

## **PROF. SHANKAR**

Name : Shimaladka Shankaranarayana Bhat/ Prof. Shankar  
Date of Birth : 5 May 1951  
Place of Birth : Belthangady (DK), Karnataka State  
Home Town : Udupi, Karnataka State  
Parents : Late S. Sham Bhat & Late Parameshwari  
Father's Profession : Agriculture

### **Education :**

Primary education : Govt Primary School Gerukatte, D K District  
Higher primary : Govt High School Belthangady, D K District  
PUC (Arts) : SDM College, Ujire, D K District  
Graduation : B. A (Psychology), Maharaja's College, Mysore  
Profession : Joined Syndicate Bank and served as "Industrial Magician" for 26 years. Opted VRS in the year 2001.

Wife: : Mrs Lakshmi Shankar  
Son & daughter in law ;Tejaswi AKA Shankar Jr & Mrs Maithili  
Grandson : Varchasvi  
Daughter & son in law : Yashaswini & Bharavi Deraje  
Grand daughter : Neeharika

### **Achievements:**

Inspired by traditional street magicians of India, developed interest in magic at the tender age of 10 years.

A self taught magician and the first person to start magic in the district of Dakshina Kannada..

First public performance at the home town Belthangady in 1965

Invited to perform in the All India Magic Convention at Calcutta arranged by magician Padmashri P C Sorcar and all India magicians associations in 1968.

Performed more than 10000 shows in Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Sikkim, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamilnadu and Goa

The North Zone Cultural Centre-Patiala sponsored shows in the northern states of Jammu, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and also arranged shows to entertainment the soldiers in the borders of India and Pakistan.

Shows were arranged in the snow clad mountains of in Sikkim for the soldiers who are serving in the borders in March 2011.

Choo Mantar and Gili Gili Magic are the two serials on magic appeared in Doordarshan Bangalore.

### **Awards:**

Recipient of The National Award - Ugadi Puraskar from the Madras Telugu Academy of India in the year 2000

Life Time Achievement Award by Syndicate Bank Manipal

Kamalapatra award by Indian Junior Chamber 1990-1991

Order of Merlin Award by International Brotherhood of Magicians USA in the year 2004 for the services in the magic field.

### **Countries visited....**

U S A (25 shows in New York, Huston Texas, Pittsburgh and Los Angeles)  
Performed for the benefit of Meenakshi Temple Huston

Switzerland (Geneva, Zurich and Lausanne)

In the year 1977, 1978, 1984, 1991, 1992 performed in Dubai Abudhabi, Sharjah Al Ain, Ras Al Khaima in the United Arab Emirates(UAE), Bahrain, Muscat and Salalah

Germany, U K, Belfast –Ireland, Sri Lanka and Mauritius

Entertained Sri Lankans and Indian Tamilians in the cities of Colombo, Kandy, Trincomali and Jaffna. The shows at Jaffna were the first public performances arranged after the internal war.

### **Electronic media interviewed...**

- BBC London crew came down to Udipi to feature the magic family
- ShaktiTV Sri Lanka, MBC(Mauritius), Radio interviews for USA, Bahrain, Belfast-Ireland, and Mauritius radios, Special interviews for the national TV channels like Doordarshan Delhi, Bangalore, Madras, Private channels like Udaya TV, E TV and numerous city cable channels

### **Some of the Death defying magic feats**

- Motor bike drive from Mangalore to Karwar blind folded In 1995 to create awareness about ill effects of drugs and AIDS
- Catching of hot bullet fired by a gun in 1965 by which became popular as The Bullet Proof Magician.

- Eating of blades and bulbs

### **Theme Based Magic:**

**Industrial Magic:** Joined Syndicate Bank and served as INDUSTRIAL MAGICIAN - a designation that is considered as the first of its kind in the world and Syndicate Bank is the first bank in India to employ a magician to publicise its schemes through magic.

**Kargil Magic:** Special shows were arranged during Kargil war to collect money from the public which was donated to Kargil fund.

**Magic for national integration:** Special items on national integration, International brotherhood and peace were designed and performed.

