



# SAARC CULTURAL CENTRE SRI LANKA

SOUTH ASIAN ASSOCIATION FOR REGIONAL  
COOPERATION (SAARC)

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## SAARC Photography Competition

### Reflections of Tangible and Intangible Cultural Heritage of Dance in South Asia

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#### Concept Note

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#### 1. BACKGROUND

Today, our lives are documented by photographs almost every minute of the day. Photography combines art with modern technology to create images of our lives, surroundings, nature and environment, society and culture, etc. Images, both still and moving, are very important for the preservation of culture – tangible, intangible and popular. Photographs capture, preserve and allow us to understand a moment of culture through the eye of the photographer. Through photography, the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) of the SAARC region, particularly the rapidly disappearing aspects, could be preserved for the future.

Certain aspects of intangible cultural heritage of Dance, such as in the sphere of traditional and folk dance, are disappearing today as the number of artists are decreasing. It is not only the dance itself which is disappearing from our world but also the associated traditions, rituals and crafts.

This photography competition is an effort to capture the beauty of the cultural heritage of Dance in the Region and to retain some of the vanishing traditions of dance of South Asia.

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#### 2. THEME OF THE COMPETITION

The theme of the SAARC Photography Competition is “Tangible and Intangible Heritage of Dance”. This includes photographs of classical, folk, ritualistic, regional, etc., dance performances as well as the traditions, beliefs and rituals associated with dance in each Member State of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The costumes, jewellery, makeup, accompanied instruments, etc., associated with dance captured as an image will reflect the tangible heritage aspect of dance.

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#### 3. OBJECTIVES OF THE COMPETITION

- 3.1 To record the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Dance of South Asia.
- 3.2 To form a collection of photographs of South Asian Dance to be used for future SAARC Cultural Centre exhibitions.

- 3.3 To encourage the development of photography of Intangible Cultural Heritage of the Region.
- 3.4 To provide an opportunity for the photographers of the SAARC Region to showcase their talents within the Region.
- 3.5 To maintain a digital archive of the intangible heritage of South Asia at the SAARC Cultural Centre.
- 3.6 To hold an exhibition with the best photos received to share the wonder of dance in the SAARC Region.
- 3.7 To use the photographs in the Cultural Calendar for 2020 of the SAARC Cultural Centre.

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#### 4. COMPETITION GUIDELINES

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- 4.1 Only citizens of SAARC Member States can participate.
- 4.2 The decision of the Panel of Judges and the SAARC Cultural Centre is final.
- 4.3 Each entrant can submit up to three images for the competition. The photographs will be judged as a single image and not as a series of images.
- 4.4 Images can reflect either the tangible heritage of dance, intangible heritage of dance or both aspects of dance.
- 4.5 Each entry must be accompanied by the **Registration Form** attached here as **Annexure 1**.
- 4.6 Each image should be no smaller than **1MB and no larger than 5MB and 300dpi**.
- 4.7 Images should be **JPEG files** and should be emailed to the SAARC Cultural Centre. Other photo formats will not be accepted or considered for the competition.
- 4.8 All images must be saved in the **RGB colour model**.
- 4.9 The entries should not contain any commercial content or any other products or services.
- 4.10 Photographs with watermarks or credits will not be accepted.
- 4.11 No animals should be harmed or manipulated in the making of the image.
- 4.12 Photographs manipulated using digital software such as photoshop, etc., will not be accepted.

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#### 5. Other Details

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- 5.1 The SAARC Cultural Centre reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to disqualify and remove any entry that does not comply with the requirements of the SAARC Cultural Centre stated above (4.1 to 4.12).
- 5.2 The award-winning photographs will be published in the Cultural Calendar 2020 of the SAARC Cultural Centre and displayed at exhibitions and events of the SAARC Cultural Centre.
- 5.3 The photographer of the image will retain the copyright of the entry. If the image is used in the activities of SAARC Cultural Centre, the images will carry the name of the photographer.
- 5.4 SAARC Member States will retain the right to reject photographs if considered inappropriate representation of the Member State.
- 5.5 The SAARC Cultural Centre will retain the right to use the images for the activities of the SAARC Cultural Centre (Publications, exhibitions, etc.).

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## 6. COMPETITION AWARDS

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A Panel of Judges will select the 4 best photographs submitted from among all entries received.

**First Place** is a cash prize of **US\$ 500** (or equivalent in local currency) and a certificate.

**Second Place** – **US\$ 400** (or equivalent in local currency) and a certificate.

**Third Place** – **US\$ 300** (or equivalent in local currency) and a certificate.

**Fourth Place** – **US\$ 200** (or equivalent in local currency) and a certificate.

Certificates of commendation will be awarded to selected 8 photographs (one from each Member State, other than the winners mentioned above).

Winners will be informed by email on **30<sup>th</sup> November 2019**.

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## 7. SUBMISSION DETAILS

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- 7.1 All images and Registration Forms should be emailed to [scephotocomp@gmail.com](mailto:scephotocomp@gmail.com) before **30<sup>th</sup> September 2019**.
- 7.2 Registration Forms are also available at [www.saarcculture.org](http://www.saarcculture.org)
- 7.2 For further queries please contact [dd-research@saarcculture.org](mailto:dd-research@saarcculture.org)