



Club No. 26272

RI District 3131



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Special Edition

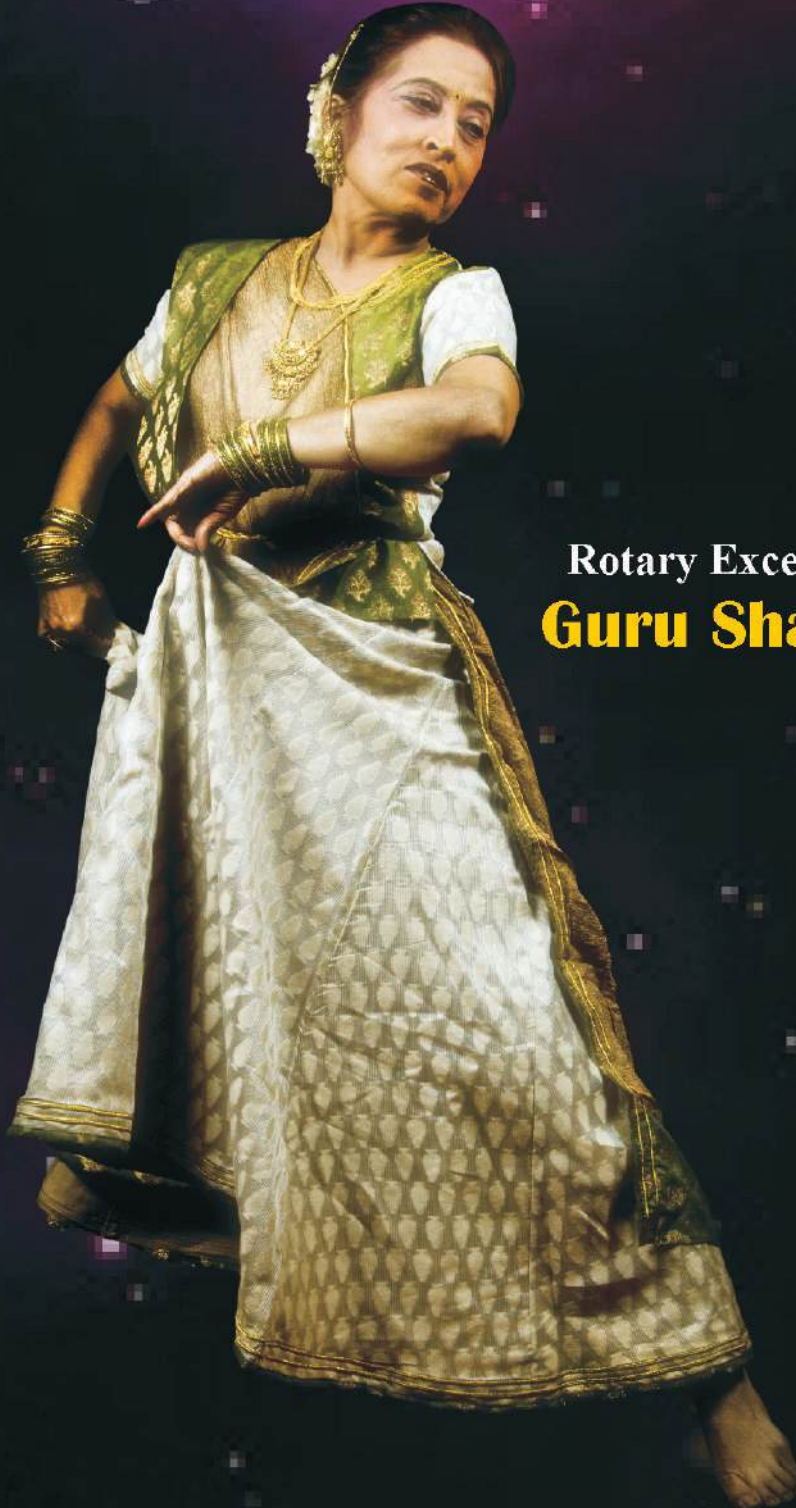
# PRATIMA

Bulletin of Rotary Club of Pune Kothrud

President  
Rtn. Manish Didmishe

Editor  
Ann Rekha Pandit

Hon. Secretary  
Rtn. Rahul Khandekar



Rotary Excellence Awardee  
**Guru Shama Bhate**

Meetings:  
Every Tuesday, 7 pm - 8:30 pm  
Damle Hall, Law College Road, Pune



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<http://rcpunekothrud.rotary3131.org>

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Dear Rotarians and Partners,

Greetings!

The year 2024-25 begins with a bang !! On the very first day of July, our club successfully planted 100 special tree saplings to create a Butterfly Garden at Khatapewadi. This unique project reflects our commitment to fostering a sustainable environment. Special appreciation goes to Partner Anupama for her exceptional efforts in planning and organizing this project.

Our club continues to lead the way in Education and Literacy programs across the district. Through our teacher training sessions, study skills workshops, life skills programs, and pre-marital counseling, we have made a significant impact. In July, our dedicated team successfully trained over 250 students and 400 teachers at various schools and colleges. Led by Past President Ujwal, Urmilatai, Umesh Kulkarni, Dr. Vishal Sardeshpande, and supported by Past Presidents Sumedha and Satyajit, our training team has surpassed all expectations, delivering content through innovative topics and an easily understandable approach. The positive feedback and gratitude expressed by the participants are a testament to their hard work. This is indeed a proud moment for our club. Congratulations to the entire team for their fantastic work!

Our Program Committee, under the leadership of Partner Shobha, has been organizing engaging weekly meetings, including sessions like The F Life, Learning through Games, and Quiz on India. These interesting meetings, featuring knowledgeable speakers, have made our weekly gathering events a not to be missed event. The recent Partners/ Anns Interest meeting program on Wari was a unique and enriching experience for all who attended.

