



SAARC CULTURAL CENTRE
COLOMBO, SRI LANKA

www.saarcculture.org

CONCEPT NOTE

SAARC FESTIVAL OF TRADITIONAL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC AND WORKSHOP - BHUTAN 2020

1. INTRODUCTION

Music is one of the most important aspects of culture. History has many examples of how music has been capable of healing and invigorating and bringing people together in celebration, enhancing friendships. Whilst music is a universal language, the music of South Asia has been played on many traditional instruments which have their own style, language and relevance within each culture. The Centre proposes a Festival celebrating and highlighting the evolution of these traditional musical instruments and how music from around the world often bears resemblance to that which flourishes in the entire Region. A Festival for 3 days, with 6 musicians from each Member State displaying their arts using traditional instruments, whilst sharing thought provoking and informative working sessions which would shed further light on the inherent ties that bind the Region with regards to the art of musical creation.

2. OBJECTIVES

- i. To provide an international platform for the artistes to play their Regional Traditional Musical Instruments.
- ii. To educate and share among the public, the rich and varied Traditional Musical Instruments and the Music of the SAARC Region.
- iii. To support, encourage and stimulate talent and artistry in Traditional Musical Instruments and Music.

- iv. To build intercultural links and form interpersonal friendships through the medium of Traditional Musical Instruments and Music.

3. OUTCOMES OF THE PROGRAMME

- I. Revival and promotion of Traditional Music and Musical Instruments of the SAARC Region.
- II. Create an awareness of the rich cultural heritage of the SAARC Region through Traditional Music and Musical Instruments.
- III. Promote unity and understanding amongst the Traditional Instrumental Musicians by giving them a platform to compose and play music together.

4. PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

The SAARC Festival of Traditional Instrumental Music and Workshop 2020 will be held for a duration of 3 days. It will focus specifically on Traditional Musical Instruments and Music from the Region with daily performances, as well as Interactive Workshops for artistes. The Festival will include the following components.

- i. Opening Parade - The Parade will feature all the Musicians with their Traditional Musical Instruments from the representing Member States, where all the artistes (Musicians), in colourful traditional attire will parade during the inauguration ceremony, giving an opportunity to members of the public, to view and experience the cultures of the SAARC Region.
- ii. Opening Performance - There will be performances by all participating Member States, which will showcase cultural diversity through Traditional Musical Instruments and Musical performances from the Region, during the Inauguration Ceremony.
- iii. Other Performances – Instrumental Musicians will perform from the SAARC Member States on the first and the second day for an audience who will have an opportunity to witness and experience the rich Traditional Musical Instruments and Music from the Region.

- iv. Interactive Workshop - The SAARC Cultural Centre will conduct an interactive workshop for all the Traditional Musical Instrumental artistes on the final day of the programme. The primary focus of the workshop will be on Traditional Musical Instruments and Music which will be open to all music enthusiasts, including teachers and students.
- v. Closing Ceremony - The Closing Ceremony will include a concluding performance by the Traditional Instrumental Musicians from all the participating Member States, as well as a unique fusion performance by artistes of all Member States.

5. OFFICIAL NOMINATIONS

- i. All SAARC Member States are invited to nominate a maximum of 6 participants who are Traditional Instrumental Musicians.
- ii. The Host Member State of Bhutan may nominate a maximum of 12 participants of Traditional Instrumental Musicians.
- iii. Nominated artistes should have excelled in their field of Traditional Instrumental Music.
- iv. Musicians are encouraged to use traditional instruments for their performances and as such, are advised to bring the necessary traditional instruments with them.
- v. All Member States are requested to be prepared with a minimum of 4 Traditional Instrumental Musical items to be presented during the SAARC Festival of Traditional Instrumental Music and Workshop 2020.
- vi.

6. NOMINATION PROCEDURE

The nominated Traditional Musical Instrumental artistes, together with the relevant biographical information and contact details must be sent to the SAARC Cultural Centre, through the relevant line Ministry concerned, and the Foreign/External Affairs Ministries of the Member States, via the SAARC Secretariat, at the earliest possible convenience.

7. Please Note that the Member States are also requested to send the following information regarding the nominated participants.

- a. 50-word biography of the nominated participants/troupe
- b. Brief description of the musical items being presented
- c. High-resolution photographs of the nominated participants
- d. High-resolution photographs of the Traditional Musical Instrumental artistes' troupe in performance, if available and appropriate.
- e. The appropriate information will be included, at the discretion of the SAARC Cultural Centre, in the official Brochure being prepared for the Programme.

Please email above details directly to:

1. The Culture Specialist (Programmes): programme@saarcculture.org
2. Programme Assistant - programme-assistant@saarcculture.org

8. LOGISTICAL SUPPORT

- i. As per SAARC practice, all airfare for the nominated artistes should be borne by the nominating Member State.
- ii. All local hospitality including accommodation, meals and local transfers, will be provided for the officially nominated participants from the honored Member States, for the official duration of the programme, by the SAARC Cultural Centre.

9. DATES, DURATION AND VENUE

As per discussions at the 57th Programming Committee of the SAARC and 11th Governing Board Meeting of the SAARC Cultural Centre, it is suggested that the SAARC Festival of Traditional Instrumental Music and Workshop 2020 should be conducted for a period of three days. It is proposed the Programme will take place during the end of April 2020.

Final confirmation of the dates, duration and venue of the Programme will be provided upon confirmation of the same by the honoured host Member State of Bhutan in collaboration with the SAARC Cultural Centre. The SAARC Cultural Centre would be grateful to receive nominations for the SAARC Festival of Traditional Instrumental Music and Workshop 2020, at the earliest possible convenience and no later than the specified deadline.

10. DEADLINES FOR NOMINATIONS

- i. The names of the nominated participants must reach the SAARC Secretariat no later than the 15th March 2020.
- ii. The details of the nominated participants as requested must reach the SAARC Cultural Centre no later than the 15th March 2020 in order to be included in the Brochure. (Any material received after this date may not be included in the official Brochure.)

11. Following details may be sent to Programme Assistant, SAARC Cultural Centre: programme-assistant@saarcculture.org

- A report of the proceedings of the SAARC Festival of Traditional Instrumental Music and Workshop 2020
- High resolution photographs
- Videos of the Programme