



Embassy of India

# THE CULTURAL NEWSLETTER



May 2020



Indian Council for Cultural Relations  
भारतीय सांस्कृतिक सम्बंध परिषद्

## THE GANDHI CENTRE THE HAGUE

**Parkstraat 99 (First floor), 2514 JH, DEN HAAG**

The Gandhi Centre was set up on 2 October, 2011 with the primary objective of establishing, reviving and strengthening cultural relations between India and Netherlands. The Indian Council for Cultural Relations has set up 36 Indian cultural centres in different parts of the world.

The objective of the Gandhi Centre is to promote awareness of India's composite cultural heritage in The Netherlands. The activities of the cultural centre include showcasing various art forms of India such as dance, drama, music, films, talks and seminars on subjects related to India. The centre also teaches Yoga, Tabla and Hindi. It has a library with a rich collection of books on history, art, culture, political affairs and fiction. The Gandhi Centre functions under the Embassy of India and is established by the ICCR.

# Programme Schedule

You are cordially invited  
for the following:



**The Gandhi Centre  
Embassy of India**  
invites you to a  
**eKaavya Goshti**  
**Sarahadon ke Paar...(6)**



If you wish to participate  
in any Indian language  
please submit your  
**kavita/shayari/Ghazal/Nazm** in any  
Indian Language . Best entries will be  
given chance to perform on 2 May along  
with the performers.  
Submit at [sarahadonkepaar@gmail.com](mailto:sarahadonkepaar@gmail.com)

**Date 2 May 2020**  
**Program – 15.00 -17.30 hrs**  
**by**  
**Zoom Meeting**

**For more details contact**  
**Hem Vats**  
**0684022875**  
**Shikha Jha**  
**0645082312**


### **Sarahadon Ke Paar eKaavya Goshti - Chapter 6**

Sarahadon Ke Paar is a get-together of the poets where they recite and appreciate Hindi poems. Sarahadon Ke Paar is a literary initiative of The Gandhi Centre, ICCR in The Netherlands The Hague. Sarahadon Ke Paar ekaavya Goshti-6 is the Sixth edition as an online discussion and recitation of the poems of the poets.


Date : Saturday, 2 May 2020


Time : 15 00 – 17.30 hrs

Media : YouTube Channel –  
The Gandhi Centre, The Hague



**THE GANDHI CENTRE  
EMBASSY OF INDIA**  
THE HAGUE






**KATHAK  
VIDEO WORKSHOP**  
by  
**RIYA YAWALKAR**  
**MONDAY**  
**MAY 4, 11, 18 & 25**

**Presents**

**Classical Dance Video Workshop  
for  
MAY 2020**

**Please tune into**

YouTube Channel  
**The Gandhi Centre, The Hague**  
14.00 -14.15hrs



**BHARATANATYAM  
VIDEO WORKSHOP**  
by  
**ARCHANHA JAYARAMAN**  
**WEDNESDAY**  
**MAY 6, 13, 20 & 27**

## Kathak Workshop

by

**Ms. Riya Yawalkar**

Riya Yawalkar has been trained in the art of Kathak from a very tender age. She mastered the style with great dedication and sincerity. She is a student of renowned Kathak Guru Dr. Mrs. Vaishali Dudhe. Her notable performances include - Diwali performance on Doordarshan, a television broadcaster of the Government of India and Kathak presentation at 85th summit of Akhil Bhartiya Marathi Natya Parishad, in the presence of renowned Indian Bollywood actor Mr. Amitabh Bacchhan. She has received Sangeet Visharad in Kathak from Akhil Bhartiya Gandharva Mahavidyalaya Mandal in 2006. She is the founder of Riyaaz Dance Academy, Mumbai.

Date : Monday, 4,11,18 & 25 May 2020

Time : 14 00 – 14 15 hrs

Media : YouTube Channel –  
The Gandhi Centre, The Hague



## **Bharatanatyam Workshop**

**by**

**Ms. Archanha Jayaraman**

Archanha Jayaraman began learning Bharatanatyam from a tender age of 6 in the style of Vazhuvoor Pani and also under the guidance and tutelage of Guru Smt. Shobhana Bhalachandra, Kalakshetra, India. She was awarded as Natya Rathna in the year 2009. Archanha has performed as part of Tamil Nadu Tourism and also performed in Natyanjali Festival during Shiva Rathri in India.

