

Natyansh is revitalizing the theatre of substance in lakecity

Rekhha Sisodia

It is regular in our society to assume that if youngsters are doing something, it must be casual or for time pass. And people think once the fire is over, they will get into regular stuff of chilling around like any other youngster. People thought something similar for Natyansh. All the team members who came together to start Natyansh Society of Dramatic and Performing Arts were young, either just out of college or finishing college. None of them had any degree in theatre. They came together because all had the fire and passion to live their lives doing theatre. The theatre group at its infancy was just an initiation of promoting drama activities and narrativising the social homogeneity.

Later on, they irrigated it with compassion towards the genre and ripened it for the portrayal of truth and righteousness. Team has conducted numbers of workshops and campaign to maintain the discipline of theatre, along with this they started to take other workshops as well like painting, film making, direction etc, and much more. Natyansh is now the fam-

ily with more than 200 members.

Artists of Natyansh practice playback theatre along with the sundry forms. Their expertise lies in the street plays, monologues, workshop and seminars, social work, script writing and many such genres. Indian culture and ethos have always fascinated them for performative arts; although they also believe in "Oral Literature" in its original form. They propose unique ideas rather than imitating classics. The city like Udaipur needs closure to such ideas and innovations. Natyansh have been close to the idea of promoting such cultural activities.

On world theatre day, team will be performing an experimental play 'Main Koun Hu?'

World Theatre Day was initiated in 1961 by the International Theatre Institute (ITI). It is celebrated annually on the 27th March by ITI Centres and the international theatre community. Various national and international theatre events are organized to mark this occasion.

Amit Shrimali – Founder and Secretary of Natyansh

No evil exists where art lives. Every

day, we live our dreams for Natyansh. One dream is to make theatre available to everyone regularly. Instead of one show every year, we do street plays regularly and multiple stage shows in a year. The other dream is to make the artists financially sustainable. We envision that people who have a love for theatre don't have to pursue parallel careers for earning money, whereas theatre is able to take care of their expenses.

Ashfaq Noor Khan Pathan – President of Natyansh

Before joining Natyansh I have done lots of street play with various groups. I was searching of a team where I can pursue my passion of theatre.

Natyansh came as a ray of hope and I

immediately became its part. The six years journey of team Natyansh is like a roller coaster. The team has more 10 directors, 20 writers and more than 100 artists and the number is still increasing.

I would suggest everyone to do theatre once in a life. It will change the way of thinking and brings positivity in life.

Mohammed Rizwan Mansuri – Treasurer of Natyansh

I started theatre with Natyansh where I explore my hidden talents which were unknown to me. From writing my first script to directing a play, to managing logistics and resources for Alfaaz (a national theatre festival of Natyansh organised with contribution of people), it's been a very enriching journey. The best thing that happened to me through Natyansh was an opportunity to work with specially challenge children. The kids understood everything and worked

brilliantly. All my perceptions were broken. They have inspired me the most. Whenever I feel low energy, I remember these kids and a spark comes from inside. I feel "if they can do anything, why can't I". Natyansh gave me a reason to live.

Abdul Mubin Khan – Workshop Facilitator at Natyansh

Theatre gave me an opportunity to talk about issues and things that people usually chat over a cup of tea and never do anything about it. But Natyansh helped me to reach out to more people and share ideas for uplifting society. The feedback from audience helped me to enrich and grow not as an individual but collaboratively with people in society. At Natyansh, I realized art is not made for entertainment; its sole purpose is to bring positive social change.

Now I am more focused towards theatre and regularly spread theatre arts through workshop and performances for

children in rural areas.

Rekhha Sisodia – Theatre Activist and program Coordinator of Natyansh

I am part of Natyansh from its beginning. I have been effectively using theatre for creating mass awareness and community development.

Being a woman is in no way a constraint for me in efficient execution of my responsibilities.

My theatre life started with a workshop eleven years ago. I have been in theatre ever since, the journey has been challenging but fun at the same time.

After each show, when someone from the audience comes and shares what changed in their lives after watching the show, I know I want to do this for the rest of my life.

