

Colors of Happiness - A Dance Recital

7th November 2009

On yet another beautiful evening the Women's Association of IITK presented a dance recital titled **Colors of Happiness**.

The performance presented a unique synthesis of the seasonal cycles, portrayed through seven separate dance sequences.

The dances were a fusion of classical and semi-classical dance forms and depicted the Indian seasons - Saawan, Sharad and Basant with the related festivals. Colours of Happiness was well named, for it not only synthesized pleasure and prayer in the various dance formations and mudras but also joyously evoked the rich diversity of the various regions of our land.

The narration was done by Ms. Vatsala Misra and the dances were choreographed by Ms. Nishtha Sharma who is a disciple of Guru Shri Shridharan Nair. She is a Bharatnatyam dancer, an actress and a dance choreographer. She has done her Alankar in Bharatnatyam and is a postgraduate in vocal music. She was honoured by the Nrityamani samman in 1989 by Darpan, the theatre group she has been associated with for the last 25 years.

The dances performed were:

1. Shubh Swagatam: s poetic welcome dance.
2. Sawan: s Kathak based rain dance.
3. Durga Stuti: s Bharatnatyam performance in the worship of goddess Durga.
4. Garba/Dandiya: a Gujrati folk dance associated with autumn.
5. Ram Stuti: a devotional dance for lord Rama.
6. Deepmala: a dance performed with lighted 'diyas' to symbolize the victory of light over darkness.
7. Phalgun: a dance welcoming the season of spring, a time of joy and color.
8. Grand Finale: a fusion dance depicting joy and zest - the essence that is India.