

Folk arts of Kerala Koodiyattam & Paavakathakali – 13th to 16th July 2014

IGNCA SRC organized four-day-long performances of Kerala's oldest art forms – Koodiyattam & Paavakathakali.





Directed by **Shri Gopal Venu** the founder of **Natana Kairali**, the Paavakathakali performances were of episodes from the Mahabharata – ‘Duryodhana Vadham’ and the ‘Kalyana Sougandhikam.’ Paavakathakali or Traditional Glove puppetry of Kerala has been in vogue for nearly two centuries through the influence of the famous classical dance theatre of Kathakali, which was incorporated in puppets to narrate stories.

5 performances were enacted. A public performance at the Ganesha Park, Yelahanka in association with YUVA on 13th July 2014 and in 4 schools of Bangalore, in association with SPICMACAY, from 14-15th July 2014. The schools were Poorna School/DPS, Army Public School, Brigade School and Parikrma Foundation. The performances were widely enjoyed and appreciated by enthusiastic children.

On 16th July 2014, the **Koodiyattam** performance of 'Toranayuddham' from the 'Abhisheka nataka' (Act III) by Bhasa was enacted to a discerning crowd at the Alliance Francaise de Bangalore. Koodiyattam, one of India's oldest theatre performances in Sanskrit, has an attested history of over 2000 years and is recognised by UNESCO as a masterpiece of Oral & Intangible Heritage of Humanity.