Archanha has won several accolades as part of School and College Dance Competitions and has choreographed for many artists and competitions. She has attended workshops in India and abroad. She also conducts Children's Dance and Adult Dance workshop for beginners and advanced levels. Archanha has taught young batch of children covering the basic of Dance at Tharanginee School of Dance, Kalakshetra and teaches Children in The Netherlands and in India via Skype.

Date : Wednesday, 6,13, 20 & 25 May 2020

Time : 14 00 – 14 15 hrs

Media : YouTube Channel –  
The Gandhi Centre, The Hague





**THE GANDHI CENTRE  
EMBASSY OF INDIA  
THE HAGUE**



**Presents**  
**Motivational song by the ICCR**  
**“United We Fight ”**

In our joint efforts to inspire and strengthen India’s fight against #COVID19, ICCR brings out a motivational song titled “United We Fight”. The song is to help people stay united & ignite hope in the hearts of people and encourage them to think positive in these tough times.



**Written and composed by Joe Alvares,  
Vocals by**

**Usha Uthup, Salim Merchant, Shefali Alvares  
Rashid, Benny Dayal, Sonam Kalra, Chandan  
Bala Kalyan, Joe Alvares, Salome and Samira,  
and music by Tubby, Pandit Ravi Chari, Pandit  
Rakesh Chaurasiya and Ustad Faisal Qureshi**

**“United We Fight” – Song**

**by**

**Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR)**

In its joint efforts to inspire and strengthen India’s fight against COVID 19, the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) brings together composers, musicians and singers from across India, contributing recordings from their homes, in a beautiful musical creation entitled “United we Fight”. The song is to help people stay united and encourage them to think positive in these tough times. The song is a rendition weaving English lyrics into the notes and beats of Indian classical music, spreading the essence of the Vedic ideal “Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam” (the world is one family). It carries with it the message of hope, joy, resilience, fighting spirit and never say die attitude of all in our collective fight against COVID 19.


This song is dedicated to the world by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) of India. ICCR is MEA’s autonomous organization mandated to build international understanding, develop closer cultural relations between India and other countries and project India’s soft cultural power abroad.

Date : Tuesday, 12 May 2020

Time : 11 30 hrs

Media : YouTube Channel –

The Gandhi Centre, The Hague





**THE GANDHI CENTRE  
EMBASSY OF INDIA  
THE HAGUE**


**Presents**  
**“UNITED WE FIGHT ”**  
(a press release translated to Hindi and read)  
by  
**Prof. Dr. Nirmala Sharma**  
Director, The Gandhi Centre , The Hague


**followed by a release of an original Song by ICCR**  
**A song of Hope and a message of Unity**  
Broadcasted by  
Vahon Hindustani Radio  
Programme: ‘Gyan Ki Roshani’  
Wednesday ,17.00-18.00hrs  
May 13 & May 27 (Repeat Broadcast)


**Please follow us on the social media for the Music Video**




The Gandhi Centre


@iccr\_TheHague


iccr\_TheHague


ICCR in Netherlands



Written and composed by Joe Alvares

Sung by Indian artists to the tune of Indian Classical Music:  
Usha Uthup, Salim Merchant, Shefali Alvares Rashid, Benny Dayal,  
Sonam Kalra, Chandan Bala Kalyan, Joe Alvares, Salome and Samira  
and music by Tubby, Pandit Ravi Chari, Pandit Rakesh Chaurasiya and  
Ustad Faisal Qureshi

## Talk by Prof. Dr. Nirmala Sharma

on

## “United We Fight” – Song by (ICCR)



ICCR released an original song on video "United We Fight" sung by many Indian artistes in English to the tune and notes of Indian classical music. The song was released by ICCR at 1500hrs IST on 12 May 2020 on its digital platforms, website and twitter. This composition is an expression of our deep appreciation and gratitude to all brave COVID warrior's world over risking their lives to protect ours. It is a tribute to and recognition of the countless individuals who are silently helping neighbours, strangers and people around them in these times of distress. A message to the world that together we shall surely win the fight against the Corona virus and many such challenges that humanity and the human race faces.

The video has subtitles of the lyrics, so it is easily understood. It was widely publicized all over the world by our Missions/Posts/ICCs. The audio of the song, and the press release translated and read into Hindi language by Prof. Nirmala Sharma were broadcasted by Vahon Hindustani Radio in Netherlands in the Programme "Gyan ki Roshni."

