

Manhattan, New York

The Indian Jewish Congregation of USA (IJC) celebrates India's Independence Day on Aug. 12

The Indian Jewish Congregation (IJC) celebrated India's Independence Day at the Jewish Community Center (JCC) in Manhattan.

The introductory speech made by Romiel Daniel, President of the IJC related an excerpt of the first speech made by India's Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru on August 15th, 1947. The Tryst with Destiny speech has been a masterpiece of oration ever made by a political head of state.

The Vice Consul of India, Mr. Thomas Cheri spoke of the Jews in his home state, Kerala and the close history of the advent of the Christians in South India. He also spoke of the history of the Jews of Cochin which still has one of the most beautiful Indian synagogues built in 1568.

Zev Nagel of the Israeli consulate spoke of the close relationship between India and Israel. He said India is the second largest trading partner of Israel in Asia after Japan.

A cultural program included contemporary dance performances by an Israeli dance troupe, Shir and a Kathak performance by Parul Shah.

The evening concluded with the singing of the Indian, Israeli and American National anthems.

(Compiled from a press release)

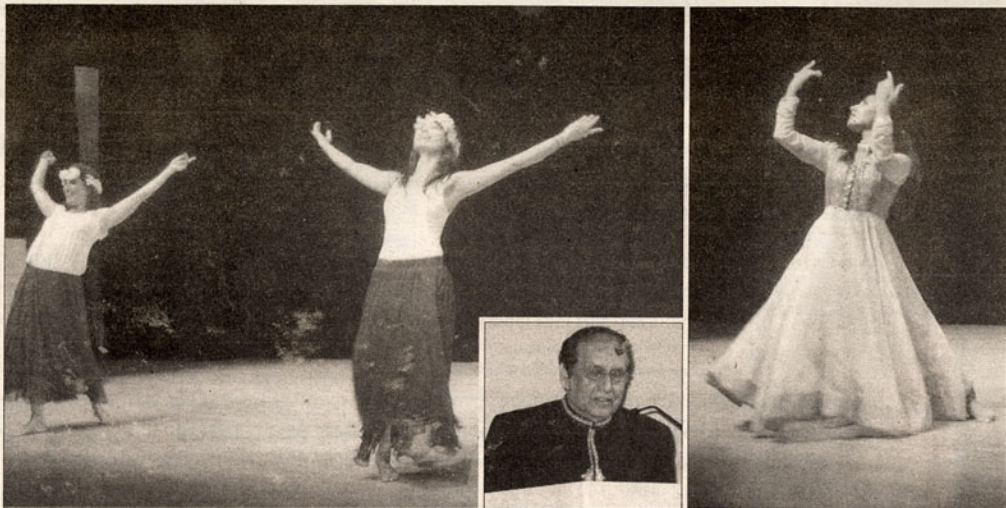


PHOTO ABOVE, left, The Israeli dance troupe Shir at the Indian Jewish Congregation (IJC) Independence Day celebrations. PHOTO ABOVE, right, Kathak performance by Parul Shah. PHOTO INSET, center, Romiel Daniel, President, IJC. (Photo: Courtesy, the organizers)