

Dear Friends-

Hope all is well and I hope you are enjoying the great summer weather. Not sure if you know or not but we have recently formed **Jai Bharat Dhol Taasha Pathak, USA**. We are planning to celebrate India's Independence day parade on Madison Ave, NYC (18th Aug '13) with thunderous beats of Dhols, Taashas, and Lezim. That will be our signature event!! We are planning to have our own Float and will have 40+ artists (Ladies and Gents) wearing colorful costumes. The goal is to celebrate and showcase various rhythms played during Ganapati Processions back in the hometowns of India and help celebrate Indian culture.

With your support, confidence, and encouragement we are putting more hard work. Please understand that this is a significant undertaking in its own regards since we are building this Dhol-Taasha Pathak from the scratch. First of its kind in the US history. Many Ladies and Gents team members are handling Dhol, Taashaa, and Lezim for the first time. Many resources that we typically take for granted are not available for us. I'm sure most of you will relate to it when you came here 10, 15, 20, 30 years back to this country. We are diligently working to find us sponsors but at this point, our Pathak is self-sponsored. We have collected (or in the process of collecting) money from individual team members to support expenses.

We are actively looking for sponsors and donors to support this good cause. Our expenses are primarily associated with instrument costs (Dhol, Taasha, Lezim, Fete), costumes costs for the participants, shipment costs from India, and other misc expenses.

We have received enormous response on the **Facebook** under the name "**Jai Bharat Dhol Taasha Pathak, USA**". We are at 3300+ likes and growing day by day. We will be able to certainly reciprocate by advertising or spreading the word about you, your group, or company if you wish us to.

At this point, we are requesting that you support us in variety of different ways:

- 1) Please spread the word of mouth with your friends, acquaintances and let them know about us. Please "Like" us on the Facebook.
- 2) Become part of our Pathak if you want to play Dhol, Taasha, Lezim, Dhvaj, or just even to march with us.
- 3) Recommend Volunteers, friends to join our Pathak.
- 4) Join us for one of the rehearsals just for the fun even if you don't want to take part in actual Pathak. Summer is kicking off so it will be fun for you to watch us play and you can join us for Chai and Samosas.

5) Last but not the least, we are also requesting suggested donation of \$50 or more. Ours is strictly not-for-profit organization under the name of "**Indian Cultural Group**" and your money will be donated for a good cause where you will indirectly help us promote the Indian culture. Tax-deductible receipt will be mailed to you.

Please send the check at the below address:

Makarand Utpat

90 Summit Dr,

Freehold, NJ 07728

Please make your checks payable to "Indian Cultural Group"

Again thank you in advance for opening your hearts. Help us celebrate India's Independence Day Parade!! Thank you for supporting us or at the least thinking about us. Jai Bharat!

If you have any questions or comments, do not hesitate to contact me directly.

with Warm Regards,

--Makarand

Cell: (201)-819-0894