

Cover Pic: Priyanka Sinha Roy



## Barsha Souvenir 2018

*Accolades for BARSHA 2018*

*Barsha, The Best  
Durga Puja 2018 by  
Maitreebandhan  
Sharod Samman  
Award*



*Sharad Utsav Samman  
Awards by Eventex  
Best Dhunuchi Naach  
Best Eco Friendly Puja  
2<sup>nd</sup> Best Protima/Idol*



## Message from the President

Dear Members, Esteemed Partners & Well Wishers

We are privileged to have all your blessings and support in this great journey of 3<sup>rd</sup> Year of Durga-Puja and we are proud to make our vision successful in true sense. We started planning from March focusing on where, what and how of our 3<sup>rd</sup> year of Durga Puja. **Yes, we have made it to become The BEST PUJA of Bangalore and won the most coveted Sharad Samman Award** in just our 3<sup>rd</sup> Years, against several big & reputed Pujas in Bangalore which are into existence over decades.

It's a Golden Moment for BARSHA and for all associated with this Great Puja. In first year (2016), we not only started HSR Durga Puja but made others realise BARSHA's presence. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> year (2017) itself, we were recognised for our Puja by winning the Best Ambience of a Durga Puja (Sharad Samman Award) and 3<sup>rd</sup> year we became the BEST Pujo.

We have excelled in every area, to become the BEST Puja of Bangalore :

- **Best Traditionally Decorated Puja Idol & Stage** – Complete Traditional Golden Outlook by famous Artist Tarun Pal with such Great Decoration by Expert Artist team from Bengal
- **Unmatched Puja an dAarti by our Priest and Relentless effort by our committed Puja Operation Team** to manage all aspects of Puja and managing expectation of thousands of Visitors...From conducting Puspanjali to Bhog distribution to those large Crowd of even 10,000-20,000 Per day...was all Spotless. And "Traditional Dhunuchi Dance" by BARSHA trained team in front of our Puja Area was one-of-the Most attractive event
- **Best Musical events** : What an exhibition of BARSHA talents from Coir -to- Dance performances -to- Solo Songs -to- Band/Concerts -to- Instruments....and Performances by those Little Ones !! BARSHA feels Proud to have hundreds of Those internal Talents. Our external Artists & concerts were best Crowd Puller in the City – Folk Day by Zee-Sa-Re-Ga-Ma champion Rishi's concert to Usha Uthup's unmatched performance kept that Tsunami of Visitors/Audience enthralled for hours. On Navami Dandia event became so popular ...all tickets were sold out on previous day and hundreds of interested visitors could not get entry
- **Most Popular Food Stalls** – Most Crowded Area all the time with 20 stalls with all possible varieties of Food and Drinks. "For Best Food go to BARSHA HSR Pujo" ...this was the talking points all over Bangalore
- Puja Ground Ambience & Management of lakhs of Visitors: "**Kolkata's Famous Madax Square like Ambience through Sprawling 3,00,000 Sq Ft of Ground** with great Pandal, Lighting and Decoration, yet so nicely organised & Managed
- **Green Puja** : Maintaining the most Eco-friendly environment of the Puja ....with Clean Ground, Plastic Free environment, Waste Segregation and timely collection ...has been the Best USP for our Puja
- **What an Unprecedented Popularity of BARSHA online: 3.2 Lakhs Google Searches during last 1 month, 65K + Visits in our FB and Our review score is 4.9 out of 5 !!**
- **BARSHA always stands for Social Cause.** BARSHA has always been supporting hundreds of Disabled Children of Samarthanam Trust in every move. Organised **First BARSHA HSR Run** in Sept in Support of those Less Privileged Children. Entire Proceeding from Entry fee from the Run + additional Contribution, Put together BARSHA donated **Rs.50K to Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled on Maha-Asthmi day.**

**A Big Thanks to all of Our Different Committees** for their 4 months of Seamless effort from planning and flawless execution. The level of energy, enthusiasm and passion to excel in all our members, made us the best. We humbly acknowledge and appreciate the active support of our corporate and food partners, as well as guidance from our honourable dignitaries and patrons, without which we would not have achieved the same. Thanks to those Major Publications (Time-of-India, Bangalore Mirror, Kolkata Newspapers etc..) and those Organisations who have recognised our Puja and Awarded.

BARSHA is Proud to uphold Festival, Culture, Food & Tradition for People from Bengal /Eastern-India living in Bangalore. BARSHA soars with it's a significant contribution/Positive Impact in the Society in Just 3-4 years. We will continue to do so over the coming years with all of yours Support....

Thank You.

