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Telugu Associations Celebrate Vijayadasami Vedukalu in Europe

[Vijayadasami Vedukalu Gallery](#)

It is an historic moment for UK Telugu community. All Telugu associations in UK were united and conducted Vijayadasami vedukalu in London. Around 600 Telugu's From London, Scotland, Wales, and Midlands gathered on 11th October 2008, Saturday to celebrate Vijayadasami.

European Telugu Association (ETA), Telugu Association of London (TAL) and Telugu Association of Scotland (TAS) supported by Milton Keynes Telugu Association, Andhra Association, Manchester Telugu Association, MATA and UK Telugu Community a network of youth and young students to conduct the event. Telugu Association of London, being the host organisation has done wonderful arrangements in the Brent Town Hall of Middlesex, London, for this first ever united event in the history of Telugus in the UK. The event's Organising and Cultural secretary Mr Mahesh Kumar (TAL) accompanied by Smt. Bharathi (TAL) compared the programme.

The programme was initiated by gathering all associations executive committee members on stage followed by a prayer song "Maa telugu thalliki mallepu dhanda" by Aishwarya and Yeshaswi.

Dr. Rajashekar Reddy, President of ETA has given an inaugural speech explaining about the importance of unity amongst Telugu community and the joy of sharing to celebrate our festivals. TAL President Dr Ramulu welcome the gathering to London, declared the celebrations open and wished this unity will continue further. TAS president Mr Shyam, AA President Kasi Vishwanath, MKTS Sreedhar, MATA Rasheed and youngsters represented by Bhaskar appealed for the Unity among Telugu community.

Then the programme has endowed with rich cultural programmes. Anjali a six-year-old kid from Scotland enthralled the audience with classical songs. Mrs. Eemani Kalyani (Daughter of Vidwan. Padmasri. Eemani Shanker Shastry) a senior Veena artist accompanied by Ravi Shankar Sharma on Mridangam has started cultural programmes, followed by Bharata Natyam by Uma Venkata Ratnam and Sai Neema and Kuchipudi by Pavani. After rich classical programmes the evening turned to folk with the "KOYA" dance by young girls Nikhila, Ramya, Yukta, Srihita and Aishwarya. Folk dance was followed by cine music dance by under 6 kids group Srinitya, Tanvi, Pranavi, Hashira, Kashifa and Hrudita. This has given a mix of all kinds of performance by all age groups.

Then the stage was taken over by the Valedictory programme to felicitate all those who have been contributing to Telugu community with in the UK. The chief Guest Cnclr. Ralph Fox, Mayor, Brent Council was felicitated by Smt. Peddi Nirmala, General Secretary, ETA and introduced by Dr. Chandra Cheruvu, Cultural Secretary, ETA. Dr. Ramulu the host and the President TAL introduced Telugu people and their achievements to the chief guest Cnclr. Ralph Fox, Mayor, Brent Council.

TAL Gen. Sec. B. Rama Naidu introduced Mrs. Hema Macherla - migrated from Warangal district, currently living in London - an author of English novel "Breeze of the River Manjeera". The novel was short-listed from 44,000 entries competed in the Richard & Judy Show book competition in the Channel 4 TV. It is an historic event for Telugu people living abroad. With this novel, Telugu author joined with other English writers of Indian origin. Mrs Hema's novel is a great tribute to the Telugu culture.

Dr. Mrs. Ragini Rajashekar Reddy, UKCS, presented a cheque to the HEAL, a UK based charity running orphanages and schools in India. HEAL founder Dr Koneru Satyaprasad had accepted the cheque. The organising committee thanked and felicitated Manatelugu TV Director Mr. Kumar Vuppalla for his outstanding services to the Telugu community through the only UK based Telugu TV channel, Manatelugu.

After valedictory programme, Mrs. Mukthi Sree a renowned Kathak dancer has performed on stage. Audience were happy to know about Kathak, which was explained in the beginning to make more sense of the dance. This was followed by a wonderful semi classical ballet "A tribute to black & white" by Mrs. Ragasudha, a renowned Bharathanatyam dancer living in UK.

As the time passes the stage was changing its cultural face from classical to cine and back and forth. Then Chandana and wonder kid Srinitya performed various dances for cine music.

Mr. Prathasarathi, "Padutha Thiyaga" mega finalist and also a famous tollywood play back singer has taken over the stage to woo audience with his mesmerising voice and rainbow mix of numbers from Telugu films assisted by Hari a young play back singer from London. With Parthus magic of singing, audience have started enjoying more and more of film music that spanned from 1970 to till date. He sang a very good mix of numbers. As the live music started gaining momentum, the audience have contributed to the music with the dance and turned the stage vibrant. All through the live music everybody has enjoyed a lot. At the end hundreds of audience did a civic reception to Partha Saradhi and felicitated him very richly.

Over all, the entire event has been very successful with rainbow mix of cultures from classical to semi-classical then to film music, masthi and sumptuous food. ETA, TAL and TAS have given vote of thanks to all who have contributed in making this event very successful.

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