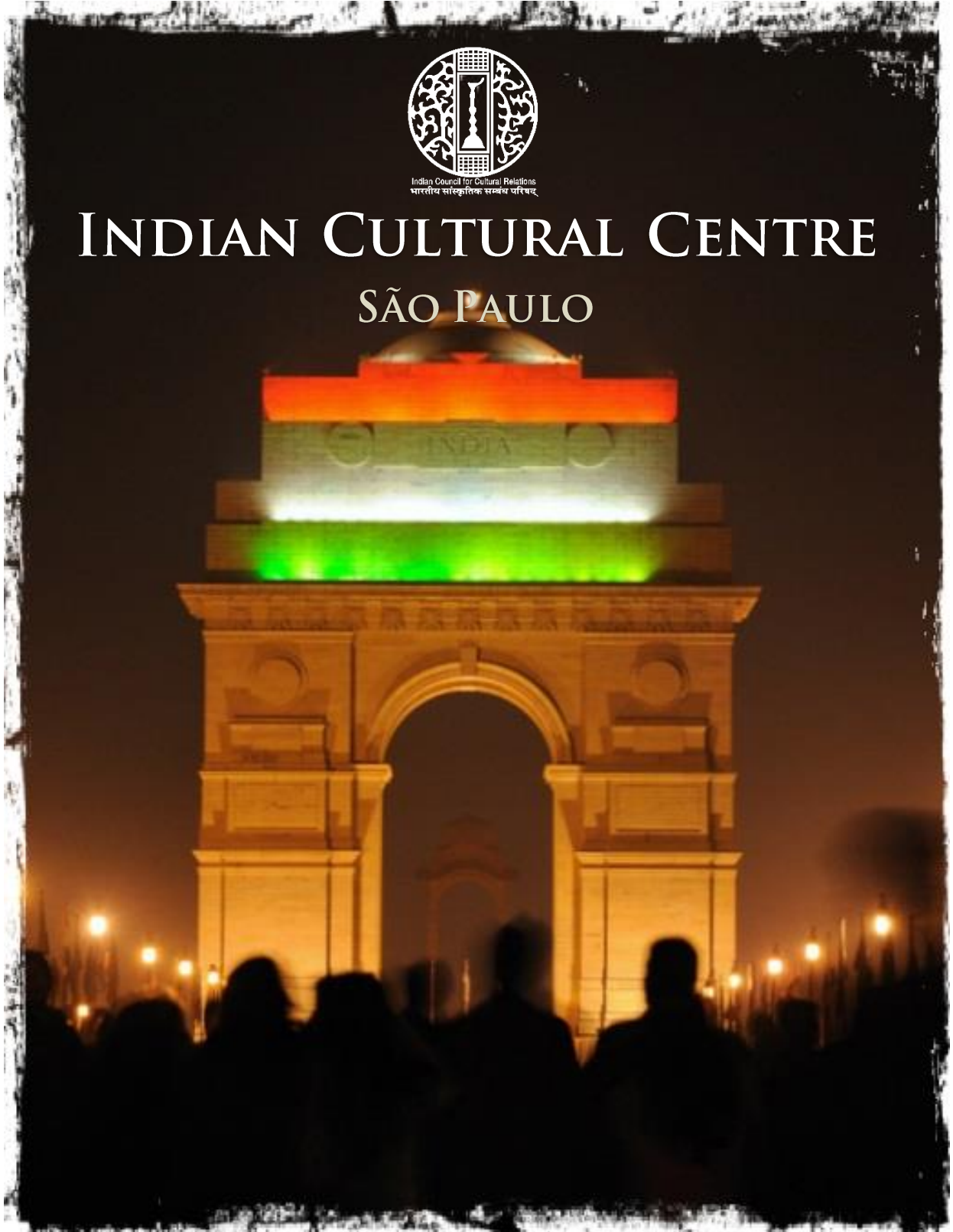




INDIAN CULTURAL CENTRE SÃO PAULO



Republic Day celebration at India Gate, New Delhi - January 2017



Indian Council for Cultural Relations
भारतीय सांस्कृतिक सम्बंध परिषद्

INDIAN CULTURAL CENTRE SAO PAULO

ALAMEDA SARUTAIÁ, 380 - JARDIM PAULISTA

Tel/Fax.: 3149 3340 | contatoicc@cgisaopaulo.in

ACTIVITIES REPORT - JANUARY 2017

**09.01
18h**

**Celebration | Prabasi Bharatiya Divas
by CGI/ICC São Paulo**

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas was celebrated at the Indian Cultural Centre on 09 January 2017. The event was attended by members of the Indian community (around 50 persons attended). The event started with the screening of the specially commissioned documentary on



CONSULATE
GENERAL
OF INDIA
SÃO PAULO



INDIAN
CULTURAL
CENTRE
SÃO PAULO



PBD followed by the address of Prime Minister on 8 January as well a documentary on India Development Fund-OI. In her address, Consul General Abhilasha Joshi recalled the sterling contribution made by the Indian diaspora in forging greater understanding between people to people and between countries. She also spoke about the various flagship programmes of the government and how the diaspora can augment, contribute and participate in India's development story. The theme 'Redefining Engagement with the Indian Diaspora' was emphasized. On the occasion, Consul General also spoke about Hindi Divas and read out Prime Minister's message on the occasion.

