

# Grand Tamil and Telugu Light Music Concert

by Minu Kannan

**C**HICAGO - On June 12, Balaji Temple cultural members arranged a grand Tamil and Telugu light music concert at Taft High School Auditorium in Chicago.

The main artist Kalaimamani, Sangeetha Sarawathi Dr. P.Susheela was accompanied by C.S.Ainkaran and playback singer Ramakrishna.

The program began with a wonderful devotional song "*Saravana Poigayil*" by Dr. P.Susheela. This was followed by "*Shirdi Sai Baba Bajan*," sung by Ramakrishna.

Ainkaran and Dr.P.Susheela sang lovely duets such as "*Roya Malare*", "*Naalaam Naalaam*", "*Muthu Mani Maalai*", etc. The song "*Thaen Sindudae Vanam*" was sung in Tamil by Ainkaran and in Telugu by Dr.P.Susheela, alternatively.

The Telugu song "*Kubu Kubu Kae*" was nicely sung by Ramakrishna and Dr.P.Susheela.

The song "*Venilavae*" from Minsarakanavu sung by Ainkaran and Rama and "*Suthi Suthi*" from Padayappa sung by Ainkaran and Pavithra were impressive.

Dr. P.Susheela also sang Raga Malika together with Ramakrishna. The program lasted for four hours.

Dr.P.Susheela led the program with her ever youthful voice. To borrow a popular metaphor, her voice seems to get better with age, much like a fine wine. P.Ramakrishna and Ainkaran contributed equally to the success of the program.



Dr.P.Susheela dominated the Tamil and Telugu films music scene as a playback singer for over 48 years.

Sri. Ainkaran is a Midwest resident and outstanding light musician. he conducts very successful programs all over the U.S . He is a highly-sought-after performer.

Sri. Ramakrishna is a leading Telugu playback singer and he is endowed with a rich and melodious voice and often compared to the Legendary "Ghandasala." He has been singing since 1972.

The master of ceremony Mr. C.S.Baskaran introduced everybody on stage Needless to say, the packed house at Taft High School remained throughout the concert.

Pethi Veluchamy, Chairman and President of Balaji Temple welcomed the gathering.