



Anjali
2021



HEARTIEST FELICITATIONS ON DURGA MATA POOJA CELEBRATIONS



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THE INDIAN COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION JAPAN

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Durga Puja Program October 9, 2021



Puja	... 11:00 AM
Anjali	... 12:00 PM
Prasad & Lunch	... 12:30 PM
Cultural Program	... 1:45 PM
Puja & Arati	... 4:00 PM



Cultural Program



Opening Song

Swami Divyanathananda

"Ma" A prayer to the Devi and a celebration of womanhood through dance

by Indian classical dance troupe

Advika Ghosh, Suvechha Bhunia, Rhitvikaa Viswanathan, Ashmita Paul,
Moitrayee Majumder, Priyanka Ghosh

Ray at 100 - A tribute to Satyajit Ray

Satyajit Ray remembered through dance and music by utilizing the music that he used and composed for his films

Ananya Chandra, Arnab Karmokar, Ashmika Ghosh, Atreyee Chandra,
Aveek Dutta, Gandharbee Misra, Shreyansh Kar, Souhardya Kar,
Zinnia Maya Dhar, Keyur De, Paulomi Barman, Priya Panda, Rituparna Misra,
Ranjan Gupta, Ruma Gupta, Sumana Kar

*Shruti Natok based on Satyajit Ray's short story **Class Friend***

Ashmita Paul, Biswanath Paul, Chaitali Paul, Krishana Das, Mayukh Dutta,
Purbita Dutta

Hope: Dance and song

Khanda Raah – The blocked path

Dance by Subha Kokubo Chakraborty and students

Song by Debarati Bose

Speech by Swami Medhasananda

Golden hits from Bangla Band

Abhisekh Ghosh, Angan Pati, Arnash Gupta, Biswanath Paul,
Chaitali Paul, Chandralekha Panday, Keyur De, Krishana Das, Mayukh Dutta
Meeta Chanda, Moitrayee Majumder, Purbita Dutta, Priyanka Ghosh,
Rituparna Misra, Sanjib Chanda, Sumana Ghosh Gupta, Sumana Kar,
Somenath Kar, Trishit Ruj

Program compered by Joyita Basu Dutta and Sangeeta Krishnamurthy

Digital presentation of the program by Sanjib Chanda

Videography and editing by Krishana Das, Mayukh Dutta, Sanjib Chanda, Somenath Kar, Souhardhaya Kar

Program coordinated by Rita Kar

Venue: Ota City Industrial Plaza (PiO), 2nd Floor Small Exhibition Hall, 1-20-20, Minami Kamata, Ota-ku,
Tokyo 144-0035, Tel: 03-3733-6600

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AMBASSADOR OF INDIA



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Embassy of India
2-2-11 Kudan Minami, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 102 0074



Message

It gives me immense pleasure to extend my congratulations to the Bengali Association of Tokyo, Japan (BATJ) which is organizing the Durga Puja Festival in Tokyo for the 32nd year on 9th October 2021.

2. BATJ has been at the forefront in organizing celebrations and festivals that give an opportunity to the younger generation of Indian Community to carry forward our Indian traditions. It also provides a wonderful occasion to our Japanese friends to enjoy the culture of India, thus promoting mutual understanding between our countries. Occasions like these foster deeper bonds between our people, contributing to further strengthening of India - Japan Special Strategic and Global Partnership.

3. I would also like to congratulate BATJ for bringing out their annual literary e-magazine "Anjali" which is a wonderful platform for literary expressions from the community.

4. On this auspicious occasion, I convey my best wishes to my fellow Indians and Japanese friends for their good health, prosperity, and happiness.

Tokyo
1 September 2021


(Sanjay Kumar Verma)



CONSULATE GENERAL OF JAPAN

55, M. N. SEN LANE, TOLLYGUNGE,
KOLKATA-700 040

August 16, 2021

MESSAGE

It is really heartening to know that the Bengali Association of Tokyo, Japan (BATJ) is organising Durga Puja for the 32nd year. I take this opportunity to extend my deep appreciation to BATJ for their relentless efforts in organising Durga Puja for more than three decades.

Durga Puja is one of the most significant festivals celebrated with great enthusiasm and zeal especially in eastern India and, as the Consul General of Japan in Kolkata, this is going to be my second year to witness this grand festival in the City of Joy. The name Durga means 'the impenetrable', and this festival exemplifies the victory of good over evil. Durga represents the embodiment of Shakti, the powerful feminine force that is believed to govern all cosmic creation, existence and change. I sincerely hope that by the strong positive energy generated from the Puja will help in overcoming the present difficult times beforelong.

The peerless enthusiasm with which BATJ is gearing up to celebrate Durga Puja this year also by adhering to all the Covid protocols is really praiseworthy. I hope that such a noble endeavour will definitely revitalise all concerned to strive with their fight against Covid with courage, patience and determination.

I believe that such cultural events will generate more and more popularity in Japan thereby fortifying the bilateral relations between the two great nations of the orient.

