

Description of the “Rich Heritage of Indian Culture” Programme, Monday, April 3, 2006

India, one of the early civilizations recorded in the modern recorded history, is a land of mystics, sages, philosophers and intellectuals. The Indian civilization has been enriched by the blend of multi-cultural societies evolved during the rulers and emperors of great dynasties, where art, culture and science flourished. India has made great contributions to the fields of medicines (herbal and ayurvedic), mathematics (zero -shoonya), astrology, and healthy living (yoga), which modern society is now embracing as the ultimate nectar for living. Indian civilization also has withstood brutal invasions and a prolonged period of foreign rule. After achieving independence in 1947, India has made great strides in every conceivable area against several odds and is today marching towards regaining its past glory. With its booming economy, IT prowess, intellectual capital, growing knowledge economy, India has all elements to propel itself into a future super power.

The pageant illustrates the very essence of India and Indianess - a fundamental quality of acceptance, tolerance and detached attachment. It depicts the ancient India – the two great epics – Ramayana & Mahabharat. Lord Rama’s character is ingrained in the conscience of every Indian as a person who assumed positions of being a prince, a king, a son, a husband, a brother and a human being who manifested a way to live a life as it is presented to you. The Bhgawad Gita of Mahabharat, a collection of 700 odd small poems (shlokas) is perhaps the most profound narrative on living life powerfully which in the present stressful times appears to be the most appropriate.

The dance and narrative sequence brings out the joy and colour of India and its diversity. They are depicted based on classical dance forms most prevalent in India. The fusion of modern and traditional dance brings the essence of modern India in complete harmony with its glorious past.

The whole programme will be of enthralling experience for all those who want to feel India – a multi-cultural, multi-lingual, multi-religion melting pot.