**Magic for social cause:** In collaboration with the Department of Police, on the occasion of crime prevention week, a special show had been performed to bring awareness regarding

- black magic and miracles
  - the effects of smoking, gambling
  - Prevention of crime on women
  - cheating of the public by the finance companies
- In the year 2010, joining hands with the SKDRDP sponsored de-addiction campaign- provided service as a resource person in the Anti-Alcoholism camps. Presents special magic effects on the ill-effects of alcohol consumption.
    - Drove scooter blind folded to create awareness among the people about aids, drugs and alcoholism
    - Blind fold scooter drive from Chandni Chowk to Rajghat to celebrate world peace day

**Magic for education:** Along with entertainment, various aspects of education are communicated to the students through magical effects which helps them to learn faster and remember for a longer period.

As a promoter of magic & magicians, trains youngsters to encourage self-employment and also designs various kinds of magic to suit the occasion.

More than 15000 children witnessed Gili Gili Magic organized by the Printers Mysore Ltd., at Town Hall Bangalore

**Magic for charity:** Performs free shows for the Special children, .

Shows had been organized during all these years to raise funds for the activities of social service organizations like Rotary, Lions and Jaycees and renovation of schools, temples and churches,

**Healing magic:** Magic to help the speedy recovery of the patients. Programmes were arranged in old age homes and hospitals like Bronx Lebanon Psychic Hospital USA, Gangaram Hospital Delhi, KLEH Belgaum, KMC Hospital Manipal, Unity Health Complex Mangalore.

**Spiritual magic:** The Prajapitha Brahmakumaris Ishwariya Vishwavidyalaya has organized a unique project named - "Enlightenment Through Entertainment - A magical journey into the spiritual world" to spread spiritual values through magic.

This programme was well arranged in the states of Delhi, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Karnataka.

A special show had also been arranged in the Tihar Jail for the inmates which preached spirituality through magic

This spiritual show had been performed continuously for the whole year throughout Karnataka from May 2007 -2008 under Swarnim Karnataka Darshan mela organized by them..

The International Magicians' Conventions attended -

- International Brotherhood of Magicians Convention – Pittsburg, USA- 1981.
- Society of American Magicians Convention- Houston- 1982
- Federation of International Societies of Magicians Convention(FISM) Lausanne, Switzerland -1991
- 70th Annual Convention of the International Brotherhood of Magicians - Los Angeles USA- 1998.

To promote brotherhood among magicians, 3 magic Conventions were arranged by Shankars...

1. Gili Gili-94 National Convention attended by 385 magicians
2. Gili Gili -97 International Convention attended by 525 magicians
3. Gili Gili 2001 International Convention attended by 629 magicians from 12 countries

All the three conventions were organized by the Shankar family at their home town Udupi.

The people of Karnataka had the rare opportunity of witnessing magical feats of different magicians

Street magic competitions had been organized to encourage the neglected street magicians of India. The world came to know about the traditional Indian magic.

After 600 years, the legendry Indian Rope Trick was recreated and performed at the sea shore of Malpe On 23<sup>rd</sup> November 1997. More than 35000 spectators witnessed this wonderful magic.

Famous magic historian Dr John Booth recorded this event in his book.

**Not only magic.....the other areas of interest...**

Inspired by famous Yakshagana artiste Deraje Seetharamayya, developed interest in various art fields

Participated in all the cultural functions in school days

Author of Kannada novel **Bennu Bidada Betala** which was published while studying in 10<sup>th</sup> Standard in the year 1967.

Acted and codirected the 1972 award winning kannada movie **Sankalpa**

- Trustee of Shankarananda Seva Trust Udupi.  
Chief Advisor of Chiranthana Charitable Trust Surathkal
- Participating as Resource person in workshops for students, Lecture & Demonstration on Magic
- Resource to the book **Net of Magic** written by Prof Lee Seigel from the University of Hawai
- Appointed as President of International Brotherhood of Magicians India Ring 261
- District General Secretary of Jayashreekrishna Parisara premi Samithi-A NGO from the district.