

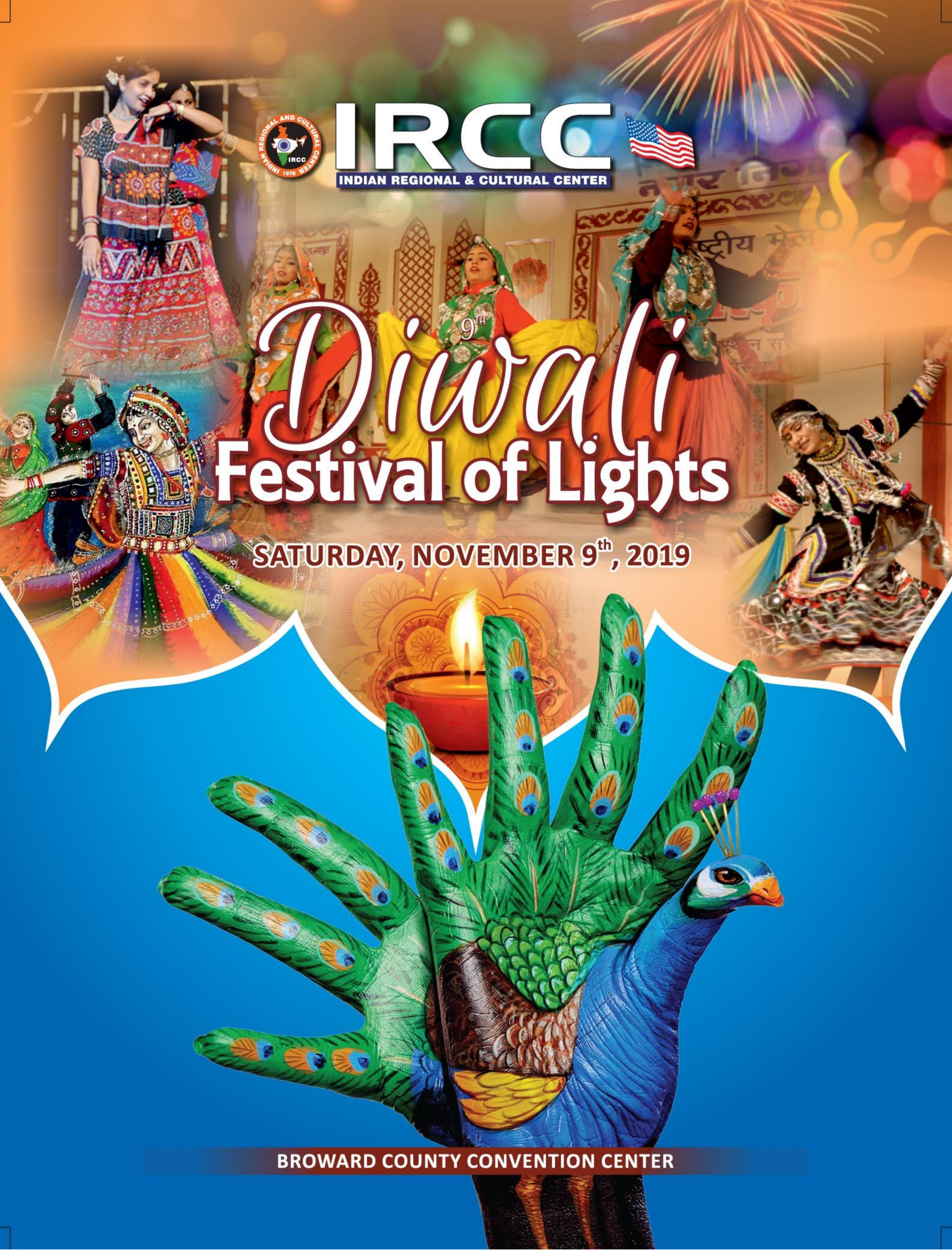


**IRCC**  
INDIAN REGIONAL & CULTURAL CENTER



# Diwali Festival of Lights

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019



**BROWARD COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER**





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## HIGHLIGHTS & RECOGNITIONS

- **#1 high school in Florida** for highest number of **nationally recognized scholars** for 10th consecutive year; 1 in 4 students in the Class of 2020 is a nationally recognized scholar
  - 44 National Merit Scholar Semifinalists (highest number in Florida)
  - 40 National Merit Commended Scholars
- **#1 high school in Florida** with **11 Presidential Scholar Candidates**
- **\$94 million** in college scholarships offered to the Class of 2019
- **95%** passing rate on all Advanced Placement exams
- **#1 private school** in the U.S. in national **Math** competition
- **#1 high school in Florida** at state **Science Fair** competition

**We are proud to support the IRCC-Diwali Festival of Lights**



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*& a prosperous*

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INDIAN REGIONAL & CULTURAL CENTER



## IRCC Board and Event Committee Members

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IRCC President and Co-Chair  
954-554-8739



**Sanjay Gupta, CPA**  
Co-Chair  
954-461-4003

### IRCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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Vice President and Cultural Co-Chair  
954-816-4158



**Ranjita Ghosh**  
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305-803-3325



**Purvi Shah**  
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Social Media Co-Chair  
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**Ruchi Verma**  
Youth Co-Chair  
954-821-6968



**Prem Mirpuri**  
Youth Co-Chair  
954-907-4441

### DIWALI COMMITTEE MEMBERS AT LARGE



**Poonam Wadhwa**  
Cultural Co-Chair  
954-655-3080



**Ramola Motwani**  
Advisor  
954-629-5708



**Tejus Karia**  
Social Media Co-Chair  
954-558-5157



**Sunil Agarwal**  
Ticketing Co-Chair  
954-295-3364





## CO-CHAIR MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

There is only one way to begin this message, and this is by extending a heartfelt thank you to each and every one of you for joining us for our 9th Annual 2019-Diwali Festival of Lights. It is because of you – the audience, performers, vendors, Board and Committee members, partners, sponsors, donors and friends – that this program is growing by leaps and bounds every year. We are overwhelmed by the support from our vendors who exhibit and sell artwork, clothing, accessories, jewelry, services and of course, varieties of delicious Indian cuisine. We are humbled by the help of several other non-profit organizations.

We are grateful to Broward County Florida Cultural Division for graciously approving a grant to IRCC, which helped immensely in putting this year's event together. A big thank you as well to Broward County Convention Center for allowing us to use their grand facilities. Our partnership with Art Serve has also enabled us to enhance our TV and social media advertising and extend our promotions to a wider audience.

I take a moment to reflect on the incredible support we have received from our sponsors who believe not only in the Diwali Festival of Lights event, but in IRCC as an organization that will help them further their goals. Thank you to American Heritage School, JM Family Enterprises, St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, Jalaram Produce, Patel Brothers, and the Shaili and Atal Bansal Foundation for demonstrating their faith in us through their sponsorships.

This year, again, IRCC has continued in its technological advancement with enhanced social media presence and digital advertising, online event ticketing, improved database updates from online forms and entry portals and our improved website. One step at a time, our team is working hard on keeping up with the times and streamlining our activities by taking the help of cutting edge technology.

Last but not the least, I would like to give a sincere thank you to my family; none of this would be possible without their unconditional love and support. A lot of commitment goes into preparing for this event and my wife, Nidhi, and two sons, Harshit and Prateek, have been there to support, participate and believe in the passion I have for IRCC.

*I wish you all a very happy Diwali and prosperous New Year!*

**Sanjay Gupta, CPA**

Event Co-Chair







## PRESIDENT AND CO-CHAIR MESSAGE

### Our Friends and Family of IRCC

Happy Diwali! Welcome back to the 9th year of this Festival of Lights event. It's wonderful to see how this event has grown from year to year, and how we are succeeding at spreading the celebration of our rich Indian culture and heritage to so many more people in the tri-county area. Over the years we've seen our Diwali show go from local school auditoriums to the Broward County Convention Center, that may best symbolize how much we have grown as a community. Our cultural program continues to grow in variety and in number of participants. This year, we have encouraged our participants to showcase more traditional and folk items to truly allow the audience to experience the multiple flavors of Indian music and dance.

I would also like to thank and congratulate all of you for being part of a cosmopolitan community that preserves and respects all cultures and backgrounds. I appreciate the hard work and dedication of all the participants here. To all of the parents and children who have sacrificed their time for the wonderful performances and volunteering; and to all of the business owners who take part as vendors, thank you for the continuous support and belief in the Festival of Lights. This year we are happy to report that we are 100% sold out in vendor booths. Our vendors come to this event from all over the United States and we are grateful for their participation and support.

