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In collaboration with
Michigan Indian Community organizations

INDIA DAY 2013

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Celebrating India's Independence

Saturday August 10, 2013

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Organizing Committee

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Message



Dear friends,

Sixty six years ago, at the stroke of midnight on August 15, 1947 India became a free country from the colonial rule of the British. The freedom at midnight was marked by a speech by the first prime minister of free India, Sh. Jawaharlal Nehru in the parliament of India. The famous speech was what he called free India's tryst with destiny. Since then free India has been following its destiny by ups and downs. In spite of some hiccups and downturns, lately India's destiny is on the upswing. India is not just a country, it is a civilization. This civilization has been going on uninterrupted since Ganga has been flowing from the Himalayas to the sea in the Bay of Bengal. The hall mark of India's civilization is Unity in Diversity. The main ethos of India is pluralism and not only toleration but acceptance of different religious and cultural beliefs as well. India has sheltered and given refuge to many persecuted minorities from all over the world including the Jews who were expelled from Jerusalem by Romans after the destruction of their temples. This tradition continues till recent times when India gave shelter to H.H. Dalai Lama and other Tibetan refugees. We, as Indians, should be proud of this ethos of acceptance and toleration.

Many of us Indians, who migrated to US and have adopted this country as ours, should feel quite at home in America. India is the largest democracy in the world while US is the most powerful and prosperous . US is built on the principle that "All men are created equal and they are endowed by their Creator, among other things, with the inalienable rights to life, liberty and pursuit of happiness". Modern India's constitution is based on the bill of rights enshrined in the constitution of US. We are fortunate that we are the inheritors of most valued principles of equality, secularism and freedom of India and live in a country which is "one nation under God, with freedom and justice for all."

We celebrate India Day to remember and maintain our Indian heritage and culture. Along with this we should cherish the natural affinity between India and US. Also do not forget to enjoy all that India Day presents to you in the form of cultural entertainment, delicious foods and shops displaying Indian handicrafts, art, jewelry and clothes. India League of America with the cooperation of other regional Indian organizations is proud to arrange India Day festival every year. We have been doing this for the last twelve years and hope to continue this for many more years to come. This great success would not have been possible without the support of our valued sponsors, vendors and numerous volunteers. I sincerely thank all of them.

Jai Hind and God Bless America.

Yash Pal Lakra, MD

President, ILA.

Message

August 10, 2013



Dear Friends:

Happy Independence Day greetings to you all, my brothers and sisters from India!!

I am delighted to welcome you all to this year's Indian Independence day celebrations. India League of America (ILA) has been the pioneer in celebrating India's independence in Michigan. We have been able to accomplish this in such a grand way because of the good and effective rapport we maintain with all the Michigan Indian community organizations. Let me take this opportunity to record here my deep felt appreciation and gratitude to all the Indian community organizations for their unequivocal support and cooperation in making this event a grand success!

This year ILA, a non-profit organization is celebrating its 35th anniversary. As has been in the past years, we are supporting the interests of Indian American communities to the best way possible. We are proud to proclaim that our efforts have played a significant role not only in the growth and prosperity of the Indian community in Michigan, but also in the recognition the Indian community receives from the government, at the local as well as State level.

Our independence is a golden moment in the history of the Globe by its unique non-violent approach, and celebrating the occasion is the most appropriate approach to reminisce the tremendous efforts and hardships our leaders had endured in attaining it. It is also a salute to our great leaders for their many sacrifices in the freedom struggle. Today, while we have integrated ourselves into the American mainstream quite efficiently, we cannot afford to forget our roots and heritage. India's rich culture and noble traditions have been our trademarks, and we are still a large compassionate family.

India Day 2013 is an all day event celebrating India's 65th Independence Day. While we showcase our rich dance forms, arts and crafts, and serve fine Indian cuisine to all, our hearts overflow with pride and love for our adopted country, too. India's unity is very conspicuous in all our celebrations, even in the middle of all the diversity of our practices, imbibing the ethical principles that we hold dear.

