

other. Acknowledging that it exists is the first step. To commit to stopping it is the next. I encourage you to *break the silence and stop the violence*. Get informed on the subject, recognize the early warning signs and don't look the other way when you suspect abuse.

Because God forbid, tomorrow it could happen to you.

## Saathi Play Till Death Do Us Part

*Review by Ravi Sharma*

This play was written and directed by Meera Jain, a board member of Saathi to spread the awareness of domestic abuse in South Asian community. It was initially staged at ICC on January 17 as a dinner theatre event on the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Saathi & then on 18 for the community at large. The play was a big success and on invitation was staged at Geva Theatre on March 5, 7, 13 and 15.



Meera Jain says, "the play is a montage of rapid snapshots of three women as they grapple with their abusive situation. Domestic violence is a universal problem and has been enacted in an universal home. It does not follow a conventional pattern of linear timeline. The staging is also non-traditional. The physical space remains the same, what changes is the characters and their relationships".



The acting by the artists was of high quality. They enacted the roles of the abusers and of their victims in a real way performance. At times their

performances brought out untamed emotions. The play contained enough rough bad language and physical force was used to put a stamp on the evidence of abuse against their partners. The acting and the scenes were realistic played in the milieu of South Asian culture. The play lasted one hour and twenty minutes only but spread out a powerful and



wider message of domestic violence in our communities. The excellent coordination of the lighting effects and the background music were of superb quality. The effects lasting after the abuse was droned further by sad melody of the instrumental music.



The credit for the success of the play goes especially to all the actors, coordinators of music and lighting and above all to Meera Jain who worked tirelessly with her team to put up such a performance using drama as a tool to spread the awareness with an emphasis on DV. I congratulate Meera Jain and all the participants in the play for a bold step and a memorable evening.



### Seminar Domestic Violence in American Muslim Communities

8pm – 9.30pm

Session-1 April 11

Session-2 April 18

Session-3 April 25,

Venue: The Islamic Center of Rochester

727 Westfall Rd, Rochester, NY 14620

Contact: 585-442-0117

[lcr1@frontiernet.net](mailto:lcr1@frontiernet.net) and [www.theicr.org](http://www.theicr.org)

### Kriya Yoga - Public Lecture With

Yogacharya Durga Chunduri & Yogacharya

David Strassner

Rochester, New York

Friday, May 1, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Hindu Temple of Rochester

Saturday, May 2, 9:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Location to be announced

Sunday, May 3, 10:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Location to be announced

Contact info:

Jagdish 585-223-3167 [omjag@hotmail.com](mailto:omjag@hotmail.com)

Phil 585-343-5443, [phil@oneworldprojects.com](mailto:phil@oneworldprojects.com)

Kriya Yoga Institute: Visit [www.kriya.org](http://www.kriya.org)