IRCC is a non-profit organization, which means that all of the work that goes into this event and every other event that we throw is done by dedicated volunteers. It is my honor to serve you all as President of IRCC, working with a highly committed and dedicated Board of Directors and Festival of Lights committee members. These individuals are among the most passionate people who truly want to build this event into something special. It is difficult to see what it takes to put on an event of this magnitude and despite that our board members never fail to impress. I want to thank all of them for always raising the bar year after year and for giving up their week nights and weekends to make this event a success. I also want to recognize our IT team, as the world gets more technologically advanced to stay relevant, we must do so as well. Our IT team has made great strides to ensure that IRCC is keeping up with the advancement.

A great thank you to Kash Patel and his production team for an excellent promotional video and to House of Spices for the delicious welcome gifts. We are as always humbled with the visit of so many dignitaries who enhance the grandeur of the occasion!

I will simply conclude my message by saying that I hope to see you at our events over the next year. As many of you know, we host five different events during the year – Anand Bazaar in January, Holi in March, Bowling/ Rakshabandhan in August, Navratri in October and of course Diwali Festival of Lights as our flagship event. We appreciate any comment and feedback so that we can continue to improve next year. I hope you enjoy this year's show!

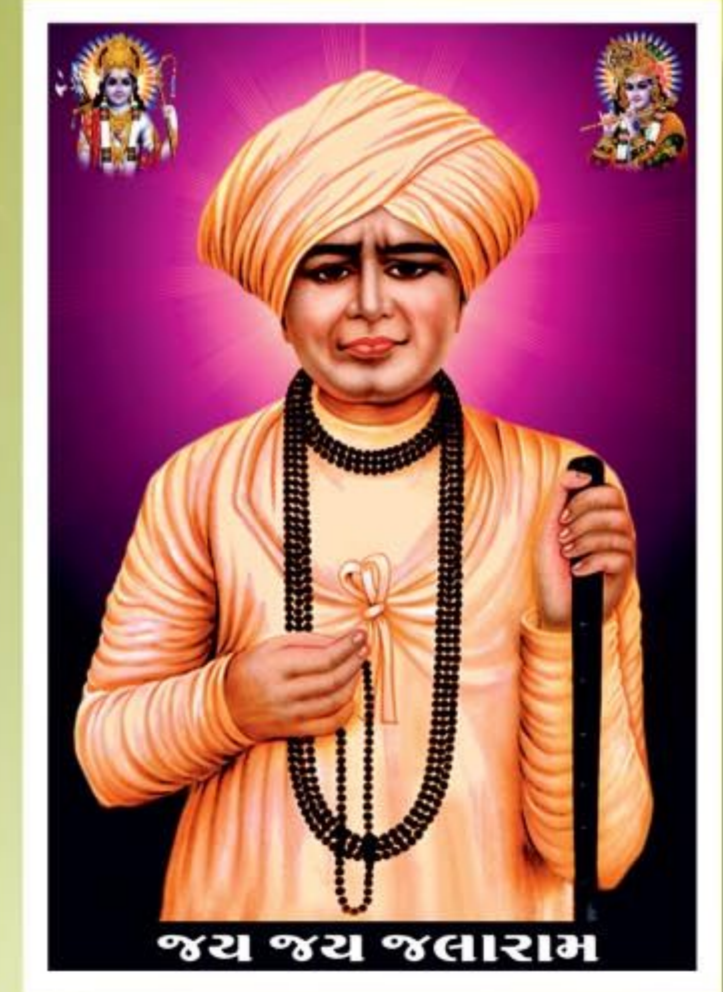
**Dr. Durgesh Thaker, DDS**

President and Co-Chair





**Wishing everyone a  
Happy Diwali  
and  
Happy New Year from**



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**Happy  
Diwali  
&  
New Year**







# IRCC

INDIAN REGIONAL & CULTURAL CENTER



“IRCC BOARD AND DIWALI COMMITTEE THANKS TO THE BROWARD COUNTY CULTURAL DIVISION- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, COUNCIL MEMBERS AND GRANT ADMINISTRATORS FOR THEIR GUIDANCE AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT”



Funding -for this organization is provided in part by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council

## Executive Committee

**Jodi Jeffreys - Tanner**  
*Chair*

**Gregory Reed**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair*

**Darran Blake**  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair*

**Janet Erlick**  
*Cultural Executive Committee Chair*

**Alice Zendel Simon**  
*Member-at-Large*

**Vice Mayor Caryl Hattan**  
*Member-at-Large, Broward League of Cities Representative*

*Thank You*

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**Heather Brinkworth,**  
*School Board Member*

**Ebonni Chrispin**

**Claire Garrett**

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**Edith Gooden-Thompson**

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**Amy Ostrau**

**Seth Platt**

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**Diane Weinbrum**

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*Grant Administrator*

**Adriane Clarke**  
*Grant Specialist*





**SANJAY GUPTA  
& ASSOCIATES, LLC**  
Accountants and Advisors

*Happy Diwali & Prosperous New Year*



**Sanjay and Nidhi Gupta  
Harshath and Prateek Gupta**

Sanjay Gupta & Associates LLC  
1776 N Pine Island Road # 309, Plantation, FL 33322  
Phone: 954-727-3777 | Email: Sanjayg@sanjayguptacpa.com  
[www.sanjayguptacpa.com](http://www.sanjayguptacpa.com)

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from Milan, Priti, Jaimin and  
Shail Khakhria





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All your friends at MBAF wish you  
a very happy Diwali with a sky full  
of lights and hearts full of joy.

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*Happy Diwali and  
Prosperous New Year.*

