



PRIYADARSHNI ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

For Private circulation only

Vol. 1 : No 1

September - 2005

From the Chairman



Dear Friend,

It is with immense pleasure that I place before you the first Newsletter in the two-decade history of Priyadarshni Academy.

I have, for a good while now, desired to create a Newsletter exclusively dedicated to Priyadarshni Academy. As the Academy's fame and activities spread to the four corners of the globe, a Newsletter would prove to be a useful instrument in ways more than one. It would also be a vehicle for me to

stay in regular touch with you.

Let me take you through a brief history of Priyadarshni Academy. The Academy had humble beginnings in 1985. The institution soon made a mark in various fields, particularly education and culture, two themes which have continued to be its primary fields of activity to this day.

- The Academy has, over the years, given hundreds of educational scholarships particularly in the IT, engineering and medical fields.
- Its annual literary awards have recognized the achievements of many celebrated writers in the Hindi, Marathi, Sindhi and Gujarati languages.
- The Academy has introduced the annual "National Integration Through Dance and Music" programmes during the last few years. These are becoming more and more popular. The programmes aim to integrate our nation through its proud music and dance heritage by encouraging young and budding artists from dance and music academies in Mumbai to perform on relevant themes.
- More importantly, Priyadarshni has become known in India and in foreign shores for its prestigious Awards Programmes. Initially, the Academy bestowed awards on leaders in various fields from around our country with a view to inspire them to greater accomplishments, at its Anniversary Function on September 19. Since 1998, however, Priyadarshni Academy has held biennial Global Awards Functions during which achievers from the world over are awarded the prestigious Priyadarshni Trophy. The Awards function is held on September 19 every alternate year at the Hilton Towers in Mumbai, the next being in 2006. I am very proud to say that the Global Awards programme is the only one of its kind in India, and has brought achievers at the highest level from across the globe to our country.

I concluded a wonderful tenure as President of the Indian Merchants' Chamber in April 2005. The year flew by but the Chamber gave me the rare opportunity of advancing national business interests and globalizing them.

At the Function that marked the conclusion of my tenure as IMC President, it was a privilege to have Shri Vilasrao Deshmukh, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra, as the Chief Guest. It was at this function that one of my pet projects, the release of a publication entitled "Kautilya's Arthashastra-Its Contemporary Relevance", was realized. This masterpiece is a must-read for everyone, whether you are responsible for governing your household, or a Company, or a Country. The book brings forth the matchless wisdom of the legendary Chanakya who was Minister in the courts of Chandragupta Maurya when in all its glory 2400 years ago.

With the launch of this first Priyadarshni Academy Newsletter, I invite you to join me in our journey to take Priyadarshni Academy to greater heights. I need all your support in this worthy task, more than ever before. I also take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your invaluable efforts in making the Academy what it is today.

Happy reading, and needless to say, I shall be delighted to receive your comments and suggestions on our new initiative.

With warm regards,

Nanik Rupani
Chairman

Chairman participates in Global Roundtable on Climate Change

Chairman Shri Nanik Rupani had an extremely useful round of discussions at the Global Roundtable on Climate Change held in New York, May 11-12, 2005. The program was organized by Mr. Jeffrey Sachs, Director of the prestigious Earth Institute at Columbia University. Shri Rupani was the only invitee to represent India at the high-level conference. The Roundtable brought 100-150 critical stakeholders, CEOs, senior executives, government officials, and leaders of international governmental and non-governmental organizations in an attempt to fashion a new global consensus on core scientific, technological and economic issues critical to shaping sound public policies on long-term climate change. Discussions focussed on a time-frame 50 to 100 years into the future in order to look beyond the horizon of the Kyoto Protocol, bypass unproductive controversies over uncertain near term change and costs, and concentrate discussion on the most meaningful, long-term issues. Participants in the Roundtable will be invited to five more rounds of discussions during the year 2005 and 2006.

Bolingbrook Mayor honours Nanik Rupani

Mr. Roger C. Claar, Mayor of Bolingbrook in Illinois, hosted a function on May 5, 2005 to felicitate and honour Shri Nanik Rupani, Chairman of Priyadarshni Academy. The trustees and distinguished guests of the Indian-American community attended the function. Shri Rupani assured the Mayor that he would be happy to work for the Bolingbrook-Mumbai sister city relationship. Quoting the prophetic vision of Swami Vivekananda, who visited Chicago over a century ago, he said, "India will be recognised as the knowledge center of the world".

Other highlights of Shri Rupani's visit to the U.S. were his meetings with a group of women leaders from various disciplines.

