



Swisspuja

13th year, 2016



Dear Friends, Well Wishers and Patrons of Swisspuja,

The New Year is almost two months old, and the onset of spring in India has been just heralded with 'Binapani aaradhana' (worship of Ma Saraswati, the Goddess of Learning and Knowledge).

Alongside this behind the curtains the Swisspuja 2016 organizing committee has initiated activities to bring your expectations to reality, which you expressed at the end of Bijoya Sammilani 2015.

A Warm Welcome to 2016 from Swisspuja! This year we will have all our regular events like the Durga Puja, Picnic and Rabindra Jayanti, in addition to the concluding gala evening of Bijoya Sammilani.

Mark the dates in your calendar and start planning for Durga Puja holidays and the other events. We look up to you for your continued patronage, participation, ideas and constructive feedback to ensure a grand and successful 13th year of Durga Puja in Switzerland, along with Rabindra Jayanti and the annual Swisspuja Picnic.

Watch out for our mailers and Facebook updates on specific events.

Tentative details are as follows:

Sarbojonin Durga Puja	
Where	Langnau am Albis, ZH (same as the last three years)
When	7 th – 11 th October 2016
Rabindra Jayanti	
Where	Further details to follow
When	8 th May 2016
Picnic	
Where	Pfadiheim Kloten
When	11 th June 2016
Bijoya Sammilani	

Where	Details to follow
When	Mid November 2016

Recognition of outstanding achievement:

Swisspuja takes this opportunity to express pride as a community and at the same time congratulate our valued community member Dr. Indranil Banerjee for being awarded the globally prestigious Pfizer Research Award for virus research. This award is for his landmark invention on the influenza virus infection. Indranil a presidential fellow at the Novartis Institutes for Biomedical Research received the award with Japanese co-workers Yohei Yamauchi and Yasuki Miyake.

All the best to you and keep up the great work!!

Message of condolence:

On a regretful note, friends, we have recently lost an ex-member of our community. Mr. Ashim Paul passed away on the 11th of February. We express our deep and heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and pray that they have the strength and courage to bear the irreparable loss.

Additional points for your reference and consideration:

1. **GBM 2015 Minutes:** Please find here the [link to the minutes of last GBM held on 28th November 2015](#)
2. **Swisspuja 2016 Organizing Committee:**

President	Shubhra Kanti Acharya
Secretary	Aranya Sundar Bhattacharya
Treasurer	Rajat Bhattacharya
EC Members	Rajshekhar Deb
	Aniruddha Ghosh
	Sourav Ray
	Sandipan Chakraborty
	Rajib Mukherjee
	Arpit Sanyal
	Manit Nandi
	Rahul Choudhury

3. **Philanthropic initiative:** A contribution of 2000 CHF from Swisspuja and a collection amount of 753 CHF was transferred to Stiftung Usthi, a Swiss non-profit organization working in India & Nepal for mainly under privileged children.
4. **Local outreach:** Durga Puja 2015 was visited twice by the local school children and was well received by the local community as a means of local integration of the Swisspuja community.
5. **Sponsor participation:** Durga Puja 2015 was also visited by multiple sponsors, including Mr. Pravir Chakraborty, Assistant Director, India Tourism who came all

the way from Paris and was impressed by the scale and organization of the Puja.

6. Support to start-ups and NGOs: Swisspuja provided a platform to two start-ups namely After Taste and Cristina's Crochet to promote and showcase their products during the Puja days.

If you wish to lend your valuable experience and effort to volunteer and take part in any Swisspuja event organization, please contact Mr. Shubhra Kanti Acharya at: president@swisspuja.org

Looking forward to your active participation and continued support over this year. Swisspuja owes its popularity and success to you.

Thank YOU!

With best wishes and regards,

SWISSPUJA 2016 team

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