Date : Wednesday, 13 & 27 May 2020

Time : 17 00 - 18.00 hrs

Media : YouTube Channel –  
The Gandhi Centre, The Hague

**THE GANDHI CENTRE  
EMBASSY OF INDIA  
THE HAGUE**

**Presents**

**“Ekla Chalo Re”**

**Song recital**

by

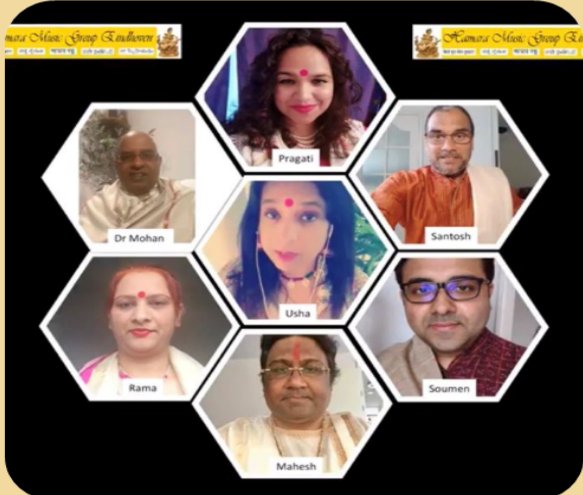
**Hamara Music Group, Eindhoven**

**Tuesday, May 19, 2020**

**14.00 - 14.10 hrs**

**Please tune into YouTube Channel**

**The Gandhi Centre, The Hague**



## “Ekla Chalo Re” – Song Recital

by

**Hamara Music Group**

**Jodi Tor Dak Shune Keu Na Ase Tobe Ekla Cholo Re** ("If no one responds to your call, then go your own way alone"), commonly known as **Ekla Cholo Re**, is a Bengali patriotic song written by Rabindranath Tagore in 1905. *Ekla Chalo Re* was incorporated in the "Swadesh" (Homeland) section of Tagore's lyrical anthology *Gitabitan*. The song exhorts the listener to continue their journey, despite abandonment or lack of support from others. The song is often quoted in the context of political or social change movements. Mahatma Gandhi, who was deeply influenced by this song, cited it as one of his favorite songs.

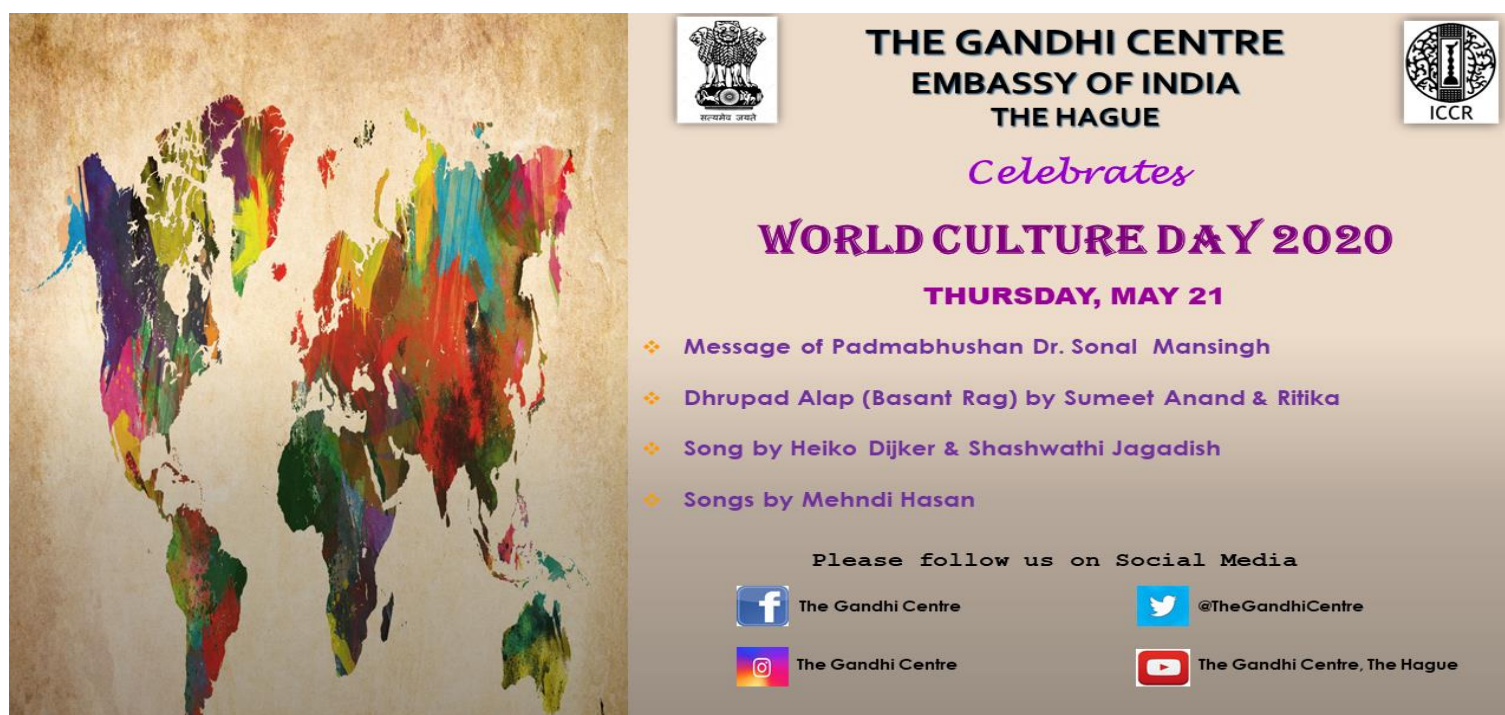
Hamara Music Group is a group of music lovers from the Indian subcontinent. The group passionately sings various songs in many languages- Hindi, Kannada, Bangala, Marathi, Tamil and many more. The group was started in Jan 2018. Pleasure, respect, learning from each other and growing are the core values of Hamara Music Group.