*Sri Debasis Meta.*

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*Maa Durga*

*Best Compliments from our Prime Partners*



*A jewel of jewels*

## **BARSHA COMMITTEES**

### **Advisory committee members of BARSHA for 2018-2019**

- Mr Kaushik Mukerjee (Retired Chief Secretary – Government of Karnataka)
- Mr Rupak Dutta (Retired DGP of Karnataka)

### **Governing committee members of BARSHA for 2017-2018**

- Mr. Debasis Meta : President
- Mr. Debasis Bhattacharjee : Vice-President
- Mr Ambar Mitra – Vice -President
- Mr. Subhamkar Das : General Secretary
- Mr. Arijit Chatterjee : Joint Secretary
- Mr Suvojit Sinha: Joint Secretary
- Mr. Anjan Ghosal : Joint Secretary
- Mr. Subrato Dasgupta : Treasurer
- Mr Shibsankar Sarkar: Joint Treasurer
- Mr Prabir Mukherjee: Puja Premises, Security and Management
- Mr. Satadip Banerjee : Convener

### **Cultural committee members of BARSHA for 2017-2018**

- Mr. Anindya Ghosh
- Ms. Basundhara Das
- Ms. Tanusree Banerjee
- Ms. Ishani Seshan
- Mr Manoj Seshan
- Ms. Ratnadipa Mandal
- Ms. Tapati Ghatak
- Mr. Atanu Sinha
- Ms. Sanhita Ghosh
- Mr Suvojit Sinha (GC Representative)
- Mr Arijit Chatterjee (GC Representative)

### **BARSHA Desk Management**

- Mr. Biplab Dutta
- Mr. Jayanta Ghatak
- Mr. Dipankar Paul

### **Puja Operation**

- Ms. Rina Meta
- Ms. Sayambrita Dasgupta
- Ms. Dora Pal
- Ms. Basundhara Das
- Ms. Tapati Ghatak
- Ms. Priyanka Sinha Roy
- Ms Reshmi Mitra
- Ms Chaitali Bhattacharjee
- Ms Tinku
- Ms Sakhi
- Ms Sanchita
- Ms Ishani Seshan
- Mr Anshuman Mandal
- Mr Debasish Bhattacharjee ( GC Representative)
- Mr. Arindam Bhattacharjee
- Mr. Soumen Sarkar
- Ms. Ratnadipa Mandal
- Mr. Atanu Sinha

### **Marketing and Sponsorship Committee**

- Mr. Subhamkar Das
- Mr. Arijit Chatterjee
- Mr. Ambar Mitra
- Mr. Jayanta Ghatak
- Mr. Satadip Banerjee
- Mr. Suvojit Sinha
- Mr. Anirban Tarafdar
- Mr. Anjan Ghosal
- Mr Prabir Mukherjee
- Mr Shibsankar Sarkar

### **Puja premises, Infrastructure and Security Committee**

- Mr Debasish Bhattacharjee
- Mr Prabir Mukherjee
- Mr Ambar Mitra



*Pujo started with an extraordinary aura, ambience and energy....*




## BARSHA Durgotsav- 2018 Puja Schedule

<b>Sunday 14 October</b>	<b>PANCHAMI</b>	INAUGURATION Bodhan	6:00 pm 6:30 pm
<b>Monday 15 October</b>	<b>SOSTHI</b>	Shasthi Puja ( morning)	09:15 am
		Amantran Adhibas & Puja (evening)	05:45 pm
<b>Tuesday 16 October</b>	<b>SAPTAMI</b>	Saptami Puja	08:30 am
		Pushpanjali	10:00 am
		Bhog Prasad	12:30 to 2:30 pm
		Sandhya Arati	06:30 pm
<b>Wednesday 17 October</b>	<b>ASTHAMI</b>	Asthami Puja	07:00 -09:00 am
		Pushpanjali	till 11:30m
		Bhog Prasad	12:30 to 2:30 pm
		Sandhi Puja	12:30 - 1:15 pm
<b>Thursday 18 October</b>	<b>NABAMI</b>	Sandhi Pujar Anjali	1 pm ( after noon)
		Nabami Puja	08:30 am
		Pushpanjali	10:00 am
		Bhog Prasad	12:30 to 3 pm
<b>Friday 19 October</b>	<b>DASHAMI</b>	Sandhya Arati	06:30 pm
		Dashami Puja	08:30 am
		Sindur Khela	10:00 to 12 noon
		Bisharjan	12:30 pm

### For further information

Please contact: +91-9886627575/+91-9535824382

✉ [barshacore@googlegroups.com](mailto:barshacore@googlegroups.com)

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### *BARSHA and Sharad Samman 2018*

Founded in 2014, by a group of earnest, intellectual people Barsha was their dream and passion. With each progressive year, it assumed its own character, imbibing in the myriad number of members, embracing, cultural and social differences with love and dignity. Today Barsha is not just another Bengali Association among the likes in Bangalore. In my opinion, Barsha, today is an identity by itself. An entity magnetic but simple. Here we find a heartfelt warmth, shared alike with our esteemed VIPs and non-members stepping into our threshold for the first time.

This is a platform where our performers have showcased their talents that were forgotten and had been wrapped for good, until our cultural mentors had waved their magic wands again. It is an ocean of exploration and discoveries. We have found new friends, rediscovered old friends in the crowd, found spouses in awe of each other when Barsha has unveiled his / her, unknown skills.