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PRIYADARSHNI HONOURS CEC & AGNI CHAIRMAN

PRIYADARSHNI ACADEMY ORGANISED ITS 21ST ANNIVERSARY AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS FUNCTION ON MARCH 11, 2005 AT THE WALCHAND HIRACHAND HALL OF THE INDIAN MERCHANTS' CHAMBER.

The usually glittering annual literary awards and educational scholarships function received considerable added value this year with Shri T. S. Krishna Murthy, Chief Election Commissioner of India, receiving Priyadarshni Academy's prestigious Presidential Award for his outstanding leadership in conducting the Indian national election in the year 2004 and for making it a model for other nations to follow. He received the award from Shri Keshub Mahindra, doyen of Indian industry and the Chief Guest, at a glittering function. Shri Jayantrao Patil, Minister for Finance & Planning, Government of Maharashtra, presided over the function.

Shri B. G. Deshmukh, Chairman, AGNI (Action for Good Governance and Networking in India), was given the Award in recognition of his services to the people of Maharashtra in regard to voter education, and contributing to making the elections more open, honest, and voter-friendly. The film, "Shwaas", which was the Indian entry for the Oscar Awards, also received an award.



Shri T. S. Krishna Murthy, Chief Election Commissioner of India, receiving Priyadarshni Academy's Presidential Award from Shri Keshub Mahindra, noted industrialist.



Shri B. G. Deshmukh, Chairman, AGNI (Action for Good Governance and Networking in India), receiving the Priyadarshni Academy Award from Shri Keshub Mahindra. Giving a standing ovation to Shri Deshmukh are (L to R): Dr. Ram S. Tarneja, Chairman, Global Awards Advisory Committee, and Shri Murlidhar Adnani, Co-Chairman, Priyadarshni Academy.



Shri Vishwanath Nayak, Producer, receiving the Priyadarshni Academy Award for the Film, "Shwaas", from Shri Jayantrao Patil. To Shri Nayak's left is Deepak Chaudhari, a co-producer.

EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS PRESENTED

Priyadarshni Academy presented Educational scholarships of Rs.10,000/- each to 20 college students from the state of Maharashtra. Scholarships of smaller denominations were given to another 40 college and school students. The scholarships were for the study of Engineering, IT, Medical Sciences, Catering Technology, education, and others.

The names of scholarships and the recipients are given below:

- 1 K. T. Shahani Memorial Scholarship for Engineering & IT - **Mr Dhiraj H. Chawla**
- 2 Suman Ramesh Tulsiani Scholarship for Engineering & IT - **Ms Devvya Sharma**
- 3 Suman Ramesh Tulsiani Scholarship for Engineering & IT - **Mr Kumar Abhishek Singh**
- 4 Neutron Scholarship for Engineering & IT - **Mr Bhavesh D. Chauhan**
- 5 Neutron Scholarship for Engineering & IT - **Ms. Sonal R. Tanna**
- 6 Ram B. C. Scholarship for Medical - **Mr Chetan D. Rath**
- 7 Ram B. C. Scholarship for Medical - **Mr Abhishek A. Rathi**
- 8 K. Jalan Foundation Scholarship for Medical - **Mr Anand S Hinduja**
- 9 K. Jalan Foundation Scholarship for Medical - **Mr Siddharth M. Shah**
- 10 Fr. Aurelius Maschio Scholarship for B.Ed. - **Ms Padmavati N. Poojari**
- 11 Fr. Aurelius Maschio Scholarship for B.Ed. - **Ms Dipali P. Kulkarni**
- 12 Bhagwandas Peraj Memorial Scholarship - **Mr. Aashish S. Jani**
- 13 Ram Tarneja Scholarship for needy persons - **Mr Mohit M. Ahuja**
- 14 Anu Projects Consultants & Engg. Pvt. Ltd. Scholarship for B.Ed - **Ms. Chaitali A. Dherange**
- 15 Shri Jiwatram Manghnani Memorial Scholarships - **Mr. Avinash I. Patil**
- 16 Shri Jiwatram Manghnani Memorial Scholarships - **Ms. Saumya J Menon**
- 17 Nari Pohani Scholarship - **Ms. Pooja P. Advani**
- 18 Nari Pohani Scholarship - **Ms. Chandrakala R. Belkar**
- 19 Nari Pohani Scholarship - **Ms. Kruti S. Kapadia**
- 20 Polycom Scholarship - **Ms. Rukhshana P. Patel**

PRIYADARSHNI PRESENTS AWARDS TO LITERATEURS

Priyadarshni Academy honoured four literary personalities representing the Hindi, Marathi, Sindhi and Gujarati languages at the 21st Anniversary function. The Literary Awards comprised a handsome trophy and Cash Prize of Rs.25,000 each. The recipients of the Literary awards were as follows: .