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By Appointment

**BEST WISHES  
FOR  
DIWALI  
&  
NEW YEAR**



# *Happy Diwali*



*Seasons Greetings  
to the entire community from*

*Sanjay, Sbanu, Sachet and Saandi Pabaria*



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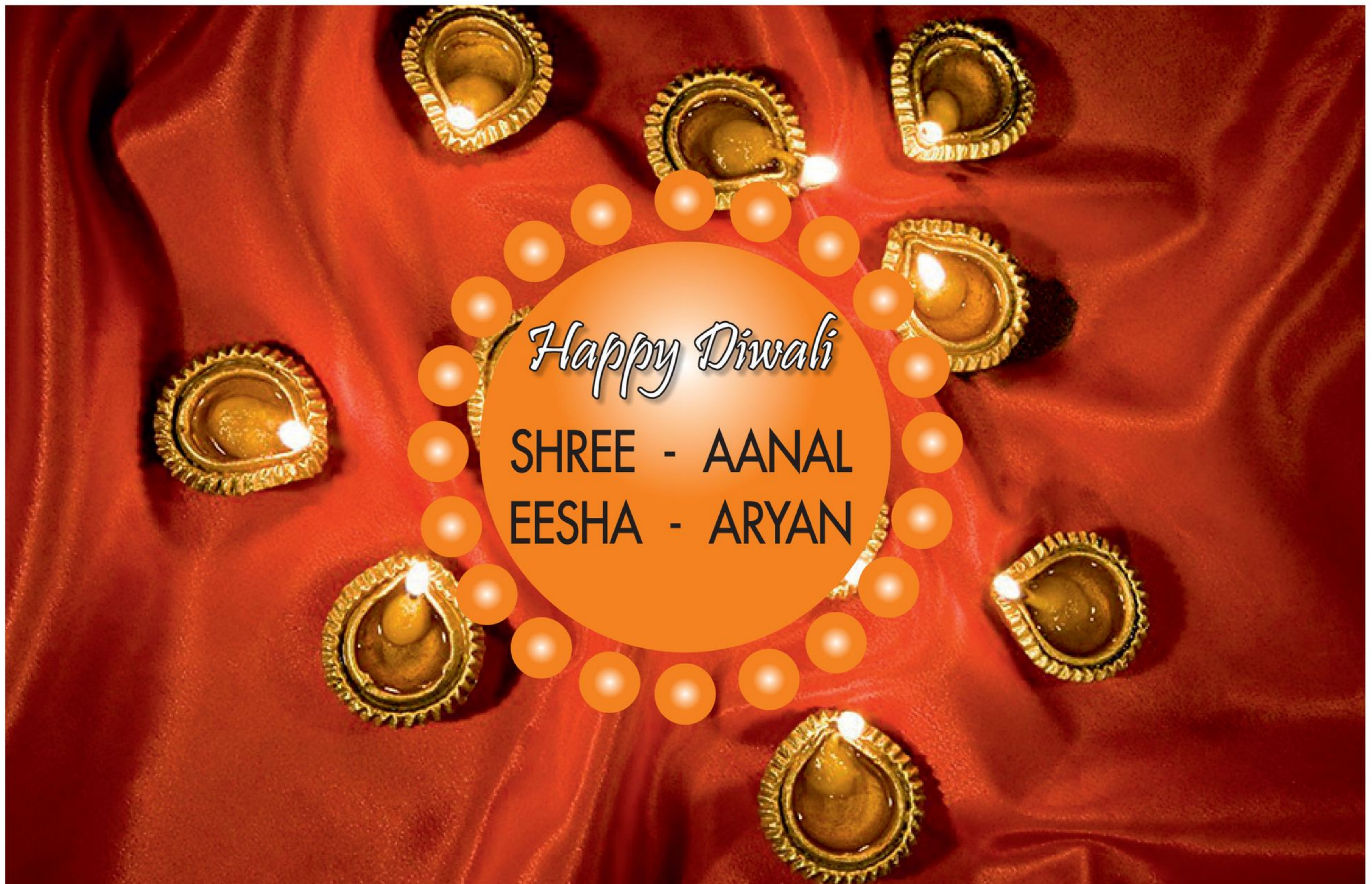
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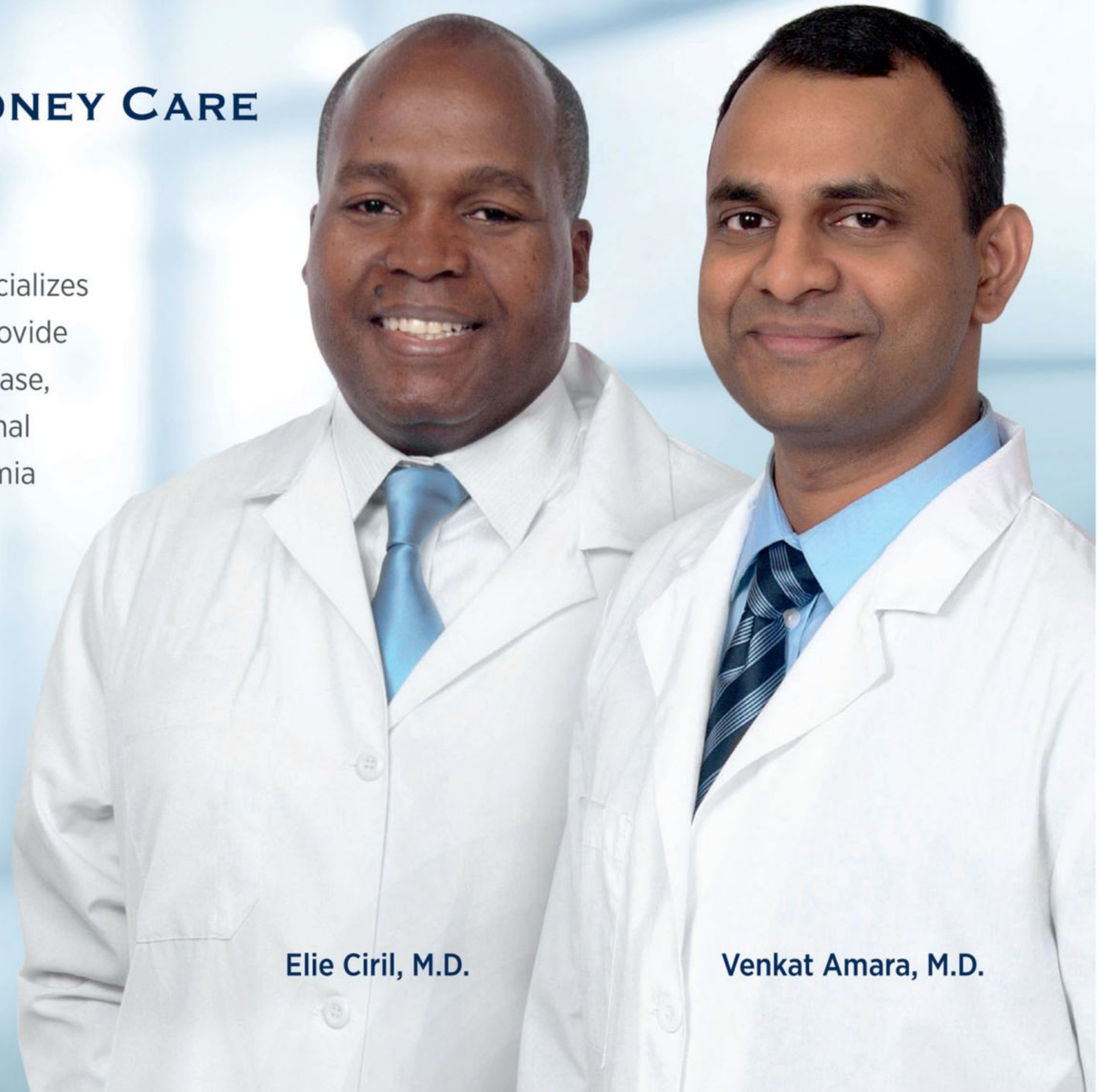
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Elie Ciril, M.D.

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# Kids' and Adults' Performance IRCC DIWALI 2019

## 1 Sparkling Soul Shakers

Bhavika Chugani, Isabbel Bir, Kyra Budhrani, Zara Samtani, Lasya Kotamraju Lee, Niva Dhawan, Amaya Serasinghe, Sameena Shroff, Zoya Samtani, and Reeve Patel.  
*Choreographed by Eshma Samtani.*

## 2 Indian Dance Dhamaka

Ayaan Roy-Yadav, Rihaan Roy-Yadav, Sidharth Mudusu, Shreeya Mudusu, Surya Ramesh, Dimple Regatti, Subhashree Anbarasan, Jermayne Johnsingh, Saanvi Shah, Nia John, Vivaan Modi, and Shivaan Patel.  
*Choreographed by Arunima Roy.*

## 3 Roots of India

Inica Kaushal, Disha Raja Krishna, Athulya George, Akshaya George, Mahitha Gundre, Yashika Masuram, Thanvika Masuram, Darshana Vikas, and Diya Dipuraj.  
*Choreographed by Moms.*

## 4 Folk Stars

Sayesha Lakkad, Sanvi Rao, Siyona Parashar, Shriya Sardesai, Sayali Choudhari, and Ishani Kanmurde.  
*Choreographed by Shivani Lakkad.*

## 5 Aaja Nachle

Aayush Gujarathi, Anjali Titus, Anya Khosa, Himani Joshi, Krishna Jagtani, Madhav Suresh, Mansha Pardasani, Melissa Kavi, Lavanya Singha, Ranveer Patel, Reyansh Kalra, Riya Solanky, Sophia Patil, and Vanaja Raju.  
*Choreographed by Payal Pardasani.*

## 6 Dazzling Dots

Ayati Anamsa, Jaswitha Manchineella, Misheeta Pattani, Navya Sadanaveni, Raghavi Mansani, and Sreeya Suresh.  
*Choreographed by Anusha Musalamadugu.*

## 7 Team Diamond Dolls

Anvita Narasimhan, Avanti Bhide, Janavi Chinta, Krishha Kanvinde, Raavi Kadecha, Saanvi Nainegali, Sahana Mohan, and Sia Gupta.  
*Choreographed by Lavanya Karthik.*

## 8 Dancing Dolls

Anushka Bhasal, Eva Damani, Ishita Damani, Kimaya Joshi, Rishita Vijay, Riya Bora, Siri Kiran Kashyap, and Siya Gupta.  
*Choreographed by Priti Joshi.*

## 9 Nrityangan

Aanshi Jain, Akshara Jha, Nakul Balaji, Namish Balaji, Syamantak Guha, and Urvi Sarang Wagh.  
*Choreographed by Jayasree.*

## 10 Raising Stars

Areesha Joshi, Aarav Thakker, Abhay Agarwal, Aneesh Murthy, Dhanush Shankar, Kashish Mirpuri, Krishna Mirpuri, Pearl Bhatt, Ridhaan Joshi, Tanisi Modak, Vihaan Tiippanagoudar, and Vishaan Habbu.  
*Choreographed by Laxmi Arun Shankar.*

## 10 A Nritya (Adult Performance)

Sneha Bharmu, Shruti Gupta, Veena Gupta, Divya Kadambi, Kapal Mathur, Vaishali Pande, Priyanka Rajvanshi, Shalini Rao, Hema Sharma, and Janaki Sharma.  
*Choreographed by Hema Sharma.*

## 11 Phulwari

Aman Jakhad, Avyan Thakur, Hansika Kumari, Janhavi Gore, Mokshitha Channa, Mrunmayi M. Wagh, Nivedita Girish, Ryan Philip Jaison, Sanay Bhojane, and Sanya Bhojane.  
*Choreographed by Sonia Guha.*