As we move forward with enthusiasm and energy into August, we continue to build on our momentum. The Gents' and Ladies' picnics were excellently organized by PP Girish & Partner Rucha respectively, providing

our members with a refreshing break and an opportunity for fellowship.

On the 14th of August, we will recognize and honor excellence through our Rotary Excellence Award Program, a signature initiative of our esteemed Rotary Club of Pune Kothrud. This program, conceptualized in the year 1990-91 under the leadership of Past District Governor Rtn Pramod Jejurikar, acknowledges outstanding achievements and contributions in fields such as Engineering, Medicine, Education, Music, Arts, Social Service, Culture, Sports, and Literature.

This year, we are privileged to present the Rotary Excellence Award to Guru Shama Bhate, whose work spans over 50 years as a performer, choreographer, artistic director, educationalist, scholar, and an active catalyst for the arts in the society. We will also be honoring Ms. Ameera Patankar with the Rising Star Award. We are delighted to have Pandit Suresh Talwalkar as the chief guest for this prestigious event.

In addition, we will continue our efforts to support the street vendors in Pune city through the Chatra Chhaya project by providing them with umbrellas. Our Literacy team will persist in conducting sessions at schools and colleges to enrich the lives of students and teachers. As the month of August is dedicated to Membership, I encourage all members to support our Membership team in reaching out to like-minded individuals who can join our esteemed club and help us extend our impact in the community.

Friends, there is a lot of exciting work ahead of us this month, and I am confident that all members will participate wholeheartedly to make it special.

Thank you.

Best regards,

**Rtn. Manish Didmishe**

President 2024-25



It is once again a very proud moment for us RCPKians, to recognize and appreciate the extremely talented personalities from Pune in various fields under our signature project Rotary Excellence Award Program (REAP). I believe we are too small to give the awards to these stalwarts.... Therefore we are appreciating the excellence they have achieved in their respective fields.

This year Vidushi Shama Bhateji , a renowned Kathak dancer, performer has gracefully accepted the excellency award given by our club. She is the Founder Director of, ' Nad-Roop', a premier Kathak institute based in Pune since 1988. She is a principal disciple of Guru Smt. Rohini Bhate and Padmashree Pt. Suresh Talwalkar. She has

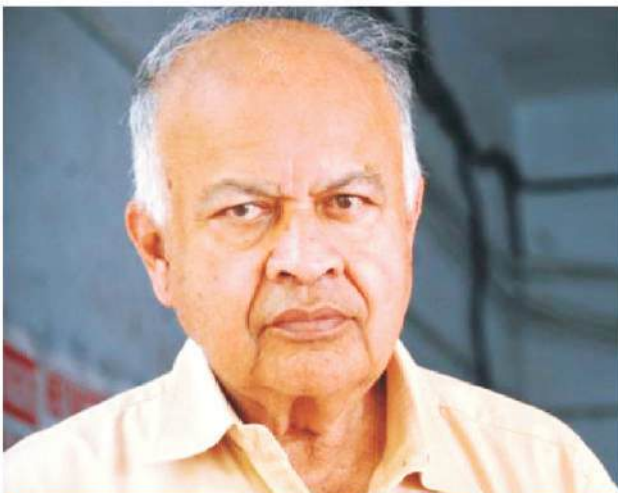
received many prestigious awards like Maharashtra Rajya Puraskar, Bundeli Gaurav, Nehru Yuva Kendra and many many more. She is a member of the Advisory Board of Sangeet Natak Academy, Kathak kendra, Delhi. So far more than 1000 Kathak dancers have been trained shaped up by Shamaji in her glorious career,

We are also recognising very talented Ms. Ameera Patankar as an upcoming artist as recommended by Shama mam.

With profound admiration and utmost respect to Shamaji and the young talent nurtured by her, I present this Pratima to you all.

- Ann Rekha

## Some of our past award winners



**Dr. Jayant Naraliker**  
1994



**Dr. Vijay Bhatkar**  
1998



## First Vocational Award to Hon. Shri S. L. Kirloskar

Under the Presidentship of P.P. Rtn. Pramod Jejurikar 14 Aug 1990



Rotary Excellence Awards Rotary Excellence Award Program is one of the prestigious projects not only of our Club but the entire Rotary District 3131, recognizing every year an exceptionally talented person from Pune who has excelled in his/her chosen profession or vocation. This Award was constituted in the year 1990. The object of this award was to recognize the fabulous work done by the chosen awardee so that the people in the society get encouraged to strive for excellence and to get inspired by the work of the awardee and try to emulate him. This award is a grand recognition of the excellent work done by the awardee through his single-minded dedication and devotion towards his chosen vocation / profession.

Over the past 28 years our club has recognized some prestigious gems of our society like the doyen of Indian industry Shri Shantanurao Kirloskar, Dr. Banoo Coyaji, Pt. Bhimsen ji Joshi, Dr. Jayant Narlikar, Smt. Shanta Shelke, Yogacharya Iyengar, Dr. Vijay Bhatkar, Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar, Dr. S B Mujumdar, Shri Ashutosh Gowarikar, Shri Atul Kulkarni and the list goes on.



# प्रमुख पाहुणे तालयोगी पं. सुरेशजी तळवलकर



परंपरेला आत्मा समजणाऱ्यापैकी एक सुरेशजी आहेत आणि त्याच भावनेतून ताल योगी आश्रमाची निर्मिती झाली असे म्हणणे वावगे ठरू नये. तबला वादन ही कला त्यांचा श्वास आहे आणि ती जगभर पोचवणे त्यांचा ध्यास आहे. यातूनच त्यांचा ताल योगी होण्याचा प्रवास चालू झाला असे म्हणणे वावगे ठरणार नाही.