The event was also addressed by distinguished members of the Indian community. Mr. Rakesh Kanojia, Finance Director of the Indian Association of Sao Paulo spoke on "Indian Association and its current and future activities for engaging the Indian diaspora in Brazil" in which he touched upon how the IASP as an Indian community association has grown over the years and has become a platform for the community in Sao Paulo to come together to celebrate Indian culture, festivals, music, cuisine, etc.; Mr. Kesavan Nair, Nuclear Engineer and Co-Founder of IASP spoke on "Indian community's social action work in Brazil for the local and diaspora community' elaborating the plans which the IASP is working on in helping the Indian community in Sao Paulo; Mr. Ravi Ramanathan, distinguished nuclear Scientist spoke on "The role of first-generation of Indian migrants to Brazil in Building India-Brazil connection'

touched upon how he and other fellow scientists from India were instrumental in setting up the Brazilian nuclear programme and the contributions made by the first generation Indians in other activities in Brazil. Ms. Seema Patel, Educationist and Social Worker spoke on "Indian Diaspora's role in promoting education, philanthropy and social work in India" while Mr. Anurag Srivastava, Country Manager of Aditya Birla Group spoke on "Role of Indian firms in building Brand India in Brazil". The programme concluded with a Hindi poem recital by Tanmay Kanojia.

A report and photos of the day published in the Indian Express, New York edition:

Obama thanks Modi for strong India-US relations

Outgoing US President Barack Obama telephoned Prime Minister Narendra Modi to thank him for his partnership that enhanced the relations between India and America, the White House has said. Obama spoke on the phone with Modi on Wednesday to thank him for "his partnership" and to review joint efforts of cooperation including defence, civil-nuclear energy, and enhanced people-to-people ties, a read-out of the telephonic conversation between the two leaders said.

"Recalling his visit as the chief guest at India's Republic Day celebrations in 2015+, President Obama wished the Prime Minister warm congratulations ahead of India's upcoming 68th Republic Day anniversary," the White House said.

"Both leaders discussed the progress they have made on shared economic and security priorities, including recognition of India as a major defense partner of the United States and addressing the global challenge of climate change," it said.

Obama was among the first leaders to



congratulate Modi after his electoral victory in May 2014 and immediately invited him to visit the White House. The two leaders met at the White House in September 2014. Since then they have met each other eight times. This is a record for leaders between India and America.

According to Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asia Nisha Desai Biswal, the two leaders share a very warm relationship. "They have a great deal of personal camaraderie. But they also have a great deal of respect for each other for the leadership and the values and the integrity of each other's approach," Biswal said in a recent interview.

"You have seen from President Obama that appreciation of Prime Minister Modi in words that he has used to describe him including in that Time magazine profile of the Prime Minister. You have seen that Prime Minister Modi's appreciation of President Obama, of his values, his leadership style which the Prime Minister has used to describe the President," she said.

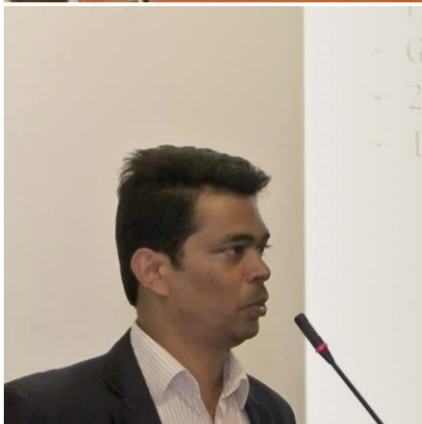
Pravasi Bharatiya Divas celebrated in Sao Paulo

The Indian consulate in Sao Paulo organized the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) at the Indian Cultural Centre (ICC) on January 9th.

At an impressive gathering, organized in partnership with the Indian Association of Sao Paulo (IASP), members of Indian community, consulate officials and local Brazilians gathered to celebrate the day.

Speaking at the occasion, the Indian consul general in Sao Paulo, Abhilasha Joshi, talked about the role of Indian diaspora in promoting India-Brazil ties as well in India's growth. The main highlight of the day was speeches by some prominent members of the Indian community in Sao Paulo. Rakesh Kanojia, Kesavan Nair, Ravi Ramanathan, Anurag Srivastava and Seema Patel spoke on various aspects of India-Brazil relations and the community's contribution to them. The evening ended with a recitation of a Hindi poem by Tanmay Kanojia, which was followed by refreshments and social interaction.