## 12 Little Dancers

Aniva Jyani, Kiara Gupta, Neil Menon, Rohit Praveen, Sameera Palasseri, Sanika Pillai, Yaduraj Chopra, and Yashraj Chopra.  
*Choreographed by Kirti Jaiswal.*

## 13 Rajasthani Rajwadis

Krishna Pardasani, Mihir Dhawan, Myra Gambhir, Om Doshi, Samir Dhanessar, Shivaan Patel, Zara Patel, and Zavi Patel.  
*Choreographed by All Moms.*

## 13 A Rhythmic Squad (Adult Performance)

Archana Joshi, Monali Nakhate, Pallavi Sardesai, Rohini Shah, Shailaja Mali, Shivani Lakkad, Shubhangi Kumbhar, and Snehal Kasodekar.  
*Choreographed by All Participants.*





# Kids' and Adults' Performance IRCC DIWALI 2019



## 14 Divine Dancers

Alexa Whitbourne, Arya Dcosta, Bruce McPherson, Mahir Chhugani, Sanay Lunavat, and Suhani Sharma.  
*Choreographed by Ana McPherson.*

## 15 Devoted Dancers

Aadi Harpalani, Avi Levy, Bhavya Santwani, Kavin Balani, Ronak Gupta, and Tanmay Vazirani.  
*Choreographed by Priyanka Saxena.*

## 16 Team Rhythmic Squad

Anvitha Pinnity, Ashwarya Menghraj, Meghna Kumar, Nethra Bekkary, Nipun Duggaraju, Nitin Kodumuru, Pragathi Natarajan, Riya Bobbili, Sanjay Mohan, Shriyans Yarlagadda, and Simran Chhabra.  
*Choreographed by Priya Rajan.*

## 16 A Belly Motions (Adult Performance)

Ana Maria Zambrano, Aura Becerra, Cristina Cabrero, Emely Brost, Maria Eugenia Abrante, Narayani Maharaj, and Olga Giraldo.  
*Choreographed by Narayani Maharaj.*

## 17 Little Angels

Adrika Heirholzer, Aisha Bhatt, Anushka Mihari, Anvita Shukla, Anya Mody, Hailee Dabhi, Ishani Habbu, Ivanshi Gadani, Jasmine Sanghera, Moureen Datta, and Protoma Dey.  
*Choreographed by Moushumi Datta.*

## 18 The Musketeers

Ahana Tippanagoudar, Anika Mishra, Deetya Pattani, Mahima Suresh, Nila Krishnan, Pranavi Mohan, Rachel Doraiswamy, Rayan Doraiswamy, Rudraksh Modak, Sanvi Shankar, and Vidya Srinivas.  
*Choreographed by Sheli Chakraborty.*

## 19 Agni Nakshatras

Akshaya Ramesh, Chaitanya Srinivasan, Harshini Dhandapani, Shreenidhi Vasudevan, Subhiksha Anbarasan, Thejavi Srinivasan, and Vachana Rajeev.  
*Choreographed by Sindhu.*

## 19 A Dil Se Dance (Adult Performance)

Ana McPherson, Barron Ed Nelson, Pooja Kahru, Rima Arora, Sujata Santiago, Suzanna Blake, Reema D'Sa and Divya Bommakanti.  
*Choreographed by Rima Arora.*

## 20 Spicy Naacho(s)

Aarushi Bavdekar, Chitra Rane, Freya Thakar, Ishaan Bavdekar, Soham Phadatare, Tanisha Srivastava, and Zehaan Anand.  
*Choreographed by Priya Muthuraja.*

## 21 Nach Bollywood Style - Minors

Adithi Ajith, Alina Paulose, Angeline Eluvathingal, Arya Doshi, Ashlin Eluvathingal, Diya Bhatt, Seira Eldho, Khushi Shah, Lakshika Sakthivel, Maanasvi Shah, Nimisha Bessy, Prajna Bhadauria, Raaga Deepak, Radhika Kotecha, and Shreya Joshi.  
*Choreographed by Amishi Patel and Jigna Shah.*

## 22 Dancing Kiddos

Aaditya Prasath, Akshitha Thoppae, Ashrita Vijayakumar, Bhakti Patel, Krish Thallurashok, Niya Patel, Raghav Mandyam, Saisha Pandita, Sakish Thayagabalu, Soham Pattanayek, and Souharijo Sardar.  
*Choreographed by Lopamudra Pattanayek.*

## 22 A Colors of Gujrat (Adult Performance)

Ajitha Pillai, Amishi Patel, Anita Maskara, Anuja Gambhir, Lavisha Harpalani, Pinal Kotecha, Sakshi Santawani, Sathvika Reddy Palvai, Shalu Mahajan, Sunita Dinesh, Vaishali Bhatnagar, and Vanitha Vasudevan.  
*Choreographed by All Participants.*

## 23 Garba Bachas

Aanshi Shah, Aanya Chadha, Aarna Chopra, Ashna Senthilnathan, Ira Kumar and Ria Iyer.  
*Choreographed by Moms.*

## 24 Bhangra Dazzlers

Saanvi Handa, Manya Handa, Aaditya Patel, Aanya Jain, Armaan Sethi, Eesha Shah, Jazleen Dhaliwal, Manpreet Chhabra, Navraj Dhillon, Ronak Patel, Sohni Sethi, Vidhya Gupta, and Yuvraj Dhillon.  
*Choreographed by All the Moms.*

## 25 Miami Jhankaars

Aarna Kumar, Aarna Jindal, Vighnesh Pamnani, Samarth Mittal, Navya Sharma, Mannat Mittal, Anisha Aggarwal, Sriniketh Kadambi, Myra, and Shivli Verma.  
*Choreographed by Megha Gupta.*

## 25 A Jhankar (Adult Performance)

Aanchal Mathur, Anukriti Shrivastava, Charu Kannan, Deepti Pappusetty, Gomini Halli, Pratima Kushwah, Roshani Jaiswal, and Vinita Hotwani.  
*Choreographed by Deepti Pappusetty.*

## 26 Fauji Hindustani

Isha Patel, Pinaki Upadhyay, Prapti Dabhi, Saachi Modi, Samara Sirka, Sanam Patel, Tara Muthuswamy, and Vishruta Sampath.  
*Choreographed by Parita Patel.*

## 27 Boombastic Ladke

Anish Daswani, Anish Kumar, Armaan Khiyani, Dev Daswani, Ishaan Garg, Ishaan Kachhal, Raj Samtani, Ronin Khurana, Siddharth Gupta, and Varun Khatri.  
*Choreographed by Sabrina Daswani.*



**28 Raas Rockers**

Ansh Kalariya, Arya Gujarathi, Atiksh Chandra, Delena Chandrasekhar, Mansee Mehta, Pranet Allu, Riya Adhikari, Salini Pattanayak, Sanjana Bhatt, and Varun Jay Raju.  
*Choreographed by Nidhi Pandya.*

**28 A Dazzling Dancers (Adult Performance)**

Goutam Dalai, Jaishri Venkat, Pallavi Sunith, Preeti Jain, Renuka Arjoon, Sammanita Pradhan, Susan Alemao and Candice Parson.  
*Choreographed by Dazzling Moms.*

**29 Temple of Dance**

Jeslyn Chacko, Della Shaji, Aletta Abraham, Maria Abraham, Lavena Jose, Athena Gijo, Theja Liju, and Despina Varghese.  
*Choreographed by Reshmi Sunil.*

**30 India Waale**

Chaitanya Verma, Aryan Kumar, Daksh Jain, Girish Jay Raju, Kabir Gandhi, Mithil Khosa, Neel Mirpuri, and Yash Bhatt.  
*Choreographed by Ruchi Verma.*

**31 Desi Stars**

Gia Kakani, Nikash Jakkidi, Rithvik Marri, Sharmitha Suram, Shivank Joginipalli, Shreeya Gudipati, and Srihith Nooka.  
*Choreographed by Papiya Kakani.*

**31 A Beats Of India (Adult Performance)**

Anju Mani, Asha Prabhakaran, Gayatri Siram, Jaspreet Gill, Pallavi Aneja, Radhika Agrawal, and Sreelatha Praveen.  
*Choreographed by Anju Mani.*

**32 Badmaash Company**

Kareena Advani, Sanya Gidwani, Reva Kumar, Sania Khurana, Chandni Narang, Maanya Singh, Suhani Ranaut, and Mehrish Zaman.  
*Choreographed by Moms.*