सृजनशीलता आणि त्यांच्यामधील संशोधक वृत्ती यामुळे त्यांच्यातील उत्तम रचनाकार घडला आहे. लय कल्पना व ताल यात्री या ध्वनी मुद्रणाद्वारे आपण त्यांच्यातील रचनाकार जवळून अनुभवू शकतो.

सुरेशजींनी त्यांच्या या वादन प्रवासात अनेक प्रसिद्ध जेष्ठ कलाकारांना साथ सांगत केली आहे. त्यापैकी काही नावे सांगते. पंडित गजानन बुवा जोशी, पं. निवृत्ती बुवा सरनाईक, पंडीत उल्हास कशाळकर, सारंगी वादक राम नारायण सुरेशजी अनेक पुरस्कारांनी आणि पदव्यांनी विभूषित आहेत. त्यापैकी काही निवडक पुरस्कार संबोधित करते. अतिशय मानाचा असलेला पद्मश्री पुरस्कार, भारत गायन समाज संस्थेचा राम मराठे पुरस्कार, मधुरीता सारंग स्मृती पुरस्कार, आंध्रा प्रदेश सरकार, पुरस्कार, संगीत नाटक अकादमी पुरस्कार, पं. बिरजू महाराज नृत्याचार्य पुरस्कार, गंधर्व महाविद्यालयाचा विष्णू दिवांबर पलुस्कर पुरस्कार, करवीर पिठाच्या शंकराचार्यकडून मिळालेली ताल योगी ही पदवी अनेक प्रसिद्ध तबला वादक त्यांचे शिष्य आहेत. पंडित विजय घाटे, पंडित रामदास पळसुले यांसारखे इतर अनेक देशी आणि परदेशी विद्यार्थी सुरेशजींचे शिष्य आहेत.

आवर्तन - भारतीय संगीतातील स्थूलता आणि सूक्ष्मता हे मराठी पुस्तक सुरेशजींनी लिहिले आहे. वाद्यामागचे शास्त्र, तबल्याच्या प्रकृती ही त्यांची वैशिष्ट्ये त्यांनी विषद केली आहेत.

सुरेशजींनी एकल तबला वादनात बोल म्हणण्याची जी पद्धत प्रचलित केली त्यामुळे एकल तबला वादनाचा आयामच बदलून गेला. नवीन पिढीतील अनेक युवा कलाकार त्यांचे शिष्य आहेत, त्यांच्या रचना भारतीय संगीताचं नाही तर पाश्चिमात्य देशांमध्येही त्यांच्या संगीत प्रवासात उपयुक्त ठरत आहेत. आपल्या सर्वाना अभिमान वाटेल असे थोर कलाकार आपल्याला प्रमुख पाहुणे म्हणून लाभले हे आपले खरंच भाग्य आहे.

संगीत से संगीत है जगता ताल बराबर जब है लागतं  
गुंजध्वनी की ध्यान मे आती, संगीता की महिमा दर्शिता  
खरंच ताल हा नृत्य संगीत या सविच कलांना जोडणारा  
दुवा आहे. कुठलेही संगीत जर तालात असेल तरच ते कानाला  
मधुर लागते. आता मी समेवर येते.

रोटरी विशेष योग्यता पुरस्काराच्या कार्यक्रमाचे प्रमुख  
पाहुणे म्हणून आपल्याला आज हिंदुस्थानी संगीतातील  
अतिशय प्रसिद्ध जेष्ठ तबला वादक, संगीत तज्ञ पद्मश्री पुरस्कार  
विजयी जेष्ठ गुरु ताल योगी सुरेशजी तळवलकर लाभले आहेत.

सुरेशजींचा जन्म एका कीर्तनकार परंपरा लाभलेल्या  
कुटुंबात झाला. त्यामुळे संगीताचे संस्कार अगदी बालवयातच  
त्यांच्यावर झाले आहेत. सुरेशजींनी तबल्याचे प्राथमिक धडे  
त्यांचे वडील श्री. दत्तात्रय तळवलकर यांच्याकडून घेतले  
आहेत. तबला वादनाचे पुढील संस्कार पंडित पंढरीनाथ  
नागेशकर आणि पंडित विनायकराव घांग्रेकर या गुरूंकडून  
झाले. सुरेशजींनी वादनातील लया शास्त्राचे धडे जेष्ठ मद्रंगम  
वादक राम नाद इशावरन यांच्याकडून घेतले आहेत. गुरु शिष्य

# Rotary Excellence Awardee

## Guru Shama Bhate

Shama Bhate's work spans over 50 years as a Performer, Choreographer, Artistic director, Educationalist, Scholar and an active catalyst of arts in the society.

She is the Founder-Director of Nad-Roop – a premier Kathak Institute, based in Pune, since 1988.

Shama has performed at many prestigious festivals in India & abroad, winning the hearts of audiences world over! She is one of India's leading choreographers with a tremendous spectrum of work to her credit, presenting the ancient traditional form with a unique contemporary vision!

She has many creative initiatives to her credit for the promotion of Classical dance among all strata of society. She herself is a principle disciple of Guru Smt. Rohini Bhate & Padmashri awardee Pt. Sureshji Talwalkar.

She is a recipient of the Maharashtra Rajya Puraskar, Bundeli Gaurav, Nehru

Yuva Kendra Puraskar among many others.

She is a member of the Advisory Board of many Dance & Art academies of

national repute like Sangeet Natak Akademi, Kathak Kendra Delhi, etc.

Shama Bhate is a trend-setter in the true sense, having numerous endeavors that she dared to envision and execute, all on her own merit! She founded Nad-Roop in 1988 and under leadership, transformed it into one of India's foremost dance institutes the country recognizes.

