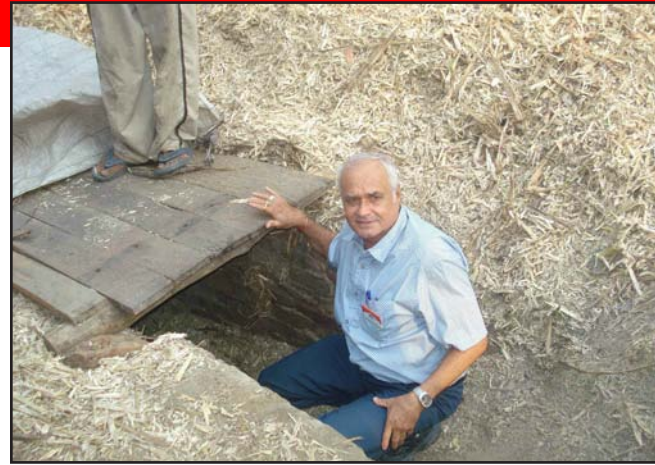




Sugarcane worker gave a piece of cane to Taramati Singh, as she enjoys the sample of the soil



Nankishore Singh, a yatrian who hails from WCD, Guyana, is seen here explaining from A to Z the process of how sugar is made, he recalls that this is the exact method used in the Sugar Estates during his time in Guyana.



Pilgrims in sacred offering in Haridwar, at the Ganges



Devindra Pooran receives a momentum from Secretary of Press Club Mumbai



Savina gives "Pinda Daan" to her late father, the priest recites Sanskrit Mantras as Jagdesh assisted her to fulfill her desire



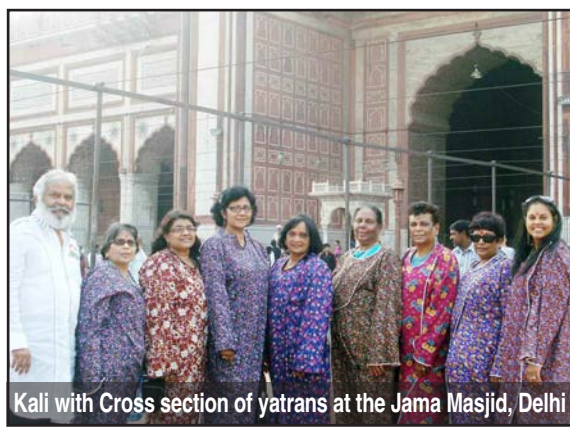
Yatrians at Parmarth Niketan in Ganga Aarti



It was Jagdesh turn to offer prayers that morning in coach



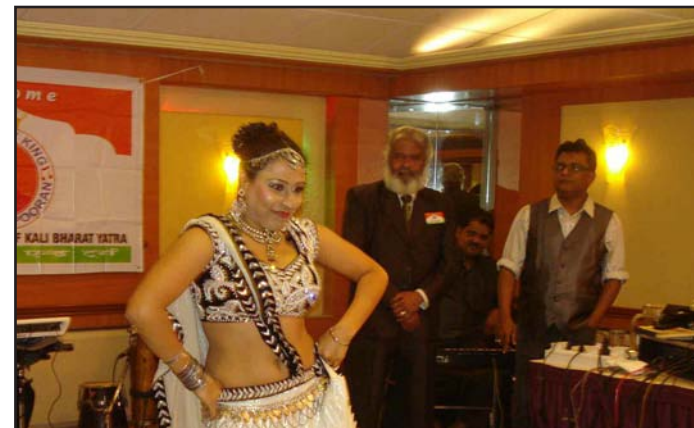
A soothing boat ride in Lake Pichola at Udaipur



