

Report on

Lecture Demonstration on 'SATTRIYA NRITYA IN ANKIYA BHAONA'

Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, North East Regional Centre, Guwahati organised, 'Sattriya Nritya in Ankiya Bhaona', under its monthly program series.

SattriyaNritya is the one of the most popular established '*Margia Parampara*' (Traditional Classical form) of Assam. The Vaisnavite Saint and scholar, Srimanta Shankardeva initiated a religious-cultural movement in Assam during the 15th - 16th century. Shankardeva's bhakti movement brought various communities under one philosophy of life with a systematised code of conduct and religious practises. Shankardeva introduced 'Bhaona', or 'AnkiyaNat', a traditional theatre using mythological figures from the *Bhagawata* and the *Ramayana*.

The lecture demonstration was presented by Smt. Ranju Moni Saikia who is a leading Sattriya Guru, noted practitioner, scholar and choreographer of Sattriya dance and culture. Daughter of Lt, Sh. Rasheswar Saikia, renowned exponent of Sattriya tradition in Assam; Ranju Moni Saikia presented each stage of the Sattriya Dance giving full illustrative details which was emoted by her and her students.

The program was widely appreciated by all, specially each stage of the performance act, and musical accompaniment presented in precise details that was something new and enlightening to many of the people present in the audience.

People congratulated the speaker and the IGNCA Regional Centre for putting up such effort for promoting one of the most important and traditional aspect of Assam.