This is by far the only mega event attracting tens of thousands of Indians and Americans. Organizing an event of this magnitude is a huge task for me and all the other volunteers. However, we are able to pull it off successfully simply because of the tremendous support and hard work put in by the countless number of volunteers that you see all around here. They really put in countless hours of hard toil, and my heart goes out to each of them!

India Day 2013 will provide you a wonderful experience of India with authentic Indian food, music, dances, ethnic arts and artifacts. This is a mini-India in Michigan! Enjoy!

I take this opportunity to thank all the India Day sponsors, donors, vendors, and volunteers who made this day possible. And, thanks to ILA President and the Executive Committee for their unequivocal support and hard work.

With best regards,

Ramesh Gudapuri

Chair, INDIA DAY 2013



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INDIA

Compiled by: George T. Vannilam
Secretary, ILA



India is a country in South Asia. It is the Seventh-Largest country by area and second-largest by population and most populous democracy in the world.

Capital of India is New Delhi.

Home to the Indus Valley Civilization and a region of historic trade routes and vast empires, the Indian subcontinent was identified with its commercial and cultural wealth for much of its long history. Four major world religions, Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism and Sikhism originated there, while Zoroastrianism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam arrived in the first millennium CE and shaped the region's diverse culture. India got its independence on August 15th, 1947. It was the day when the Indians got liberated from the rule of the British. Agriculture is not only the dominant occupations of the people of India but is also one of the most important economic sectors for the country.

India is a federal union of states comprising 28 states and 7 union territories. The states and territories are further subdivided into districts and so on.



- The **administrative capital** is where the executive government offices are located.
- The **legislative capital** is where the state assembly convenes.
- The **judicial capital** is the location of the state or territorial High Courts of India.
- The date mentioned in the table refers to when the city became the capital of the state or territory
- **The administrative capital is considered to be the main capital of the state.**
- The absence of the legislative capital means that it is administered by the Central Government.

India: At a Glance

Capital	New Delhi
Area	32,87,263 sq.km
Area wise in the world	7th
Location	India extends between latitudes 8°4'N and 37°6'N. It is a country of the east with its landmass lying between longitudes 68°7'E and 97°25'E.
Stretch	3,214 Kilometers from north to south 2,933 Kilometers from east to west
Land Frontier	15,200 km
Coastline	7516.5 km
Neighboring Countries	India shares its political borders with Pakistan and Afghanistan on the west and Bangladesh and Myanmar on the east. The northern boundary is made up of the Sinkiang province of China, Tibet, Nepal and Bhutan. India is separated from Sri Lanka by a narrow channel of sea formed by the Palk Strait and Gulf of Mannar
Physical Feature	The mainland consists of four well-defined regions: (i)The great mountain zone, (ii)The Indo-Gangetic plain, (iii)The desert region and (iv)The Southern Peninsula
Rivers	The main rivers of the Himalayan group are the Indus, the Ganga and the Brahmaputra.
Climate	There are four seasons which are recognized by the India Meteorological department. They are - Cold weather, hot weather, rainy season and the season of the retreating south-west monsoon.
Fauna	Approx. 89,451 species
National Parks	94
Wildlife Sanctuaries	501
Official Languages	Hindi
Population (2001 census)	1,203,710,000(March 2011)(17% of the world's population)
Population wise place in the world	2nd
Population density	324 person per square kilometer
Population growth	21.34 %
Sex Ratio	933 females per 1000 males
Literacy	65.38 %
Male Literacy	75.85 %
Female Literacy	54.16 %