Article Credits Vibhuti Agrawal – Social worker & Pranav Dave – Student of English Literature



SUMITRA MEENA – THE INSPIRING STORY OF A FIGHTER AGAINST ALL ODDS

Udaipur: A primary school teacher, hockey player, a marriage gone wrong, a crestfallen mother and now an AIFF D-Licensed football coach with Zinc Football, 28-year-old Sumitra Meena has lived all the ups and downs of a lifetime in just a span of few years.

As with many girls in the rural areas, Sumitra got married as early as at 17, only to find after a couple of months that her husband is an alcoholic addict. She let go of her studies to look for a job as her husband's earnings were mostly splurged on liquor. After some struggle, she got an opportunity to join a private kindergarten as a teacher.

Three years on, Sumitra was blessed with a baby boy. However, fate dealt her the cruellest of hands, when one day out of the blue, her son who had just turned 7 fell ill. It appeared to be viral fever, but he never recovered. Wiping her tears, she said that she got separated from her husband that year itself.

Sumitra realised she needs to look for a better job to support her mother who was still working as a maid. Zawar is well-known for its football craze and Sumitra being a native of the region was no different. During her childhood, she along with her sister was among the hundreds who would walk a few kilometres hand-in-hand to watch the celebrated Mohan Kumar Mangalam Tournament held every year at Zawar Stadium.

This time she wanted to follow her dream of becoming a football coach, which would also help her stay connected with children. She applied for the AIFF D-License Coaching Course in 2018 and displaying immense strength of character, passed the examination.

Sumitra is now a football coach in Zinc Football Schools. While her mother now cooks only at home, Sumitra is mostly engaged with footballers under the age of 14 years at Pratahpura and Chanawada Zinc Football Schools in the Zawar Epicentre. She has recently registered for her incomplete Bachelors Degree and now, she is focussed on enjoying the bright side of life. "Field janaka time hogayahain. Baccheaate hi honge. Mein chalthoon", she smiled and took off.

Quality Award to Udaipur Beauty Start Up Nuskay

Udaipur: Beauty products StartUp "Nuskay" won the International Quality Award, at a ceremony that was held at Mumbai on 15 March.

The award at the second edition of Brand Impact – International Quality Awards was presented to Sweetie Chhabra, Pooja Chhabra and Drishy Chhabra, founders of Nuskay by Bollywood actress Kareena Kapoor



in a glittering ceremony held at JW Marriott, Juhu, Mumbai. The award function, replete with Bollywood actors and TV stars, ended with a Page 3 kind of Party at Club Enigma. Kareena Kapoor was chief guest at the awards ceremony.

IQAA Awards ceremony was star studded, with eminent personalities, viz. Pahlaj Nihalani, Former Chairman of Central Board of Film Certification; Adah Sharma, Shama Sikander, Aamir Ali, Ritvik Dhanjani, Anil Sharma, Vikas Gupta, Parth Samthaan, Sunil Grover, Mishika Chaurasia, Anisa Butt, Rahul Roy among others who graced the event. The anchor of the evening was Ritvik Dhanjani.

"Water Conservation Award"

Udaipur: On the occasion of "CII-IGBC Members Meet & Awards for Contribution in Green Buildings",

For Royal Harbinger Call

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Geetanjali Medical College & Hospital was awarded "1st Water Conservation Award 2019". The award was honored to CEO Geetanjali Medical College & Hospital, Mr. Prateem Tamboli by Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan, IAS DB Gupta and V Suresh, Chairman-Indian Green Building Council. The Award was a distinguished gesture to honor those phenomenal organizations for water conservation under hospital category. Geetanjali Medical College & Hospital is the only Medical College & Hospital in Rajasthan to be awarded under this category.

HINDUSTAN ZINC FEATURED IN SUSTAINABILITY YEAR BOOK 2019

Udaipur: Hindustan Zinc, the only Indian Mining company featured in The Sustainability Yearbook 2019 by RobecoSAM (Global ESG data rating and benchmarking agency) for second consecutive year as Sustainability Leaders (As Member) out of 76 Metal and mining companies globally.

Sustainability Yearbook is annual publication by RobecoSAM that benchmarks the sustainability performance of the world's largest companies and includes 15% of companies in each industry category.

