

COMMUNITY



Left to Right: Consul General of India, Amit Kumar and his wife; Mrs. Pratima N. Shah, Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot, Community Leader Nirvanjan S. Shah and Smita N. Shah, Chairman of the Delhi Committee of Chicago Sister Cities International. - Photo by Suresh Bodiwala

## Delhi committee of Chicago Sister Cities and Navy Pier celebrate Holi

By A CORRESPONDENT

**Chicago IL:** First time a large metropolitan city in the United States, Chicago, celebrated the Indian festival of Holi, with over 2000 people in attendance which included live cultural programming, music and dancing, food and drink, and color throwing. "The Delhi Committee of Chicago Sister Cities is thrilled to partner with Navy Pier for this event so that Chicagoans and visitors can participate in the celebration of Holi, a holiday that marks

new life and energy," said Smita N. Shah, Chairman of the Delhi Committee of Chicago Sister Cities International, Director on the Navy Pier Board of Directors, and CEO of SPAAN Tech, Inc. "How fitting that we can celebrate this one-of-a-kind event on our beautiful lakefront, with Mayor Lightfoot, in the city blessed by Swami Vivekananda." Also in attendance were Consul General Amit Kumar, Indian Community Leader Nirvanjan S. Shah, Pratima Shah, and

ABC 7 News Reporter, Ravi Baichwal.

Ravi Baichwal of ABC7 News, provided a welcome for attendees and served as the master of ceremonies. The celebration was the last of three events in the Global Connections series at Navy Pier presented by ComEd, which previously hosted events celebrating the Chinese New Year and International Carnivale.

"Chicago is a global city, and this partnership is a perfect example of that," noted

Mayor Lightfoot. She also thanked Smita N. Shah for her commitment to the citizens of Chicago, leadership of the Delhi Committee, and for her appointment by President Biden to the President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders

Delhi's position as a sister city to Chicago demonstrates the strong relationship between India and the city as well as the cultural importance of the established Indian American

community to the Chicagoland community. Under Smita Shah's leadership, the Delhi Committee of Chicago founded the Annual Legacy of Mahatma Gandhi Luncheon in 2014, honoring the long-standing exchange of ideas between Mahatma Gandhi and the U.S., and the ever-important principles of truth and non-violence. Shah also helped secure the designation of October 2nd as Mahatma Gandhi Day in Chicago.

## Aarush Entertainment celebrates Holi with Mannara Chopra, Actress and Model from Bollywood

By A CORRESPONDENT

**Chicago IL:** Festival of colors organized by Manoj Rathod (CEO of Aarush Entertainment) and UR Group was one of the biggest Holi and Indian

Mannara Chopra (Actress plus model from Bollywood). Bharti Desai were Master of ceremony of this event. The main highlight of the event came when participants

you and your family. We wish you Happy Holi" said Manoj Rathod, CEO of Aarush Entertainment.

Mannara Chopra was born in Ambala Cantonment,

currently shooting with Director Teja for his forthcoming film alongside Kajal Aggarwal. She has played lead roles in Telugu cinema in Thikka, Rogue, Jakkanna.

The Aarush Entertainment company offers event planning & management services that also includes wedding designing, planning, management & consultancy, adopting a comprehensive approach &

professional management information system to plan and produce a world class event experience each & every time all over the world. The highly skilled team of professionals at Aarush Entertainment strives hard to accomplish the highest standard of quality, effectiveness & novelty with due importance to the budgetary considerations.



Above: Youngsters celebrate the Holi with the vibrant colors, dazzling music, and enthralling dances; Right: Manoj Rathod (CEO of Aarush Entertainment) with his family. - photos by Suresh Bodiwala.

cultural events which took place on Saturday, March 19, 2022 at Candela, 8526 W Golf Rd, Niles, IL 60714. This event touched the hearts as well as the dreams of Indian immigrants and natives simultaneously. The event was house full, enjoyed the vibrant colors, dazzling music, enthralling dances and award to Women Empowerment Icon.

The special guest was

picked up colored powder and chased each other, tossing colors into the air and covering friends and strangers alike. They joy and excitement filled the air and created a memorable experience for all.

"Today we are here to celebrate the Holi festival. The festival of colors, fun, happiness, friendship and love. May the colors spread the wings of joy, peace and laughter upon

Haryana. Her name Mannara, is Greek for "something that shines". Mannara's mother is a Jewelry designer, and her father is a lawyer. Mannara was educated at Summer Fields School, New Delhi, and pursued a BBA degree and is a fashion designer after completing her education in Delhi, Mannara moved to Mumbai, where she started her career in modelling and moved into advertising. She is

