

Thursday, March 18th, 2010

CLASSIC TRADITION



SOOTHING Performers at the event.

Musical tribute to composers

Jain University's Department of Music organised Composer's Day, a musical tribute to the renowned trinity of Carnatic music. It was a combined effort, with both the staff and students, enthusiastically participating in the programme. Covering both the traditional as well as modern composers it showcased the students' talent and dedication.

"This programme is a tribute to all those composers who have enriched our cultural musical heritage," says Professor T S Ramaa who also performed in the programme.

"Thyagaraja, along with his contemporaries Muthuswami Dikshitar and Shyama Shas-

tri, form the Trinity of Carnatic music. He was a prolific composer and influenced South Indian classical music tradition. He composed thousands of devotional songs, most of them in the praise of Rama, which remain very popular even today. Of special mention are five of his compositions called the *Pancharatna Krithis* (or 'five gems'), which are often sung in programmes in his honour," she explains.

The students and the staff at the Department of Music enthralled the audience with their well rehearsed rendition of the popular classic and contemporary compositions.

Some of the compositions were Swarajati in Raaga

Bhairavi, Anandaamruthakarshini in Amrutavarshini Raaga and Govardhana Giridhaari in Darbari Kannada. The main performers were Prof T S Rama, Dr Nagavalli Nagaraj and students Anumpama, Sharanya, Tejasvini, and Chandrika.

"We wanted to highlight the abilities and talents of our students that is why the staff only performed three pieces," added Prof Rama. The highlight of the programme was the rendition of the *Pancharatna Kirtanas*. The classical odyssey concluded with Thyagaraja's well loved composition - *Endaro Mahanudhaavulu* in Raga *shri*.

DHNS