The RobecoSAM analyzed the corporate sustainability performance of companies across 60 industry category and out of 2686 only 458 companies qualified for inclusion on Sustainability Year Book 2019.

Apart from Hindustan Zinc eight other Indian companies featured in this year's Mahindra, Ambuja cement, Mahindra financial services, Wipro, Tech Mahindra, Infosys, Tata consultancy & Tata Steel.

It's a proud moment for HZL and this achievement is the testament to HZL's strong commitment and continuous efforts towards sustainability.

Pacific Organizes the Tata Crucible Campus Quiz

Udaipur: The Faculty of Management of Pacific University organized the regional round of the highly popular and prestigious All India Tata Crucible Campus Quiz-2019. More than 500 students from various colleges of the region participated in the quiz.

According to Prof. Mahima Birla, dean-Faculty of Management of Pacific University, the Tata Crucible Campus Quiz is one of the most prestigious and awaited contests of the country which is organized every year in several regions of India culminating into the national finals. Taking into consideration the modern, state-of-the-art facilities available at Pacific University, the organizers of the quiz have chosen the University for this Contest and the regional round is being organized here for last two years. The quiz is conducted by India's top-most on-stage quizmaster Gribalashubramaniam who is famous and popular by his nick name 'Pickbrain'.

According to Dr. Shivoham Singh, the convener of the programme, students from several colleges from Jodhpur, Udaipur, Bhilwara, Chittaurgarh and other cities, which included the highly prestigious ones like IIM-Udaipur and AIIMS-Jodhpur, participated in this regional round of the quiz. A total of 250 two-member teams took part in the preliminary written quiz, out of which the top four teams directly qualified for the regional final. There was an on-stage semi final held between the other top six teams out of which two teams qualified for the finals.

Thus, the on-stage Regional Final was held between six teams. The quiz consisting of tricky questions and audio-visual rounds saw a thrilling, keenly fought contest between the finalists. The position of the teams on the score board kept on changing, forcing the audience on to the edge of their seats. Several times, the teams rushed for the buzzer even before the quizmaster finished reading the question. The quizmaster Balasubramaniam added to the fun by his witty comments in between. The audience too, took active part in the quiz and correctly answered several questions which were not answered by the teams on stage.

Finally, two teams from AIIMS-Jodhpur bagged the top two positions. The winners got a cash prize of Rs. 75000/- and the runners-up were awarded a cash prize of Rs 35000/-. Giving away the prizes, Prof Mahima Birla congratulated the teams for their

scintillating performances and also praised the organizers for conducting such a high standard contest for students. The winning team has qualified for the National Final to be held at Mumbai.

40 Women from the state honoured with I m She Awards

Udaipur: The I m she Award was given to the 40 women entrepreneurs on March 16, under a joint venture of M Square Productions and Events and NICC, who achieved a milestone in creating job opportunities with their work. Chief guests of the ceremony were AshwadVohra, managing director of Justa Group, designer Deepika Govind

Ashish Bohra, CEO of M Square Production and Event, Mukesh Madhavani, Bhanupratap Singh Dhayabhai, Arban Nag, Deepika Govind, Arun Mandot, CA Prachi Mehta, collectively graced the ceremony

Jyoti Kukreja, Pallavi Dhupia, Sanha Minhaz, Shalini Bhatnagar, Anjali Salvi, Kamrunisha Shabbir, Arva Turva Vrishna Dhayabhai, Varsha Rao, Sejal Samar Jodhavat, Saloni Nabhanani, Preeti Ranka, Mayuri Sharma, Deepa Damla, Minal Khandelwal, Mala Motwani, Pooja Shah, Nilkamal Agarwal, Kanniz Fatima Paliwala, Kirti Maheshwari, Nirmala Soni, Urvasi Maheshwari, Divya Sharma, Mita Talasera Pokharana, Pooja Pokharna, Shilpa Pamacha, Sunita Singhvi, Niharika Dutta, Laxmi Agrawal, Barkha Sachdev Sen, Kareena Bajaj, Bhavish Kavadya, Bindu Sharma, Anita Gurani, Leena Sharma, Jai Lalwani, Namita Phedi, were felicitated with a citation

On this occasion, Nisha Sheikh, Chandrakala Chaudhary, Sulabha Mehta, and Shanu Lodha were also awarded the winners of IMS Diva. In the beginning, Mr. Mukesh Madhwani of M Square welcomed the guests. The program was conducted by Tarika Dhayabhai.

