together photography enthusiasts for workshops, exhibitions, competitions, and more. The first event took place at Mumbai Hall at 2:30 PM and was led by Fuji Film Mentor Danny Eid in the area of landscape and cityscape photography. Photographic aficionados were well-represented during the event. There were facilities for cleaning cameras made by Canon, Nikon, and Fuji. Numerous people have used this service. For those who enjoy cameras, the opportunity to test out the newest models from Sony, Fuji, Canon, and Nikon is also quite helpful. Models and studio lighting were among the systems ready. The evening started with two workshops at four o'clock. The Travel & Portrait Photography Workshop, hosted by Sony's mentor Abdullah Al Mushaifri at Ashoka Hall, drew in over 150 participants. Simultaneously, the Nikon Mentor Priyanshi Bachawat Nahata's wildlife photography workshop at Mumbai Hall was well-received by aficionados for the genre at the same time.

There was also a photo exhibition featuring the work of 100 photographers from Qatar. Alongside renowned photographers, students displayed their best photos. First Secretary of the Indian Embassy in Qatar and ICC Coordinating Officer Sachin Dinkar Shankpal was present at the exhibition's opening, along with Head of the Qatar Photography Center and Founder Abdullah Al Mesle. The ICC Managing Committee members, ICC President A.P. Manikandan, ICC Photography Club President Vishnu Gopal, and numerous other luminaries were present for the general meeting, which began at 6:30 p.m. The QPC Planning & Project Coordinator, Muhammad Abdul Sattar, was also in attendance on this particular occasion. The results of the adult and student photography competition were eagerly anticipated by all. Thousands of photos were submitted to the organizers for the competition, which had as its themes Back to Nature and Exploring Qatar. In each category, three prizes were given out. Sheela Suneer, a Birla Public School class 10 student, won the grand prize in the students' category. Renowned photographer Shiraz Sitara has taken home the grand prize of ICC Photographer of the Year 2023 together with 5,000 Riyals in cash. During the event, the exhibition magazine, which featured every photograph entered in the exhibition, was released. ICC President A.P. Manikandan introduced the new ICC Photography Club executive committee. A special award was presented on stage to Vishnu Gopal, who is the President of the ICC Photography Club and the recipient of the highly esteemed NHM Wildlife Photographer of the Year Award - WPY 2023, also referred to as the Oscars of Nature & Wildlife Photography.

There were two sessions at 6 pm on Saturday, the second day of the program. At Mumbai Hall, Canon Mentor Diana Haddad led an outdoor photography workshop attended by over seventy photographers. In addition, the topic and delivery of the food photography workshop led by Fuji Film Mentor Arif Al Amman at Ashoka Hall were noteworthy. A large crowd was present for this program as well. This is the first time that Qatar has hosted a photography-related event of this kind. By organizing such a rare event, the ICC and the ICC Photography Club have made an immeasurable contribution to the photography enthusiasts in Qatar.

FELICITATIONS

On 12th December 2023, Indian Cultural Centre, under the aegis of the Embassy of India, hosted 2 bikers from India who are on World tour on bike. **Mr. Deepak Gupta**, famously known as Mountain Man.

Ankit Lamba, famously known as Dream Chaser were felicitated in the ICC premises by Mr. Sandeep Kumar, Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of India.

ICC President Mr. A.P. Manikantan, Vice President Mr. Subramanya Hebbagelu, General Secretary Mr. Mohan Kumar and ICC Managing Committee members were present on this occasion.

ICC Students Forum Managing Committee members who were also present for this felicitations, got a chance to listen to and get inspired by the motivational stories of both the bikers.



On 13th December 2023, Indian Cultural Centre, under the Aegis of the Indian embassy, felicitated **Mr. Ahad Mubarak**, President of QMass, for his contribution towards the respective community and Indian community in general.



On 13th December 2023, Indian Cultural Centre, under the Aegis of the Indian embassy, felicitated **Mr. Biju K. Phillip** - President of Kottarakkara Expatriate Friends Association Qatar, for his contribution towards the respective community and Indian community in general.



On 6th December 2023, Indian Cultural Centre, under the Aegis of the Indian embassy, felicitated **Mr. Aloysius Dsouza** - President of Mangalore Cultural Association, for his contribution towards the respective community and Indian community in general.