A photographer tirelessly clicks to capture all the beautiful moments with a passion unheard off, a singer on stage keeps the audience rooted with his melodies covering up for the delay of the star artiste, an anchor relentlessly does her job for days at a stretch, little performers and their teachers rehearse hard to touch our hearts on the final day.

The Puja Team relentlessly works to ensure that every single devotee leaves with prasadam and a smile of contentment of having reached the Goddess.

When multitudes of devotee, stand enthralled by the Sandhya Arati, when senior citizens do no mind queueing up for the Bhog, when our non-bengali brothers and sisters, smile with satisfaction seeing their offerings placed, as they would have in their home towns, any atheist shall realize the true meaning of religion. Durgotsav as we all know, is a celebration of humanity and Barsha does the truest justice to it.

The people behind the scenes, brainstorm on problems, put enormous efforts, to keep the show running. With dedication and energy, these people invest their precious time long before the Puja commences and carry on after the arc lights are off, tying up all the loose ends.

This complex network of activities is a process of persistent excellence, focusing on keeping up the image of Barsha – an image that should never be tarnished.

This brings out the essence of Barsha – selfless, committed and empathic. One can even sense the emotional quotient here, fervor of love towards your friend, family and a total stranger.

May Ma-Durga, shower her sublime blessings on Barsha, guide us not to be carried away and we remain embalmed in this unique “inclusive” feeling.

*Sayambrita Dasgupta*

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*Painting by Shourya Sinha*

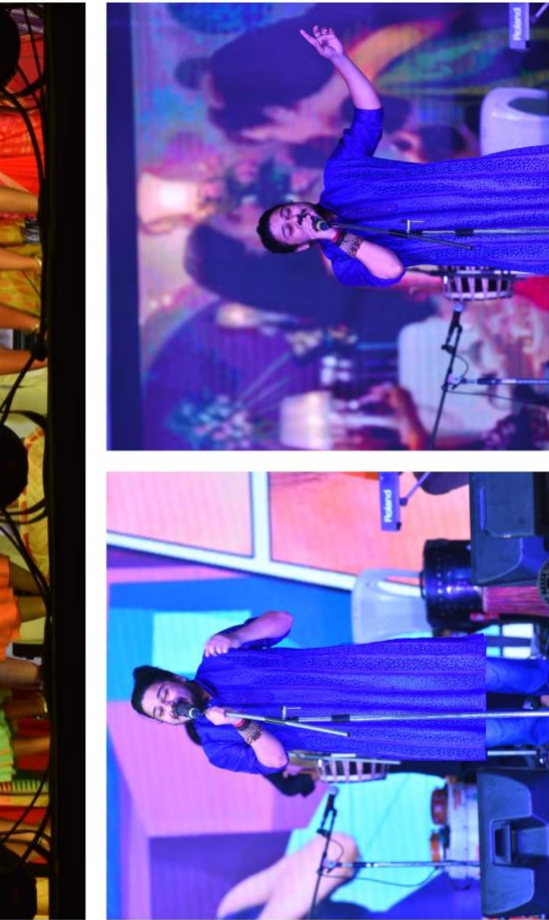
### সংসার

খুশী খুশী আছে যে যার পরিবার নিয়ে  
যৌথ পরিবার পাবে কোথায় সে তো গেছে হারিয়ে ।  
ভেঙ্গে ঘর , পেতে সুখ , ভিন্ন ভিন্ন হয়  
হয়ে সংসারী জানিয়ে দেয় কেউ কারো নয় ।  
আসতে পারে মতভেদ , রাগারাগি , কিংবা অভিমান  
সমঝোতায় আসো আগে , পরিবার করো না খানখান ।  
ভাইয়ে ভাইয়ে , বোনে বোনে কিংবা ভাই বোনে  
সম্পর্কে ধরে ফাটল , আন্তরিকতার অভাব মনে মনে ।  
এমনও হতে পারে ভাইয়ে ভাইয়ে আছে মিল , সম্পর্ক মধুর  
কিন্তু বাদ সাদে জীবন সঙ্গী , মঙ্গলা দেয় তোমার ভাই অতি চতুর ।  
জায়ে জায়ে কথা বন্ধ এমনকি মুখ দেখাদেখি , তুচ্ছ অছিলায়  
অথচ বোনের সব দায় নেয় হাসিমুখে হোক না শরীর শীর্ণকায় ।  
শুশুর বাড়ী হয়ে ওঠে অতি আপনার , নিজ বাড়ী পর  
করবে স্বীকার প্রতি পুরুষ , হবে না কথার নড়চড় ।  
নারীর বেলা এই কথা কখনও গ্রহণযোগ্য নয়  
লাখে এর ব্যতিক্রম মেলে , তবু ব্যতিক্রমীর হয় না জয় ।  
বড়দের টানাপোড়েনের শিকার অবোধ শিশুরা  
পায় না তারা আদর কারুর , দোষী বলোতো কারা ?  
টাকা , আরো টাকার সন্ধানে বাবা মা ঘরের বাইরে  
বাচ্চাদের কে শেখাবে আদব কাদয়া , কে বলবে , আয়রে ॥

