

Grand 'Ashtaavadhaanam' performance by Dr Medasani Mohan

India Post News Service

DALLAS, Texas: Under the aegis of Telugu Association of North Texas (TANTEX) and DFW Hindu Temple, over 300 literary lovers of Telugu language were treated with the excellent "Ashtaavadhaanam" by "Pancha Sahasraavadhaani" Dr Medasani Mohan, Ph. D. on June 10 at DFW Hindu Temple Cultural Hall.

DFW Hindu Temple received the guest of honor Dr Medasani Mohan with full temple honors by President Boorla Raghupati.

In the welcome address Sri Thotakura Prasad extolled the uniqueness of Ashtaavadhaanam which continues to flourish in Telugu language. Prasad introduced Prof. Pudur Jagadeeswaran (Univ. of North Texas, Denton) to audience who performed the very first Avadhaanam in USA in 1978 and requested him to coordinate the event.

Prof. Jagadeeswaran conducted the program as "Sandhaata" and introduced Dr Medasani and all the eight "Pruchhakaas"



(L-R) Manohar Reddy, Bhogavalli Gayathri, Dr Puligandla Viswanadham, Dr Tarakumar Reddy, Dr Pudur Jagadeeswaran, Raja Reddy, Dr Medasani Mohan, Thotakura Prasad, Dr C.R. Rao, Dr Boyareddi Subramanyam, Gummadi Gopalakrishna and Dr Jandhyala Jayakrishna Bapuji.

Subramanyam), "Aprastuta Prasangam" (Sri Manohar Reddy), "Dattapadi" (Dr Tarakumar Reddy), "Aasuvu" (Dr Puligandla Viswanadham), and "Nyastaakshari" (Bhogavalli Gayatri). The intricate aspects of the program were documented by

were recalled and rendered in full. The audience were regaled with the excellent poetic usages and mesmerized by the memory and speed of delivery by this Avadhaani. Not to be outdone, the Pruchhakaas themselves recited their own renditions of their respective questions. Dr Jandhyala Jayakrishna Bapuji (son of famous poet late Sri Jandhyala Papaiah Sastry) and Prof. Jagadeeswaran have recited several poems in praise of Avadhaani.

The grand finale included "Kireetadhaaranam" for the Avadhaani by MVL Prasad and the Avadhaani mounted a horse as part of "Aswaarohanam". In the highest form of recognition to the Avadhaani,

Prof. Jagadeeswaran placed "Gandapenderam" around the left ankle while he was seated on the horse. This grand and unprecedented (first time in USA) event was witnessed by all the attendees with great enthusiasm and participation.

On behalf of DFW Hindu Temple, Poorna Nehru, Rajyalakshmi Rao and Annapurna Chilukuri have presented the Avadhaani with traditional new clothes. Raja Reddy, President, TANTEX felicitated with a grand garland of flowers and shawl. The organizers have presented a plaque of recognition.

The event ended with vote of thanks by Thotakura Prasad.