Indian Cultural Centre

under the aegis of Embassy of India, Doha - Qatar



WEDNESDAY FIESTA

With Anavandi Beats



On 20th December 2023, Indian Cultural Centre, under the aegis of the Embassy of India, conducted 'ICC Wednesday Fiesta', a weekly cultural event of the vibrant Indian community residing in Qatar. Anavandi Beats, an associated organization of ICC, carried out musical performances on this occasion.

In his presidential speech, ICC's President Mr. A.P. Manikantan thanked the community for the response to the cultural events and explained various initiatives ICC is undertaking. Rest of the ICC Managing Committee members, Presidents of the associated organizations and senior community leaders were present on this occasion. Mr. Shantanu Deshpande, Head of School Activities at ICC, anchored the event proceedings.



On 11th December 2023, Indian Cultural Centre, under the aegis of the Embassy of India, conducted its Annual General Meeting for its members for the preceding year. Mr. Sachin Dinkar Shankapal, First Secretary at the Embassy of India and coordinating officer of the ICC, graced this AGM by his presence.

ICC's General Secretary Mr. Mohan Kumar welcomed the present ICC members on behalf of the ICC Managing Committee members and later presented the activity report and key accomplishments for the year 2023 to the council. Mr. Arshad Ali, Head of Finance at ICC, presented the audited financial report and addressed the corresponding questions from the council members.

In his presidential speech, Mr. A.P. Manikantan, President of ICC, spoke about various activities undertaken by ICC in the previous year and talked about the initiatives in the coming months. Mr. Sachin Shankapal congratulated ICC Managing Committee for the innovative ideas and for conducting events encompassing the large Indian diaspora in Qatar.

AGM was attended by many community leaders who congratulated ICC on the work they are doing and assured full support. Mr. Subramanya Hebbagelu, Vice President of ICC, conveyed Vote of Thanks.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Guru Vandana

On 8th December 2023, Indian Cultural Centre, under the aegis of the Embassy of India, conducted 'Guru Vandana', a unique way to felicitate the dance teachers among the vibrant Indian community residing in Qatar. Various dance teachers belonging to Indian schools and other associations of performing arts, showcased their dancing talent on this occasion. Ms. Padma Karri, First Secretary at the Embassy of India, was the Chief Guest for the evening.

In his presidential speech, ICC's President Mr. A.P. Manikantan spoke about the uniqueness of this event whereby the dance teachers are performing, and their students are watching them perform. He added that this is the first time such an event is being carried out in ICC's history and thanked the teachers, schools and institutions for their response. Ms. Padma Karri congratulated ICC for such an innovative idea and hoped that they will continue doing such events even in future.

ICC's Vice President Mr. Subramanya Hebbagelu, General Secretary Mr. Mohan Kumar, rest of the ICC Managing Committee members, Presidents of the corresponding associated organizations and senior community leaders were present on this occasion. Head of Cultural Activities, Mrs. Sumaa Mahesh Gowda anchored the event proceedings.





Indian Cultural Centre

under the aegis of Embassy of India, Doha - Qatar

Presents

SWARA NATYA JHARI

in association with Telugu Community



On 6th December 2023, Indian Cultural Centre, under the aegis of the Embassy of India, conducted 'ICC Wednesday Fiesta', a weekly cultural event of the vibrant Indian community residing in Qatar. Four associated organizations of ICC, predominantly working for the Telugu community, conducted various cultural performances on this occasion.

In his presidential speech, ICC's President Mr. A.P. Manikantan thanked the community for the response to the cultural events and explained various initiatives ICC is undertaking. ICC's Vice President Mr. Subramanya Heb-bagelu, rest of the ICC Managing Committee members, Presidents of the corresponding associated organizations and senior community leaders were present on this occasion.



07 DEC 2023
THU AT 5PM
ICC ASHOKA HALL

CELEBRATING THE INCLUSION
OF GARBA IN UNESCO'S
REPRESENTATIVE LIST



GARBA OF GUJARAT



Indian Cultural Centre, Qatar presented 'Garba of Gujarat' on Thursday, 7th December 2023 at ICC Ashoka Hall to mark inscription of GARBA in UNESCO's Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) of Humanity at the 18th session of the Intergovernmental Committee at Kasane, Republic of Botswana on 6th December 2023.





