



NEWS BULLETIN

MORNING RAGA: A CLASSICAL PERFORMANCE



AZARA, March 22: Vidushi Kalapini Komkali, a renowned artist of Hindustani classical music, presented an extraordinary classical performance organized by SPIC MACAY on 20 March, 2024, at the university campus. The noted musicians Swanand Sunil Kulkarni and Swapnil Satish Bhise accompanied her on the harmonium and tabla respectively.

Ms. Komkali, daughter and disciple of the illustrious Pandit Kumar Gandharva and Vidushi Vasundhara Komkali, delivered a resounding rendition of the Raag Bhairava, an ancient morning raag associated with Lord Shiva. Ms. Komkali is known for her lecture-demonstrations of Indian classical music, and her musical performance at GCU was interspersed with brief yet perceptive asides into the nature and context of the Raag Bhairava as well.



Vidushi Kalapini Komkali, a renowned artist of Hindustani classical music, performing at GCU.



Felicitating Prof. Mousumi Barooah (top right) and the performing artists.

SPIC MACAY, a voluntary youth movement founded by Dr. Kiran Seth in 1977 at IIT Delhi, has been tirelessly promoting the rich tapestry of Indian cultural heritage across the globe. With chapters in over 300 towns worldwide, SPIC MACAY has been a beacon of inspiration, nurturing a deep appreciation for Indian classical music, classical dance, folk traditions, yoga, meditation, crafts and much more.

The event was graced by Honorable Chancellor and Honorable Vice Chancellor of GCU Assam. The soul-stirring performance was also graced by the invited guest Prof. Mousumi Barooah of Assam Engineering College, Guwahati.

The mesmerizing harmony of the raag, accompanied by the distinctive hum of the tanpura, harmonium and the pulsating rhythm of the tabla had the audience enthralled by their magnificent synergy. The event was supported by SRF Foundation and coordinated by Cultural Club, GCU Assam.



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THE GIFT OF LIFE, RENEWED & RECYCLED



AZARA, March 22: “A single organ donor can save upto nine other lives”, Ms. Priyanka Borah of Zublee Foundation emphasized in a poignant discussion on organ donation at the GCU campus. Anyone of any age can be an organ donor, and Ms. Borah requested students and teachers alike to consider pledging their organs on the Zublee Foundation website. She cautioned, however, that the donor must inform their family about their pledge to prevent needless complications later.

Zublee Foundation was founded by the noted singer Zublee Baruah back in 2013. The non-profit organization is dedicated to raising awareness on deceased organ donation in the North East, where as Ms. Borah explained, the frequency of organ donation is woefully low as compared to southern India, for instance. Lack of awareness about organ donation is, in turn, a major cause for the looming shortage crisis of organs at hospitals, particularly in the North East.



Ms. Priyanka Borah, CEO of Zublee Foundation, speaking at the event.



Organ and tissue donation involves removing organs and tissues from someone after their death (the donor) and transplanting them into another person (the recipient), who is very ill or suffering from end-stage organ failure. Surprisingly, it is the form of death which determines which organs can be donated. While the cornea, skin, heart valves and bones can be donated in general, vital organs such as the heart, liver, intestines, kidneys, lungs and pancreas can be transferred only if the brain stops functioning before the heart ('brain death'). These vital organs require blood circulation to be maintained, hence the importance of a functioning heart at the time of death.