

january 2014 programmes

wednesday 8th january

6.30 pm 'CONSPIRACY THEORIES' Are they worth examining? A talk by Enver Masud



however conspiracy theory is described as a form of popular knowledge it can maybe considered alongside more 'legitimate' modes of knowing. Michael Parenti gives an example of the use of the term which underscores the conflict in its use.

"In most of its operations, the CIA is by definition a conspiracy, using covert actions and secret plans, many of which are of the most unsavoury kind. What are covert operations if not conspiracies?..."

Enver Masud will discuss the issue using the events of September 11, 2001 -- in particular what happened at the Pentagon, as an example. He will conclude with criteria to determine whether or not a particular conspiracy theory is worth examining.

Enver Masud is founder and CEO of The Wisdom Fund (est. 1995), and recipient of the 2002 Gold Award from the Human Rights Foundation for his book *The War on Islam*. He is also the author of *9/11 Unveiled* (FREE download at twf.org), and a contributing author of

Islam: Opposing Viewpoints and *9/11 and American Empire: Christians, Jews, and Muslims Speak Out*.

His articles have been published in newspapers and magazines including *Eastern Times*,

Islamic Horizons, The Minaret, Weekly Mirror, Iehran Times, Middle East Times, Jordan Times, Nation and the World (India), Impact International (UK), New Dawn (Australia), Sunday Times (S. Africa). He has given dozens of talks in the U.S., Canada, India, Malawi, and South Africa.

Mr. Masud worked as an engineering management consultant for the World Bank, EBRD and USAID in Albania, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Indonesia, Latvia, Pakistan, Russia, Tanzania. He was at the forefront of innovation in the electric power industry, and managed the U.S. Department of Energy's National Power Grid Study.

Enver is a graduate of St. Stephens College and the University of Oklahoma. He is descended from Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, founder of Aligarh University. His father M. N. Masud was Maulana Azad's Private Secretary, ambassador to Saudi Arabia, UNESCO Mission Chief to Indonesia, and an Olympic gold medallist (1936).

friday 10th january

6.30 pm An Evening of Bharatanatyam by Shweta Prachande



Shweta is a disciple of Guru Smt. Priyadarsini Govind, under whom she has been training for the past eight years. She has also completed the five year course at Kalavardhini Dance institute under Dr. Sucheta Chapekar.

An aesthetic combination of Bharatanatyam techniques and styles is what makes Shweta a graceful yet powerful dancer. Her dance movements combine a masterful mix of Kalaripayattu and international level rugby.

She has a Diploma in Dance Studies at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance, London and a diploma in Bharatanatyam from Bharathidasan University, Tamil Nadu. She has also trained in Nattuvangam and Carnatic music with Guru Shri Seetaram Sharma and Tamizh texts related to dance from DR. S. Raghuraman.

She is an empanelled artiste at the ICCR and has given numerous performances at various venues in India ; Soorya Festival(Chennai), The Taj Mahotsav, Kalidas Academy, Dr. Vasant Rao Deshpande Sangeet Samaroh and IIC (Delhi).

She is a regular performer during the Madras Music and Dance season and has performed at various Sabhas including Sri Krishna Gana Sabha, Karthik Fine Arts, Bramha Gana Sabha, Bharath Kalachar and Narda Gana Sabha.

She has performed in the US, Sweden, Maldives and Kyrgyzstan.

She is a recipient of the Scholarship for young artistes awarded by the Ministry of Culture, the National Bal Shree Honour, Sawai Gandharva Scholarship and National Talent Search Scholarship by CCRT. She acted in the lead role in a short film "Notes of Silence" screened at the LA Women's International Film Festival, the New York Indian Film Festival and the Legacy Film Festival in Brighton.