Nad-Roop now has a Performing Troupe, a Production Unit (with more than 50 independent productions), Administrative Wing (with numerous National seminars, Symposia, Exhibitions to its credit) & Training Faculty (with more than 1000 students in hobby classes & 150 students in BA/MA Dance degrees).

Shama Bhate is a strong individual, constituting a woman of grit, will and grace in today's contemporary India. She has ensured the establishment of Rohini Bhate Chair for scholarships to deserving students, employment opportunities to more than 500 students that have learnt from her.

Path breaking firsts by Shama Bhate:

\* **WOMEN EMPOWERMENT** : Creating employment opportunities for artists, scholarship recommendations, free dance tuitions to deserving



students; presentation of choreographies like 'YatraNaryastu Pujyante', 'Strimanki Anchooue Gaharaiyaan' for social awareness.

• **NATIONAL INTEGRATION**: A meld of 7 classical dance styles to tell the story of Mahabharata, in 'Ateet Ki Parchhaiyan'.

\* **'KATHAK INFINITE'**: Performance of a team of 60 professional dancers of different institutes across India.

\* **UPLIFTING ART FORMS**: 'Pratibimb' (Chavni Project) with Chhau dancers from Mayurbhanj, Orissa.

\* **ART IN RURAL AREAS**: Sending Kathak teachers to rural areas for spread of classical dance.



She epitomizes a strong democratic, secular and liberal India through her work. Her role to initiate programs like 'Quest for New Horizons', 'Creating Awareness', 'Sansmaran' to make art accessible to all, ensure free art education opportunities, stands with the vision of an Aatmanirbhar Bharat!

**SHAMA BHATE AND NAD-ROOP IN INDIA:**

- Kathak Mahotsav (Delhi & Jaipur)
- Sawai Gandharva Bhimsen Mahotsav (Pune)
- Khajuraho Festival (Khajuraho)
- PuranaQuilaMahotsav (Delhi)
- Nishagandhi Festival (Kerala)
- Kala Ghoda Festival (Mumbai)
- Konark Festival (Konark)
- Bharat Bhavan (Bhopal)
- Natarani Festival (Ahmedabad)
- SNA Festival (Agartala)

**FEW NOTABLE WORLD TOURS:**

- Performance tour at Israel with Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, collaboration with Chen Zimbalista 2017
- Performance tour under ICCR at Doha, Qatar 2017
- Represented India at Busan International Dance Festival, South Korea 2015
- Confluence' – presentation of choreography 'Peed Parayi Jane Re' based on the life of Kasturba Gandhi – together with Upper Austrian Jazz Ensemble led by Manfred Weinberger, Europe

\* **SPREAD OF INDIAN AESTHETICS:** Conducted workshops on Indian rhythms for Western musicians in Europe and India 1999 onwards.

\* **TAKING KATHAK TO THE WORLD STAGE:** Performance with Jerusalem Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra & Nad-Roop Kathak ensemble.

\* Participated as solo dancer with Jazz band 'Glimpse', led by Trilok Gurtu & toured 65 European cities in the 1990s.

• **KATHAK BEYOND TRADITION:** 'Peed Parayi Jane Re': Production on the life story of Kasturba Gandhi, with Kathak Dance & a live Jazz Orchestra from Austria in 2013.

\* **CREATIVE GENIUS:** Incorporation of old, original recorded tracks of Bharat Ratna Lata Mangeshkar & Bharat Ratna Pt. Bhimsen Joshi to weave a dance score in 'Chala Vahi Des' & 'Nirakar Sakaar' respectively.

• **ART IN EDUCATION:** Experiment in Khargharh - teaching Mathematics & Geography through Kathak.

• **DANCE FOR HEALING:** Using dance to improve motor skills of specially abled children through 'Prajakta : Fragile, yet fragrant' initiative with no monetary gains.

**UNIFYING THE ART COMMUNITY:** Shama Bhate founded 'Shastriya Nritya Samvardhan Sanstha, Pune' uniting 2000+ dancers of various styles and various dance schools under one umbrella for collective betterment and upliftment of art and artists.

She has ensured the establishment of Rohini Bhate Chair for scholarships to deserving students & Rohini Bhate Puraskar for recognizing the efforts and dedication of artists with the Pune Municipal Corporation since 2018.





- Perspective
- Layasopan etc.
- Tanotu Nah Shiva Shivam

Contemporary works:

- Nishabda - Bheda,
- Nad - Bindu
- Rhythm Collage (with world music)
- Jigsaw
- Unity in Diversity

• Dance interpretation on French and German poems by Baudelaire and Goethe

- AWARDS:
- Maharashtra Rajya Puraskar, 2011 conferred by the Maharashtra State Government
  - Shri Kundanlal Gangani Award, 2019
  - 'Rohini Bhate Puraskar' by the Pune Municipal Corporation, 2018
  - 'Times Power Woman' 2018 by the Times Group
  - 'Bundeli Gaurav' at the Damon Mahotsav 2018
  - 'Nehru Yuva Kendra Puraskar', Krida mantralaya. 2018
  - Y.U.V.A Puraskar on International Women's Day, 2018 for her invaluable contribution to Kathak
  - 'Sri Durga Mata Shakti Puraskar' in 2011 from Paramhans Swachandananda Seva Pratishthan
  - 'Kala Samvardhan Puraskar' by Krishna Mulgur Smriti Pratishthan, 2012.