**33 Rajwadi Puppets**

Aanya Sheth, Neel Bharambe, Nidhi Bharambe, Heer Bhavsar, Kush Hirapara, Suhani Patel, Tanish Thakar, and Yash Upadhyay.  
*Choreographed by Minal Upadhyay.*

**33 A Cool Dads (Adult Performance)**

Abhishek Joshi, Chaitanya Upadhyay, Manoj Harpalani, Pravin Vazirani, Ravi Santwani, and Satyam Thakar.  
*Choreographed by All Participants.*

**34 Waves of India**

Mehek Gadh, Ananya Rangaswamy, Anika Ravi, Likhitha Selvan, Medha Rangaswamy, Ria Rajesh, Rishitha Marri, Sarika Jonnala, Saumya Narang, Sreelakshmi Praveen, Sunayana Javvaji, Varshaa Venkatesh, Vishakha Joshi, and Yashika Garimella.  
*Choreographed by Pallavi Aneja.*

**35 Dazzling Hoppers**

Avnithaashree Thoppae, Divyyashree Sathiaseelan, Jane Joseph, Likhitha Selvan, Maya Venkatesh, Reyna Kannan, Sahana Sathiyaseelan, Shreya Anand, and Sriaahalya Thirumurugan.  
*Choreographed by Prakash Sugumaran.*

**35 A Team Dancerholics (Adult Performance)**

Bhavana Bharanwal, Meeta Govindarajan, Akansha Kumar, Meena Mani, Lavanya Narasimhan, Meera Ramanathan, Veena Subramanian, Suppiah Shamala, and Suresh Rama.  
*Choreographed by Meera Ramanathan.*

**36 Classical Nach**

Ananya Zaverchand, Ann Titus, Christine Mathew, Liana Putheth, Maleha Marwah, Abha Maskara, Jiya Anand, Ananya Rao, and Preeti Kumar.  
*Choreographed by Sonal Mehta.*

**37 Dandiya Masti**

Neha Dusara, Riya Dusara, Diya Goel, Diya Jain, Gracy Shah, Jeeya Patel, Kangana Modi, Mahi Dadia, Pia Patel, Rashi Garg, Riana Shah, Riya Goel, Sachi Parmar, and Sania Shah.  
*Choreographed by Pavitra Jaiswal and Devjane Sen.*

**37 A Coral Springs Ladies (Adult Performance)**

Anjali Deshpande Lothe, Aradhana Shukla, Ganga Patil, Jasbeer Chhabra, Nisha Bhatt, Sanjana Srivastav, Sheli Modak, Shruti Bhate, and Sudha Chowlur.  
*Choreographed by Sanjana Srivastav.*

**38 Groove Express**

Amishi Baoodeo, Dhruv Sharma, Farah Irani, Hansini Koppolu, Matthew Dcosta, Nandika Regatti, Natasha Irani, Nina Ally, Priya Baoodeo, Roshni Mishra, Sherwin D'sa, Shreya Mishra, Sonali Benni, Sonia D'sa, Sri Madabhushi, Srija Atluri, Ricky Gurnani, and Tanmay Arora.  
*Choreographed by All Participants.*

**39 Team Beats**

Aanya Wadhwa, Aarna Baranwal, Deva Darshini Dhandapani, Hansita Penikalapati, Kavya Thiyagarajan, Khushi Kadecha, Sahana Srinivasan, Sharieli Sharan, Shreya Shanmugam, Shriya Narasimhan, Tanvi Bhide, and Vennela Chinta.  
*Choreographed by Vetravati.*

**39 A Jhankar Beats (Adult Performance)**

Anamika Gupta, Bindhu Narayanamurthy, Deepti Jakhota, Gauri Bavdekar, Jyotishri Devi, Preetha Rajarajan, Priti Joshi, Reshma Mahendroo, Ruchi Joshi, and Sakshi Mittal.  
*Choreographed by Anamika Gupta.*

**40 Nach Bollywood Style - Juniors**

Suriya Gadh, Surina Gadh, Advika Verma, Arya Doshi, Avani Upadhyay, Bhumi Harpalani, Diya Deepak, Haizel Mathew, Harshita Santwani, Nishi Desai, Nissi Mathew, Priyanshi Patel, Saanya Dham, Sahana Saravanan, Shriya Telavane, and Siri Mullapudi.  
*Choreographed by Moms.*

**40 A Classy Dudets (Adult Performance)**

Monali Acharya, Nikki Sandhu, Paramjeet Kaur, Piya Suryadevara, Priti Trehan, Priyanka Saxena, Rakhi Kumari, Seema Prabhu, and Shachi Sharma.  
*Choreographed by All Participants.*



# IRCC Diwali - 2019

## IRCC Pataka – High School Performance & Competition

### HIGH SCHOOL - BHANGRA

Team : Apni Shaan Apni Pehchaan

Bhangra – Exhibitory Item

Choreographers : Fahad Syed; Meera Pattni; and Sricharan Pusala

Participants: Divyesh Nana, Rehan Shah, Breanne Peters, Nihar Maddina, Tejas Kar, Naomi Navuluri, Suvan Sharma, Gaurav Shingote, Rohan Gajjar, Dhruvi Mechineni, Sanjana Senthil, Anjelina Vanchipura, Neha Bangalore, Om Chovatiya, Meghana Yarlaggada, Sindhu Katipalli.



### HIGH SCHOOL - GARBA/RAAS/FOLK

Team Garba Mania - Exhibitory Item

Bhangra – Exhibitory Item

Choreographers : Mamatha Medasani

Participants: Anjali Balla, Vidhisha Rane, Hemaanya Mondraty, Navya Duggaraju, Eshika Jain, Kaavya Polavarapu, Ritika Samantha, Anisha Andapally, Anisha Jain, Anika Mellacheruvu, Shraavani Reddy Bekkary, Reva Adi, Harika Malneedi, Simran Gill, Ananya Agarwal, Ashritha Kallem.



### HIGH SCHOOL - FUSION TEAMS

Team : Diamond Rajas

Choreographers : Pavitra Jaiswal and Devjane Sen

Participants: Parthvi Shah, Rajvi Shah, Ruhi Mirpuri, Akhil Deo, Aarohi Talati, Riya Garg, Keya Chokshi, Yashica Nagpal, Riya Modi, Anika Dham, Shaan Mistry, Arjun Talati.

Team : Rhythms Warriors

Choreographers : Swarali Karulkar

Participants: Saanvi Paharia, Neha Binoy, Eniya Krishnaraj, Miraa Shukla, Maya Neeranjun, Gowri Abhinanda, Sionika Thayagabalu, Arya Nair, Alisha Patel, Anupama Sunil, Kamna Nair, Rishana Vedanta Amar, Sahana Thayagabalu, Eja Joseph.

Team : SoFL Hoppers (South Florida Hoppers)

Choreographers : Prakash Sugumaran

Participants: Subiksha Venkatesh, Ashish Sathya, Surya Nallathambi, Amrit Murali, Saesha Wani, Vishnu Anand, Niveda Kumar, Sachitaa Senthil Kumar, Ahilan Thirumurugan, Priyanka Adhikari, Vishal Suresh, Ishaan Sunith, Mehul Suresh, Swathi Kumar, Vasisht Ganesh, Jeevanesh Sathiaselvan, Saathvik Selvan, Sahana Venkat, Priyanka Venkat, Shivani Prabu, Tatiana Ochoa, Janani Nagaraj.

Team : Desi Dhamaka

Choreographers : Spruha Kar and Ambika Rautray

Participants: Ananya Annamraju, Maya Mehta, Divyani Tangudu, Saanvi Prasad, Annika Sinha, Nistha Sevak, Ananya Kommareddy, Nandini Kumar, Ishita Mishra, Thrisha Acharya, Anya Patidar, Rashi Lakhotia, Anjali Patel, Nishtha Rajani.