Poems by  
Samindra Mitra

### উদাসী মন

যাবে তুমি শহর থেকে দূরে, অনেক দূরে  
আলবাত তোমার মন সেথায় আগেই গেছে উড়ে ।  
দেখছো রোদ উঠছে আগে মাটির ঘরের চালায়  
ধীরে ধীরে আসছে ধেয়ে বাঁশঝাড়ের ডগায় ।  
পাহাড়ি নদীর আঁকা বাঁকা পথ , ভালোই তোমার লাগে  
নিরালায় বসে অন্তরে কেবল উদার ভাব জাগে ।  
তারা ভরা আকাশের নীচে দাঁড়িয়ে আছে তুমি  
পূর্ণিমার চাঁদে আলোকিতো তোমার পায়ের তলার ভূমি ।  
অনন্ত কালের বাসিন্দা, এরা কর্তব্যে অনড়  
বলছে যেন চুপি চুপি , ভগবানে কর ভর ।  
এখানে শহুরে আশা পালিয়ে গেছে কখন  
মন বড় হতে হতে বিরাট হয়েছে যখন  
জীবনের যাতনা যত হেলায় থাকে পরে  
দেখার ধারা দিয়েছে তোমায় অন্ন মানুষ করে  
উদাস হয়ে বলছো তুমি , স্বার্থ আর থেকেনা পাশে  
করি উপভোগ নতুন জীবন সুধুই হেসে হেসে ॥



*Rocking the cultural arena of Barsha on Saptami - Performance from our tiny tots to talented dancers, ending by Rishi with a shower of melodious folk songs !!!*

## Our Corporate Partners



Value delivered. Always







*Painting by Lily Sarkar*



*Painting by Atreyi Sarkar*

বন্ধু তোমায়

By Sima Chattopadhyay

বন্ধু তোমায়-----

অনুরোধ করি-----

ভুলে যেওনা যেন-----

মনে রেখো।

মনে রেখো\_

কত ছেঁড়া পাতায় লেখা\_

কত আঁকি বুকি\_

কত বৃষ্টির জলে ভেজা কত স্মৃতি-----

কত দুঃখের মাঝে খুঁজে পাওয়া আনন্দ-----

কত হাসীর মধ্যে-----

মনের সবরূপকে জানা -----

তার মধ্যে\_ আসলকে খুঁজে পাওয়া ----

কত ভুলকে মেনে নেওয়া----

সবকিছু স্মৃতি হয়ে যাওয়া-----

সেইসব সম্মতিকে স্মৃতির মধ্যে রেখে দেওয়া -----

সেই সম্মতিরূপ ভেলায়

ভেসে যাওয়াকে\_

ভুলো না যেন-----

মনে রেখো-----

মনের প্রতিটি পাতায় এসব আঁকা থাকে যেন।



*Ashtami was graced with an overwhelming crowd during Pushpanjali and Bhog Prasad. The evening was made ever memorable by the legendary Usha Uthup, who simply rocked. The highest footfall was seen this day with crowds overflowing into the open grounds*

## Our Corporate partners



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*Our Fashion Partner*



*Our Photography Partner*





### Rabindra Sangeet

Rabindra Sangeet, is an integral part of every Bengali household, but for me Rabindra Sangeet and my mother are synonymous.....

My maternal grandmother was influenced by Tagore like any other young girl in her generation, I guess her proximity to Tagore's family made the influence stronger, she used to play the organ and the esraj, her favourite numbers were Rabindra Sangeet. This influence she passed on to her young children, reading out season appropriate poems to them singing the songs that expressed the mood of the day and also explaining the deeper meaning of the songs.

This influence shaped my mother, her love for music and poetry grew as she grew, though she learnt Hindustani classical and also sang Rabindra Sangeet. She was creative as my grandmother and this creativity was not just limited to music my mother would paint and was excellent at craft, so it seemed a natural progression for her to go to Shantiniketan to learn Art and craft. Though she went there for Craft but she also was very much involved with the Sangeet Bhavan, she was told that if she joined Sangeet Bhavan she would get a scholarship too, but due to responsibility and financial restraints she couldn't take that up.

Though she never joined Sangeet Bhavan, Rabindra Sangeet was an integral part of her life. I remember her working at home and humming to herself, but that is not where Rabindra Sangeet connects me to my mother.

For my brother and me lullabies were Rabindra Sangeet, both of us had our favourite playlist (of course those days you did not have a virtual playlist) and the keeper of that list was my mother.

I distinctly remember the hot summer afternoons when my brother and I would want to run out and play she would force us to lie down next to her and sing us the songs, once she started to sing we would drift into the world of music, she would alternately sing my brother and my favourite songs..... We would also sing along with her.....