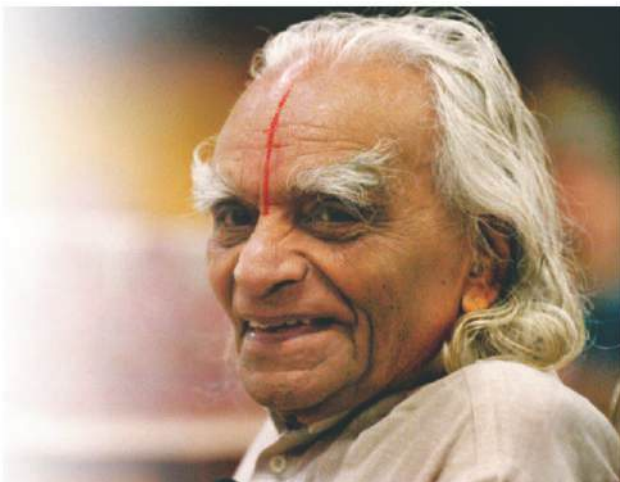
- Performances in Istanbul, Turkey with Pt.Suresh Talwalkar & Trilok Gurtu
- Numerous tours in Austria, Malaysia, Singapore, USA, Italy, France, Germany, Holland etc.

CHOREOGRAPHIC WORKS:

Traditional:

- Ritusamhara
- Krishna - the Liberator
- Chaturang Ki Chaupal

## Some of our past award winners



**Yogacharya BKS Iyengar**  
1999



**Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar**  
2000



# Rising Star Awardee

## Ameera Patankar

Ameera Patankar, an Economics graduate, possesses a rare leadership quality, which helped her compose dance pieces in her college days.

Dance is her first love; as such she decided to make dance as her chosen career after finishing her advanced Diploma in French. Ameera started her Kathak training since she was very young under Smt. Shama Bhate at Nadroop, Pune. She completed her MA Kathak from Lalit Kala Kendra, SPPU.

Today, Ameera has bloomed into a dynamic danseuse, bringing both virtuosity and grace and an electric stage presence. She has a quick mind and agile disposition when she dances.

She regularly performs Solos, Duets and has led the Nad-Roop troupe at various prestigious platforms. She also works as a senior trainer and event coordinator at Nad-roop.

She is a promising choreographer, having received first hand experience assisting and imbibing from her Guru Shama Bhate. She also has a talent for writing and has just begun her journey in the field of academia in Kathak through 2/3 published articles..

### **Achievements at a glance :**

- Recipient of the National Scholarship awarded by the Ministry of Culture.
- Has been conferred with the 'Singar-Mani' by the Sur Singar Samiti in the 'Kal Ke Kalakaar Sammelan' held in May, 2010.
- Stood 1st in the MA degree in Lalit Kala Kendra, Pune University in 2010.
- Recipient of the RangaSetu Fellowship, 2022 awarded by Maharashtra Cultural Centre.
- TedX speaker - on the importance of classical dance in maintaining cultural roots 2023.

Receiving 'Singarmani' at the hands of PadmaBhushan Birju Maharaji

### **As a Solo Performer :**

She is a dynamic soloist having won many awards in different competitions over the years, performed at prestigious festivals like Kathak Mahotsav by Kathak Kendra (Delhi), 'Pravaah' at



NMACC Mumbai, Aarambh by Raza Foundation (Delhi), Raindrops Festival, (Mumbai), Aundh Sangeet Sabha, Mylapore festival (Chennai), Nrutya Sangam, Orissa and many more.

### **As a part of the Nad Roop troupe :**

She has performed in numerous choreographies by Guru Shama Bhate at major festivals in India and in countries like Austria, France, Israel, Korea, China, Qatar etc. She has worked with Jazz musicians and world music, under her Guru's guidance and blend with different music genres.

She played Draupadi in nationally acclaimed dance drama Mahabharat Reinterpreted Ateet ki Parchhaiyan, choreographed and directed by Guru Shama Bhate, alongside eminent artists of India like Ramli Ibrahim, Vyjayanthi Kashi, Gopika Varma, Dr. Kannan, Rakesh Saibabu and Vaibhav Arekar.

### **As an aspiring choreographer :**

She has a choreographic spark within her that has led to some interesting works like

- 'Sat-Asat' (a re-telling of Vikram-Vetaal 2023)



- 'Nrutya KATHI' (stories for children through Kathak 2023)
- 'Mirror mirror on the wall' (proverb based work 2018, 2020)
- 'Seher Hone Tak' - exploration of URDU POETRY with Neerja Apte, 2022
- 'Kavi, Kalam aur Hum' (exploration of classic Hindi poetry) with Neerja Apte, 2019 onwards
- 'Ekayan' (Kathak and Yoga)
- 'Ibadat' – exploring the Guru Shishya relationship through dohas, by Neerja creations. 2020
- 'Koshish: Going Beyond' (improvisation for Chhotekhani Mehfil by Shuddhanaad), 2019

She has also worked for or created Dance dramas like

- Yugnaya Vivekananda for Ramkrishna Math performed at Rashtrapati Bhavan (Choreography)
- Rajmata (directed and choreographed, a retelling of Kunti's life) 2021
- Meghdoot (choreographed and acted)

**As a Trainer :**

- At Nad-roop for all levels
- Assisting Guru shama bhate in training MA/BA students
- Has assisted her Guru, Smt.