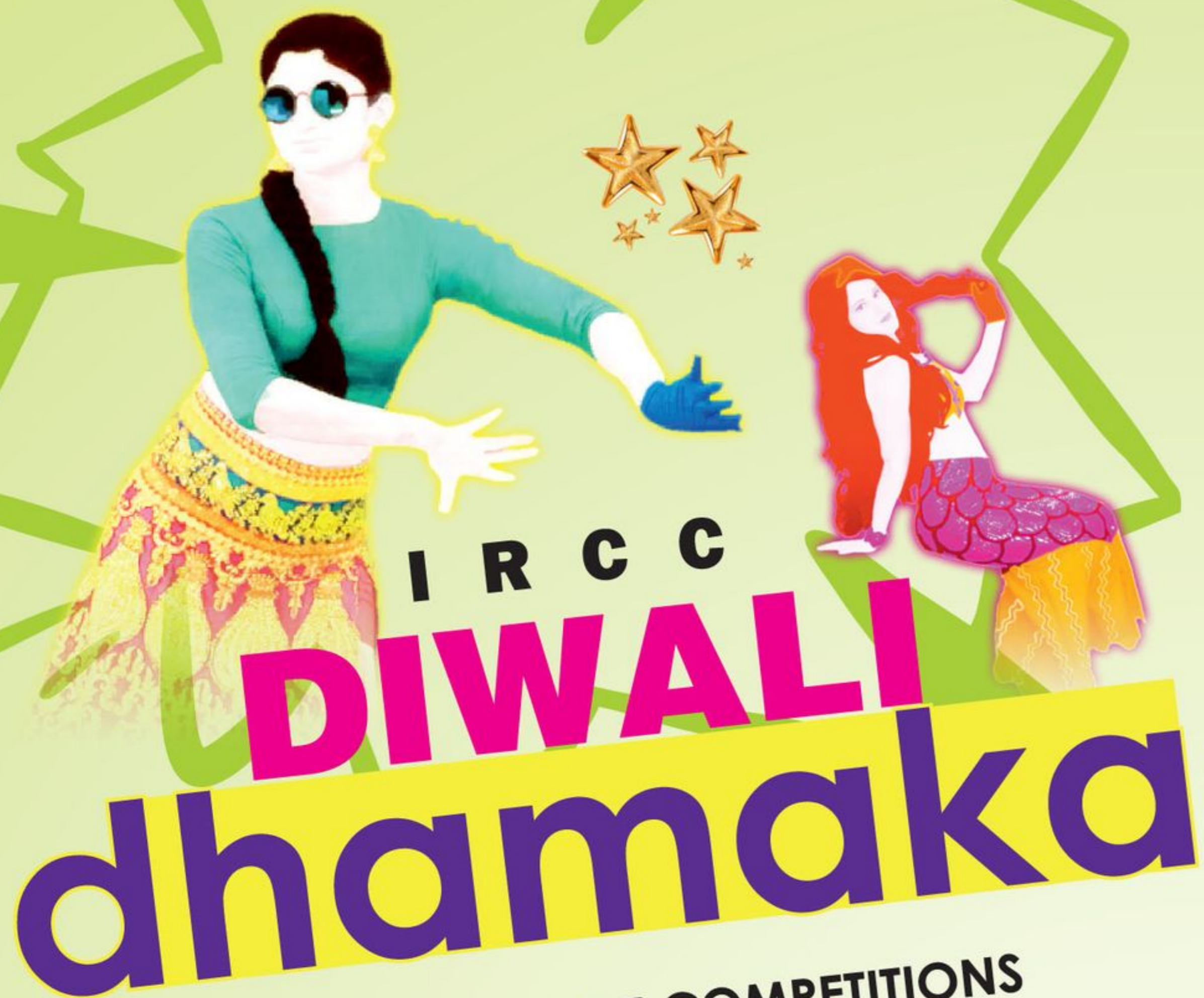
Team : Fire and Ice

Choreographers : Veena Subramanian

Participants: Nekita Regula, Sandhya Kumar, Sheyjar Kaul, Nivedha Natarajan, Shivani Vakharia, Abhishek Suresh, Vrinda Gupta, Ahil Mahendra, Amogh Baranwal, Shravya Sareddy, Anamika Subramanian, Keerthana Gadamsetty, Yash Saxena, Dhruv Nair, Rushitha Penikalapati, Srikar Yeedara.







IRCC

# DIWALI dhamaka

INTERCOLLEGIATE COMPETITIONS  
AND PERFORMANCES

## Garba

Team Name: **Gator Garba**

College: University of Florida

Team Members:

Ritika Malik, Kayla Patel, Grishma Patel, Tulsee Patel, Jyoti Moorjani, Shivani Patel, Sofia John, Riya Patel, Priyanka Pandya, Hannah Shah, Varsha Balamurugan, Olivia Choutupalli, Mansi Patel



## Raas

Team Name: **GatoRaas**

College: University of Florida

Team Members: Henna Shah, Pruthak Patel, Brittany George, Parth Turakhia, Patadia Aneri, Kunj Patel, Rasee Bhoola, Rushabh Shah, Sarina Parikh, Tulsi Patel, Milin Patel, Jasmin Patel, Farah Contractor, Teerth Patel, Gagan Midathala, Avi Patel, Aishva Kothari



## Fusion

Team Name: **NSU Maasti**

College: **Nova Southeastern University**

Team Members : Sajeev Sarkar, Arya Kurian, Maya Naduparambil, Aleena Thomas, Deeksha Kommireddi, Apoorva Bommanaveni, Aneesh Paulson, Asha Bhatia, Zayna Motiwala, Anjali George, Shreya Bhattad, Chelsey Chacko, Sahiti Tumulurti, Janani Anbazhagan, Anjali Patel, Shweta Subramaniam, Christina Thymalil, Iksita Nallapaneni, Megha Akkanappa, Tejal Tambe, Radhika Parikh, Rani Patel, Kishan Shah, Maya Varguese, Alina Poothurail



Team Name: **Knights Kangna**

College: **University of Central Florida**

Team Members: Bhavna Sriram, Rhondra Giscombe, Vidhi Kanadia, Sushma Tirumala, Manshi Patel, Devina Dharamdeo, Kadambari Vyas, Ami Patel, Brinna Desai, Tatyana Chowbay, Sampada Nyalapatla, Priya Neil, Viha Gattupalli, Krishna Jaha, Taarini Gupta, Kashish Pathak, Aryan Jha, Sangeetha Karri, Charu Sankarganesh, Saksham Rathore, Eshika Sahay

Team Name: **UJhoom**

College: **University of Miami**

Team Members: Arushi Shrimal, Yashmitha Sadasivuni, Emerald Khan, Dhara Patel, Mukta Vibhute, Amnah Azeem, Ritika Modi, Setareh Gooshvar, Aneesha Balachandar, Sneha Akurati, Khyati Pandya, Tanvi Bafna, Nainika Krishnamsetty, Thao Lam, Nicolette Schurhoff, Aavni Gupta, Samantha Kamath, Neeharika Madala



## Bhangra

Team Name: **Florida Bhangra Crew**

College: All-State

Team Members: Aryaan Verma, Nabeel Markatia, Namrata Palsule, Krish Patel, Irfan Hashimie, Ishaan Narang, Adeel Markatia, Deven Mistry, Rishi Patel, Ambika Rautray, Swetha Senthil, Amer Khan





# IRCC

INDIAN REGIONAL & CULTURAL CENTER



## IRCC Mission

*IRCC's mission is to keep the rich culture and traditions of India alive and passing on the torch to the younger generation. We also bring our rich culture of acceptance and unity with us. It is our duty to showcase our rich culture and traditions which will further bring Americans and Indians together for the betterment of the society and lay a strong foundation of friendship.*

Life Membership Fees \$ 500

Annual Membership Fees \$ 50

## IRCC - 2020 EVENTS

### ANAND BAZAR

**REPUBLIC DAY  
KITE FLYING • LOHRI**

**Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
TIME: 11.00 am to 4.00 pm**

At: Central Broward Regional Park,  
Corporate Shelter # 1  
3700 Northwest 11<sup>th</sup> Place,  
Lauderhill, FL 33311

### HOLI CELEBRATION

**Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
TIME: 11.00 am to 4.00 pm**

At: C.B. Smith Park Sheller #19, 900 N.  
Flamingo Road, Pembroke Pines, FL 33028



### MEMBER'S APPRECIATION DAY

**BOWLING PARTY &  
RAKSHABANDHAN CELEBRATION**

**Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup> 2020  
Time: 3.00 PM to 6.00 PM**

At: SPAREZ BOWLING ARENA  
5325 S University Drive, Davie, FL 33328



### GRAND NAVRATRI CELEBRATION

**Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
Time: 8.00 PM to 1.00 AM**

At: Silver Trail Middle School,  
18300 Sheridan Street  
Pembroke Pines, Florida



### DIWLI-FESTIVAL OF LIGHT

**Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020  
Time: 12.00 Noon to 10.00 PM**

At: Palm Beach County Convention Center  
650 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach, FL 33401





# ANAND BAZAR

At: Central Broward Regional Park, Corporate Shelter  
3700 NW 11th Place, Lauderdale, FL, 33311

Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020 • Time: 11.00 am to 4.00 pm

**FREE  
COMMUNITY  
EVENT**

## REPUBLIC DAY

26<sup>th</sup> January 1950 is one of the most important days in Indian history as it was on this day the constitution of India came into force and India became a truly sovereign state. In this day India became a totally republican unit. The country finally realized the dream of Mahatma Gandhi and the numerous freedom fighters who, fought for and sacrificed their lives for the Independence of their country. So, the 26th of January was decreed a national holiday and has been recognized and celebrated as the Republic Day of India, ever since.