Date : Tuesday, 19 May 2020

Time : 14 00 hrs

Media : YouTube Channel –  
The Gandhi Centre, The Hague





## World Culture Day 2020

Held every year on 21 May, the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development celebrates not only the richness of the cultures of the world, but also the essential role of intercultural dialogue for achieving peace and sustainable development.


On this day of celebration, a video with the message of Padmabhushan Dr. Sonal Mansingh, Bandish in Soortal Raga Basanth by Sumeet Anand Pandey & Ritika Pandey, Thumak Chalat by Shashwathi Jagadish & Heiko Dijker, Ghazhals by Mehndi Hasan & Ramin Djanie will be uploaded on the YouTube Channel of The Gandhi Centre.

On this occasion, 'third Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Memorial International Oration' will be organised online by ICCR on "Ayurveda and its relevance today" by Dr. Antonio Morandi, a renowned Ayurveda expert from Italy. President, ICCR will make the opening remarks followed by Dr. Morandi's oration. Secretary, AYUSH will also be present on the occasion. It will be live-streamed on 21 May at 1500 (Indian Standard Time) on ICCR's FB live, Twitter live, YouTube live and Instagram live.

Date : Thursday, 21 May 2020

Time : 14.00 hrs

Media : YouTube Channel –  
The Gandhi Centre, The Hague



**Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay (25 September 1916 – 11 February 1968)**

*Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay was an eminent Indian thinker, social worker and public figure. He was born in village Chandrabhan, now known as Deendayal Dham, near the Farah town in Mathura District.*

*Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay conceived the political philosophy of Integral Humanism, which advocates the simultaneous and integrated development of the Human Mind, Body, Intellect and Soul. His philosophy of Integral Humanism is a synthesis of the material and the spiritual, the individual and the collective. Decentralised polity and self-reliant economy with village as the base, were the axis of his theory on development of India.*

**Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Memorial International Oration**


*Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay's Life and Mission have left an indelible imprint on India's political philosophies. A thinker politician, he was a visionary and his idealism was rooted in India's national ethos. He had an insight into the role India can play in making the world free from conflicts, misery and deprivation. The relevance of Integral Humanism propounded by him is not only eternal but also is applicable beyond boundaries of nations.*

*As a mark of tribute to the eminent thinker and leader of modern India, ICCR institutes this Memorial International Oration. Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Memorial International Oration will be held annually on the World Culture Day, May 21<sup>st</sup>.*

*First Oration was delivered by the Former External Affairs Minister, Late Shri. Noshma Swaraj on 21 May, 2018.*

*Second Oration was delivered by the Former Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Sh. R.C. Lahoti on 21 May, 2019.*

