



NAUJAWANI.com
Sikh & Punjabi broadcasting on the internet

****PRESS RELEASE****

St George's (UoL) victorious at Bhangra Wars competition!

Eight teams competed at the first Bhangra Wars competition on Saturday 15th October at the Ramgarhia Community Centre in Leicester. The winning team was from St George's (University of London) who beat two university teams and five other teams to win a prize of £300 and the Bhangra Wars trophy, both sponsored by official media partner Naujawani.com.

The competing teams were Ruhan Punjab Diyan from the University of Manchester; University of Greenwich & Medway bhangra team; Asian Street Remix and Marhak Punjabna Di from Birmingham; Leicester's Dhamak Punjabna Di; Scotland's Miss Punjabeez; and Yorksher Punjab De made up of dancers from around the UK.

Bhangra Wars was launched by promoters Desi Kuri Events as an exciting new addition to the UK bhangra scene and the first competition open to all professional dance groups, university bhangra teams and bhangra dance academies within the UK. Promoters Desi Kuri Events hope to expose UK bhangra dance to a wider audience and want to create a buzz of excitement around the dance form and the event did not disappoint.

In addition to winning the competition, St George's (University of London) were awarded a prize for the Best Choreography. Asian Street Remix won two awards for the Most Creative and Best Contemporary team. Yorksher Punjab De won the Most Traditional team award.

Head of Naujawani.com, the official Media partner and sponsor, Harwinder Singh Mander said, *"We were proud to have been chosen as the official Media Partner for Bhangra Wars in addition to our role as a sponsor, but we were even prouder of the performances by so many young people on the stage that night."* He continued, *"Punjabis in the UK have been engaging in traditional Punjabi folk dance since we arrived on these shores over half a century ago. But it is only in the last few years that competitive performance events have become a possibility thanks largely to the power of the internet and a blooming student generation of bhangra enthusiasts. Bhangra Wars was a great night out for the whole family and the promoters Desi Kuri Events should be commended for putting on this competition."*

Naujawani.com offered guidance and financial sponsorship to Desi Kuri Events as well as support through their NachdaPunjab.co.uk discussion forum where members offered advice throughout the months leading up to the competition. Naujawani.com founder, Harwinder Singh Mander explained, *"In-keeping with Sikh ideology, we endeavour to give back to the*



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community that we serve, harnessing our experience, profits and network of contacts. Traditional bhangra dancing is seeing a resurgence in the UK and we are so glad to be a part of it. It is impressive that real Punjabi culture has been expressed in this way by so many young people who are born and bred in the UK... it is indicative of how powerful our culture and spirit is and we should not shy away from sharing it with the World."

Bhangra Wars raised money for the humanitarian charities Khalsa Aid UK & Focus Punjab through the competition. Khalsa Aid has provided relief assistance to victims of disasters, wars and other tragic events around the world whilst Focus Punjab concentrates on their efforts to improve the lives of millions in the Punjab.

Harwinder Singh Mander further stated: *"We want to see the proliferation of Punjabi culture in and amongst the UK communities we live in so that our neighbours better understand who we are and where we have come from. The fact that Bhangra Wars raised money for two non-profit organisations that are founded on the Sikh principles of selfless service and universal love which once were the bedrock of the Punjabi nation was even more reason for us to be involved. We are so pleased that Punjabi culture in the UK can help support the Punjabi community so many miles away as well as people in need of all backgrounds."*

Date: 17.10.11

****ENDS****

****NOTES TO EDITORS****

For more information contact Harwinder Singh Mander by telephone on +44 (0)7870 138616 or by email info@Naujawani.com

IMAGES:

There are two high resolution images that can only be used to accompany any news article based on this press release. Please use the following accreditation: 'Naujawani.com'. If you wish to use it without accreditation, please contact us to seek permission first.

The high resolution images can be found online at www.Naujawani.com/press. If you would like to publish a range of photographs, please contact us for a wider selection of images from the event.



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About NAUJAWANI.com:

Naujawani.com produce and broadcast both radio and TV shows for a global audience tuning in online. Programmes predominantly focus on the lives of Sikh and Punjabi communities worldwide, but also deal with more wide-ranging current affairs, offering a Sikh and Punjabi perspective on general issues.

Naujawani.com is operated by Stylin Productions Ltd, an IT-based media company incorporated in 2002 that initially released a number of musical records and produced promotional music videos. A number of pilot TV shows were produced as well as radio documentaries and shows. Increasingly, the company found many drawbacks to working with mainstream media outlets and coupled with the rise of the internet began to consider broadcasting it's productions online. Naujawani.com went live in the summer of 2006 when promotional TV show pilots were produced and distributed on DVD. Naujawani:Radio began streaming online 24 hours a day very soon after.

For more information and an electronic press kit visit www.Naujawani.com/press

About Bhangra Wars:

Bhangra Wars has been launched to help raise money for the humanitarian charities Khalsa Aid UK & Focus Punjab and to bring unity and awareness of Punjabi culture across the UK by enjoying and celebrating through the great art form of Bhangra - thus taking the UK Bhangra culture to greater heights.

Bhangra Wars is an event belonging to Desi Kuri Events, the North's newest Asian entertainment presenters based in West Yorkshire, serving to bring themed cultural events to the region. All events presented by the company are fun, affordable and worth attending! They organise events which they feel the British Asian public crave for, striving to bring cultural events with a twist....modern yet desi!

For more information about Bhangra Wars visit <http://www.facebook.com/desikurievents>

About Khalsa Aid & Focus Punjab:

Established in 1999, Khalsa Aid is an international non-profit aid and relief organisation founded on the Sikh principles of selfless service and universal love. Khalsa Aid is a UK Registered Charity (#1080374) with the UK Charities Commission and also has volunteers in North America & Asia. Khalsa Aid has provided relief assistance to victims of disasters, wars, and other tragic events around the world.

For more information about Khalsa Aid & Focus Punjab visit <http://www.khalsaaid.org/>