I wish BATJ every success in organising Durga Puja and their contribution towards the betterment of Japan-India cultural relations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading '中村 遼' (Nakamura Yutaka).

NAKAMURA Yutaka
Consul General

সম্পাদকীয়

অনেক অনুমান, আশা, আশঙ্কা, আলোচনা, সমালোচনা, অনিশ্চয়তা, ইত্যাদির মধ্যে দিয়ে তোকিয়োতে অনুষ্ঠিত হয়ে গেল গ্রীষ্মকালীন অলিম্পিক ও প্যারালিম্পিক টোয়েন্টি টোয়েন্টি। শুধু অলিম্পিকই যেখানে মানব ইতিহাসে একটি উল্লেখযোগ্য ঘটনা, তা যখন আবার আয়োজিত হোল করোনা অতিমারীজনিত বৈশ্বিক অস্বাভাবিক পরিস্থিতির মধ্যে, তখন সেই ঘটনার ঐতিহাসিক গুরুত্ব যে নিঃসন্দেহে আরো অনেক বেশি তা আর বলার অপেক্ষা রাখে না।

পৃথিবী নিত্যপরিবর্তনশীল - মানুষ এতে যতই অভ্যস্ত থাকুক না কেন, অপ্রত্যাশিতভাবে যখন মারাত্মক পরিস্থিতির কবলে পর্যুদস্ত হয়, তখন একমাত্র ঈশ্বরের করুণাধারাই জাগিয়ে তোলে মানুষের অন্তর্নিহিত আবেগ, মানবিকতা, সংবেদনশীলতা, ও সহমর্মিতা এবং সেই বোধই মানুষকে আবদ্ধ করে ঐক্যের বন্ধনে, শক্তি জোগায় ভয়ঙ্কর চ্যালেঞ্জের সাথে সম্মিলিত ভাবে মোকাবিলা করার। তোকিয়ো অলিম্পিকের সামগ্রিক আয়োজনের মধ্যে দিয়ে জাপান সমগ্র বিশ্বের কাছে সেই ঐক্যের বাণী পৌঁছে দেওয়ার চেষ্টা করেছে। মুষ্টিমেয় কয়েকজন ভারতীয়, এই অলিম্পিক গেম্‌সে স্বেচ্ছাসেবী হিসেবে কাজ করার সুযোগ পেয়েছিলেন। তাদের অমূল্য অভিজ্ঞতাকে পেশ করা হয়েছে এইবারকার অঞ্জলিতে।

ভারতবর্ষের স্বাধীনতা সংগ্রামে নেতাজী সুভাসচন্দ্র বসুর গুরুত্বপূর্ণ অবদানের কথা সর্বজনবিদিত। শোষিত ভারতীয় জনগণকে উজ্জীবিত করে পরাধীন ভারতকে স্বাধীন করার সংগ্রামে যে সর্বভারতীয় নেতৃত্ব তিনি দিয়েছিলেন, সেই কথা তাঁর ১২৫তম জন্মবার্ষিকীতে শ্রদ্ধাভরে স্মরণ করার সময়। এবারকার সংখ্যায় একটি প্রামাণ্য রচনার মধ্যে দিয়ে সেই মহান নেতার প্রতি শ্রদ্ধা জ্ঞাপনের সাথে সাথে বহু স্বল্পালোচিত তথ্য এবং অনেক উৎসাহব্যঞ্জক ঘটনার প্রতি আলোকপাত করা হয়েছে যা খুবই সময়োপযোগী বলে আমরা মনে করি।

জন্মশতবর্ষ পূর্ণ হোল প্রাতঃস্মরণীয় এক ভারতীয় সন্তানের যিনি বিশ্ব চলচ্চিত্রের মানচিত্রে ভারতবর্ষের নাম স্বর্ণাক্ষরে লিখে গিয়েছেন তাঁর অমর কীর্তি দিয়ে। তিনি হলেন চলচ্চিত্র জগতের এক কিংবদন্তী নাম - সত্যজিত রায়। বিংশ শতাব্দীর শ্রেষ্ঠ চলচ্চিত্র নির্মাতাদের মধ্যে অন্যতম, সত্যজিত রায় তার শিল্পকর্মকে যেভাবে বিশ্বের দরবারে সমাসীন করে চির অমর হয়ে রয়েছেন, তা আমাদের একান্ত গৌরবের বিষয়। সত্যজিত রায়ের জন্মশতবর্ষে তার অসাধারণ সৃষ্টিনৈপুণ্যকে নতুন করে উপলব্ধি করার ও তার শিল্পকর্মকে প্রসারিত করে দেওয়ার এই শুভলগ্নে দুটি বিশেষ রচনার মধ্যে দিয়ে তার প্রতি জানাই আমাদের অন্তরের শ্রদ্ধা।

