

L K ADVANI MAKES PRIYADARSHNI EVENT MEMORABLE



Shri L. K. Advani, former Deputy Prime Minister of India, addressing the audience

Priyadarshni Academy's prestigious event to felicitate Shri L K Advani, former Deputy Prime Minister of India, awarded Padma Vibhushan by the President, for his services to the nation, and other leaders from the

event. Others felicitated were Ms. Pratibha Advani, TV Anchor and Show Host, for her significant contributions to the broadcast industry; Mr. Pralhad P. Chhabria, former Chairman, Finolex Group of Companies, for his significant



Shri C. Vidyasagar Rao, Honorable Governor of Maharashtra, presenting a shawl to Shri L. K. Advani



Honorable Governor presenting a memento to Shri L. K. Advani

Sindhi community, on May 16 at the Rama & Sundri Watumull Auditorium of K C College, was a memorable

contributions to industrial and community development; Mr. Nihchal Israni, Chairman, Blue Cross Laboratories

Chairman's Message

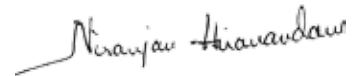


Niranjani Hiranandani

The Academy had a great first half of the year with three resounding programs. We had the honor and privilege of felicitating Shri L. K. Advani, our former Deputy Prime Minister, for his services to our nation. He has served our country for an incredible 70+ years and is undoubtedly the most distinguished leader of the Sindhi community. We also felicitated four other major leaders from the Sindhi community for their significant contributions. It was certainly a milestone event for the Academy. We were honored to have Shri C. Vidyasagar Rao, the Hon'ble Governor of Maharashtra, as Chief Guest at this event.

The Hon'ble Governor was also the Chief Guest at our 31st Anniversary Literary Awards and Educational Scholarships event on February 19. Shaina NC, leading fashion designer and Executive World Chairperson of Giants International, was also there. The event had fine memories to cherish.

Mr. Kummar Chatterjee, well-known musicologist, and his band of young musicians, performed outstandingly at the other event entitled 'Music Mantra' at the Nehru Centre Auditorium on February 28. Eminent music composer Annu Malik and industrialist Sangita Jindal served as Guests of Honor.



Niranjani Hiranandani

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Ltd., for his significant contributions to the pharmaceutical industry and social welfare; and Ms. Suman Tulsiani, Co-founder, Suman Ramesh Tulsiani Charitable Trust, for her significant contributions to education and healthcare.

Shri Advani is undoubtedly the most prominent leader the Sindhi community has ever had, beginning his political career even before independence and rising through the ranks to become India's Deputy Prime Minister. An alumnus of the Government Law College in Mumbai, Shri Advani also authored a 1040-page autobiography which became a best seller in the non-fiction category with the book website claiming that more than a million copies were sold. Reputed writer and editor Khushwant Singh once described Shri Advani as "really one of the most able, cool-headed, courteous and clean politicians".

Mr. Advani had also presented Priyadarshni Academy's Global Award to Mr. Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan, at an exclusive ceremony at the Taj Palace in Delhi on January 26, 2014 when the Japanese Prime Minister had visited India to be Chief Guest at the Republic Day celebrations. Shri Advani has served India for an astounding seventy plus years and continues to actively do so. If that is not a life-time contribution, what is?

Shri C. Vidyasagar Rao, Honorable Governor of Maharashtra, presented a handsome plaque created by Priyadarshni Academy to Shri Advani, to a rousing response. In his address, the Honorable Governor recalled

working with Shri Advani and cited sterling examples from his personal experience of his noble qualities. When Shri Advani initially entered the auditorium, the jam-packed audience of over 600 rose as one man in reverence to the distinguished leader and did so repeatedly during his address. It clamoured to get a close view of him and get autographs. Shri Advani responded in the kind of humility that only he possesses.

Ms. Pratibha Advani is a successful Indian talk show host, anchor and producer. She heads Swayam Infotainment, a media company engaged in the production of entertainment software for Indian television and has produced two famous shows for Doordarshan - *Yaadein and Take Care*. She also hosted other shows like *Retake with Pratibha Advani*, *Namaste Cinema* and produced a documentary film *Ananya Bharati* on the theme of patriotism as portrayed in Hindi cinema. She is also the producer of a docu-film on Talat Mahmood, an edited version of which was screened at the felicitation event.

Mr. Prahlad Chhabria was responsible for building Finolex into a Rs.5,000 crore business house and into India's only super brand cable company. It set up the Hope Foundation of Pune in 1979 to support education and to provide medical assistance. It set up the Finolex International Institute of Information Technology with joint ventures in several universities abroad. It has recently commissioned a school for educating the rural children in Pawas, Ratnagiri. Both Finolex and Mr. Chhabria have

received national and international recognition for their achievements.

