

15<sup>th</sup> UDBHAV UTSAV INTERNATIONAL DANCE FESTIVAL - GWALIOR, INDIA  
20<sup>TH</sup> – 25<sup>TH</sup> OCT 2018

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The 15<sup>th</sup> Udbhav Utsav International Dance Festival was held at Gwalior, India, from 20<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> Oct 2018.

32 teams from various schools in India and countries like Bulgaria, Turkey, Sri Lanka and South Korea participated in the week long festival. DPS Gurgaon was represented by 25 students (all girls) and 2 accompanying teachers. We took part in all the three dance categories – Classical, Fusion and Folk.

A press meet was organized on day one of the festival. The group leaders of the teams were introduced and information about the dances was shared. It was enriching to meet choreographers/leaders from different region and able to understand their culture through their dance forms.

All the teams gathered at a common point the next day for a 2 km march past to the venue where the opening ceremony took place. Our students dressed in the traditional Marathi sarees performed the famous Lavani dance during the parade.

The competition began with the qualifying rounds on 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct '18 held at the Indian Institute of Travel and Tourism. Mostly all the participating teams competed in all the three categories. Our students performed Kathak in the classical, Contemporary in the fusion and Ghoomar in the folk category. We were one of the very few teams who qualified for the finals in all the three categories at the festival.

The finals took place on 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct '18 where all the qualified teams competed with each other one more time performing the same dances. Each team had to extend their existing choreography by 2minutes in the final round. This made the competition even tougher.

DPS Gurgaon was awarded second position in the classical category and a consolation prize in the folk category.

A gala night, closing ceremony, was organized on 24<sup>th</sup> Oct '18 where all the winning teams in each category performed one last time on stage. All the winning teams were awarded their respective trophies and certificates. The teams were given a farewell party at the venue on behalf of the organisers.

Our trip ended with our arrival at the New Delhi Station on 25<sup>th</sup> Oct '18. The festival was a very enriching experience for all the students and the accompanying teachers. Performing at this festival is a new lesson as the intensity rises each year. We look forward to perform and achieve better results in the festival next year in 2019.

Mr Satish Kumar  
Ms. Joyeeta Dhall