Of course pretty early in my life I realised, that I was musically challenged (I can't sing to save my life) but I loved listening to the music. I guess this is a trait I inherited from my father. I also remember that Sundays meant weekly vegetable and Non-veg shopping so my father would head to the market early in the morning and be back by 11.00 a.m. which meant my mother had time to sort out the shopping and cook a lunch for us. As she went about with her chores my father would sit with his cup of tea or play with us, one thing remained constant and that was Rabindra Sangeet playing in the Background- Hemanta Mukherjee, Suchitra Mitra, Kanika Banerjee and Debabrata Biswas, were their favourite.

As I hit my teens my taste in music evolved and my parents also got caught up with other issues and this Sunday morning ritual gradually vanished, it was only once they were all by themselves after my brother and I moved out that they again started to sit together and listen to Rabindra Sangeet, this time over there were new voices along with their old favourites.....

I moved on to a new phase in my life, I was expecting my child, that is when one day a thought hit me, I couldn't sing so who would sing to my child, and no lullabies would do, it had to be the Rabindra Sangeet I grew up on, so I did the next best thing I could I made a playlist and downloaded all the songs I could remember from those hot afternoons. I did play them for my daughter.

Then came 2014, my mother was detected with dementia, it was a very tough time for my fiercely independent mother, as much as it was for us trying to gather our wits and figuring out what would be the best thing to do. My artistic mother started to lose her drawing and writing skills, she also started to forget words initially from the songs she knew by heart to gradually forgetting most of the songs.

She had her set of CDs that she would listen to over and over again and many a times to our annoyance, but she loved that repetition, that was comforting to her. As the condition progressed my mother would want to sing. The songs were the same songs that she was listening to, as the "playlist" songs started to disappear from her memory, this was very painful for me to watch as a child. What though remained with her was "Amaro Porano Jaha Chay, Tumi Tai go" which translated to "what my heart wants is you", and she would tell my dad that the song was for him from her.....

She was scared that my father would go before her and she would be helpless without him, this was a side of my mother I had never seen, the venerable side, but even during this time she would call her grandchildren and play Rabindra Sangeet for them, they would listen but after a point get restless and move on to another activity....

And then suddenly on 13 September my Beautiful mother was gone..... just like that .... We all were trying to come to terms with what happened my brother with his family arrived and got busy with the arrangements for the funeral my little nephew sat on her bed asked my brother to play "Thamma's Songs" he sat there quietly listening to Rabindra Sangeet.....

Today when its nearly an year that she's gone, a Rabindra Sangeet playing anywhere feels like my mother is hiding there smiling at us, she not only has passed on her Rabindra Sangeet legacy to my brother and me but also to our children who refer to it as their grandmother's music.....

There are days when I am sitting alone, tear welling up and listening to Rabindra Sangeet, my mother's voice plays in my head telling me the meaning of the songs or the incidents attached to it..... very often I think "Amara re je jagte hobe , Jodi amay pore tahar mone" - "I need to be awake , if she ever remembers me".....

*By Ronita Dasgupta*

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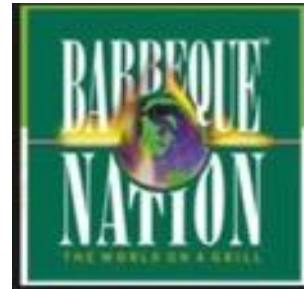
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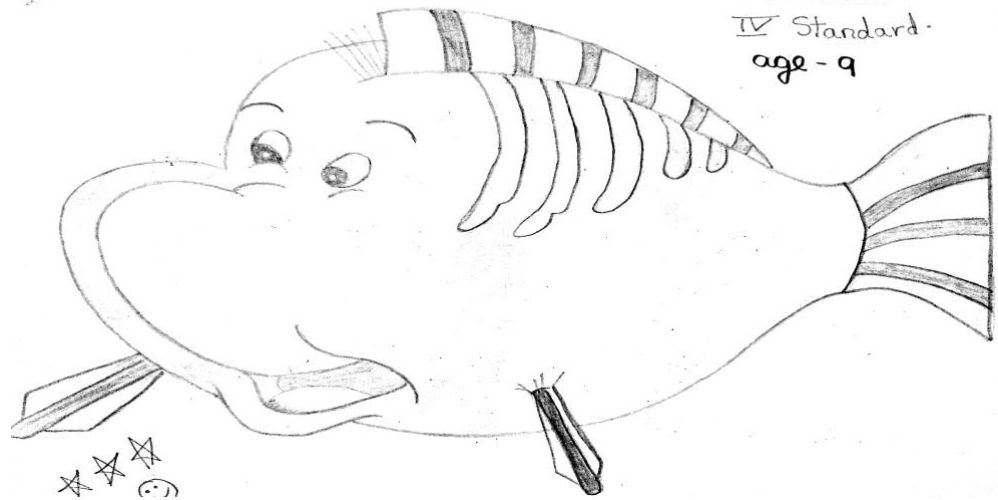
## OUR Food Partners