Mr. Nihchal H. Israni, is a doyen in the Indian pharmaceutical industry having contributed significantly to its growth and development. An AMP from Harvard, he held the highest positions in the industry – MD of Pfizer (India) Ltd. and Regional President, Warner-Lambert International for Asia, based in Hong Kong and Tokyo. In 1981, he set up Blue Cross Laboratories Ltd. to manufacture world class, quality medicines of common use for marketing at affordable prices for the middle class

to building hospitals and rehabilitation centres, given medical aid to patients, and donated ambulances.

Preceding the felicitation event, the Academy and Manipal University Press joined hands in paying tribute to the one and only Talat Mahmood, one of India's greatest-ever film singers, with the screening of the film made by Miss Pratibha Advani and release of the book, *Talat Mahmood: The Velvet Voice*, authored by Mr. Manek Premchand, at the hands of Shri L K Advani. Mr. Khalid Mahmood, son of Talat Mahmood, Ms. Sabina Talat Mahmood, daughter, Ms. Sudha Malhotra, well-known



Honorable Governor presenting a memento to Ms. Pratibha Advani



Mr. Pralhad Chhabria receiving the memento from the Honorable Governor of Maharashtra



Honorable Governor presenting a memento to Mr. Deepak Israni who received the award on behalf of Mr. Nihchal Israni



Honorable Governor presenting a memento to Ms. Suman Ramesh Tulsiani

and the poor people of India and the poor in selected developing countries. Mr. Israni is also a philanthropist par excellence.

Ms. Suman Ramesh Tulsiani, co-founded, with her husband, the Suman Ramesh Tulsiani Charitable Trust in 1989. She looks after the activities of the Trust which has established a couple of colleges, adopted schools in villages in tribal areas, gives scholarships to the poor and deserving school and college students, donations to set up departments and research centres and build hostels. In the field of health care, the Trust has donated heavily

playback singer of yester years, Dr. Ms. Neeta Inamdar, Manipal University Press, Mr. Ameen Sayani, one of India's greatest voices, Ms. Advani, Mr. Premchand and Shri L K Advani participated in a discussion of the book before its release. Everyone paid glowing tributes to the late, immortal singer.

Mr. Nanik Rupani, Chairman Emeritus, gave the welcome address and Mr. Murli Adnani, Co-Chairman, proposed a Vote of Thanks. Ms. Reena Rupani and Ms. Sadhna Singh, former Actor, served as Master of Ceremonies.

The curtains closed to end one of the most memorable events in the annals of Priyadarshni Academy.



Mr. Nanik Rupani, Chairman Emeritus, Priyadarshni Academy, giving the welcome address



Mr. Mahaakshay Chakraborty, Actor, presenting a bouquet of flowers to Honorable Governor of Maharashtra



Ms. Evelyn Sharma, Actor, presenting a bouquet to Shri L K Advani



Ms. Sara Khan, Actor, presenting a bouquet to Ms. Pratibha Advani



Mr. Arfeen Khan, Trainer, presenting a bouquet to Mr. Pralhad Chhabria



Ms. Reena Rupani, Master of Ceremony

Homage to Shri Govindrao Adik



Shri Govindrao Adik, a friend, philosopher and guide to Priyadarshni Academy, passed away at a hospital in Mumbai on June 6, 2015. Shri Adik, a pillar of strength to the Academy, took keen interest in the development of the Academy for many years as the Academy reached national and global stature. We pay our homage and respect to the departed soul and extend our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.



Mr. Manek Premchand, author, introducing the book



Mr. Ameen Sayani lending his voice



Dr. Neeta Inamdar of the Manipal University Press



Ms. Lata Jagtiani helping with the unwrapping



Shri L. K. Advani and others after the book release

HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF MAHARASHTRA PRESENTS LITERARY AWARDS AND EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Priyadarshni Academy's 31st Anniversary Literary Awards and Educational Scholarships event on February 19 at the Walchand Hirachand Hall of the Indian Merchants' Chamber was indeed a very, very special one. No less a dignitary than Shri C. Vidyasagar Rao, the Honorable Governor of Maharashtra, was the Chief Guest, and presented awards and scholarships to the proud and deserving recipients. While stating that he was delighted to associate himself with the presentation of the awards to recognize excellence in literature in four languages and the distribution of scholarships to deserving students in various fields, he congratulated the Academy for instituting and sustaining these initiatives for more than three decades. He also expressed appreciation of the Academy championing the cause of literary and educational advancement.