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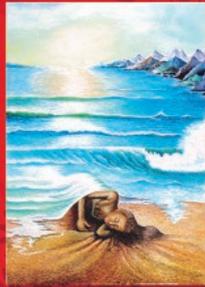
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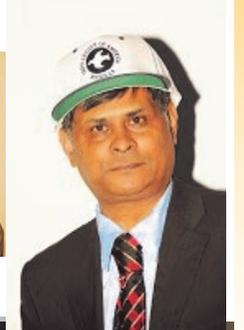
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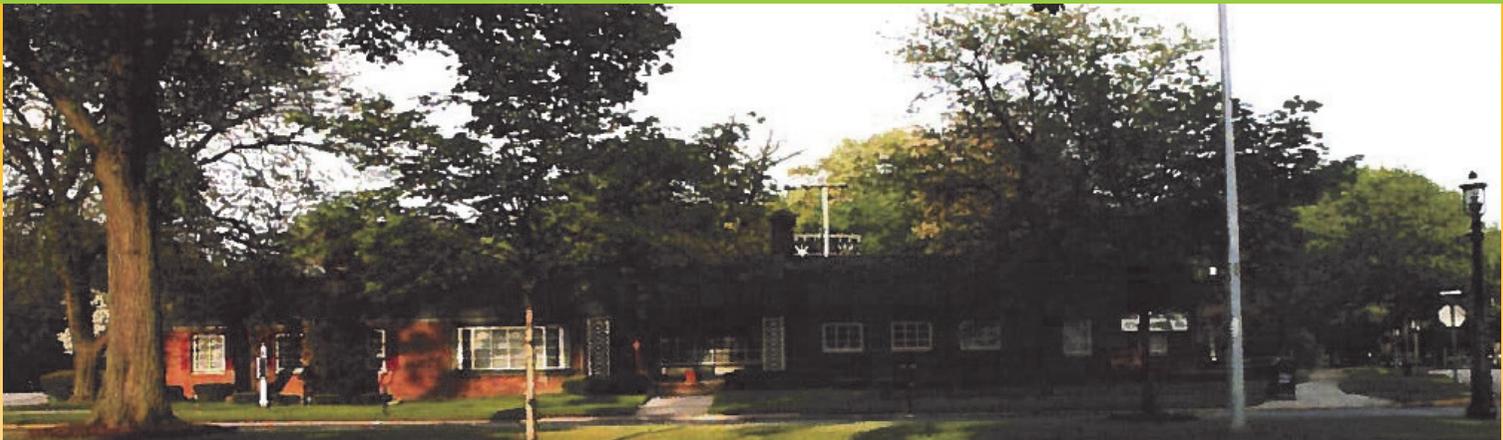
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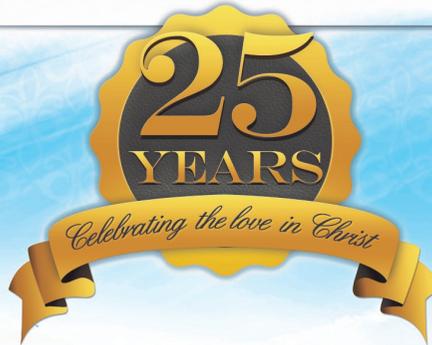
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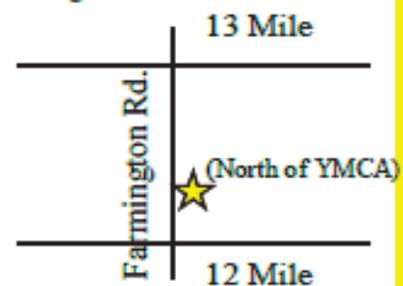
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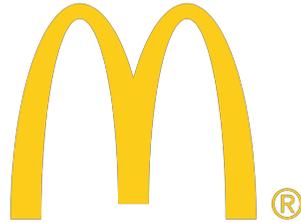
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OCTOBER
26-27

THE MANGANIYAR SEDUCTION

Roysten Abel, creator
Can & Abel Theaters, New Delhi

Saturday, October 26, 8 pm

Sunday, October 27, 4 pm

Power Center – 121 Fletcher Street, Ann Arbor

Music has an uncanny ability to seduce both body and soul, something the Manganiyars know too well. Folk musicians from India's desert region in Rajasthan, the Manganiyars perform spiritually charged music that interweaves song from their Muslim faith with Hindu and Sufi sound, lyrics, and chant. For *The Manganiyar Seduction*, director Roysten Abel creates a theatrical environment where the musical tradition of the Manganiyars and the visual aesthetics of Amsterdam's red light district collide.

This event launches the University of Michigan's India in the World theme semester in Winter 2014, organized by the U-M Center for South Asian Studies.

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