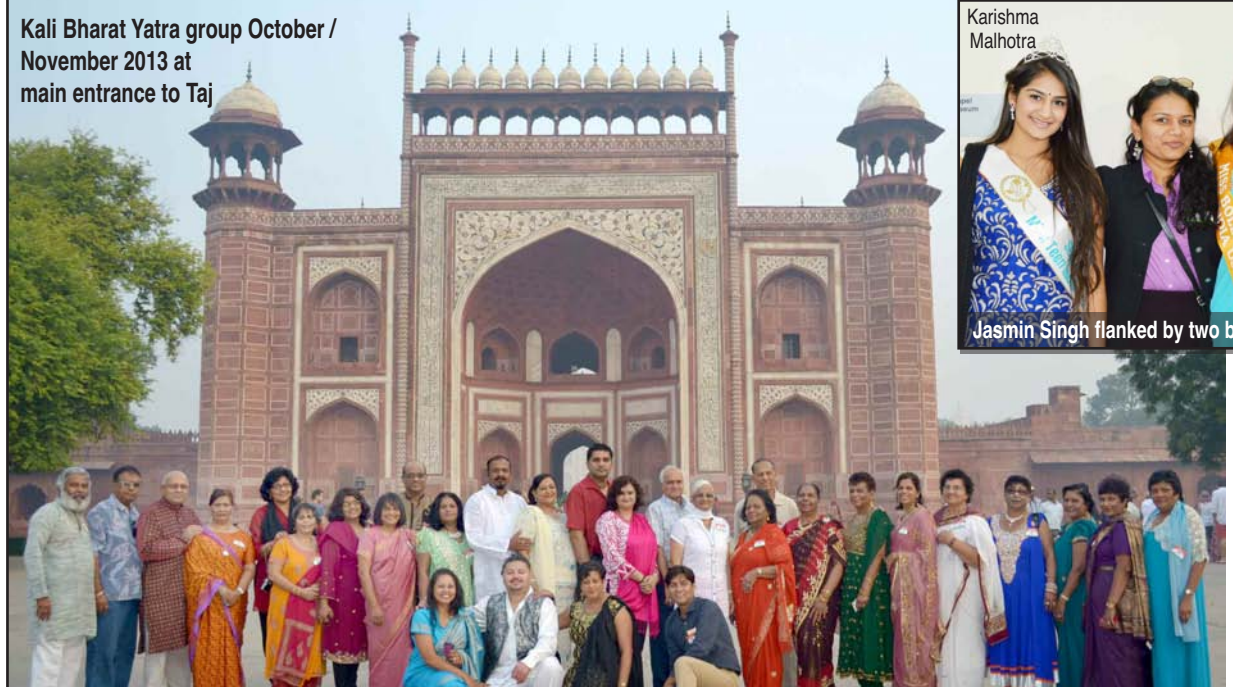
Kali with Cross section of yatrians at the Jama Masjid, Delhi



Dilip, Kali, Devindra & Nitin at the Press Club - Mumbai



Bollywood dancer performing at the farewell dinner in Mumbai



Kali Bharat Yatra group October / November 2013 at main entrance to Taj



Jasmin Singh flanked by two beauty queens



Artiste performing at the farewell dinner in Mumbai in live band

Kali Bharat Yatra 30th Anniversary See Center Pages



Dr. Tara Singh, master of ceremony



The lighting ceremony at JFK International Airport on October 26th 2013



Devindra Pooran sang before the take-off



Karishma Malhotra Celebrating 30 Glorious Years of Kali Bharat Yatra Shivangi Maini Kali Bharat Yatra Diwali Group 2013 at JFK International Airport just before boarding Air India Flight AI 102 for Delhi



Kali, Ajay Sharma, Nitin Mukesh & Devindra Pooran at Press Club, Mumbai



Savina Player at Diwali Celebrations - Jaipur



Cross section of audience at Press Club-Mumbai



Tour Director Kali in conversation with Smt, Nandini Sharan



Zorina Singh stands tall among a few yatrians at the Taj Mahal - Agra



The Singh's family of Toronto & New York at Birla Temple, Delhi



Jagdesh Kalicharran with Nitin Mukesh at Press Club Mumbai



On behalf of kali Travel & Tours, attorney-at-law Savina Playter presents posthumous award to Mukesh and is received by his son Nitin Mukesh

LETITIA JAMES VICTORY CELEBRATED IN INDIA: On Occasion of Kali Bharat Yatra 30th Anniversary Tour

— by Dr. Tara Singh —

Letitia James victory as New York City's Public Advocate at the November 2013 New York City polls, was also celebrated in India by a tour group comprising mostly Caribbean-Americans and Canadians. The position of Public Advocate is first in line to succeed the Mayor. It serves as a direct link between the electorate and city government, providing oversight for city agencies, investigating citizens' complaints about city services and making proposals to address perceived shortcomings or failures of those services. On Kali Bharat Yatra internal Diwali 2013-trip by coach from Haridwar to Agra, the election of Letitia James was announced in tape recorded message by famous TV and Radio broadcaster, Ishri Singh. One of the tourists, Savina Playter, who supports Letitia was elated at the results and she was joined by the entire group in a celebration that featured an appropriate Indian song. Congratulations to Letitia James.

