



## Path Bhaban Silver Jubilee News



Path Bhaban the Bengali Learning Center of Bichitra celebrated its Silver Jubilee during August 16-17, 2008. The Event was a great success.

Saturday August 16<sup>th</sup> was the main event at the Troy Community Center. There were many displays of project and art work from past and present students. Registration included a lanyard with Path Bhaban logo. The event started with opening remarks by Bichitra President Pranab Saha, followed by vocal US National Anthem and the National Anthem tunes in the cello of India and Bangla Desh. The three National Flags were on display throughout the day. A Minute of Silence was observed by the audience in the memory of Path Bhaban past student Soumithra Chakraborty, who lost his life in a tragic accident at a Metro Park, last year.

Saturday's event included seminars on values and challenges of establishing and maintaining Bengali Learning Centers in North America. This was started by the Chief Guest Mekhala Banerjee who discussed on the Bengali Center in the Chicago Area. Pulak Chakraborty provided an update on the Canton Center. Nilotpal Bhattacharyya discussed about the Ann Arbor Center. Satyen Basu, Shampa Ghosh, Shampa Mukherjee, Maityeyee Paul, Mousumi Majumdar, Suranjita Dhar, Suparna De, Sudipta Datta, and Pranab

Saha discussed different aspects of Path Bhaban's success and challenges in operating the Bengali Learning Center.

Path Bhaban Alumni held a discussion on Golden Memories and incorporation of positive improvements. Avik Basu, Deepa Nandy, Rishi Bhattacharyya, Sagnik De, Saikat Mukherjee and Amar Basu participated. Invitee Agneesh Banerjee provided his viewpoints also. Avik moderated the discussions. The alumni expressed their pride to be in Path Bhaban and gave various viewpoints on enjoyable and difficult situations. They suggested on various improvements. Amar gave a final synopsis. This portion of the program was very interesting.

Path Bhaban Students Parents Teachers [SPT] Groups summarized Seminar and Alumni Discussions. The SPT Groups as well as Bichitra Education Committee accepted the challenges and pledged to incorporate the suggestions as much as possible.

The cultural program was coordinated by Swati Chakraborty, with the help of many parents. All Troy and Novi students participated in stotra, song, dance, recitation, drama and others. Song Offering "Ananda Loke" was performed in respect of Late Manju Basu. Rias Dutta, Amika Nandi, Sarit Dhar were special performers. All the students, teachers and alumni showed their appreciation to Satyen Basu for his selfless service and dedication towards Path Bhaban over all these years, by presenting him with a bouquet of flowers.

The program ended with a sumptuous dinner followed by an Award Ceremony. The dignitaries, guests, students, alumni, teachers and directors were recognized and tokens of appreciation were presented.

Sunday was the Clinton River Boat Cruise day – Path Bhaban's field trip. A total of 61 Path Bhaban persons enjoyed the Cruise. Good food and Songs were part of it. The program ended with promise to continue.