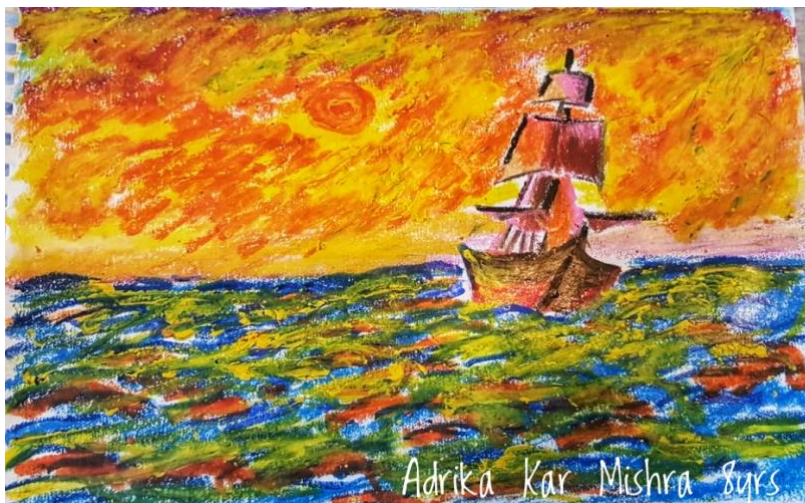
Anisha Chandra  
Age-9

22/11



Anisha Chandra  
IV Standard  
age-9

☆☆☆😊



Adrika Kar Mishra 8yrs



*Maha Nabami was celebrated with the wonderful Dhumuchi Naach and Disco Dandiya with DJ Sasha...*

*Mesmerizing captures by Arindam Battacherjee*



*Artwork by Tanusree Nath....*



*Dashami is usually engulfed with a bit of sadness but we had our silver lining . . .  
 We picked up the best pujo award... What a way to go...*

*And, there is HOPE by Aahana Sengupta*

“Maya! Wake up! You wouldn’t want to be late for school today” said Sukanya Sridhar, Maya’s mother. “Coming Amma” screamed Maya. In a few minutes time, Maya was down in the living room of her new house. “Amma! Appa! I really miss Chennai, I miss the beach, my friend, Anu and Asha – I wish we could go back” said Maya. “Maya, you know we shifted here owing to your father’s job, please don’t complain early in the morning” responded Maya’s mom. “Sukanya!” exclaimed Vishnu, as he was going through the newspaper; “it seems the tension between the two states over the river dispute has shown up again”. “And, Maya, you better leave for the bus-stop as I don’t want you to miss the bus” “Bye Amma and Appa, am leaving now”

The bus-ride to school was as uneventful as usual. The day seemed to be passing the same way, quietly sitting in one corner for lunch and the same seat in the class at the lonely end of a bench – being shy and quiet didn’t help her make friend either. Suddenly her class-teacher walked in and said that there have been reports of increasing tension on the Cauvery matter and that students should leave for home at once. Soon after the buses had left the school campus. As her bus was moving on the highway, suddenly a rock came flying through the window just missing Maya by inches and the bus came to a halt. The driver asked the students to get out from the emergency exit and run. Maya also ran out and not realizing her whereabouts went into a lane. Much to her horror, she found two groups fighting. Some of the people noticed her and thinking she was part of one of the groups suddenly turned their attention to her. Three men started shouting at her and also realizing that she didn’t follow what they were saying, started chasing her. She broke into a run increasing the distance between the men and her. Maya suddenly noticed a house in front of her its door ajar – she ran in and almost collapsed in the arms of a girl who immediately shut the door. “where did you come from” this Akka (elder sister) asked her in a language she didn’t understand and Maya responded “please save me” in English. The older girl sat her down and gave her some water. Once she could recover a bit, Maya told her everything that had happened and also about where she stayed – the Akka nodded and held her close. Once it became dark, Akka sat her on the back-seat of her cycle and rode all the way home. It seemed that the trouble had quietened down. Maya had tears of relief in her eyes as she saw the familiar apartment drawing close. At the gate, she had to say good-bye and she hugged Akka and thanked her profusely. She understood today that the world continued to be a blessed place as there were human beings who believed first in humanity and love for fellow-beings than anything else and that was an eternal truth which would always bring peace and harmony to this world.

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## মাটির জলছবি

জুনকো ঠুকে সিংগা বেজে, মাদল তালে দোল  
হৃদয়তীরে বিরহে বাউল, স্বপ্নে কথার বোল  
প্রাণ নাচ আর মনের গানে, ঘুরবো মোরা গ্রামে  
যেথায় সেই অচিন বধুও, সাজবে নতুন রঙে ।

বিমল বেশ আর আভরণ, রাইর সাথে পাড়ি  
ভিনদেশী আজ কিস্তি চড়ে এলেম সুখের সারি ।

গ্রামের শেষে তোমার সুবাস ভাটিয়ালীর বুক  
ভাব স্বভাবে সহজ করে দিলে জীবনটাকে ।

ভাওয়াইয়ারই তাণে নিপুন, গুনিয়ে উঠে মন  
ঝুমুর মিলে কোমর দোলে রোমাঁচিত তন ।

ভাদুয় যেন ভরা ডালি নিরল নারীর কথা  
প্রেম থালিতে উজাড় পরান তুসুই বসুন্ধরা ।

গ্রামের কথা মাটির টানে, মায়ের বাংলা কোলে  
শুনবে আজি স্নেহের স্পর্শে চিত্ত বিনোদনে ।  
বর্ষার এই নিবেদনে রইল মোদের আশা  
এমন করেই পাই যেন মন, বুক ভরা ভালবাসা ...

