NUPUR

Nupur is the Indian classical dance society of the College which strives to celebrate and continue the rich heritage of Indian classical dance within the Institution, and provide opportunities to its students in achieving excellence in the sphere of Indian classical dance. It

is one of the oldest societies of the College and performs in all its major events. The society is dedicated to spread awareness and appreciation for the traditional performing arts, and conducts workshops and lecture-demonstrations regularly, towards achieving this aim. The society and its students have received numerous awards and have been invited to perform at prestigious events outside the college, like the Vice Regal Lodge, University of Delhi and the First Lalit Kala Akademi International Festival.



Convenors: Mrs. Nirmala Murlidhar, Ms. Charu Kala and Mr. Ankan Dhar

Best Dance Society Award

On 29 April 2019, the Society received the Best Dance Society in the Delhi College Awards organised by the Education Tree.



Nupur receiving the Best Dance Society Award on 29 April 2019

Performance at Annual Day

At the Annual Day Function on 28 March 2019 the society conceptualised a fusion performance based on the *Damodarashtakam*. The genres of Kathak, Bharatnatyam, Odissi and Sattriya performed the *Kaliyamardana*, whereas the Manipuri classical part, presented for the first time, performed the *Rasalila* and the *Yaosang*/Holi.



Performance at Annual Day Function on 28 March 2019

Performance at Alumnae Meet

The Alumnae Meet of the college was organised on 16 March 2019, and Ms Sanskriti Sharma, alumna and member of the society performed a Kathak piece.

Manipuri classical dance Workshop

A ten-day workshop was also organised for the students to train them in Manipuri classical dance, in the month of March. Ms Dhanarani Devi, the exponent, taught them elements of both *abhinaya* as well as pure dance.

Aradhi

The society organised *Aradhi* – Indian classical solo dance competition on 10 January 2019, the third day of Symphony. The competition was judged by Vidushi Sumeeta Sharma and Kalamandalam Raman Kutty, exponents of Kathak and Kathakali respectively. 26 students from across colleges of Delhi participated in the event. Mr Akshar Tekchandani of Hansraj College, Ms Adira Das of Dyal Singh College and Mr Unni Vishwanath of Hansraj College were awarded the first, second and third prizes respectively. Ms Aleena Jacob and Ms Bahana Saikia of Miranda House College, and Mr Abhinav Priyadarshi of Hansraj College were awarded special mention certificates.



Judges, winners and Nupur Students at Aradhi on 10 January 2019

Performance at Symphony Inaugural

At the Inaugural function for Symphony on 8 January 2019, the society presented the ballet *Meerasi* to express the theme of Symphony – "Go, Catch a Rainbow' as an expression of the individual self and its aspirations. The choices made by Meera, the Bhakti saint-poet, her sensuality and spirituality and her insistence to sing, and most importantly to dance, is evoked in this presentation. The Bharatnatyam section, themed on *sakha bhava*, depicts her childhood play with Krishna, the Odissi part, set in *madhurya bhava*, depicts their romantic union, and the Kathak section represents her final surrender to her bhakti.



Nupur performance at Symphony Inaugural function on 8 January 2019

Performance at Vice Regal Lodge, NAAC Peer Team's University Visit

The society was invited by the University to perform for its cultural programme to welcome the NAAC Peer Team on 29 October 2018 at the Vice-Regal Lodge. The students performed *Devipaksha*, a fusion of Odissi, Kathakali, Bharatnatyam and Kathak, where the diversity of the dance genres mirrored the heterogeneous physical world, and their unity in a single *tala* represented all women apotheosising in the Goddess.



NAAC Peer Team Member and Vice-Chancellor Prof. Yogesh Tyagi felicitating Nupur Students on 29 October 2018

Choreography Workshop

A workshop was organised on 24 October 2018 by the renowned Odissi exponent, Ms Kavita Dwibedi. The theme of 'Ethics of Choreography' allowed the participants to discuss the process and limits of choreography in Indian classical dance, keeping in mind the recent trends of fusion and experimentation. Besides students of the college, dancers and scholars from other institutions of Delhi, and also from abroad attended the workshop.



Convenors with Ms Kavita Dwibedi in a Choreography Workshop on 24 October 2018

Nupur Auditions

The Society organised its annual auditions to welcome new students who are trained in Indian classical dance on 9 August and 19 September 2018.

Indian classical dance Master-classes

Commencing from 17 September, 2018 the students designed a schedule of hour-long weekly master-classes to increase regular interaction, advanced training and regular practice in their routines. It was decided to hold Odissi and Bharatanatyam on Mondays, Kathak and Bharatanatyam on Wednesdays and Odissi and Kathak on Saturdays.

Performance at Founders Day

On 1 August 2018, at the Founder's Day function of the College, the society presented a fusion of Odissi and Bharatanatyam, invoking the natural beauty of Vrindavan and the *rasalila* of Radha-Krishna in the monsoon season.



Performance at Founder's Day Function on 1 August 2018