*Third Oration in this series for the year 2020 is being delivered by Ayurveda Expert Dr. Antonio Morandi from Milan, Italy.*



**Indian Council for Cultural Relations**

Invites you to

**Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay  
Memorial International Oration**

by

**Dr. Antonio Morandi**  
Ayurveda Expert, Milan, Italy

on


**"Ayurveda and its relevance today"**

at the occasion of

**World Culture Day  
21<sup>st</sup> May 2020**

**Time : 1500 Hours Indian Standard Time**

The oration will be presided over by  
**Dr. Vinay Sahasrabudhe**  
President, ICCR  
in the presence of  
**Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha**  
Secretary, AYUSH



**Dr. Antonio Morandi, Italy, Europe**

*Scientific Director of the ICAM 2016 Chairman & Director, Ayurvedic Point, Milan, Italy  
President, Italian Scientific Society for Ayurvedic Medicine.*

*Medical Doctor, Specialist in Neurology and graduated in Ayurveda (Ayurveda Academy, Pune, India and Jyotinat International College of Ayurveda), since 2001 is Founder and Director of "Ayurvedic Point", Milan, Italy and President of the Italian Scientific Society for Ayurvedic Medicine (S.S.I.M.A.). Awarded in 2003 with the honorary doctorate "Ayurveda Acharya" (Ayurvedic Institute Ashthavaidyan Thiruvai Mooss' SNA Oshadhasala, India), he is Head of Medical Education of the European Institute of Vedic Studies, Switzerland, and Professor of Ayurveda at the Master course in "Health Systems, Traditional and Non Conventional Medicine" University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy. He is the member of Non-Conventional Medical Council of Milan Province, Italy, where he coordinates the Register of Medical Doctors expert in Ayurveda. Dr. Morandi is actively involved in several international clinical research projects in Ayurveda. He is member of the Research Advisory Board of AVTAR- AVT Institute for Advanced Research, Coimbatore, India, and also Co-Head of the Scientific Board of the INDRA - International Network for Development of Research in Ayurveda. Dr. Morandi is the Editor-in-chief - International Office of the Scientific Research Journal "Ancient Science of Life".*

Please join the oration on

[facebook.com/ICCROfficial/](https://www.facebook.com/ICCROfficial/)
[iccrofficial](https://www.instagram.com/iccrofficial)
[@ICCR\\_Delhi](https://twitter.com/ICCR_Delhi)
[youtube.com/ICCROfficial](https://www.youtube.com/ICCROfficial)

## Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Memorial International Oration