Shama Bhate at various lecture -

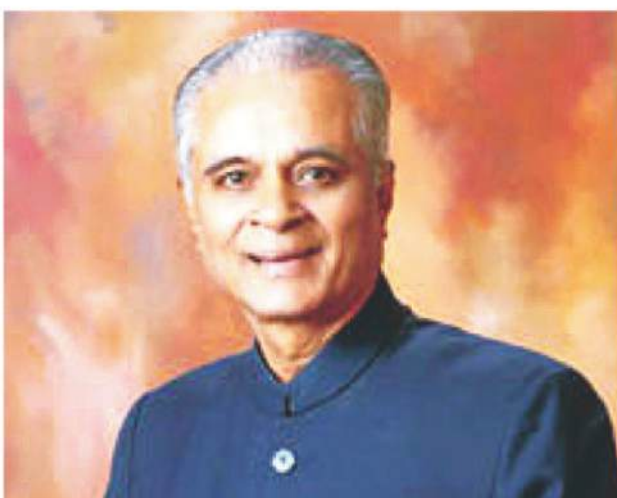
demonstrations and workshops

- Has taught numerous foreign students from Russia, France, USA etc.
- Teaches Dance principles to BA students at Lalit Kala Kendra, Pune.

**Articles Published :**

- On Pt. Chitresh das for Classical Claps
- On Nad-Roop, in AttenDance by Shri Ashish Mohan Khokar
- On Guru Shama Bhate in Nartanam online magazine
- On Modernity in Abhinay by Udgaar and Nrutya Bharati

**Some of our past award winners**



**Dr. S B Majumdar**  
2001



**Dr. Anand Deshpande**  
2003

## Awardees list of REAP Till 2023-24

Sr. No.	Year	President	Awardee
1	1990-1991	Pramod Jejurikar	Padma Bhushan Shantanurao Kirloskar
2	1991-1992	Dr. Arun Joshi	Padma Bhushan Dr. Banoo Coyaji
3	1992-1993	R.R. Chandra	Padma Vibhushan Pandit Bhimsen Joshi
4	1993-1994	Dr. Jayant Deodhar	Padma Bhushan Chandu Borde
5	1994-1995	Shrikant Gogate	Padma Vibhushan Dr. Jayant Naralikar
6	1995-1996	Shrinivas Gokhale	Padma Vibhushan Mohan Dharia
7	1996-1997	Girish Kshirsagar	Shri. Suresh Kalamadi
8	1997-1998	Prakash Apte	Shanta Shelke - Poetess and receipt of Sahitya Akademi Award
9	1998-1999	Ajit Keskar	Padma Shri Dr. Vijay Bhatkar
10	1999-2000	Gulab Ghule	Padma Vibhushan BKS Iyengar
11	2000-2001	Vija Raikar	Padma Vibhushan Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar
12	2001-2002	Kamalakar Mutalik	Padma Bhushan Dr. S B Mujumdar
13	2002-2003	Avisash Haldankar	Padma Bhushan Dr. Neelkantrao Kalyani
14	2003-2004	Dr. Ravindra Kulkarni	Shri. Anand Deshpande, Persistent Systems Ltd.
15	2004-2005	Santoshkumar Gupta	Mahila Griha Udyog
16	2005-2006	Vasudeo Yadwad	
17	2006-2007	Sanjay Runwal	Dr. Madhuri Lokapure, Mrs. Meena Sane & Mrs. Vaidehi Pathak
18	2007-2008	Shrinivas Rairikar	Shri. Ravi Pandit , CEO and MD KPIT
19	2008-2009	Sudhakar Chitnis	Maher Sanstha
20	2009-2010	Dr. Sumedha Bhosale	Mrs. Shubhada Joshi, Mrs. Sulakshana Patankar, Mrs. Sitabai Mohite
21	2010-2011	Vinay Tambe	Shri. Ashutosh Gowarikar, Adv. Ujwal Nikam
22	2011-2012	Dilip Pangarkar	Dr. Budhajirao Mulik
23	2012-2013	Prakash Umrani	Pandit Atul Upadhye
24	2013-2014	Rajiv Ambekar	Mrs. Shubhalakshmi Panse
25	2014-2015	Vasant Kulkarni	Shri. Avinash Dharmadhikari
26	2015-2016	Ujwal Tawade	Shri. Atul Kulkarni - Actor
27	2016-2017	Dr. Sudhakar Nhalde	Shri. Vivek Sawant
28	2017-2018	Ravi Pandit	Shri. Kailash Katkar
29	2018-2019	Nutan Bankar	Dr. Parag Sancheti, Mr. Sarang Gosavi
30	2019-2020	Prakash Jog	Padma Vibhushan Dr. Prabha Atre, Ms. Avanti Nagral, Master Viraj Joshi
31	2020-2021	Prashant Siddha	Dr. Pramod Chaudhari, Mrs. Shraddha Telge, Dr. Bhooshan Kelkar
32	2021-22	Satyajit Chitale	Dr. Priya Abraham, Dr. Pragya Yadav, Dr. Gajanan Sakpal, Dr. Varsha Potdar
33	2022-23	Dr. Vishwanath Lele	Shri. Siddharth Sikchi, Shri. Omprakash Maurya
34	2023-24	Indraneel Mujgule	Shri. Vijay Gokhale, Dr. Arjun Deore

