



■ Little girls of Salwan Public School presented a beautiful dance to mark the opening of an exhibition-cum-interactive session, Nurturing the Genius.

## Exhibition

Nurturing the Genius, an exhibition-cum-interactive session was inaugurated at Salwan Public School, Gurgaon. Guests on the occasion included Prof Venita Kaul, director, Centre of Early Childhood Education and Development,

Ambedkar University, Delhi, Dr Shraddha Kapoor, reader, Lady Irwin College, New Delhi, Amita Tandon, consultant, UNICEF, New Delhi and Prof KK Vashishtha, former head, department of elementary education, National Council of Educational Research and Training, New Delhi. Dr Indu Khetarpal, principal, welcomed the guests, parents and teachers.

In her address, she reiterated the importance of early childhood education. In her keynote address Prof Kaul emphasised the theme, Nurturing the Genius, aimed at giving the right kind of environment and providing a platform to children to help them

develop their creativity. The responsibility lies on the parents and teachers to be a scaffold for the children and help strengthen their abilities and skills. 'E' stands for education and 'E' relates to environment, experience and encouragement. Dr Kapoor spoke on understanding one self before understanding the child, a very vital subject for the holistic development of young minds.

Prof Vashishtha in his session reiterated that it is important to develop soft skills, thinking process for the harmonious growth of the child.

### Nature

Nature is full of wonderful things,  
With cows that moo,  
And bees that sting,  
With oceans so wide,  
And the wind that sings,  
And birds that fly with open wings.  
Our nature is full of glory,  
Even when there isn't a single  
fairy.

With bears so hairy,  
And the cats so furry,  
Nature is so useful,  
With trees so beautiful.  
Nature is so helpful,  
With flowers that are gay and  
gleeful.

Protect environment,  
Which provides for creature.  
Learn from bio-diversity,  
Maintain the balance to protect  
God's creativity.

S Vandhanaa  
Class 5-A  
Salwan Public School,  
Gurgaon



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 08, 2011

htnext

## Dream World

I was travelling in a train,  
My heart asked my brain,  
Where are we going?  
To the dream world?  
Where there is no terror, no fight?  
Where everything is bright?  
It is my dream to go to a place like this,  
Where everything is in bliss,  
But it is just a dream,  
Where everything seems to beam.  
So my friend...  
This is what I recommend,  
To blend and mend,  
Let's join hands and walk through,  
To make our dream come true.

**Tanmay Bhasin**  
Class Class 5-A  
Salwan Public School,  
Gurgaon

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2011

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## My teachers

I love my teachers,  
They all are great preachers,  
They are kind,  
And have a great mind.  
They are polite,  
And are always right,  
They are friendly,  
And talk politely.  
They are beautiful,  
And are wonderful,  
They are not strict,  
And teach us many tricks.  
They are helpful,  
And are faithful,  
They are our guide,  
And like camel ride.  
East or West,  
My teachers are the best,  
North or South,  
Regarding this I have no doubt.

**Vanshika Kalra**  
Class 5-C  
Salwan Public School,  
Gurgaon

# In love with folk art

Writer and choreographer Kamaljeet has been working tirelessly to revive the dying folk arts of Haryana

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Of late, writer and choreographer Kamaljeet, 40, is busy with the preparations of the Haryana Day celebrations at Epicentre, scheduled for November 1. She has been entrusted with the responsibility of handling the choreography of a folk performance based on the theme of honour killing, a burning social issue and a brutal reality prevalent in many parts of the state. She will choreograph the artists from the Gurgaon-based theatre group, Rang Privartan.

Kamaljeet is just back from Singapore after attending a cultural exchange programme along with 20 students of Salwan Public School, Gurgaon, where she is the head of the music and dance department. The puritan artist in her refuses to use the surname, as she abhors any demarcation on the basis of cast, colour, creed or status. An art graduate from MD University, Rohtak, with a Masters in Kathak from Pracheen Kala Kendra, Kamaljeet dons many hats. But folk art remains her perennial love. "I had a passion for folk art, be it dance, drama, songs and culture since school days. I started performing while in



■ Kamaljeet is busy with the preparations of the Haryana Day celebrations at Epicentre.

SUNIL GHOSH / HT PHOTO

school and continued the practice in college, but never dared to take it up as a career because of my conservative background. I got my wings when I met my husband, a folk artist, for the first time on stage," shares Kamaljeet, who has been working indefatigably to revive the dying folk arts of Haryana.

She has been staging shows highlighting Haryana's folk art across the country with her troupe since 1986. "We will lose this beautiful performing art of Haryana, if we don't pass this art to our next generation," laments Kamaljeet, who has staged shows in Himachal, Jammu and Kashmir, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Punjab, Delhi and Chandigarh among other places. Recently, she went to

Dubai to choreograph a folk show.

A multifaceted lady, she also dabbles in script writing, poems, lyrics, plays and staging nukkad natak on social issues. The highpoint of her career remains the felicitation by actor Naseeruddin Shah, when her work, Mission Peace, was recognised as the best research work and audio in the All-India Children's Audio and Video Festival held at Delhi in 2009.

While her seven minute-long song was selected for the opening ceremony of the Commonwealth Games last year, the first ever reality show on Indian classical dances for the Doordarshan national television, that was conceptualised by her, has brought her more laurels and

fame.

"I also wrote the title song for this show. And another song on patriotism written for Doordarshan was sung by Udit Narayan," says Kamaljeet, who has been doing theatre too.

Her plays, Mama I Want to Live and Cry of a Girl Child, delve on the grave issues of female foeticide and touch the right chords with the audience. She has staged about three dozen nukkad natak with her students in villages, at crossings and in different sectors of Gurgaon and also in Delhi. Besides raising awareness about social issues through her plays, she has also ignited an artist in her students.

Many students in her theatre group are on their way to star-

dom in tinsel town. "She is an inspiring teacher and an amazing human being. She is the one who introduced me to acting and taught me the nuances. I owe her a lot," admits Bollywood actor Rajkumar Yadav, her student who has featured in movie like Ragini MMS, Shaitan and LSD, etc.

Is she satisfied with what ever she has achieved so far? "No, with the help of the government and like-minded people, I want to set-up an institution of performing arts in Gurgaon, that will include folk art. We are working on the project very seriously. I want children to take up performing arts as a career as much as they want to be doctor, engineer or CA," says Kamaljeet.