Today, the Republic Day is celebrated with much enthusiasm all over the country and especially in the capital, New Delhi where the celebrations start with the Presidential to the nation. The beginning of the occasion is always a solemn reminder of the sacrifice of the martyrs who died for the country in the freedom movement and the succeeding wars for the defense of sovereignty of their country. Then, the President comes forward to award the medals of bravery to the people from the armed forces for their exceptional courage in the field and also the civilians, who have distinguished themselves by their different acts of valour in different situations.



## KITE FLYING

**K**ite flying is a festival of India that comes on January 14 every year festival or kite festival in many parts of India. Gujrat and Jaipur in Rajasthan is famous for their kite festivals. Jaipur organizes international kite festival every year. Makar Sankranti is a popular word in Rajasthan where as Utran (derived from Uttarayan in Sanskrit language) is in Gujrat. Basant Panchami is also popular for kite festival in some places of India. Kolkata celebrates kite festival on Vishwakarma Puja but not on Makar Sankranti.

Kite is called Patang in Hindi language. Hence the festival is also referred as Patang utsav in India. Patang is also called Guddi in many places in northern India. Special type of thread is used to fly kites and that is called Manjha.



## LOHRI

**I**ndia is the "Land of Celebration and Festivities". According to the Hindu mythology, there are 3.3 million gods and goddesses. Lohri is one of the most important Hindu festivals celebrated to honour Agni (the Vedic god of fire) at the beginning of the year. Every year, on 13th of January (as per the Gregorian calendar), Lohri is celebrated with great pomp and grandeur mainly in Punjab, Haryana, parts of Himachal Pradesh and Jammu. Amidst the freezing temperature accompanied by dense fog and icy winds, North Indians seem to be getting busy with preparations for enjoying the long awaited bonfire festival "Lohri" with traditional folk songs and dances.





# Holi



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## The days of celebration and the rituals.

**T**he festival of Holi begins on Duwadashi - on the twelfth day of the waxing moon of the month of Phalgun. Spirits run high as the preparations for the festivities begin, as a custom, mothers make new clothes for their married daughters. Coloured powder (Gulal) is bought and prepared, long syringes called 'pichkaris' are made ready and water balloons are bought and filled. Preparations are made to cook the special food items that exclusively meant for this festival.

Three days before the full moon, 'Rang Pashi' brings Holi into all households. The families get together in the evenings when people visit each other to perform the formal sprinkling of colour. In the past 'the household purohit' or priest was invited to begin the celebrations, but this task has been taken over by the eldest male member of the family. A 'thali' or plate is arranged with coloured powders and coloured water is placed in a small brass container called a 'lota'. The eldest male member of the family begins the festivities by sprinkling coloured water and powders on each member of the assembled family. It is then the turn of the younger ones to do the same. In this unique way, affection and blessings are shared by all in the family. The celebrations on this day end with the partaking of food specially cooked for this occasion - gujjia, papri and kanji ke vade. Sometimes, meat dish like kofta curry is also served. It is customary to serve drinks before the meal.

The next day is known as 'Puno'. On this day, Holika is burnt in keeping with the legend of Prahlad and his devotion to lord Vishnu. In the evening, huge bonfires are lit on street corners at the crossroads. Usually this is a community celebration and people gather near the fire to fill the air with folk strains and dances. Sheaves of green gram and wheat are roasted in the bonfire and eaten.

The actual festival of Holi takes place the day after this. This day is called 'Parva'. Children, friends and neighbours gather on the streets and a riot of colour takes over. Coloured powders called 'abeer' or 'gulal' are thrown into the air and smeared on faces and bodies. 'Pichkaris' are filled with coloured water and this is spurted onto people. Water balloons are thrown at friends and neighbours in the spirit of fun. Sometimes, mud baths are prepared and people are 'dunked' into this amidst much laughter and teasing. The visitors carry 'abeer' or 'gulal' to pay their respects to elders by sprinkling some on their feet. The younger crowd is drenched with buckets of coloured water and pummeled with water balloons. 'Dholaks' or Indian drums are heard everywhere and the songs of Holi are carried by the voices of these merry-makers.

## HOLI CELEBRATION

Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Time: 11.00 AM to 4.00 PM

At: C.B. Smith Park Shelter #19,  
900 N. Flamingo Rd, Pembroke Pines, FL 33028

Snacks, Lunch and Pizza will be served along with Colors, Games, Music & Dance and Many Prizes.

Garma-Garam Chai  
with Ganthias  
11.00 am to 12.00 pm







# IRCC

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## BOWLING PARTY

### RAKSHABANDHAN CELEBRATION



**R**aksha Bandhan is the festival of family bonding Raksha Bandhan means “a bond of protection” symbolized by the tying of a “Rakhi” The festival of Raksha Bandhan is entirely dedicated to the love and affection shared between a brother and a sister. On this day, sisters pray for the long life of their brothers and ask God for His blessings. Brothers, in turn, give them enticing rakhi gifts and promise to care for their sister throughout their lives. Come with family and friends and teach the next generation about this very important Indian festival.

**Member Appreciation Day**

**Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
**Time: 3.00 PM to 6.00 PM**

**At: SPAREZ BOWLING ARENA**  
**5325 S. University Dr. Davie, FL-33328**



**THIS PROGRAM IS FREE FOR IRCC MEMBERS FAMILY YOU MUST BE A MEMBER FOR THE YEAR 2020-21 TO ATTEND**

**Become a member at the entrance.**

**The family membership is \$50.00 per year.**

**NON-MEMBERS - \$15 PER PERSON**

Membership Sign-ups / Renewals - \$50

#### PROGRAM DETAILS

**Unlimited bowling during the event time, shoes will provided, but please bring socks. Indian Snacks, Pizza and Soda will be provided. Some sweets and Rakhis (only while supplies last).**





# IRCC

INDIAN REGIONAL & CULTURAL CENTER



PRESENT



## Grand Navratri Celebration



**SATURDAY,**  
**October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
and  
**SATURDAY,**  
**October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
**Time: 8.00 PM to 1.00 AM**

**At:**  
**Silver Trail Middle School,**  
**18300 Sheridan Street,**  
**Pembroke Pines,**  
**Florida**

'Nav' means 'nine' and 'ratri' means 'night'. Thus, 'Navratri' means 'nine nights'. There are many legends attached to the conception of Navratri like all Indian festivals. All of them are related to Goddess Shakti (Hindu Mother Goddess) and her various forms. It is one of the most celebrated festivals of Hindu calendar, it holds special significance for Gujratis and Bengalis and one can see it in the zeal and fervor of the people with which they indulge in the festive activities of the season. Dandiya and Garba Rass are the highlights of the festival in Gujarat, while farmer sow seeds and thank the Goddess for her blessings and pray for better yield. In older times, Navratri was associated with the fertility of Mother Earth who feed us as her children.





**D**iwali is celebrated on a nation-wide scale on Amavasya - the 15th day of the dark fortnight of the Hindu month of Ashwin, (October/November) every year. It symbolizes that age-old culture of India which teaches to vanquish ignorance that subdues humanity and to drive away darkness that engulfs the light of knowledge. Diwali, the festival of lights even to-day in this modern world projects the rich and glorious past of India.

Every year on the dark nights of Diwali the sound of firecrackers announces the celebration of the **favorite festival of Indians**. Homes are decorated, sweets are distributed by everyone and thousands of lamps are lit to create a world of fantasy. Of all the festivals celebrated in India, Diwali is by far the most glamorous and important. Enthusiastically enjoyed by people of every religion, its magical and radiant touch creates an atmosphere of joy and festivity.

The ancient story of how Diwali evolved into such a widely celebrated festival is different in various regions and states of India. In the north, particularly in Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Bihar and the surrounding areas, Diwali is the day when **King Rama's** coronation was celebrated in Ayodhya after his epic war with Ravana, the demon king of Lanka. By order of the royal families of **Ayodhya** and **Mithila**, the kingdom of which Sita was princess, the cities and far-flung boundaries of these kingdoms were lit up with rows of lamps, glittering on dark nights to welcome home the divine king Rama and his queen Sita after 14 years of exile, ending with an across-the-seas war in which the whole of the kingdom of **Lanka** was destroyed.