## Some of our past award winners



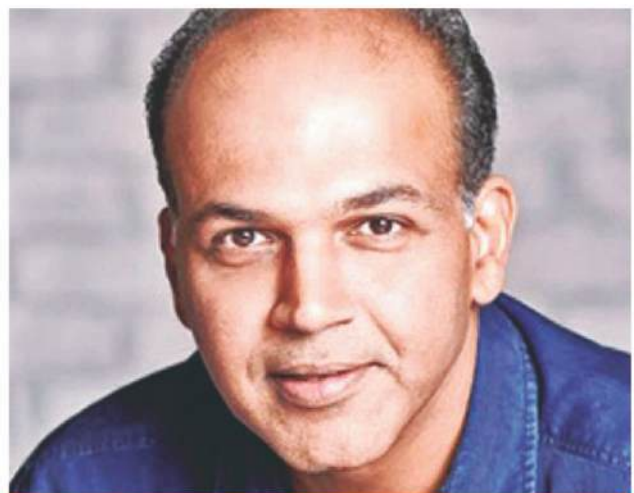
**Shri. Shantanurao Kirloskar**  
1990



**Pandit Bhimsen Joshi**  
1992



**Smt. Shanta Shelke**  
1997



**Shri Ashutosh Gowarikar**  
2010



**Shri Atul Kulkarni**  
2015



**Dr. Prabha Atre**  
2019



## Installation of Rtn. Manish Didmishe as a President



रोटरी क्लब ऑफ पुणे कोथरूड च्या रोटरी वर्ष २४ - २५ चे नवीन अध्यक्ष रो. मनीष दिडमिशे यांच्या पद ग्रहणाचा कार्यक्रम २ जुलै २४ रोजी PYC हिंदू जिमखाना येथे अतिशय उत्साहात पार पडला. गतवर्षीचे चतुरस्र अध्यक्ष रो. इंद्रनील मुजगुले यांनी रो. मनीष दीडमिशे यांच्याकडे अध्यक्षपदाचा कार्यभार सोपवला. रोटरी वर्ष २४-२५ साठी सचिव म्हणून रो. राहुल खांडेकर यांनी जबाबदारी स्वीकारली. रोटरी च्या avanue नुसार १२ बोर्ड मॅम्बर्स नी या दिवशी पदभार स्वीकारला.

पदग्रहण समारंभासाठी प्रमुख पाहुणे म्हणून डिस्ट्रिक्ट गव्हर्नर इलेक्ट रो. संतोष मराठे लाभले होते. विशेष अतिथी म्हणून रो. अतुल अत्रे व सौ. मराठे उपस्थित होते.

रो. इंद्रनील यांनी आपल्या भाषणामध्ये गतवर्षी केलेल्या प्रकल्प व कार्यक्रमांचा आढावा मांडला. प्रेसिडेंट रो. मनीष

दिडमिशे यांनी आगामी वर्षातील नवीन प्रकल्प, वर्षभर राबविण्यात येणाऱ्या कार्यक्रम व उपक्रमांची माहिती दिली.

DG elect रो. संतोष यांनी कोथरूड क्लब च्या सर्वाना संबोधित करताना रोटरी फाउंडेशन व त्या द्वारे होणारे कार्य याचे महत्त्व विषद करून सर्वाना त्या साठी सढळ हस्ते मदत करण्याचे आवाहन केले.

सचिव रो. राहुल खांडेकर यांनी पुढील कार्यक्रम व उपक्रमांच्या घोषणा केल्या. या कार्यक्रमाचे सूत्रसंचालन न स्वाती भाटे यांनी केले.

पुढील वर्षीच्या नियोजित अध्यक्षा रो. गायत्री लडकत यांनी आभार प्रदर्शन करून कार्यक्रमाची सांगता केली.

- पार्टनर चंदना चितळे

## Some of our past award winners



**Shri Mohan Dharia**  
1995



**Smt. Subhalaxmi Panse**  
2014

### Membership

Month of August is Membership month. The year has just begun, in the month of July we started the new year with much enthusiasm and celebration, the month also brought, for me & my team, an opportunity to talk to few prospect members and existing members, about how important Rotary is to all of us. While talking to them I couldn't stop talking about THE MAGIC OF ROTARY! It got so vividly high lighted due to our monsoon picnics, Ramnadi Project, RYLAs, committee meetings.

Every event, fun or work, brings happiness. We meet, we greet, we join hands, we plan, we execute, we applaud, we analyze and we LEARN and have FUN. So here are a few stories.

I meet friends early in the morning, on a weekend. We get into the car and drive miles to go and meet 200 youngsters. These youngsters from a small town, listen intently when we explain to them about essential skills & try to get them ready for a challenging future. We were 10 Rotarians, who spent the weekend with them and came back feeling good about having contributed to development of youth in a small way, and 10 of us spending time together. A great opportunity for a fun filled COMMUNITY SERVICE.

I saw a post by a member, who has received an award. Wow! Commendable! The appreciations and greetings flooded the whatsapp that day! The member said I don't need my name to come in the news paper, as long as my friends are happy about my achievement. INSPIRATION to achieve your goal comes from friends and family.

Many of us got together on a rainy, muddy day on a working day morning, and went to Khatpewadi lakeside for tree plantation. We planted 100 odd trees with the help of Kirloskar Vasundhara team. They explained to us the importance of the project. We were helping to make a butterfly garden. Just the thought is so beautiful. And just a few weeks later, we received a lovely picture of the first visitor, a colorful butterfly! Isn't our ENVIRONMENT our SOCIAL

### RESPONSIBILITY?

Few years back we were all very sad because we lost a couple of members, who were so close to many of us. Well, you can't help the destiny but you can help the family to come out of the shock. I am sure being part of this group has helped them to come out of the trauma. At the end of the day all one needs is friends who CARE.

Rotary is an international organization, so through projects like building toilets for schools in remote areas, using funds contributed by international partner clubs requires planning, communicating, managing the project, funds, relationships, friendships across the border, developing long term vision and working towards it. It's a great INTERNATIONAL PROJECT EXPERIENCE too. So many skills put to good use.

As a Rotarian I got a chance to represent Rotary at a de addiction Seminar. It was an eye opener in many ways. The discussion with teachers and police officers brought out some alarming facts. This awareness about the magnitude of this problem around us just moves you from deep within. I am a better sensitized and aware person. I am sure, when I get an opportunity to work on this, I will do my bit with utmost DEDICATION.

A friend is working at the district level, leading a new initiative on Mental Health. Addiction and mental health are connected issues. Rotary has special action groups for both these problems. These action groups at global level just tell you how FORWARD THINKING Rotary is.

