



Association of Performing Arts of India
www.apaiart.org

Hindustani Music Program : Suroonki Mehfil on September 7 2025 Delights Audience!

Press Release

On Sunday, September 7, 2025, South Florida based non-profit organization, APAI (Association for Performing Arts of India), organized a Hindustani music performance at Palace Indian Restaurant in Davie, Florida. The performers were South Florida based artists, vocalist Shuchita Rao, tabla artist Sudhir Limaye, and harmonium artist Girish Dubal. Together, they presented a unique program consisting of three separate segments: Classical music, semi-classical music and Bollywood film songs, all based on the afternoon raga Bhimpalasi. Palace Indian Restaurant's ambient surroundings contributed to the welcoming atmosphere for the program where the audience sat close to the artist to listen with complete attention to 90 minutes of the musical offering.

At the outset, at 4:30pm, after a brief social hour, all the three artists were introduced to the audience by Dr. Deenbandhu Chokshi. Shuchita Rao holds two masters degrees in musicology and computer applications and teaches musicology at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, FL. She is a respected performer and educator. Shri Sudhir Limaye and Shri Girish Dubal are established teachers of the tabla and harmonium instruments respectively.

Shuchitaji began the musical program by explaining the ascending and descending musical scales for raga Bhimpalasi, the important notes for rest and the family that the raga belonged to, which is the Kaafi family. Then, in the classical genres that she presented, namely, Khyal and Tarana, she elaborated the presentation of the raga by presenting compositions in 10 beat cycle, Jhaptaal, 16 beat cycle, Teentaal and 12 beat cycle, Ektaal respectively. Shri Sudhir Limaye recited the rhythm cycles in order to familiarize the audience with Indian rhythmic cycles.

Following the classical segment, Shuchitaji sang a popular devotional abhang "Amrutahuni godh" in eight beat cycle keherwa taal. In the film song segment, Shuchita sang ten different film songs from old and new films, based on Raag Bhimpalasi. This segment was appreciated by the audience because it was interactive and invited the audience to answer questions related to each film song in real time.

In the final thirty minutes, Shuchitaji sang an Urdu ghazal, a Sufi song and songs of the season such as Kajri, Chaiti and Jhoola. The program was concluded with a devotional bhajan composed in praise of Mother Goddess by Padma Vibhushan Dr. Prabha Atre, who was one of Shuchitaji's music teachers.

Smt. Bharti Chokshi, President of APAI, thanked the artists by presenting them with flower bouquets and making announcements about an upcoming Jain conference at FAU. A delicious vegetarian dinner was served to all the attendees after the concert. The program successfully concluded at 7:30pm.