## টিংকু

Resembling days

The color of hymn, and sound of carillons  
make me serene, till bright shades the morning

dizzy wind freaky mind, all that I need for shoring  
walking sketch and spooky scarves  
that all I need for fraternizing .

oh dear! Let me bear to the extent I swear  
still to know, wanna besty little mystery.  
be thou soul nagy moult why now here, vestry  
time to leave for the grip, dance, music & party  
come-on all, each you haul take a slice of thunder ...

Preyoshi



*The BARSHA FAMILY*

# Bengal in B'luru: Creators give traditional touch to Durga idols

Aditi.Gyanesh@timesgroup.com

**Bengaluru:** The The creations of Tarun Paul and his team from a nondescript village in West Bengal are much sought-after in Bengaluru this Durga Puja. At least 30 Bengali groups in the IT City and elsewhere in Karnataka are waiting for him to deliver customized idols of the goddess.

Tarun's makeshift workplace in Cox Town is a hive of activity as the Bengali community gears up for the homecoming of goddess Durga. Making the idols in Bengaluru is not unusual for the man, whose family has been doing so for the past 64 years.

Tarun's father, Sudhir Paul began his journey as a small village potter in Kalliganj and went on to become an idol-maker. Word about his traditional idol-making skills spread and in 1964, he was the first one to visit Bengaluru to make idols for Bengali associations single-handedly.

"I may not know some techniq-

## CLAY FROM KUMARTULI SHAPES IDOLS



**FESTIVE FERVOUR**  
Artisans from West Bengal arrive in Bengaluru four months ahead of the festive season to make idols for Vishwakarma Puja, Ganesh Chaturthi, Durga Puja and Kali Puja. Along with other accessories, they bring sacks full of clay from the Ganges in Kumartuli, which is considered the purest form and is said to be the best for giving finishing touches to idols.



**ARTISTIC FINESSE:** Tarun Paul and his son Sayon give finishing touches to Durga idols in Cox Town. The family is known for making wide-eyed idols.

es but my father had all the skills from making an idol to painting it and giving finishing touches," Tarun told TOI. Sudhir, who passed away earlier this year at 91, created idols till 2011. He has left behind a legacy in the deft hands of Tarun.

This year, a third generation Paul, Tarun's son Sayon has joined the family profession after completing graduation. "I want to take the creative legacy forward, but

## WANT TO GO PANDAL-HOPPING? PICK FROM THESE VENUES

- **Bengalee Association Bangalore 69th Durga Puja:** Manjho Convention Centre, Ulsoor
- **Barsha HSR Durga Puja:** BBMP ground, HSR Layout
- **GGLC's Anandotsab:** Shobha Lakeview, Bellandur
- **UTSAV - Sindhoora Convention Centre:** JP Nagar
- **Durga Puja by Anandadhara:** JP Nagar 1st Phase
- **Poorva Bangalore Cultural Association:** VSR Convention Hall, ITPB Main Road
- **Sarathi Socio Cultural Trust:** Mangala Kalyana Mantapa, Koramangala
- **Indiranagar Durga Puja by socio-cultural association:** Cambridge Layout
- **Sarjapur Durga Puja by Sarjapur Outer Ring Road Bengali Association:** Sun City Playground, ORR Junction

at the same time I want to focus on my studies and other sources of income as idol-making is seasonal," Sayon said.  
**Decades-old association with city**  
The Pauls have been giving Bengaluru traditional Durga idols for decades. They are known for making wide-eyed idols decorated with sholapith, a dried milky-white spongy cortex of plant found in river Hooghly which completely dis-

solves on being immersed in water. Manjit Bose, a resident of Hosa Road, tracked down the Pauls in Bengaluru last year, as he wanted to follow his family's decades-old tradition. "Traditionally the goddess's left leg has to be on the chest of Mahishasura. We wanted a sholapith-decorated idol as it's considered 'Sanatana Roopam' of Durga. An online search finally led us to Tarun," Manjit said.