- Smt. Santosh Srivastava - Shri Kisharam Lekhraj Rupani Memorial Award for Hindi Literature. The award was presented for her work, 'Malavgarh Ki Malvika'
- Shri Vijay Tendulkar - Priyadarshni Academy's Award for Marathi Literature
- Smt. Paroo T. Chawla - Prof. Ram Panjwani Memorial Award for Sindhi Literature

- Dr. Suresh Dalal - Priyadarshni Academy's Award for Gujarati Literature

Hon. Shri Patil, who presided, and Shri Mahindra, who was the Chief Guest, spoke glowingly about the contributions of the awardees to their respective languages.

Shri Nanik Rupani, Chairman of Priyadarshni Academy, delivered the welcome address and Shri Nayan Patel, Vice-Chairman of the Academy, delivered the Vote of Thanks.

The programme was sponsored by POLYCOM which also contributed to the presentation of an educational scholarship.



Smt. Santosh Srivastava, after receiving the Shri Kisharam Lekhraj Rupani Memorial Award for Hindi Literature from Shri Jayantrao Patil, Minister for Finance & Planning, Maharashtra State



Shri Vijay Tendulkar receives the Award for Marathi literature from Shri Jayantrao Patil, Minister for Finance & Planning, Maharashtra State



Smt. Paroo T. Chawla receives the Prof. Ram Panjwani Memorial Award for Sindhi Literature from Shri Keshub Mahindra.



Dr. Suresh Dalal receiving the Priyadarshni Award for Gujarati Literature from Shri Mahendra

BOOK RELEASE 'Arthashastra-Its Contemporary Relevance' released

Hon'ble Shri Vilasrao Deshmukh, Chief Minister of Maharashtra, released a book titled *Arthashastra-Its Contemporary Relevance* at the 97th AGM of Indian Merchants' Chamber on April 21, 2005. As President of the Indian Merchants' Chamber, Shri. Nanik Rupani had the good fortune to take up a research project on *Arthashastra* with the support of Indian Merchants' Chamber Economic Research and Training Foundation and financial assistance from Hinduja Foundation.

Kautilya's *Arthashastra* is a masterpiece dealing with varied aspects of governing a monarchy such as administration, taxation, law, diplomacy, business and trade, agriculture, labour, society, etc. Written around 2,400 years ago, the study can be applied to solving current economic and related problems.

Kautilya also known as Chanakya was an advisor to Chandragupta Maurya, one of the most powerful kings of ancient India. He was the most illustrious political economist of all times. Chanakya Niti, or diplomacy, is legendary and is practiced in areas like defense, strategy formation, and foreign relations. Many postulates of Kautilya's philosophy of political economy are applicable to contemporary times.

This handy volume is an indispensable reference book for all including corporates, businessmen, administrators, bureaucrats and opinion leaders. The book is available with India Book Distributors or in all leading book stores and is priced at Rs. 300 (courier charge extra) in India and US\$15 (inclusive of airmail charge) abroad.



Shri Vilasrao Deshmukh, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra releasing the book *Kautilya's Arthashastra Its Contemporary Relevance* at Indian Merchants' Chamber on April 21, 2005.

For copies, contact, the following places:

Ameya Prakashan, Pune (Tel: 9520-25457571, simba@vsnl.net); Indian Merchants' Chamber (Tel: 022-22046633, imc@IMCnet.org); Crossword chain of Bookstores (Tel: 28800808, www.crosswordbookstores.com); India Book Distributors & Branches (Tel: 3829508/23879421, thead@vsnl.net) and Priyadarshni Academy (Tel: 091-22-22873456, pa@priyadarshniacademy.com)

PRIYADARSHNI-IMC ORGANISE INTERACTIVE MEETING

"Ananya Bharati"

Priyadarshni Academy collaborated with the Indian Merchants' Chamber in organizing an interactive meeting and screening of the one-hour documentary film, "Ananya Bharati" by Ms. Pratibha Advani, a distinguished media personality based in New Delhi. The film captures the very spirit of patriotism that has emanated from the Hindi film industry right from pre-independence era to the present day films and music album. Ms. Advani is the daughter of BJP leader Shri L. K. Advani. The programme was well attended and was graced by celebrities including Mrs. Kamla Advani, filmmaker Shri Subhash Ghai and electronic media leader Subhash Chandra



Ms. Pratibha Advani, MD, Swayam Infotainment P. Ltd., receiving a bouquet and an affectionate pat from Shri Nanik Rupani, prior to the screening of "Ananya Bharati".