That was only the beginning. There were many other things to celebrate on the Diwali Bharat Yatra tour. But let's try to understand why people in North America and the Caribbean continue to tour India? The answer lies, at least partly, in Savina Playter's rationale. "I have travelled to Europe, Russia, Indonesia, Cambodia, Malaysia and other countries and observed their cultural practices. I always had questions about my own ancestral Indian culture and wanted to explore its dynamics, having been motivated by a combination of information gained from reading, films, visitors' experience and grandparents' knowledge of oral traditions." People want to reconnect with the land that gave birth to their foreparents, the land that gave them their culture, their music, their food habits, their religion and their history.

With such an orientation, tourists' expectations would be high and the challenge for tour organizer is to meet those expectations. Kali Bharat Yatra tour always try to exceed tourists' expectations. As usual, there were several highlights of the 30th anniversary Kali Bharat Yatra tour. When Nitin Mukesh made a surprise appearance at a Press Club of India event in Mumbai, the tourists were flabbergasted. The 30-member Kali Bharat Yatra tour party said that they never thought that they would ever meet Nitin in their life time, but the seemingly unreal became



Devindra Pooran performing at Press Club Mumbai.

real. Nitin knows about the Caribbean. He was told of it by his legendary father Shri Mukesh Chand Mathur. Tour director Ramesh D Kalicharran was honored by the Press Club for his major contribution to the fostering of strong India-Caribbean relations.

Nitin Mukesh had only intended to stay with the tourists for 15 minutes but ended staying there for more than one hour. Nitin was particularly enthralled with the melodious singing of Devindra Pooran who was on his 2nd trip to India in two years. Devindra was a big hit among the Indians. He sang for an hour in response to requests by guests at the Press Club. Nitin Mukesh rendered a few patriotic verses of his father's song. On a score of 1 to 10 (with 10 being the highest), Devindra rates this trip at 10. "It does not matter how many times you visit India, every time go there you learn and experience new things. I think everyone on the trip had a great time." Devindra was presented with the Kali Bharat Yatra Award by Nitin Mukesh.

Kali Bharat Yatra Travel and Tours made a posthumous award to Mukesh. The presentation was done by Savina Playter who says that the Diwali trip far exceeded her expectations. Her sentiments are shared by most, if not, all the Yatrans, including Lackragie Draupadi Singh who states: "As I set out for Bharat Desh on October 26th, with the group you have so nicely put together, (Hindus, Muslims and Christians) my expectations were high, however, I must say that the tour superseded my expectations in many ways."

There was an equally memorable moment when Smt. Nandani Sharan, wife of the late Hari Om Sharan, met the group at the farewell function in Mumbai. Nandani sang a few songs with Devindra Pooran and bonded immediately with the tourists. "She is a remarkable woman; simple and humble," says an exuberant Savina Playter. Nandani also made it clear that she is



Devindra Pooran being presented with the "Kali Bharat Yatra Award" by Nitin Mukesh - extreme right is Devendra Mohan former president of Press Club Mumbai, Nov. 2013.



Artiste Devindra Pooran with actress Varsha Usgaonkar of "Mahabarat fame"

forgettable experience for her and other tourists.

Another impressive moment, according to Savina, was the Diwali celebration at Jaipur. On Diwali night at the grounds of the 'Jhule Lal' Mandir, following the Lakshmi Pooja ceremony, Kali-ji was honored with a shawl by the resident Pandit in honor of his 30 years of Kali Bharat Yatra trips.

Norman Bahadur was on his first trip to India. He wanted to visit the Ashram at Ganeshpuri. Both he and his wife love Lake Pichola in Udaipur. He rates the trip at 10 out of 10. Leelowitz Rambajohn was on her second Bharat Yatra trip to India. She was in Dubai and North India in March 2013 with Kali Bharat Yatra Tour. She would like to go to India as often as possible. She rates the Diwali trip at 9 out of 10. One of her most memorable moments was the Ganga Aarti in Rishikesh. "When we went to the Ak-

