

## Fund-raiser for Muni Seva Ashram in Houston, TX

Muni Seva Ashram, a charitable trust based in Goraj in District Vadodara, India, formed to implement integrated community welfare programs, organized its inaugural fund-raiser through a musical night at the VPSS Hall in Houston, Texas, on April 27 with more than 300 people. Renowned musicians Madhvi and Asim Mehta volunteered their performance for the cause.

ity, a shelter for the elderly, an orphanage, a center for mentally challenged girls, and several schools and colleges.

The Ashram doesn't limit its care to people, but extends a helping hand in preserving the environment. The Ashram refers to itself as a "Green Ashram" as it uses renewable energy in almost every way. The Ashram has built a biogas plant, a pilot solar conditioning plant, a biomass



Muni Seva Ashram began over thirty years ago in 1980 by Anuben Thakkar with the blessings of her guru Param Pujya Munidas Majaraj. Since then, under the leadership and management of Vikrambhai Patel, the Ashram has formed many institutions and homes for people in need. These include a cancer hospital, a general medicine hospital, a research facil-

system, and the ashram has plans to become 100 percent renewable within the next year.

For detailed information on each and every aspect of the Muni Seva Ashram and the forthcoming events, visit the website at <http://greenashram.org/news/concertscharityevents>.

## SAMAA presents next generation of classical masters

SAMAA presented "Legacy: Next Generation" on April 20 at Peter Norton Symphony Space in New York City, which had two duets ("jugalbandis") performed by the sons of the legends Vilayat Khan, Sultan Khan and Shiv Kumar Sharma, and the nephew of Hari Prasad Chaurasia. The artists not only incorporated what they learned from their fathers but also evolved this into a music style that was unique to them alone.

in one word "truth" which he said, "comes from tradition, training, from inside each one of the artists that played, from their families".

The first duet was between Hidayat Khan on sitar and Sabir Khan on sarangi, accompanied by Nitin Mitta on tabla.



The second duet was between Rahul Sharma on santoor and Rakesh Chaurasia on bansuri, accompanied by Salar Nader on tabla.

Senior UN diplomat Vijay Nambiar spoke about a concert 58 years ago to when he had listened to Ustad Vilayat Khan perform in Mumbai. He described the experience



Senior UN diplomat Vijay Nambiar



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