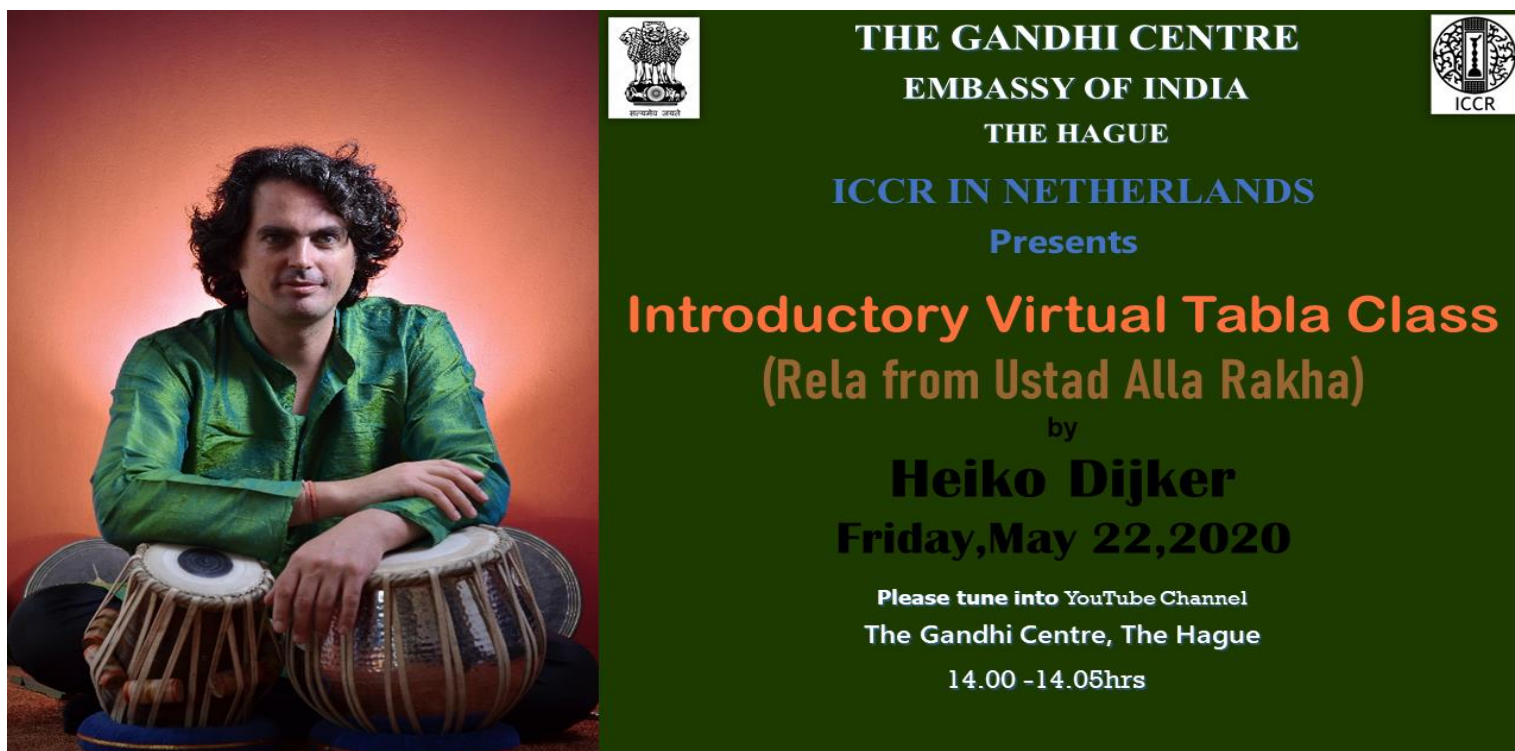
by

**Dr. Antonio Morandi**

To observe the World Culture Day, the third Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Memorial International Oration will be held online on Thursday, May 21. The event is being organised by Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) headquarters. In this regard, the live-streaming of the event is scheduled on May 21 at 3 pm on ICCR's FB live, Twitter live, YouTube live and Instagram live.

The Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Memorial International Oration will be conducted by Dr Antonio Morandi. Antonio Morandi is Medical Doctor, Specialist in Neurology and graduated in Ayurveda (Ayurveda Academy, Pune, India and Joytinat International College of Ayurveda), since 2001 is Founder and Director of "Ayurvedic Point", Milan, Italy and President of the Italian Scientific Society for Ayurvedic Medicine (SSIMA).

Date	:	Thursday, 21 May 2020
Time	:	15.00 hrs
Media	:	FB live, Twitter live, YouTube live – ICCR



## **Introductory Virtual Tabla Class**

**by**

**Heiko Dijker**

Heiko Dijker is an Amsterdam based Tabla player/Producer whose playing is marked by enthusiasm and energy, depth of knowledge and rhythmic poetry. He left Holland at a young age to find true Soulfulness in Music and Life. Hitch-Hiking around the world on his own, Heiko was drawn into Classical Indian music and the beauty of India. After years of traditional training with Shri Bhaswaraj Bhendigeri in India he continued to learn with grandmaster Faiyaz Khan in the Guru-Shisya (Master-Disciple) system. For 10 years, he was totally absorbed in his Sadhana, practicing and listening only classical Indian acoustic music.

Heiko holds a Masters-degree in classical Tabla from the Rotterdam Conservatory (learning with excellent teachers Ustad Faiyaz Khan and Ted de Jong). He has also been working with great Indian classical as well as with fusions of traditional and innovative music and dance.