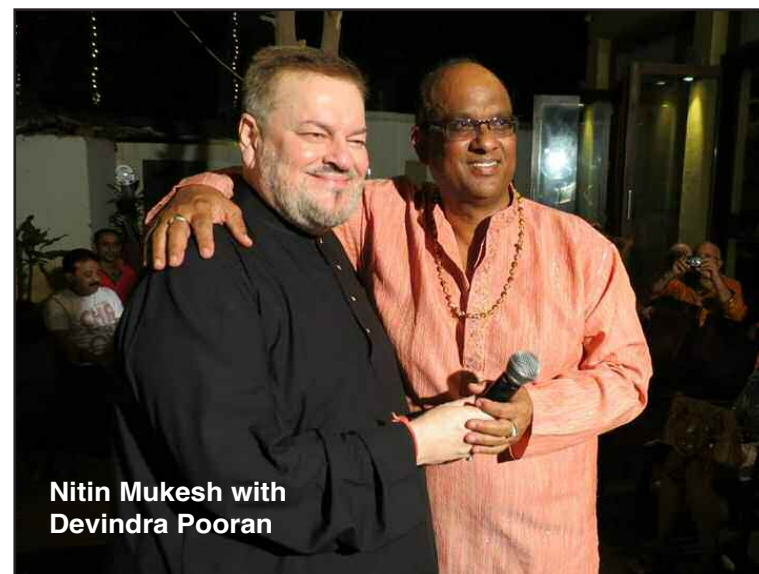
shardham in Delhi, I didn't want to leave there," says Leelowitz. Other places visited were Elephanta Caves in Mumbai, home of the legendary Shiva Lingam. The 8th wonder of the world, the Taj Mahal, was built as a living testimony of Shah Jahan's undying love for his wife Mumtaz Mahal. The trip on Lake Pichola in Udaipur was soothing. Rishikesh and Haridwar are centers of meditation which generates high levels of energy and divinity. Mathura is the birth place of one of Hindus' most revered deities, Lord Krishna. The Akshardham monument in Delhi is considered a modern masterpiece and a wonder of the new world. It's architec-



Kali Bharat Yatra Diwali group October / November 2013 at Akshardham at New Delhi - the unique wonder of the world

a Guyanese and is proud of her heritage. Nandani-ji was presented with a plaque by Lackragie Singh on behalf of Kali Travel and Tours. It was in honor of her late husband, Hari Om Sharan, for his extraordinary contribution to Indian singing, especially bhajans.

In addition, the Kali tour party made an important breakthrough at the Ganga Aarti held at Parmarth Niketan Ashram in Rishikesh. Devindra Pooran was given the opportunity to sing an Aarti bhajan and the entire tour party was allowed to perform the Havan ceremony. As far as the tour organizer knows, no touring group from outside of India was ever accorded this privilege. Savina notes that was an un-