Photos:

<https://www.facebook.com/IndianConsulateGeneralSaoPauloBrazil/posts/130248036315278>

**10.01
19h**

Workshop | **PLANNING 2017 WITH MENTAL
MAPS
by Brahma Kumaris São Paulo**

From the series of free workshops offered by Brahma Kumaris on subjects like meditation, concentration and mental exercises, the workshop on mental maps was conducted by Anna Maria Oliveira – coordinator of national program Living Values in Education of Brahma Kumaris Brazil.

**20.01
19h**

Meditation | **VIPASSANA MEDITATION SESSION
with Newton Zimmerman – by Ecos da Paz**

‘Ecos da Paz’ (echoes of peace) is a nucleus for contemplative activities created to fill the demand for regular meditation activities in ICC São Paulo, offering experiences in meditation practices from various cultural strata. The group was initially formed by ladies who spread the Gandhian message by organizing lectures, handicrafts workshops and recitals. This years’ first Ecos da Paz activity was a talk and a Vipassana meditation session by instructor Newton Zimmerman.

26.01

Celebration | **INDIA'S 68TH REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATIONS
by CGI/ICC São Paulo**

The flag hoisting ceremony was held in CGI Sao Paulo on 26 Jan 2017 to commemorate the 68th Republic Day of India. The address of Hon'ble President of India was read out by CG to the members of Indian community and friends of India present on the occasion.

Later in the afternoon, a reception was held at Prodigy Grand Hotel & Suites Berrini which was attended by representatives of Itamaraty, State and City governments, members of Consular Corps, Indian community, cultural and commercial organizations, media and friends of India. Mr. Jose Renato Nalini, Secretary for Education of the State of Sao Paulo, Mrs. Ana Paula Fava, Head, International Relations of the State of Sao Paulo and Ambassador Affonso de Alencastro Massot of Prefeitura graced the occasion. An Odissi dance recital showcasing Indian heritage was much appreciated by the distinguished gathering.











Photos:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.1319834961417325.1073741885.537421502992012&type=3>

30.01
10h

Celebration | **FLORAL TRIBUTE TO GANDHI (MARTYRDOM DAY)**
by CGI/ICC São Paulo



Mahatma Gandhi was once again remembered on his martyrdom day with the traditional floral tribute organized by CGI and ICC São Paulo in association with Palas Athena, Ecos da Paz and friends of India. The homage at the Gandhi's monument, a bronze statue of the Mahatma located at Tulio Fontoura Square near Ibirapuera Park was marked by a brief moment of silence in homage to the Mahatma and the welcome speech of Consul General Smt. Mrs. Abhilasha Joshi was followed by the words of Prof. Lia Diskin Gandhian leader in Brazil and founding director of Palas Athena association and Mr Shobhan Saxena, journalist and President of the Indian Association of Sao Paulo. A member from Ecos da Paz group read out passages disseminating the message of Gandhi. Shirlene Lopes, social worker, displayed the spinning of yarn on a 'charkha' and Sitar musician Mr. Fábio Kidesh performed

the favorite bhajans of the Mahatma on his Sitar, setting a mood of peace in tranquility in the gathering.





Photos:

https://www.facebook.com/pg/IndianCulturalCentreSaoPauloBrazil/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1325512994167917

MISCELLANEOUS

10.01

Tour | **BRAZILIAN ODISSI IN INDIA**
by Padmaa- Arte & Cultura

ICC's Odissi teacher Mrs. Silvana Duarte, took some of her students of different levels of learning to their first cultural tour around India during vacation season. Many of those students had their first contact with Indian classical dances and other artistic and cultural expressions through the work of the ICC São Paulo and are still our students.

One of the top points of the tour was the winter workshop with Gurus Mrs. Sharon Lowen and Mr. Vishwanath Mangaraj at the Manasa Art Without Frontiers, New Delhi. The result of the workshop was a wonderful report about Odissi in Brazil by Mrs. Lowen to the newspaper The Asian Age.

Silvana Duarte studies and practices Odissi for two decades and is the director of Padmaa Arte & Cultura.



Full report version of the newspaper:

<http://www.asianage.com/life/more-features/100117/odissi-in-brazil.html>

Photos of the tour:

https://www.facebook.com/pg/estudioodissi/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1321473644579836

Besides, all our regular activities such as Yoga, Odissi, Bharatanatyam and Kathak classes, and Library Services are being conducted as per schedule.

Facebook of ICC Sao Paulo:

<https://www.facebook.com/IndianCulturalCentreSaoPauloBrazil>

Facebook of CGI Sao Paulo:

<https://www.facebook.com/IndianConsulateGeneralSaoPauloBrazil/>

ICC YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCy7sB7JSnUqZqc21aFvax4A>

Website of CGI and ICC Sao Paulo:

www.cgisaopaulo.in