

# Simchat Torah Celebrations of the Indian Jewish Congregation of USA

BY JEWISH VOICE STAFF

The Indian Jewish Community in New York celebrated Simchat Torah on October 26th 2008.

The festival "Joy of the Torah" celebrates the completion of Deuteronomy the last of the Five Books of Moses and immediately starts with the reading of Bereishit, the first book of Moses. This is to indicate that the Torah is a continuous process of religious learning and interpretation.

The evening was celebrated with a lot of prayer, singing and dancing with the Torah attended by members of the Indian Jewish Community and graced by the presence of Dr. A. Gondane, Deputy Consul General of India along with his wife Varsha Gondane.

Certificates of appreciation were given to leading members of the continuity for the

hard work and their services rendered to the community to preserve the culture and heritage of the Indian Jews. Raffle prizes include tickets to the Intrepid Museum, Madame Tussauds Wax Museum tickets, New York Water Taxi Cruise tickets, Union Square kosher wines, Jewish Museum tickets, Café Spice restaurant lunch, 1 year subscription to the Jewish Week, 1 year subscription to India Abroad and Rajbhog Sweets box. A vegetarian dinner catered by Rajbhog foods was enjoyed by all.

Also tremendous efforts are being made to ensure that The Indian Jews in America maintain their identity integrating with the larger American Jewish Community and the American general community without assimilating and losing its identity.

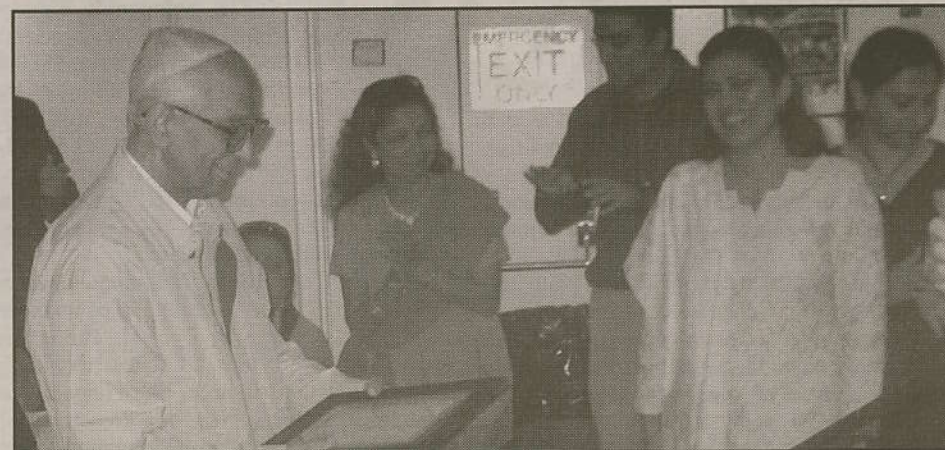
For further information about the organization please visit [www.jewsofindia.org](http://www.jewsofindia.org)



(l/r) Romiel Daniel—Presiding Officer of Indian Jewish Congregation Of USA with Mrs. Varsha Gondane and Dr. A.M. Gondane (Deputy Consul General of India).



Indian Jews dancing during the Simchat Torah festival.



Mr. Leslie Jacob getting award of appreciation from Mrs. Varsha Gondane