

Assam Convention 2007, Boston organized successfully



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The 28th Assam Convention was held at the Hyatt Regency hotel in Boston, Massachusetts on Saturday, June 30 and Sunday, July 1 amidst much fun fare.

For the first time ever in the history of Assam Association of North America (AANA) conventions, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam addressed the gathering on June 30 in an attractive 'Town Hall' format meeting, where everyone got a chance to ask the Chief Minister, Mr. Tarun Gogoi about their home state Assam. The Chief Minister was

accompanied by A.K.Sachan, IAS and Hemanga Sarma, IAS and answered questions on a variety of topics ranging from flood situation in Guwahati to NRI investment in Assam, education, AIDS/HIV etc.

The Chief Minister received a warm welcome and was presented with a trophy for his dedicated service to the people of Assam by the Boston Host Committee President Pradeep Sharma and General Secretary Pankaj Saharia. He also released the annual publication 'Luitor pora Mississippi' published by Asam Sahitya Sabha of North America and AANA at the function. The Chief Minister's wife Mrs. Dolly Gogoi was also felicitated.

The first ever Anima
Chakravarty Chorus



TARUN GOGOI, ASSAM CM

Competition was held
after a small ceremony
dedicated to the
memory of the beloved
artist. The Texas team
bagged the 1st prize,
followed by Boston and
New Jersey teams. The
competition was judged
by the guest artists
Mrs.Malabika Bora,
Mr.Anirbaan Das and
Mrs. Mridula Baruah.

Mrs.Manjira Chowdhury and her daughter Samyami Chowdhury from UK sang the late artist's songs during the program. The cultural program on Saturday night started with a chorus by the Boston kids. This was followed by various programmes by the participants. The guest artists Mrs.Malabika Bora and Mr. Anirbaan Das gave a splendid

performance with their songs.

For the first time, the guests had the privilege to eat Assamese delicacies “Masor Tenga” and “Murighanta” at an American Hotel. Saturday’s dinner was served at the rooftop ballroom of the hotel overlooking the scenic Charles river and Boston skyline along with the historic Fenway Park. In Addition, Ankur Bora on behalf of the Assam Foundation of North America (AFNA) gave a presentation on a project – Parijat academy.

Sunday morning began with a continental breakfast, followed by the general body meetings of the three sponsoring organizations of the convention: the Asom Sahitya Sabha of North America (ASSNA), the Assam Foundation of North America (AFNA) and the Assam Association of North America (AANA). The AFNA meeting was graced by the Hon’ble Congressman Mr. James McGovern. He explained about the opportunities and help available in the United States for taking up projects in Assam.

Sunday afternoon proceedings included the Fashion Show led by Mrs. Jupitora Das  of Harriasburg, PA and joined by more than 40 attendants. There was a seminar on ‘Empty nest syndrome for Assamese parents in North America’ which was moderated by Dr. Dilip Datta. Another voluntary organization AID also did a presentation after the seminar.

An exhibition of the creative artwork by Jupitora Das was held on both days.

After dinner, the entire audience of 400 people was treated to the Sunday evening cultural program which was synchronized by the first ever computerized screen display of sights as backdrop. People were wowed by the intricacy involved in the display – for example: Anirbaan Das’ song on rain was accompanied with display of raindrops streaming down a window in the backdrop. Various members of the Assamese community participated in the event. Without a doubt, the evening belonged to Mr.Anirbaan Das and Mrs.Malabika Bora, the guest singers who enthralled the audience with their amazing performances.

Mr.Barada Sarma, an ex President of AANA offered the vote of thanks to the Boston Host Committee and praised them for their excellent work.

Pankaj Saharia

editor

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