

## Forty years of Hinduism in Darwin celebrated

By: Shashi Khanna. (Hindu Council of Australia correspondent in Darwin).

40 years!! A beautiful, blissful journey of noble contribution towards a cultural cause. The Hindu society of NT, Darwin celebrated its 40 years history on September 29, 2018 at Harmony Hall in Malak, Darwin. A lovely, well organised event was part of the celebration of 40 years of Self government in NT. A book launch about the history of Hinduism in Darwin was the highlight of the evening. President of the Hindu society of NT, Mr. Pratapan who authored the beautiful and informative book talked about the journey of Hindu community in his address to a fairly good crowd. Contributions of Indians with origin from all the states of India from New Delhi to Kerala, Tamilnadu and from Jodhpur in Rajasthan to Kolkata in West Bengal is worth mentioning and appreciable. Diverse range of Indian community contributing towards the growth of NT in varied fields of education, technology, healthcare, government services and many more was applauded by Madam Chief Minister of the state and many government officials who participated whole heartedly in the event.



Dance performances further added a colourful charm to the evening. The program started with ritual lamp lighting by the honourable guests from present and former government too. Stage performances started with Saraswati Vandana in Bharat natayam form. A beautiful

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bollywood and semi classical performance on 'Radha Krishna' swayed all with its foot tapping and vibrant beats. A folk dance- Ghumar from Rajasthan followed, performed by a group who were from different states of India. All the volunteers and performers in their respective teams were honoured on the stage by the esteemed guests.



Vote of thanks by the secretary of the Hindu society, Mr. Pradip was read.

A wonderful evening concluded with dinner for all and lot of photo shots, capturing the event in unending memories.

On a personal note , I had just landed to this foreign land from India on 28 September midnight. I was overwhelmed to see my brothers and sisters contributing towards Indian cultural heritage since past 40 years. A sense of pride overtook me when the madam Chief Minister appreciated the contributions of Indians in building NT. The harmony and feeling of love towards spreading Hindu culture by Indians is overwhelming. I extend my good wishes and regards to my community for creating a honourable place in foreign society and laying a comfortable runway for generations of present and future.



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