Date : Friday, 22 May 2020

Time : 14 00 -14 05 hrs

Media : YouTube Channel –  
The Gandhi Centre, The Hague

# An overview of events held in April 2020



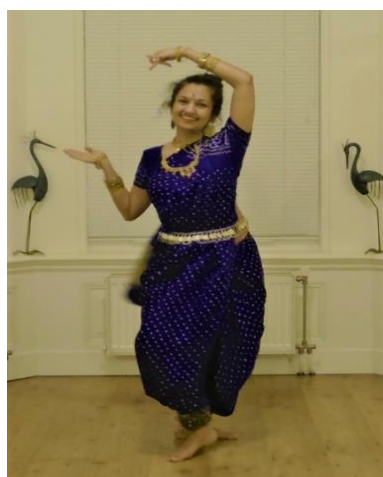
## ICCR Foundation Day 9 April 2020



The Gandhi Centre celebrated 70<sup>th</sup> ICCR Foundation Day online. Video messages from the ICCR Alumni who had been on an ICCR Scholarship to India to learn the arts, Sitra Bonoo, a Bharatanatyam Dancer and a Senior Alumni, Chareita Smit-Gajadhar, Odissi Dancer, Djahan Manuela Mazhari Perez, Mohiniattam and Kalaripayattu artist contributed their performance videos for celebrating this day. Their videos were uploaded on the Youtube Channel of The Gandhi Centre.

There was a Zoom meeting with the Alumni, artists and cultural heads of organisations, The Ambassador and the Director on this Day. The Ambassador H.E. Venu Rajamony gave a video message on this day highlighting the activities of The Gandhi Centre in The Netherlands.

## Lavani by Riya Yawalkar 11 April 2020



The Gandhi Centre organized Online Lavani Performance by Ms. Riya Yawalkar. Riya gave an introductory talk on the Lavani dance, its origin, the aesthetics and the nuances of the dance followed by a performance to a popular Maharastrian Lavani song. The performance received very good viewership on the Social Media.

## **Jewellery Making Video Workshop**

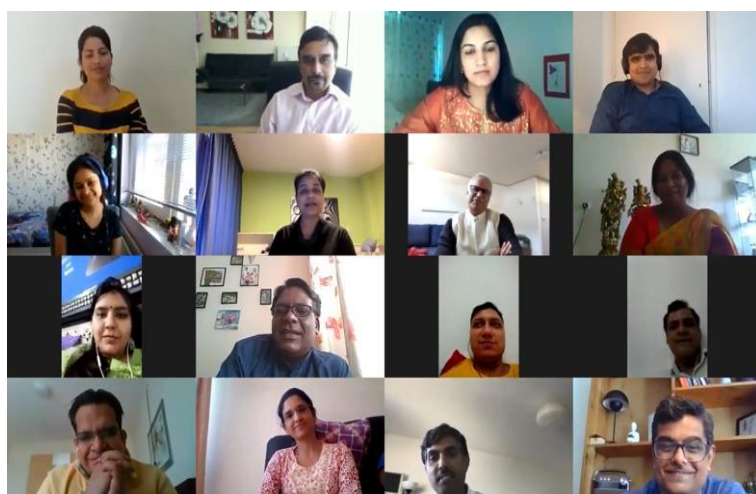
### **14 April 2020**



A Video Workshop on Jewellery making by Ms. Soma Sarkar was organized. Soma Sarkar is an entrepreneur into jewellery making venture named “Sreez Concepts”. She demonstrated online to make Jewellery from simple and a designer like earring. Her video was well appreciated and received good number of views on the YouTube.

## **Sarahadon Ke Paar - ekavisammelan Chapter 5**

### **16 April 2020**



The Gandhi Centre organized an ekavisammelan chapter 5 of the Sarahadon Ke Paar. The Poetry appreciation club members had a discussion and recital of their poems by a zoom meeting chaired by Ms. Hem Vats, Hindi Teacher of The Gandhi Centre. This video was well appreciated and received good number of views on the YouTube.

## **A Reading of Bal Kaand from Shri Ram Charitmanas**

### **24 April 2020**



The Gandhi Centre organized a live streaming of Reading of an extract from Bal Kaand of Shri Ram Charit manas by Ms. Hem Vats, Hindi Teacher of The Gandhi Centre. Ms. Vats read and sang the verses of Tulsidas from the book with devotion and explained the Childhood phase of Lord Shri Ram. This video was applauded and received good comments and great views on the YouTube.



## International Dance Day 29 April 2020



The Gandhi Centre celebrated International Dance Day with a message - Stay Home, Stay Safe during the Pandemic COVID-19 with the performances by Ms. Chrada Sheoratan (Bharatnatyam), Ms. Shyama Warriar (Mohiniattam), Ms. Kishori Sakhi (Odissi), Ms. Riya Yawalkar (Kathak) and Ms. Keya Kar (Rabindra Nritya in Bharatanatyam & Odissi style).

