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Articles on Eternal Faith and Culture and different Socio-Cultural movements in Northeast are invited for publication.

Bhupen Hazarika's Last Journey Begins

The final journey of one of India's oldest performing singers Bhupen Hazarika began Wednesday morning with a sea of humanity following the cortege from the historic Judges Field to the funeral site at the Gauhati University campus.

It was a tearful last journey of the 85-year-old bard whose baritone voice enthralled and mesmerised millions of fans.

Bhupen Hazarika's 40-year-old companion and filmmaker Kalpana Lajmi and the legend's 60-year-old son Tej Bhupen Hazarika accompanied the floral-bedecked hearse to the funeral site.

Thousands of people waited impatiently all along the 15-km route from the Judges Field to the Gauhati University campus with many chanting slogans like "Bhupen Hazarika amar raho" while others showered petals and flowers.

More than 500,000 people gathered at the funeral site with Governor J.B. Patnaik and Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi present. Also present was the leader of the opposition in parliament and senior Bharatiya Janata Party leader Sushma Swaraj, besides a galaxy of celebrities and eminent citizens.

A 21 gun salute by the Assam Police would be given to the singer, lyricist, composer and filmmaker.

Son Tej would perform the last rites.

Hazarika died Saturday at a Mumbai hospital following a prolonged illness.

Estranged wife Priyamvada Patel, 82, who stays in Toronto, Canada, said she was saddened by Hazarika's death.

"I am saddened to hear about the death of my son's father. I am down with some knee ailment and so could not come," Priyamvada said over the phone.

"I spoke to him on the phone some 10 years ago when he was unwell," she said.

The last rites were to be performed Tuesday, but the government had to postpone the ceremony to Wednesday following a massive demand from the public who came out in their thousands to pay their last respects to the late

(Contd. to page 10)

DEATH ANNIVERSARY OF OJA SHANKAR CELEBRATED

"Shri Oja Shankar was a real role model for all of us. He was a very simple man. He was a dedicated social worker" Shri A S Ringphami expressed his views and shared his experiences in the program organized on 26th October 2011 by Oja Shankar Vidyalaya, Kharasom to mark the 12th death anniversary of Shri Oja Shankar popularly known as Bhaiji to every one. The program was held in Vidyalaya campus in Kharasom village of Ukhrul district of Manipur.

Shri Ringphami further said, "Shri Oja Shankar came far from Maharashtra to the remote village New Tusom of Manipur in 1973 on foot crossing all the barriers and worked as a teacher for a year. He became one with the local Tangkhul community.

Then he took us for school education in Karnataka. He took care of us like our own parents. Every year he used to visit Manipur & Nagaland to take needy students for education. Like wise he took nearly 300 students from both the states of various tribes, villages and religions but he never discriminate on any ground. Every body thought that Bhaiyaji loves me. He was one man army. His life mission was with a vision 'National Integration through Education'. So now it is our responsibility to fulfill his dream."

On the occasion as the Chief Guest Shri Atul Jog said that we still remember Bhaiyaji not because he was a rich person, nor was he a politician nor a film hero but we remember him for his selfless service, determination and devotion towards his life mission." While addressing as the Guest of Honor Shri Kedar Kulkarni said that Bhaiyaji taught us through his action how to bind the society. The strongest bond is selfless love. He made friendship with all the people. This bond of friendship has brought us together. So we have to follow his footprints." Guest and villagers offered floral tribute to Oja Shankar. Students presented melodious welcome song. Shri O Basantji, Headmaster of the Vidyalaya gave welcome address.

Shri Atul Jog declared three days Games and Sports competition which was organized by the Vidyalaya open during the program. Students performed impressive march pass and physical demonstrations. On the first day volley ball, kho-kho, long jump events were conducted. Evening social gathering was an opportunity for students to exhibit their hidden talents. In the evening programme poem recitation, group song, solo song and speech competitions were organized. Many villagers and ex students participated in the function. All the teachers conducted the programmes very smoothly.



