

INDI *Vision*

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New Vision UGANDA'S LEADING DAILY

PERSPECTIVES FROM INDIAN UGANDA



Dancers in an Indian performance during the celebrations at Kololo Airstrip in Kampala on September 9. Photos by Andrew Masinde

Indians in Uganda mark Independence in style

By Andrew Masinde

Kololo Independence grounds in Kampala looked like a town on the outskirts of New Delhi on September 9, when hundreds of Indians and Ugandans of Indian origin thronged the venue to celebrate India Day.

India's Independence Day is celebrated on August 15, but in Uganda it was marked on September 9, exactly a month

to Uganda's 55th Independence anniversary.

The gathering brought together all Indian communities in Uganda to celebrate and showcase the unique traditions, culture, cuisines and general heritage of the world's biggest democracy.

The event was both entertaining and educative, with exhibitions, artistic performances, highlighting the diverse culture of the second

most populous country in the world.

The event was also a platform of raising funds to support Ugandan children who need heart surgery.

By 6:00pm, the crowds had started flocking to the airstrip, with many struggling to register so that they could get front seats to catch a good view of the events of the night.

At 7:30pm, the night was kicked off with well-choreographed

dances from Bengali, Punjabi, Maharashtra and Bollywood. The dances were performed by children, dressed in beautiful costumes.

During the event, Indian achievers were awarded prizes in different categories, such as sports, academics and creative entrepreneurship.

Varun Sharma won the award for

Anjiv Patel, an executive member of the Indian Association enjoys the performances

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