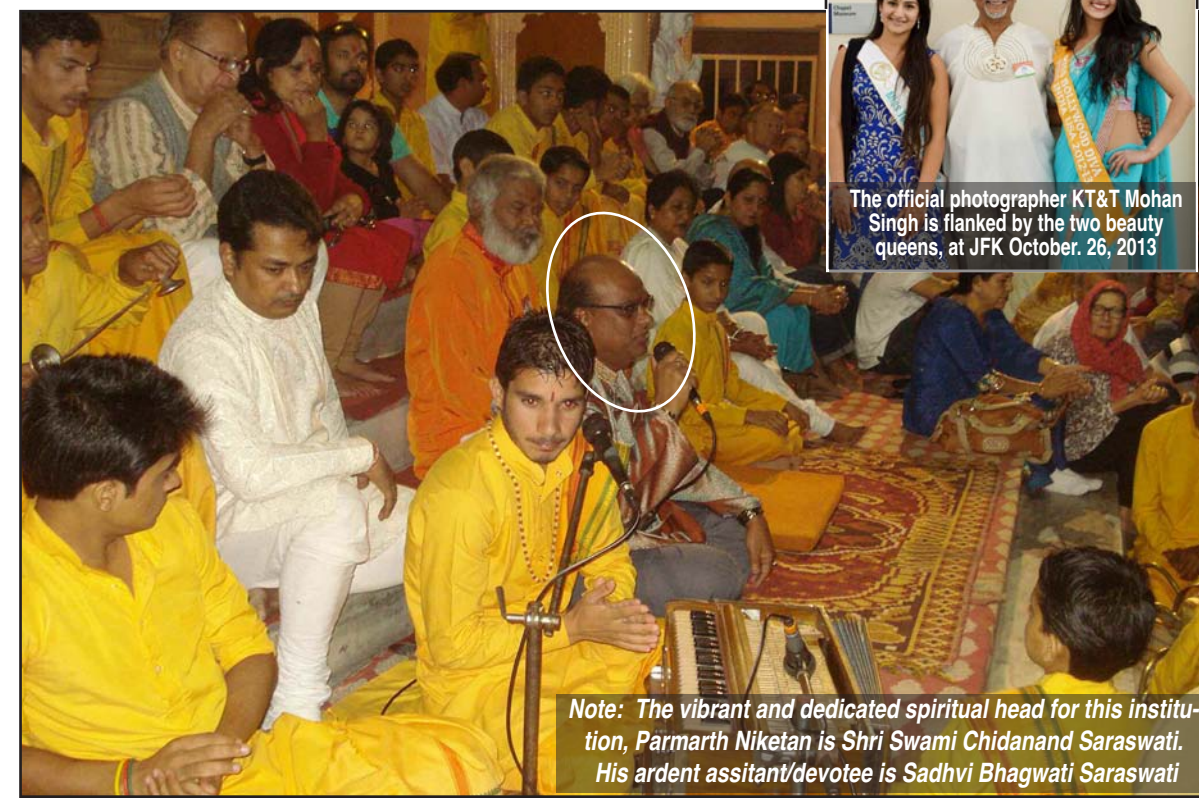
Nitin Mukesh with Devindra Pooran



Nitin Mukesh in a short rendition of his father's song



Devendra Mohan, the former president of the Press Club Mumbai, presents the momentum of the Club to Ramesh D. Kalicharran, Tour director of Kali Bharat Yatra, while the current president makes the announcement (holding the mic).



Note: The vibrant and dedicated spiritual head for this institution, Parmarth Niketan is Shri Swami Chidanand Saraswati. His ardent assitant/devotee is Sadhvi Bhagwati Saraswati

The Melody King Devindra Pooran rendered an appropriate Bhajan at Parmarth Niketan, Rishikesh, behind Devindra is Kali. At left dressed in white is Subhash-ji, who at the request of Munnaji welcome Kali Bharat Yatra Group and presented Devindra Pooran.



On behalf of Kali Travel and Tours, Lackragie Draupadi Singh presents posthumous award to Hari Om Sharan and received by his wife Smt. Nandani Sharan also in photo is Devindra Pooran

tural splendor and sprawling lawn that breed serenity represent the best of the human spirit.

Lackragie Draupadi notes in respect to the Akshardham; "The divine Murtis carved to perfection appeared so 'life like' that I felt as though time stood still and I were transferred to Swarg-loak at the lotus feet of Bhagwan Vishnu. Yes indeed, for a 'moment' I merged with our 'Maker' like a drop of water from a tiny kamandal or lota into the ever flowing Ganges. The lotus garden at this location brought a feeling of peace and serenity within me. The 148 elephants and men exquisitely carved in stone were a feat for all eyes to behold. The sunset at Akshardham is etched in my memory which will remain in my heart forever."

Here are the comments of a few other Yatrans. Dowlat Ramsunair and his wife Kamla say, "in the beginning when we booked this tour we were positive, but having been on the tour was beyond our expectations." Ramdaye Deonarine, mother of the popular Radio Host Rose Deonarine of "WEE Radio" notes: "I enjoy everything on this tour; excellent hotels, great meals; and there was super entertainment."

For Carmen Maharaj a life long dream has been fulfilled. Taramattie Singh, who has just completed her 3rd tour of

India, comments on developments in the road network in India. Meenawatie Balkaran got her desire to bathe in the Ganges realized. "I thank Kali-ji to make it possible." Amit Ray, Area Sales Manager of Air India writes about the Kali Bharat Yatra 30th anniversary tour: "I was the one who appreciated the most of all, the efforts you have made to promote tourism to India in your community."

The 16-day tour began on a firm foundation. The tour party was given a great send off at JFK airport by Shivangi Maini, Miss Bollywood Diva 2012/2013 and Karishma Malhotra, Miss Teen India New York Runner Up and Winner of Best Talent 2012-2013. Popular TV and Radio personalities Lake Persaud and Tony Shafieik were also special guests at the Torch Lighting ceremony, which was done with great pomp and ceremony at the airport and its glow continue to radiate throughout the trip. At the JFK Airport, the tourists were also given valuable tips for the tour, and were advised to keep an open mind. "Go and discover India for yourselves." Also the following announcement was made on board the aircraft: "Air India welcome the Melody King Devindra Pooran and Kali Bharat Yatra group to India, thank you for choosing Air India."

Departing ceremony of Kali Bharat Yatra group at JFK airport on Oct. 26 2013.



The official photographer KT&T Mohan Singh is flanked by the two beauty queens, at JFK October, 26, 2013



Karishma Malhotra Miss Teen India New York runner-up and winner of best talent 2012/13 is seen here displaying the gift from Sujata Thakur, Regional Director of Govt, India Tourist Office, NY. Also in photo are: R.D. Kalicharran, Dr. Tara Singh, Tony Shafieik.