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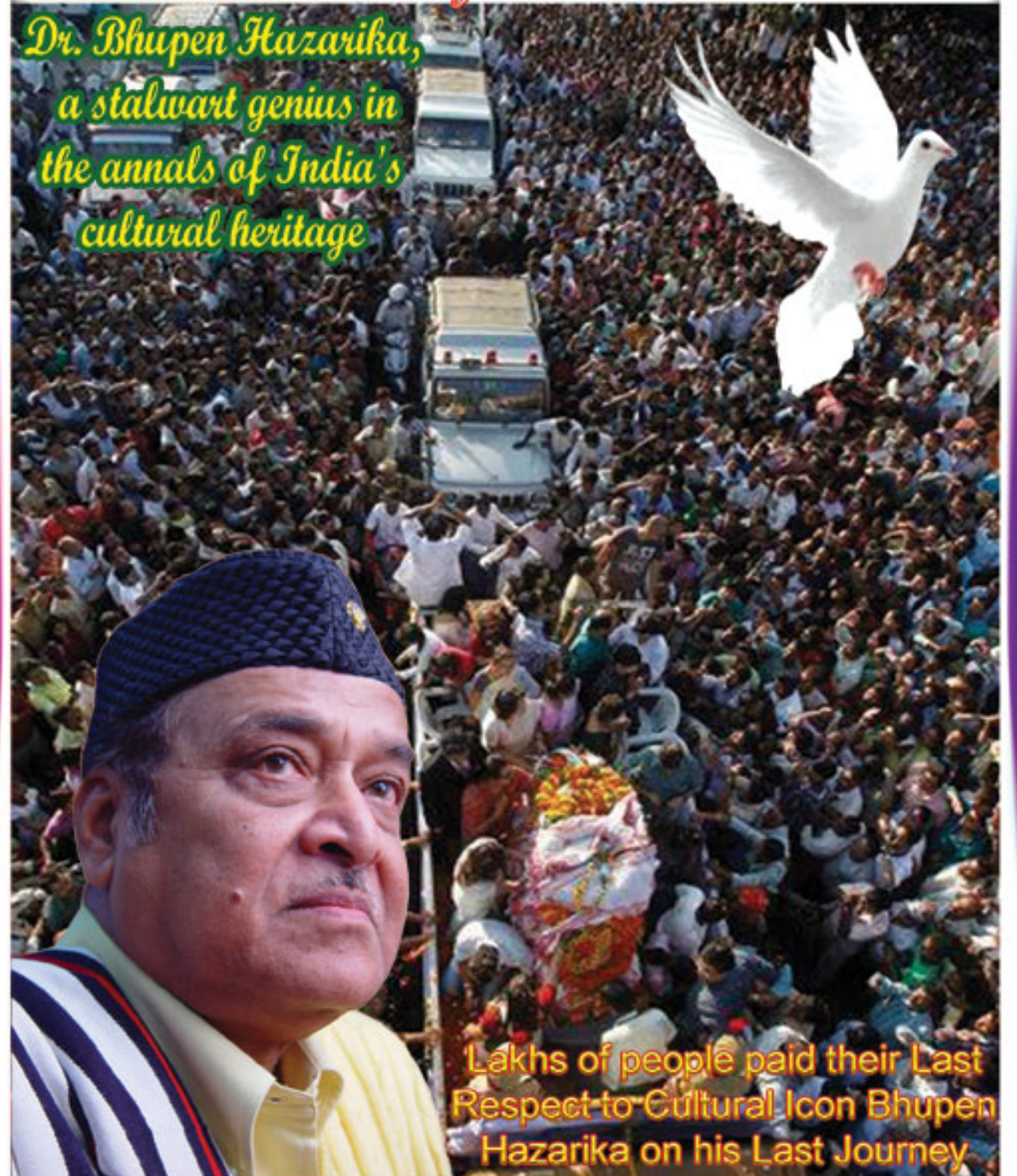


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LET KNOWLEDGE COME FROM ALL THE SIDES
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Monthly News Bulletin

*Dr. Bhupen Hazarika,
a stalwart genius in
the annals of India's
cultural heritage*



Lakhs of people paid their Last Respect to Cultural Icon Bhupen Hazarika on his Last Journey



Cultural Glimpses from Manipur