Rotary is not just about social work and service projects! We have fun, a lot of it, we take a break to rejuvenate, and How? Last weekend we all ladies went for a monsoon Picnic, all madness! We freaked out, played games, fought and laughed our guts out. Made reels, photo shoots, danced, ohhhhhh, lots of fun! Can MEMBER ASSIMILATION get any better! Believe me, there is no better way to REJUVENATE!

These are just a few stories of Enriching Lives & Creating Happiness that are created through the Magic of Rotary.

## A Monsoon Magic : RCPK Ladies Day Picnic Date: 28 July 2024

A day filled with laughter, camaraderie, and fun – that’s how the Rotary Club of Pune Kothrud (RCPK) ladies’ one-day picnic at ARC Lakeside Resort, Shirwal, unfolded. The monsoon setting provided the perfect backdrop for a memorable outing. The pitter-patter of rain outside couldn't dampen the spirits of the RCPK Ladies.

The bus journey was a prelude to the fun. Home-baked cake & chips reminded us of our childhood birthday celebrations and lively Antakshari transformed the vehicle into a rolling party. The resort itself was a picturesque haven. A hearty breakfast and the refreshing waterfall trek set the tone for the day. As the rain kissed our faces, we danced to the rhythm of the music, our laughter echoing through the misty air. The subsequent walk towards the lakeside and the exhilarating waterfall trek amidst the pleasant drizzle was an absolute treat. Sharing nature’s beauty with fellow Rotarians made the experience even more special.

The afternoon was a whirlwind of fun and games. From the fast-paced ‘Sanga Sanga Laukar Sanga’ quiz to the collaborative team-based games, the competitive spirit was palpable. The games were a riot! We racked our brains for witty answers in 'sanga sanga laukar sanga', cheered for our teams in ball tosses and coin balancing, Film trivia, brand identifying and tested our general knowledge. Swati and Pratibha emerged as the undisputed queens of Sanga Sanga Game, while the spirit of teamwork shone through every activity. The laughter and cheers that filled the hall were a testament to the joy and camaraderie shared. The

meticulous planning of the committee ensured fair play and accurate scoring. The organizers ensured the day was filled with fairness and fun, making every moment special.

A delicious lunch and more games like dumb charades and housie kept the energy levels high. As the day drew to a close, with prize distribution the third team's victory was celebrated with applause. But the real winners were the friendships forged and the memories made.

As the day drew to a close, we indulged in delicious pakodas with our high tea and embarked on our return journey, filled with cherished memories. The committee's attentiveness towards the elderly members was commendable. The return journey was filled with a warm afterglow. The meticulous planning and care shown by the team, especially towards the elderly members, made the picnic truly heartwarming. It was more than just a day out; it was a celebration of life, friendship, and the simple joy of being together.

The RCPK Ladies' monsoon picnic was a magical escape from the ordinary. It was a day filled with laughter, friendship, and the rejuvenating embrace of nature; it was a celebration of unity, and the spirit of Rotary. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the organizing committee for curating such a wonderful event.

Looking forward to more magical moments with RCPK.

Regards,

- Rtn. Poornima Deo



# TREE PLANTATION FOR BUTTERFLY GARDEN!



While entering in to our NEW ROTARY YEAR 2024-25, our dynamic & most enthusiastic incoming President RTN. Manish Didmishe wished to commence our year with very noble project of Tree Plantation. So the Environment Committee came in action & organized the wonderful innovative project at Khatpewadi, near Bhukum. Ann Anupama & Girish Kshirsagar took a lead & was ably supported First lady Manisha Didmishe, Rtn Sushma Kulkarni, Bhakti & P.P. Rtn. Prashant Siddha.

In association of Kirloskar Vasundhara we recently completed CSR project worth of Rs. 20 Lakhs, in beautification & sustainable restoration of "RAM NADI" with the help of M/s Elkay Chemicals Pvt. Ltd. The founder & Directors P.P.Rtn Dr. Ravi & Rtn. Mrs. Alka Kulkarni decided to continue this as CSR project even for next 2/3 years with an investment of over Rs. 1 Crore.

In continuation of Beautification, we decided to develop an open Butterfly Garden around the lake. To attract more & more Butterflies, we have planted maximum Flowery Trees. The theme was enhance eco system for butterflies. As part of river restoration we want to ensure attraction for local butterflies. 27 different varieties of more than 500 trees were planted that help enhance year round support to butterfly ecosystem. What was especially great was

the participation of local villages.

Restoration of Percolation Lake is in full swing. We plan to quadruple water capacity that will restore water table needed for stimulating plant and insect life around the river. We are supported by four naturalist experts PhDs in ecology, ecosystem, restoration and environment. Besides the Villagers of Bhukum Gram Panchayat, we also invited members of Mitra kida Foundation, Modern College Students, as well as more than 40 Rotary members & their partners of RC Pune Kothrud were involved in this entire Project.

.....Rtn PP Girish Kshirsagar



- |        |                   |
|--------|-------------------|
| Aug 01 | Vaibhav Deo       |
| Aug 08 | Nandini Umrani    |
| Aug 11 | Varsha Lele       |
| Aug 13 | Neena Pangarkar   |
| Aug 16 | Pratibha Kulkarni |
| Aug 17 | Shrikant Gogte    |
| Aug 22 | Poornima Deo      |
| Aug 22 | Ravi Pandit       |
| Aug 24 | Suhas Patwardhan  |
| Aug 25 | Archana Amol      |
| Aug 26 | Manish Didmishe   |
| Aug 26 | Neeta Yadwad      |
| Aug 26 | Prakash Jog       |



Aug 01 Shobha-Vija Rairikar

**For Private Circulation Only**

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