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## Yaksha, a Celestial Feast of Music and Dance begins at Isha

The three-day festival is an annual event in the run-up to Mahashivaratri at Isha Yoga Center

**3 March 2019, Coimbatore:** Yaksha, named after celestial beings in Indian mythology, is a spectacular and colorful three-day feast of music and dance hosted annually by Isha Foundation. Yaksha is celebrated every year 3 days prior to Mahashivaratri at Isha Yoga Center.

Attracting thousands of ardent spectators, Yaksha features three consecutive nights of musical concerts and classical dance by some of India's greatest artistes.

This year, Yaksha commenced on the evening of 1st March at Isha Yoga Center in the presence of Sadhguru, Founder, Isha Foundation.

Day 3 saw several prominent dignitaries in the audience including Shri. Pratap Reddy, Chairman, Apollo Groups; Shri. Shanthalinga Adigalar, Perur Adhinam; Shri. Shankar Vanavarayar, Chairman, Kumaraguru College of Technology; and Shri.S.V.Balasubramaniam, Bannari College of Technology. All of them joined together for the ceremonial lighting of the lamp which heralded proceedings on the final day of the Festival.

A spellbinding Bharathanatyam performance by virtuoso performer Smt. Leela Samson & Spanda Dance Company with the theme of 'Nadi' (River) was one of the highlights of the evening.

Yaksha also promotes traditional art and crafts. This year, vibrant weaves like Pochampalli and Chettainad were on display at the stalls in addition to other handwoven textiles and crafts.

## About Yaksha

In an endeavor to preserve and promote the uniqueness, purity and diversity of India's performing arts, Isha Foundation annually hosts Yaksha, a three-day festival of culture, music and dance with performances by renowned artistes. Named after a class of celestial beings in Indian mythology, Yaksha provides a platform for great artistes to perform and connoisseurs to appreciate these classical arts performed by masters. India's various art forms, which evolved over thousands of years, are not only a reflection of the diverse culture of this land but also a source of spiritual inspiration and have enriched the nation for generations. The Yaksha Festival is a tribute to this cultural diversity.

## Isha Foundation

Isha Foundation, founded by Sadhguru, is a volunteer-run, international non-profit, human service organisation dedicated to cultivating human potential. Isha Foundation is operated by over 9 million volunteers from more than 250 city-based centers spread worldwide. The Foundation is headquartered at Isha Yoga Center, set at the base of the Velliangiri Mountains in southern India, and at the Isha Institute of Inner Sciences on the spectacular Cumberland Plateau in middle Tennessee, USA.

If you would like to know more about this, please write to <u>mediarelations@ishafoundation.org</u>.