On the day of Diwali festival, doorways are hung with torans of mango leaves and marigolds. **Rangolis** are drawn with different colored powders to welcome guests. The traditional motifs are often linked with auspicious symbols of good luck. Oil diyas are arranged in and around the house. Because of these flickering lamps, the festival has acquired its name: Dipawali or Diwali meaning '**a rows of lamps**'. On this day, people buy something for the house or some jewelry for the women of the house. It is auspicious to be buy something metallic, such as silver.

Whatever may be the fables and legends behind the celebrations of Diwali, all people exchange sweets, wear new clothes and buy jewelry at this festive time. Card parties are held in many homes. Diwali has become commercialized as the biggest annual consumer spree because every family shops for sweets, gifts and fireworks. However, in all this frenzy of shopping and eating, the steady, burning lamp is a constant symbol of an illuminated mind.



# DIWALI

FESTIVAL OF LIGHT

**Saturday, October 31<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Time: 12 Noon to 10.00 PM**

**At- Palm Beach County Convention Center,  
650 Okeechobee Blvd,  
West Palm Beach, FL 33401**



# KHAASBAAT

A PUBLICATION FOR INDIAN AMERICANS IN FLORIDA

WWW.KHAASBAAT.COM • EDITOR@KHAASBAAT.COM • 813-758-1786

## Publication for the Indian American community in Florida.

Khaas Baat is a monthly publication that presents exclusive information and relevant news about the Indian American community in Florida, including Tampa/St. Petersburg/Clearwater, Fort Lauderdale/Miami, Orlando/Casselberry, Jacksonville, Gainesville, Lakeland, Ocala, Melbourne, Fort Myers, Sarasota-Bradenton, and Tallahassee.

In addition to community news and events, Khaas Baat informs readers with regular columns on health, fashion, money matters, immigration, entertainment, motoring, astrology, nutrition and education, among other features.

Khaas Baat is the ONLY publication in Florida with comprehensive coverage and information on South Asian community events.

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*To the Entire Community.....*

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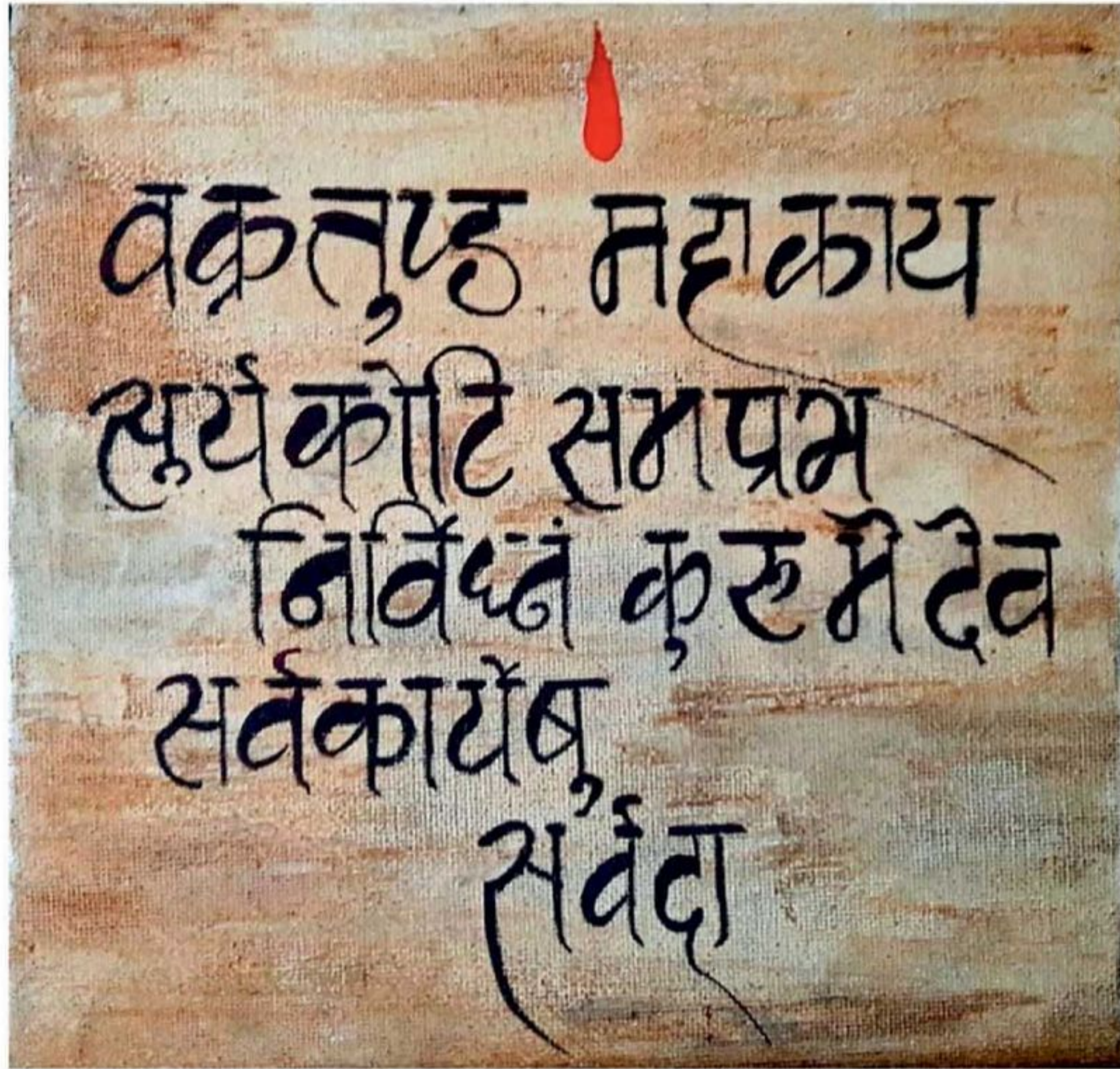
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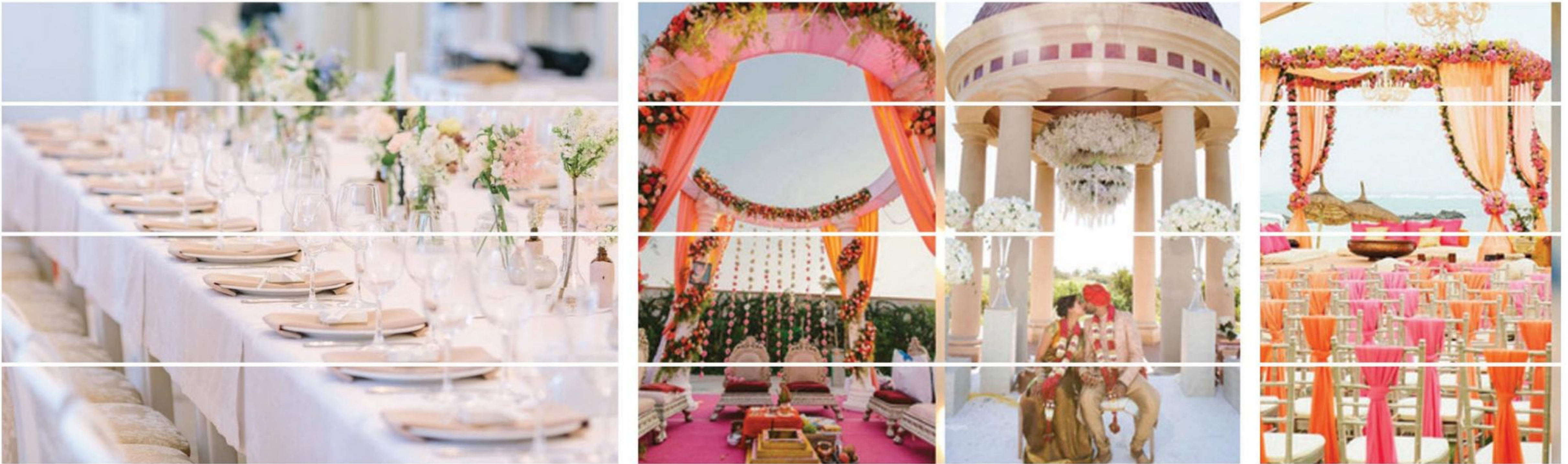
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## Bio

Priti Maheshwari have been a resident and Realtor in Florida since 1993. Working in various field of real estate as investor, lender and Realtor representing buyers and sellers makes me unique in the South Florida Real Estate market. I'm a firm believer that no hurdles should stop a person's positive thinking because that is the only way to live a happy and healthy life. I believe in giving back to community where we receive, for that reason I serve in various community organizations and a percentage of my earning is donated to Nonprofit organizations.

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