

# Pinga (Dance)

**Dipali Tikone, Pooja Nikalje, Vrushali Thombare, Jyoti Ghule**

**Faculty sponsor: Dr. Evan Bridenstine**

Department of Theatre

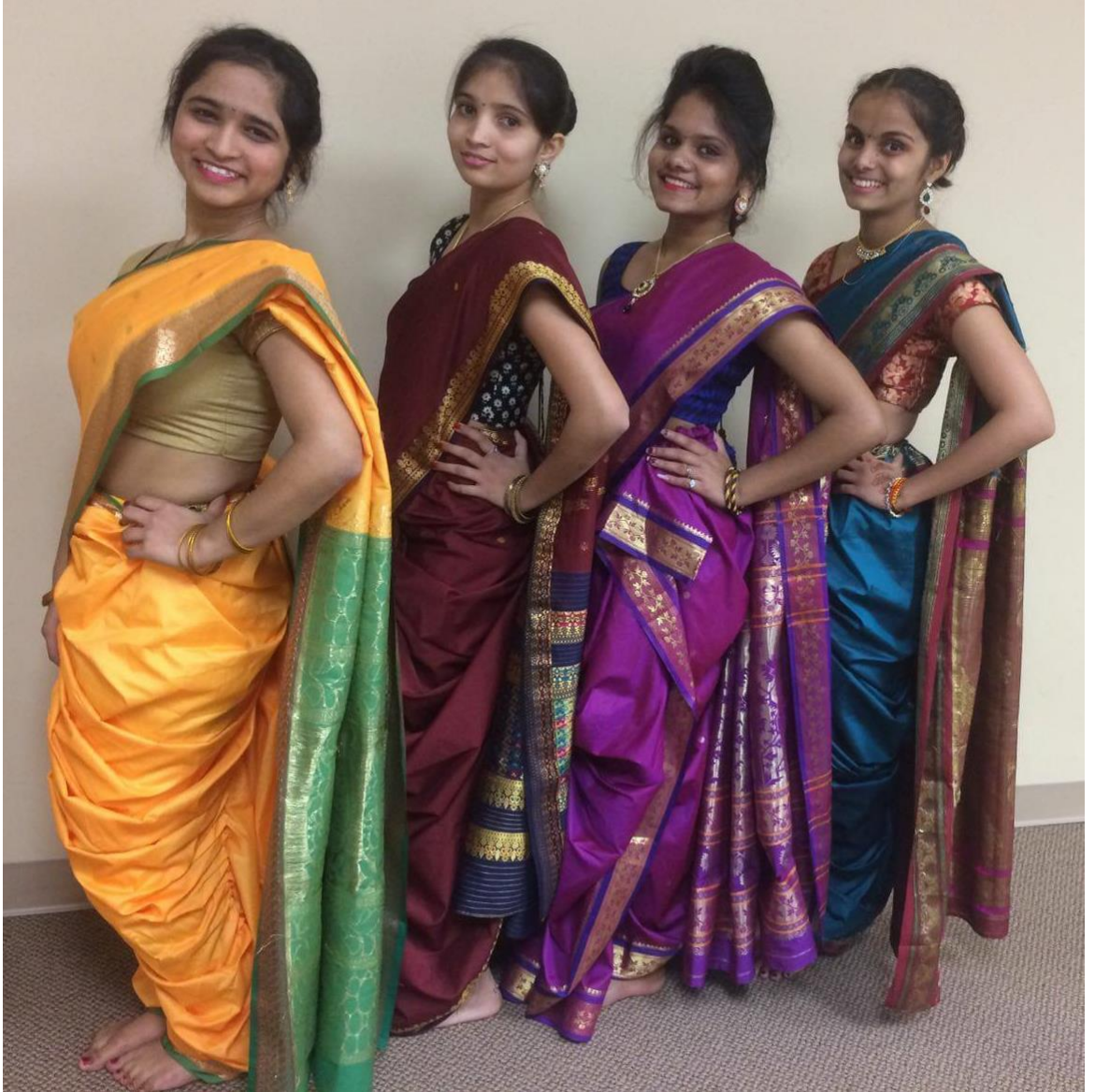
## Statement from the Artists

India being a male dominated society, for centuries women did not have the freedom to leave their houses. Only at certain festivals could women gather with other women from their neighborhood, when they performed a number of dances to entertain themselves. Pinga was one of the dances performed during these gatherings. It is also said that the pinga dance form was traditionally only performed during the festival called Mangalagaur, a celebration of newlywed women common in the Indian state of Maharashtra. Nowadays, along with many other dance forms, women perform pinga on the stage on many occasions to entertain a general audience. The dance form has also been modernized a little, and choreographers interpret the steps in their own ways to make the dance simpler yet keep the authentic traditional qualities.

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A video recording of the performance by Mss. Tikone, Nikalje, Thombare and Ghule is available through the online edition of the *Monarch Review*, volume four, at <http://www.methodist.edu/monarch-review-4> and at





Dancers Jyoti Ghule, Dipali Tikone, Pooja Nikalje and Vrushali Thombare