

CHILD PRODIGY

Divine Rhythm



REGARD IT AS A MIRACLE OR AN INBORN TALENT, TRUPTRAJ PANDYA IS TRULY GOD'S CHOSEN ONE. WITH A MUSICAL SENSE PAR EXCELLENCE THIS LITTLE PRODIGY IS NOT ONLY SETTING RECORDS, BUT CAPTURING MILLIONS OF HEARTS ACROSS THE WORLD, AVERS **NIKITA MITHARE**

Presenting Master Truptraj Atul Pandya, a Penguin Kids Nursery I student of New Horizon Public School, Airoli. Truptraj, who would be turning three this year, can barely talk fluently but the beats of his tabla speak volumes about this little talent.

Claim to fame

Truptraj gave his first public performance at the age of two years, two months and 11 days. Since then, Truptraj has been noticed for his amazing talent. He holds the Guinness Record for being the World's Youngest Tabla Player, Youngest Drum Player and Youngest Percussionist. Being a child prodigy of sorts, he is featured on the official site of the Guinness World Records. They have also uploaded video clips of Truptraj playing tabla on their website.

Talent personified

The art of percussion is a skill that needs to be learnt and honed further. But Truptraj was born with this talent. Hailing from a Gujarati household of music lovers and singing talents, Truptraj grew up listening Gujarati Bhajans and songs sung by his grandmother. Under the guidance of his father, Atul Pandya – a music lover and founder of a music group 'Swara Sadhana' and mother Vina, Truptraj is thoroughly encouraged to further his talent. About his son's talent Atul Pandya beams with pride saying, "Artistes are born. They cannot be made."

Truly gifted

Reminiscing Truptraj's initiation into music, his father says, "Truptraj started play-

ing a toy dhol when he was barely 18 months old. I was amazed to see him strung accurate beats on the dhol when he would hear anyone sing in the house." He adds, "Mostly children adapt to their natural senses of listening or talking after the age of three, but Truptraj could actually play the dhol and tabla at just two years." Adding to this, Truptraj's mother exclaims, "It's a phenomenal sight to see him play tabla and drums as if he has prior knowledge of the art of percussion. It's God's grace to grant Truptraj this divine gift of rhythm. We feel proud to be blessed with such a talented son."

Furthering talent

Mr. Pandya is also thankful to his son's school Principal, Mrs. Kuldeep and the teachers who do their best to nurture his son's talent. He says, "Truptraj is allowed to play drums or tabla at the school's music room whenever he wants to. They are very supportive of his talent and consider it as an honour to have such a talented kid in their esteemed institution." Truptraj was conferred the 'Star Bal Kala Ratna Award' at the hands of Mumbai Congress President Mr. Krupasankarji.

Word of advice

Truptraj's talent was noted at a tender age by his parents. Without a careful ear to his abilities it would have been left unnoticed. As his father reiterates, "As parents we should not compare and limit our child's capabilities. We should not compel our own aspirations on our kids. Instead, we should help them to discover their hidden talents and encourage them to nurture their abilities."

Watch Truptraj's Guinness performance on: http://community.guinnessworldrecords.com/_2yrs-old-Tabla-Player/VIDEO/577218/7691.html

QUIZ NO 63 | Q&A

Which of the nine hells has a small zoo in it?

- Yama Jigoku
- Umi Jigoku
- Oniyama Jigoku

How many quills can a porcupine have?

- 20,000
- 30,000
- 40,000

Which planet will the Phobos-Grunt mission explore?

- Saturn
- Jupiter
- Mars

Which gas is dominantly found on Planet Mars?

- Carbondioxide
- Nitrogen
- Hydrogen

How many legs does the spider have?

- Six
- Eight
- Ten

Which Mughal emperor built the Agra fort?

- Shah Jahan
- Aurangazeb
- Akbar

How many pecks does a woodpecker do in a second?

- 20
- 30
- 10

Who was the driver of the Force India Formula 1 team that came second in the Belgian GP?

- Vitantonio Liuzzi
- Giancarlo Fisichella
- Adrian Sutil

Which part of the pomegranate is used to cure skin problems?

- Seed
- Flower
- Skin

How many islands of Lakshadweep are inhabited?

- 10
- 17
- 14

In which state of US is the Neverland Ranch

located?

- New York
- California
- Los Angeles

Name: _____
 School: _____
 Address: _____

 Tel: _____
 Std: _____

WINNERS OF QUIZ 62
Animesh Kshatriya
Neena Alkara
Rajas Patil

ANSWERS OF PREVIOUS QUIZ

Australia / Sagittarius / 93.5 / Rani of Jhansi / Pigs / Deciduous / It makes it warm / Yellow / 17 / Sarod / Rahul Dravid

Send your entries to: The Editor, Young Explorer, 1st Floor, Mumbai Educational Trust, Gen. A.K. Vaidya Chowk, Bandra Reclamation, Bandra (W), Mumbai - 50. Tel : 26440073/ 92.