



## Udyoga Parva

Bhāonārendered in English language for the first time from Assam



An Evening Immersed in Bhākti Mahāpurus Srimanta Shankaradeva Nāmdharma Samāj

## Venue:

Srimanta Sankaradeva Bhawan Satsang Vihar Marg A-14/B, Qutab Institutional Area New Delhi 15/09/2018; 6:30 PM Contact: +91-9435007037









"Bhāonā" is a unique devotional visual narrative in the Assamese cultural diaspora and a cultural tradition with a strong grip on the masses that was initiated by Srimanta Shankaradeva, the multi-faceted genius, sociocultural and religious leader of Assam. It is a cultural tradition where the boundary between the performers and the audience is dissolved by immersion in the sea of "Bhākti".

Shankaradeva experimented with new themes and forms, successfully combining elements from classical dramaturgy with local culture, fusing high philosophy with folk-taste, to create an irresistible medium of massentertainment, all with the ultimate objective of propagating the ideal of Devotion to Lord Krishna.

Shankaradeva, the legendary polymath of the 15th century, synthesized a new language known as Brajāvali by gathering elements from Assamese, Maithili, Awadhi, Bhojpuri and Brajabhāsā and tried to popularize it throughout Eastern India. In the interest reaching out to a greater audience, the Great Saint tried to use every possible means available during his times.





## Thoughts of the Director:

The need for performing a Bhāonā in English has been questioned by some of the followers of Shankardeva. But we would like to view this effort as an extension of the great saint's attempt to reach out to a wider public. Brajāvali represented Shankardeva's efforts to synthesize a language that would be easily understood by all linguistic groups of Eastern India and hence to reach out intensively beyond the borders of Assam. The English language, on the other hand, can greatly enhance the extent of reach if not its intensity directly; in the long run, this enhanced extent may also contribute to the intensity of reach.

It is really a very challenging job to perform a Bhāonā in the English language, preserving its unique tone. We have translated UdyogaParva, a traditional "Brajāvali" Nāt (Script) written on the basis of the fifth book of the great epic Mahābhārata, for this purpose, The respected audience will surely judge the success of our attempt.

The continuous encouragement of the honourable dignitaries of Mahāpurus Srimanta Shankardeva Nāmdharma Samāj and the people of Jamugurihāt, Sonitpur District, are our main sources of inspiration. Jämugurihät has a long tradition of organizing peoples' Bhāonā, popularly known as "Bārechahariā Bhāonā, extending without break for about 220 years. With this background, we are starting on a new cultural journey with hope and with an open mind. We will always be waiting for your blessings.

## **Organizing Committee:**

Patrons: Lila Madhab Saikia

Numaligarh Refinery Limited

Adivisors: Bhola Kotoky, Bhupen Dadhora,

Hemalata Saikia, Dinesh Mahanta

Joint Conveners: Srimanta Bhuyan, Nilima Deka, Tapan Saikia,

Prinjum Hajarika, Robin Kalita

Green Room Incharge: Nirmal Saikia, Pradeep Hajarika

Music: Junmani Saikia, Daawarnil Baidya

Girimallika and Gitimallika Joint Coordinators :

Arup Saikia Translation: Assistant Director: Bablu Hazarika Director: Arup Saikia

PurbaRanga: Bhupen Dadhora, Pulin Dadhora, Upen

> Hajarika, Prafulla Bhuyan, Kaustabh Moni Dadhora, Pranab Bora, Jotin Dadhora Dutul Koch, Srimonta Bhuyan, Madan Bora

Sutradhara: Subhajit Bora, Deepanita Deka, Sristi Nanda Bora Krishna:Bhargabjyoti Oza, Yudhisthira:Bishnu Saikia, Baloram: Bishnu Saikia, Bhim:Subhajit Bora, Arjuna:Jayanta Hajarika, Nakul: Utsav Sarmah, Sahadeva: Uddiptta Saikia, Duryodhana: Arup Saikia, Dushasana:Kundan Mahanta, Bhisma: Dinesh Mahanta, Karna: Prinjum Hajarika, Satyaki:Pinaknig Bora, Bidur: Apurba Bonia, Parasuram: Apurba Bonia, Dhritarastra: Tanmoi Nath, Drona: Shiva Bora, Sakuni: Robin Kalita, Kunti: Madhusmita Deka, Gandhari: Madhusmita Deka, Draupadi: Rumi Saikia

On behalf of Organizing Committee, Published by Girimallika