The performances were highly appreciated by the viewers on the Social Media. International Dance Day is a global celebration of dance, created by the Dance Committee of the International Theatre Institute (ITI), the main partner for the performing arts of UNESCO. The event takes place every year on 29 April, which is the anniversary of the birth of Jean-Georges Noverre (1727–1810), the creator of modern ballet. In line with this, the artists from the Netherlands paid their tribute through their performances in the Indian classical forms and thanked The Gandhi Centre for this opportunity. The performances were uploaded on the Social media and the online audience applauded the performers and the videos got higher views.

### **Kathak Video Workshop 13, 20 & 27 April 2020**



The Gandhi Centre has been running Kathak classes by Riya Yawalkar. Three Kathak Workshops have been completed during the month of April by Ms. Riya Yawalkar. These videos were uploaded in the YouTube Channel of The Gandhi Centre owing to the COVID 19 situation. Riya is a student of renowned Kathak Guru Dr. Mrs. Vaishali Dudhe. Ms. Riya Yawalkar presented the theory, postures, basic hand & foot movements, cycle beats in Kathak in all three videos. All her tutorial videos have garnered hundreds of views and positive comments on social media.

### **Bharatanatyam Video Workshop 15, 22 & 29 April 2020**



The Gandhi Centre has been running Bharatanatyam Workshop by Ms. Archana Jayaraman. Three videos were uploaded in the YouTube Channel of The Gandhi Centre owing to the COVID 19 situation. Archana Jayaraman learned Bharatanatyam from renowned Kalakshetra Foundation from Chennai. She presented the introductory workshop with theory, postures, basic hand & foot movements in Bharatanatyam followed by the aspects of Adavus (chapters in Dance) in her second Video Workshop and highlighted aspects of Abhinayam in her third video. All her tutorial videos have garnered hundreds of views and positive comments on social media.



# Regular Classes

The Gandhi Centre organizes regular classes in:

- Yoga
- Hindi Language
- Tabla (Indian percussion instrument)

These classes are open to each and every one at no cost. The classes are designed to cater to all age groups, as well as from beginners to advanced.

## Yoga Classes

Yoga is a science and art of healthy living with origins in ancient India. It is a stress management therapy and its practice increase immunity and contributes to overall physical and mental being. Yoga and Hindi Classes continue from Monday to Friday:

Yoga classes: 9.30 to 1.30 Face book

Hindi :10-4.30



Online Yoga Class at The Gandhi Centre

Yoga classes: 9.30 to 1.30 Basic Yoga

11.00-12.00 Hatha Yoga & Sun Salutation

12.00-13.30 Breathing & Meditation

Face book: <https://m.facebook.com/gandhiculturelive.nl>

## Hindi Language Classes

Hindi language has its origins in the ancient Indian language Sanskrit. It is widely used in both India and Suriname. Large number of students study this language at The Gandhi Centre.



Online Hindi Class at The Gandhi Centre

Hindi classes: Monday to Friday: 10-11.00 Level 2

11.00-12.00 Level 1

12.00-13.00 Level 3

Facebook: 14.00-15.00 Level 4

15.00-16.00 Conversation

16.00-17.00 Conversation

Skype ID: hemvats6915@gmail.com

Face book: <https://m.facebook.com/gandhiculturelive.nl>

## Tabla Classes

Internationally acclaimed Tabla teacher Mr. Heiko Dijker of Dutch origin has been trained under Ustad Faiyaz Khan, the famous Tabla player of India. Along with his public performances, he also teaches in Universities. He teaches Tabla at The Gandhi Centre. The students love his classes because of his personal attention.



Tabla Class at the Gandhi Centre

**For more details of the classes, kindly visit:**  
**<http://indianembassy.nl/eoi.php?id=Gandhi>**

Library





The Gandhi Centre library has a rich collection of books on Foreign affairs, Politics, Philosophy, History, Religion, Art, Culture, Dance, Monuments, Autobiographies, Personalities, Yoga, Hindi, Fiction and others. There is a reading room and book issue facilities.

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E-Mail: [gandhacentre.thehague@mea.gov.in](mailto:gandhacentre.thehague@mea.gov.in); [culture.thehague@mea.gov.in](mailto:culture.thehague@mea.gov.in)

Reception Phone: +31 703229576

Ms. Hem Vats, Hindi Teacher: +31684022875

Mr. Rajendra Singh, Yoga Teacher: +31687090093

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