On 29th November 2023, Indian Cultural Centre, under the aegis of the Embassy of India, conducted 'ICC Wednesday Fiesta', a weekly cultural event of the vibrant Indian community residing in Qatar. 'Maestro Arts', an associated organization of ICC conducted various cultural performances on this occasion. Ms. Sushma Harish anchored the event. Ms. Sumaa Mahesh, Head of Cultural Activities at ICC, coordinated the event and carried out the public function. ICC's President Mr. A.P. Manikantan thanked the community for the response to the cultural events and explained various initiatives ICC is undertaking. ICC's Vice President Mr. Subramanya Hebbagelu, General Secretary Mr. Mohan Kumar, rest of the ICC Managing Committee members, President of Maestro Arts Mr. Aashik Baburajan and senior community leaders were present on this occasion.





CHILDRENS DAY

On 14th November 2023, Indian Cultural Centre, under the aegis of the Embassy of India, conducted a special program on

On the eve of Eid, Indian Cultural Centre conducted ICC Eid Bazaar on Thursday 20th April. The event enabled Indian entrepreneurs to showcase their products & services and hosted attractions such as Henna painting, handicrafts, beauty products & others. Mrs. Padma Karri, the First Secretary of the Indian Embassy was the chief guest for the evening.

EID BAZAR



ENVIRONMENTAL DAY



On 5th June 2023, Indian Cultural Centre, under the aegis of the Embassy of India, celebrated the World Environment Day in Ashoka Hall at ICC premises. HE Ahmed Bin Amer Al-Humaidi was the Guest of Honour and Her Excellency Mrs. Angeline Premalatha, Chargé d'affaires representing the Indian Embassy, was the chief guest.



Indian Cultural Centre (ICC), under the aegis of Embassy of India, conducted a mega-cultural event - **“Bharat Utsav 2023” on Friday, 19th May 2023**. The event was conducted in a prestigious Al Mayassa Theatre located in Qatar National Convention Centre (QNCC). As part of this extravaganza, various Affiliated Organizations (AO) of ICC, institutes and students enthralled the audience through a variety of cultural programs that mainly included classical and traditional folk performances. ICC’s General Secretary, Mr. Mohan Kumar welcomed the guests that included Qatari delegates, ambassadors from various countries, community leaders and dignitaries of different nationalities. The event was attended by over 2500 enthusiastic Indian community members, including blue-collared workers. In his presidential speech, Mr. A.P. Manikantan elaborated the purpose of “Bharat Utsav 2023”. He mentioned that the event was to showcase and promote the rich and diversified Indian folk culture and to ensure that the community can reconnect with their cultural roots and is able to extend the legacy to the next generation. Her Excellency Mrs. Angeline Premalatha, Chargé d'affaires representing the Indian Embassy, thanked all the Qatari delegates and dignitaries. She mentioned the importance of this event being carried out in the 50th year of the Qatar-India diplomatic relationship. She also thanked the Royal Family and the Government of Qatar for supporting the Indian community. Head of Cultural Activities at ICC, Mrs. Sumaa Gowda coordinated the proceedings of the performances. Mr. Subramanya Hebbagelu, ICC’s Vice President, gave away Vote of thanks. ICC Managing Committee took all the necessary measures to engage with various stakeholders, organizations, associations and several volunteers to make this event a resounding success.





Indian Cultural Centre

under the aegis of Embassy of India, Doha - Qatar

ICC YOUTH WING

OFFICE BEARERS

2023-2024



EDWIN SEBASTIAN
CHAIRMAN



DISHARI ROY
GENERAL CONVENER



MANJOTH SURESH
VICE CHAIRMAN



MUHAMMED NOUFAL HYDROSE
VICE CHAIRMAN



VINOD KUMAR PADALA
VICE CHAIRMAN



SAGITA DAS
JOINT CONVENER



PALLAVI JAYARAJ
JOINT CONVENER



MARAN CHIDAMBARAM
CONVENER - MEMBERSHIP



BRAMMA
CONVENER - WELFARE



PRATIKSHA BHOSALE
CONVENER - JOBS



MOHAMMED HASHEM B
CONVENER - MEDIA & REACHOUT



CHANDRASHEKAR GOWDA
CONVENER - SPORTS