The Academy's literary awards recipients were:

1. Mr. Hridayesh Mayank, Shri Kisharam Lekhraj Rupani Memorial Hindi Literary Award



2. Dr. Aruna Dhere, Balasaheb Thackeray Memorial Marathi Literary Award



3. Ms. Kajal Ramchandani, Laxmi-Nari Pohani Award for Promotion of Sindhi Language



4. Mr. Dhuru Parikh, Smt. Chandaben Mohanbhai Patel Gujarati Literary Award



Each awardee was presented with a plaque and a purse of Rs.25,000.

216 students from the fields of medicine, pharmacy, management, various fields of engineering, science, IT, architecture, law, hospitality, education, etc. received scholarships, mostly ranging from Rs.10,000 to Rs.20,000.

The Hon'ble Governor called writers as commentators on socio-economic and political problems of a society and its people, and elaborated that no movement of socio-economic reform has succeeded without the active involvement and association of writers. He added that Indian languages are repositories of our rich literature, history, culture, art and other achievements and that we will have to make sure that our languages do not suffer neglect and isolation. He argued that a lot more needs to be done to promote and popularize regional languages, particularly among the young generation and through technology, so that India can produce a generation of youth who take pride in the rich literature, history, culture, and art of our country. He was sure that the Academy's awards program will encourage and motivate young writers in the languages. He also congratulated all the recipients.



Speaking about the 'Make in India' initiative, the Hon'ble Governor proposed that we must give a major impetus to skill development of our youth, especially those at the lower end of the socio-economic strata, including the school drop-outs, the unemployed, housewives, and the like in order that they can contribute to the growth of the Indian industry. He affirmed that if we wish to emerge as a leader in the manufacturing sector, we must emulate the example of Germany which has scores of universities dedicated to skill development. He appealed to Priyadarshni Academy to give a major impetus to skill development and facilitate creation of apprenticeship programs in business organizations in order to help create a large pool of skilled workforce to power the 'Make in India' initiative. He concluded his address by wishing the Academy success in its future endeavors.

Ms. Shania NC, leading fashion designer and Executive World Chairperson, Giants International, was the Guest of Honor at the event and called the youth as India's present. Mr. Niranjan Hiranandani, Chairman of the Academy, gave the welcome address. Others who spoke included Mr. Nanik Rupani, Chairman Emeritus, who focused on the need to develop the youth, and Mr. Vishwanath Sachdev and Dr. Mohanbhai Patel, Chairmen of the Hindi and Gujarati Literary Awards Committees respectively, who spoke about the contributions of the literary

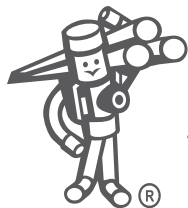
awardees. Mr. Murli Adnani, Co-Chairman, proposed a Vote of Thanks.



Ms. Reena Rupani, Master of Ceremony, receiving a bouquet from the Hon'ble Governor of Maharashtra



Ms. Shaina NC presenting scholarship to a deserving student



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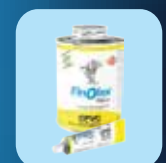
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MUSIC MANTRA Priyadarshni Academy Hosts “Music & Mantra”



Mr. Niranjan Hiranandani presenting a memento to
Mr. Anu Malik



Mr. Nanik Rupani presenting memento to
Ms. Sangita Jindal



Mr. Nanik Rupani presenting a memento
to Mr. Kummar Chatterjee



Mr. Nanik Rupani presenting memento
to Ms. Satya Hinduja

Music Maestro Kummar Chatterjee, spiritual singer par excellence enthralled the audience at the Nehru Center Auditorium on 28th February with his Ghazals in Hindi. In spite of unprecedented sudden heavy showers and traffic jams nearby, a fairly large number of music enthusiasts thronged the venue to experience the Almighty Divine Spirit through music. The two and a half hour non-stop music started with a musical piece by Ms. Satya Hinduja, the composer, producer and D J. Then the Maestro took

over with his spellbound rendition of “Music & Mantra” to connect the audience through music to a universal language of the soul.

Mr. Anu Malik, Eminent Music Director, as Chief Guest, and Ms. Sangita Jindal, Chairperson JSW Foundation, as Guest of Honor, graced the occasion. This program was organized under the Academy’s project on ‘National Integration through Dance and Music’.

VISIT PRIYADARSHNI’S BLOG

www.blogpriyadarshniacademy.com

The Academy’s publications venture, ‘Kautilya’s Arthashastra: The Way of Financial Management and Economic Governance’ published in collaboration with Jaico Publishing House has been a roaring success. The success of this publication has inspired the Academy to venture into other publications. It has also energized the Academy to create a blog-www.blogpriyadarshniacademy.com with links

to the Academy’s website, its Facebook, Twitter, and other .coms. The Academy encourages readers to visit the blog and make use of it to order books. Any comments relating to the site will be most welcome. For details follow us on