কয়েকটি বিশেষ প্রতিবেদন ছাড়াও এবারকার অঞ্জলিতে সংকলিত হয়েছে অনেক বৈচিত্র্যময় গল্প, প্রবন্ধ, কবিতা ইত্যাদি। দুঃখের বিষয় অতিমারীজনিত পরিস্থিতির বিশেষ পরিবর্তন না হওয়ার দরুণ এবছরও অঞ্জলির প্রকাশনা অনলাইন সংস্করণের মধ্যেই সীমিত রাখতে হোল।

সকলের জীবনে সর্বাঙ্গীণ মঙ্গল হোক, দুর্গাতিনাশিনীর কৃপায় দূর হয়ে যাক সব অশুভ প্রভাব। ভগবৎ আরাধনা এবং ভগবৎ সান্নিধ্যে পুনর্প্রতিষ্ঠিত হোক আনন্দময় জীবন। কল্যাণময়ী দেবীর কাছে অঞ্জলির সব পাঠকের সুখ, শান্তি, ও সুস্বাস্থ্য, কামনা করি।

সম্পাদকমণ্ডলীর পক্ষ থেকে সকলের জন্য রইলো শারদীয় শুভেচ্ছা।।

Editorial

Despite guesswork, aspirations, apprehensions, planning, criticism, and uncertainties, Tokyo Summer Olympics and Paralympics 2020, were finally held this year. Whereas Olympics by its own merit finds its place in history, it is needless to mention that this year's Olympics organized under the abnormal circumstances of a global pandemic will carry a very special significance in the history of mankind.

The world is ever-changing. No matter how much one gets used to surviving in this changing world, it is only God's immense grace that need to be abundantly showered on human beings who are tormented by the adversities of the current unexpected pandemic. God's grace arouses inherent divine qualities of human beings like emotion, humanism, compassion, empathy etc., and binds everyone together for fighting against such deadly misfortune. Japan wanted to convey this message to the world throughout the Olympic games. A few members of our Indian community got the rare opportunity to serve as volunteers in the games. We have incorporated their valuable experiences, and created a special section in Anjali.

The contribution that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose made in the struggle for freedom of India, is a well-known fact. It is time to remember on his 125th birthday, how he led the freedom movement by inspiring oppressed people of India under the British rule to fight for India's freedom. We have included an article in this year's Anjali which has tributed this great leader with his less discussed and interesting, yet authentic anecdotes. We also think that this article is very much relevant given the current situation.

This year marks the centenary of a great son of India who by his immortal works imprinted India's position on the global map of the film world. He is none other than Satyajit Ray, a legendary figure in cinema and one of the greatest filmmakers of the 20th century. The way he immortalized his works on the global stage of film making, is a matter of great pride for our whole nation. On his centenary, it is imperative to look at his excellence and to spread his name across the globe. Through two relevant articles, we have paid our tribute to this great man.

In addition to few special sections, we have added literary pieces from different genres to keep its diversified nature. Unfortunately, the pandemic situation in Japan still calls for a lot of restrictions, and therefore forced us to keep this version online.

May the almighty, the remover of all pains, destroy all evil effects from the earth and let everyone be blessed with overall wellbeing. Let the peaceful life be brought back through our devotion in God.

We pray for the wellbeing of our readers and their families.

Anjali extends best wishes to all its readers.

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Acknowledgements

We are pleased to bring out our autumnal publication Anjali on the auspicious occasion of Durga Puja celebration 2021. Situations have changed since we mentioned about Covid-19 in last year's Anjali. According to Johns Hopkins University & Medicine, "countries around the world are working to "flatten the curve" of the coronavirus pandemic. Flattening the curve involves reducing the number of new COVID-19 cases from one day to the next. This helps prevent healthcare systems from becoming overwhelmed." Vaccination plays a major role in preventing new infection. However, Johns Hopkins University & Medicine also said that, "public health officials have worried since the start of the pandemic that vaccinations would not be equitably distributed around the world. The data appears to be confirming those fears as developed nations are vaccinating their populations far faster than less developed countries."

Despite all uncertainties, Tokyo Summer Olympics and Paralympics 2020, were finally held this year. While we thought of giving an extensive coverage on these historical games based on first hand experiences from our community friends, the situation did not permit us to do all that we wanted to do. Like last year, we decided to go online this year as well.

Anjali's continuing success is made possible by the support of many well-wishers. The Embassy of India in Tokyo continues to extend their gracious support for which we are very thankful. We hope to receive the same patronage in future as well.

Until the pandemic brought severe disruptions in the business of our advertisers, we had been regularly receiving sponsorship from them. Therefore, this year also as a mark of gratitude and solidarity to our regular advertisers we offered them a free advertisement in this 26th edition of Anjali. We wish our sponsors to quickly overcome the challenges and enjoy a bright future ahead.

Every year Anjali is being enriched by the valuable contributions from native speakers of different languages and various cultural backgrounds. We sincerely thank each of them for their support. We convey our gratitude to the contributors who have sent us their contributions from outside Japan. We are happy to note that readership of our online version is expanding.

At different stages of this process, we received valuable advices from many well wishers. We tried to incorporate their suggestions as much as possible. We convey our sincere thanks to all of them.

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