

Abhinaya theatre festival concludes with zeal

A festival of short plays in Kannada called Abhinaya organized by Jain University – Center for Management Studies as a part of 'CMS Festival' concluded on Saturday at JSS auditorium, Bangalore. The theatre festival brought together colleges, amateur and non – professional groups pan India & treated theatre lovers with some excellent plays.

Out of 30 plays, 7 made it to the finals and battled out for the Abhinaya title. Finally, **Kaalayatre**, performed by JSS Banashankari College, Dharwad came out with flying colours by winning a grand prize of Rs.1,00,000 & the Abhinaya title. **Rabdi** enacted by team Ranga Vartula gave a tough competition to Kaalayatre, but ended up with 1st runners-up title.

This year's Abhinaya theatre festival though restricted to Kannada dramas succeeded in bringing together theatre personalities from north & south region on a single stage. The festival was witnessed by legendary artists like Sri. Lokanath, Sri. C R Simha and cine artists like Mr. Kashinath and Mr. Makarand Deshpande.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Makarand Deshpande, famed theatrical personality & bollywood actor, recalled his best moments with Kannada theatre legends in his theatrical journey & said, **"Theatre is such a platform that not only provides opportunity to express your emotions but also, helps in creating your own identity. So the younger talents should make use of theatre festivals like Abhinaya to exhibit their inherent talent"**

Kannada theatrical legend Sri. C R Simha who was also present on the occasion said, **"In the development of theatre field, dedicated actors & technicians plays very important role. The contributions of theatre festival like Abhinaya are incredible in introducing such new talents."**

The final plays were judged by the eminent theatre personalities like Sri. Seturam, Sri. Narayana Raichur and Smt. Lakshmi Chandrashekar.

Expressing his opinion during an interview, Sri Seturam said, **"Before displaying any dramas there is a need of thorough study of theatre & its essence to make it a meaningful attempt. In this regard, the younger generation needs to work very hard to have the knowledge of differentiating between right & wrong."**

The teams & artists who emerged as winners in the Abhinaya theatre festival were overwhelmed & shared their happiness on the occasion.

"It is first time that we have taken part in one of the biggest theatre festival like this where the winning team wins a grand prize of Rs. 1 lack! We are lucky to be this year's

winning team. It motivated us to experiment with much more subjects in the future”said Mr. Shashank Shinde, team leader of Kaalayaatre drama.

Ms. Deepa who won the best actress award was thrilled & expressed her joy saying, “**Though I have been actively there in the theatre field for decades, this experience was really amazing. The whole festival was professionally organized & the judgment was well & fair.**”

During the 2 day festival, senior theatre personalities like Akki Channabasappa, Kamalashree, H V Venkatasubbayya were honoured with Abhinaya Ranga Prashasthi.

ABHINAYA - KANNADA THEATRE FESTIVAL RESULTS			
Sl. No	Category	Name	Place
1	Best Play	Kaalayaatre	1 Place
		Rabdi	2 Place
2	Best Director	Prabhuraj- Kaalayatre	1 Place
		Nitish - Rabdi	2 Place
3	Best Actor	Anand – Male Nilluva Varege	1 Place
		Raghavendra - Sanje Hadu	2 Place
4	Best Actress	Deepa - Rabdi	1 Place
		Sri Raksha - Shaalmala	2 Place
5	Best Supporting Role	Pragati - Kaalayaatre	1 Place
		Prakruti Prasad - Rabdi	2 Place
6	Best Set Design	Rajesh Babu - Sanje Hadu	1 Place
		Sunil Shastry - Shalmala	2 Place
7	Best Lighting	Mustafa - Shalmala	1 Place
		Chandrabimba - Sanje Hadu	2 Place
8	Best Costume & Design	Krantiveera Sangolli Rayanna	1 Place
		Kaalayaatre	2 Place