"For five decades, the Pauls have been making idols for us. Sholapith-adorned idols keep us rooted to our tradition despite being in Bengaluru. They're eco-friendly as well," said Shubendu Ghosh, president, Bengalee Association Bangalore, which is celebrating its 69th Durga Puja this year. Debasis Meta, president, Barsha, HSR Durga Puja said, "The reason we chose Tarun is because he replicates the kind of idols one finds in Kolkata. We want to recreate the ambience of the popular Durga Puja celebrations at Kolkata's Maddox Square."

https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bengaluru/barsha-hsr-layout-bags-best-durga-puja-pandal-award-in-bengaluru/articlesh

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# Barsha-HSR Layout bags best Durga Puja pandal award in Bengaluru

Aditi Gyanesh | TNN | Oct 22, 2018, 19:42 IST



With the the 10-day festive fever of Durga Puja drew to an end, Barsha-HSR Layout Puja has emerged as "Best Pu... Read More

**BENGALURU:** With the the 10-day festive fever of Durga Puja drew to an end, Barsha-HSR Layout Puja has emerged as "Best Puja in Bengaluru" in 2018.

The awards for Durga Puja pandals across Bengaluru were announced by Maitree Bandhan and Senco on Vijayadashami at Ulsoor lake Kalyani.

Senco Sharod Samman Award

2018 were announced on the basis of best idol, crowd management, theme, eco friendly theme, cleanliness and overall performances.

# জমজমাট শারদ সন্মান, সেরা পুজোকে পুরস্কার

## আজকালের প্রতিবেদন

বর্ষা অনুষ্ঠানের মাধ্যমে সেরা পুজোকে পুরস্কৃত করল 'মৈত্রী বন্ধন'। ১৯ অক্টোবর বেঙ্গালুরু কল্যাণী উলসর লেকে অনুষ্ঠিত হয় 'সেনকা শারদ সন্মান ২০১৮'।

সেরা পুজো, সেরা থিম ও মণ্ডপ, সেরা প্রতিমা এবং সেরা ভিড় সামলানোর ব্যবস্থাপনা, এই চারটি বিভাগের পাশাপাশি বিশেষ বিভাগ 'ক্রিন আন্ড গ্রিন' পুজোকেও পুরস্কৃত করা হয়েছে। এছাড়াও দর্শনার্থীদের ভেট থেকে বেছে নেওয়া হয়েছে সেরা পুজোকে। এজন্য 'মৈত্রী বন্ধন' একটি মোবাইল অ্যাপ তৈরি করেছিল। ওই অ্যাপের মাধ্যমেই পুজোকে ভোট দিয়েছেন বেঙ্গালুরুবাসী। সেরা ১৪টি পুজোর মধ্যে থেকে বিচারকরা বেছে নিয়েছেন সেরার সেরাকে। ১৬ থেকে ১৯ অক্টোবর হয়েছে পুজো পরিষ্কার। শারদ সন্মান অনুষ্ঠান শুরু হয় অশীষ বিদ্যালয়ের বেহালা ও সৌম্যনন্দন রায়ের তবলার যুগলবন্দীর মাধ্যমে। বর্ষা বেসলি অ্যাসোসিয়েশনের সেরা পুজোর শিরোপা জিতে নেয়। জয়মহল সর্বজনীন দুর্গা চ্যারিটেবল সমিতি সেরা থিমের পুরস্কার পেয়েছে। তাদের এ বছরের

থিম ছিল 'ইউএফও'। কলকাতা আর্ট কলেজের ছাত্ররা তৈরি করেছেন মণ্ডপ। আরটি নগর সর্বজনীন দুর্গাপুজো সমিতি থিমে দ্বিতীয় হয়েছে। জাপতি বর্ষীয় কালচারাল অ্যাসোসিয়েশন অফ কেআর পুরম তৃতীয় হয়েছে। থিম ছিল শিকার অধিকার। সহজ পাঠ বইয়ের ছবি আঁকা ১৫০টি শাড়ি ও গামছায় সাজানো হয়েছিল মণ্ডপ।

সেরা প্রতিমা বিভাগের প্রধান পুরস্কার পেয়েছে ইলেক্ট্রনিক সিটি কালচারাল অ্যাসোসিয়েশন। ১৭ ফুটের প্রতিমা তৈরি করা হয়েছিল। দ্বিতীয় স্থি কালচারাল অ্যাসোসিয়েশন।

ভিড় সামলানোর সেরা পুরস্কার পেয়েছে সারথি সোশ্যাল কালচারাল ট্রাস্ট অফ করমঙ্গল। একই বিভাগে দ্বিতীয় হয়েছে হোয়াইটফিল্ড কালচারাল। তৃতীয় স্থানে রয়েছে আনাম অ্যাসোসিয়েশন ব্যালারগাও।

অনুষ্ঠানে ছিলেন কর্ণাটকের প্রাক্তন ডিজে ও আইজিপি রূপককুমার দত্ত, সেনকা গোডেডের এমডি শঙ্কর সেন, বিশিষ্ট সঙ্গীতব্যক্তিত্ব রঞ্জন ঘোষাল ও সৌম্যনন্দন ঘোষাল, অশীষ বিদ্যালয়, সাইন আর্টসি, লেখক সম্পদ কুমার, আরজে তুহিন, আরজে সায়ন প্রমুখ।



পুরস্কার বিতরণী অনুষ্ঠানে। ছবি: আজকাল



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