Priyadarshni Academy presents Workshop on MIND MANAGEMENT FOR SUCCESS

Awareness will get your mind moving to utilize all the power and energy that will help you achieve all that you want

Date & Time:	Saturday, October 1, 2005 10.00 AM to 5.00 PM
Venue :	Ashoka Hall, Ground Floor, Arcadia Bldg., NCPA Marg, Nariman Point, Mumbai 400 021

Participation Fee: Rs. 1000 for members;
Rs. 1200 for non-members
Rs. 800/- per participant,

If group of four or more from same organisation.

Registration will be on first-come first-served basis

The Programme will be conducted by Mr. Ashok Samtaney, President of Ace Training Institute, Mumbai.

There will be prizes in the form of books on "motivation" and

"leadership" to the best and most active participants.

Businessmen, CEOs, Executive Directors, Vice-Presidents, Senior Professionals, Government Leaders and Officials, Academicians and Housewives can participate in the Programme.

For Registration, contact Ms. Meenal Joshi, Co-ordinator, Priyadarshni Academy, Arcadia Bldg, NCPA Marg, Nariman Point, Mumbai 400021.

PRIYADARSHNI ACADEMY - A SAGA OF GROWTH

Priyadarshni Academy, established in 1985, has been fostering the growth and development of social, cultural and educational aspects of society. Following are some of the highlights of its activities and on-going programmes:.

Global Awards function organised on September 19 in alternate year in Mumbai is a unique concept which has been undertaken for the first time in India, to put India on the global cultural map. The function acknowledges and honours outstanding contribution of national and global dignitaries in varied spheres of activities.

The **Vedic Research Project** has been initiated in collaboration with India International Multiversity and seeks to foster the study, rediscovery and presentation of the wealth of knowledge our ancestors have handed down. It further seeks to adapt and make aware this knowledge for the betterment of society.

Priyadarshni Academy presents **Literary Awards** to authors for their outstanding works in the Hindi, Marathi, Sindhi and Gujarati languages, in order to encourage the promotion and growing awareness of the leading languages of India.

Priyadarshni Academy provides **Educational Scholarships** to deserving and financially needy school and college students to support their learning process and excel in their chosen fields.

National Integration through Dance and Music provides a platform for the upcoming artistes to showcase their talents and carve a niche for themselves in the field of Classical Arts.

Priyadarshni has promoted the concept and practice of priceless **Laughter Therapy** which has helped innumerable people on emotional, mental and physical levels, assisting them to live life more positively.

Protection of Environment strives to create awareness among citizens regarding the problems of environmental degradation. The Academy has undertaken several tree plantation programmes in the past involving educational institutions and social service organizations.

The Academy promotes sports in schools and colleges by providing financial assistance to talented sports persons to participate in international competitions besides sponsoring sports activities for the blind.

PRIYADARSHNI ACADEMY INITIATES EDUCATIONAL HELP TO FLOOD-AFFECTED STUDENTS.

Priyadarshni Academy has invited **applications for financial assistance** from needy and meritorious school and college-going students especially affected by the recent floods.

Financial assistance ranging from Rs. 500 onwards will be given to 250 eligible students on a first-come-first served basis. **The decision has been taken in view of the untold misery and hardships suffered by many families during the recent floods in Mumbai and its suburbs.**

The Applications are to be accompanied by recommendations from school/college Principals. Evidence of the extent of damages caused by the floods should also accompany the applications.

Members of Priyadarshni Academy are welcome to contribute to this initiative. It will help the Academy enhance the number of students receiving help. Cheques can be made out in the name of "Priyadarshni Academy" and sent to its office.

PRIYADARSHNI SUPPORT TO THE VISUAL ARTS

As a strong supporter of the fine arts, Priyadarshni Academy engaged itself actively in "Rang Barse", a group exhibition of paintings and sculptures by artists from various parts of India. The exhibit was held at Bajaj Art Gallery from March 27 to April 2, 2005. Chairman Rupani inaugurated the exhibit on March 27.

PRIYADARSHNI ACADEMY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 1	Training programme on "Mind Management" Ashoka Hall, Nariman Point, Mumbai
October 2	'Ganges Clean-Up' Meet in New Delhi in collaboration with India International Multiversity
October 4	"National Integration Through Dance and Music"- Bhajan Sandhya by Ms. Tabassum & her Group in collaboration with Jai Hind College

Academy's Motto:

Service to
Humanity is
the best work of life

WE WELCOME YOU TO BE A PART OF PRIYADARSHNI ACADEMY

Contact Meenal or Priti

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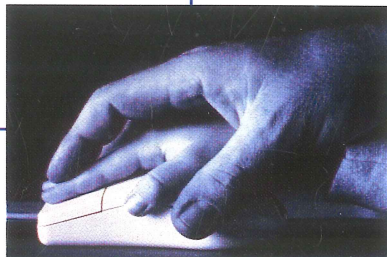
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