Neeraja Modi School Two-day Fantasy World Carnival over

Udaipur: Two-day Fantasy World Carnival organized on 16 & 17 at the Neeraja Modi School located at Chitrakoot Nagar.

School Chairman Dr. Mahendra Sojatia informed that children from 2 to 12 years of age participated in various activities related to music, dance, arts, and crafts in this carnival held free of cost. Many exciting gifts are given to the participant children. The stories told through cartoon characters. Creating Clay models under Creative Art were learned by participants by Using the animation technique to explain science and mathematical metrics. Children allowed created projects, artifacts, at their respective homes...



He shared that in order to conduct various activities in Carnival, a special team of 20 specialist teachers not only inspired the students but assisted Principal Indu Dubey of NMS Jaipur. Professor Ranjit Singh Sojatia, the founder of Sogatia Group, said that understanding the psychology of children, in various cultural activities in the carnival & in this Cave carnival puppet shows with a variety of crafts making activity such as Crown Making, Dragon Making, Jewelry Box Making, along with high tech teaching system was our motive he added.

It is notable that the Neeraja Modi School, which has its identity at the international level, is opened in Udaipur, by Sojatia group which is working in the area of education for the last 30 years. Admission is being given to Class VI Nursery from VIII to Neeraja Modi Udaipur. Studying here will be done according to CBSE Board. Air-conditioned bus facility with equipped, Hi-tech, comfortable, air-conditioned, smart classrooms, huge library, and GPS tracking system, is providing NMS. Day-board and very comfortable hostel facilities are also available in the Udaipur.

By the way

Brighter, better and wiser after ejecting from a wrong marriage!

Stella got divorce recently. Her husband Billy started a new life soon with his girl friend. Stella is feeling hurt emotionally. She was a faithful wife but Billy had affairs with girls. He cheated on Stella many times. One day Stella caught him red handed with his girl friend.

It was Stella's decision to leave Billy. Now Stella is going through emotional trauma. She feels dejected and despaired. She has stopped meeting people.

I had read an article in a magazine few years back which had advised females to change their looks from head to toe to get their husbands love back.

"Mera Patiharhalat mein merahai." Females were taught to save their Mangalsutras from other women in 90s.

Indian Cinema has always projected other women as cunning and home breakers. Men were shown innocent as if they were like kids and other women might do black magic and stole them from their very beautiful homely house wives. These women changed their looks and got their husbands back from other women in many hindi movies.

It went through decades. We never portrayed good qualities of other women. We never tried to understand the root cause of failed marriages. There may be thousand reasons behind a failed marriage. Its not always the simple looks of wives that distract males all the time. Females also get indulged in extra marital affairs after compromising in current marriages. When your heart cries, you need a shoulder to cry on. Any gentleman or woman may seem to be an ointment for your open wounds.

I think moving on is a good option in a bad marriage. But making your good marriage a bad one is wrong.

I am not in favour of divorce but at the same time I am not in favour of dragging a relationship which has lost its meaning.

Some people don't want to leave their partners not because of love but they get scared of society's pressure. They can't accept rejections. It's difficult for them to digest the fact that their marriages are not going well. They do not try to save relationships rather than they try to save marriages for their families and children. It's pointless to drag a dead relationship. We must always try to revive a relationship if there is a slight chance of hope. Happiness in any case is essential but married couples turn their fights into ugly battles and knowing this very well that they are never going to win.

Couples use their children against one another. They treat their children as weapons and destroy their innocent minds forever.

High society never bothers about divorces and separations. Sufferers are from middle class society who never takes courage to break the marriages.

No one is happy to be alone in this world. But when you can not live with peace and dignity with each other then it becomes necessary to think over.

Indian society has injected few things in our minds so badly that females have become over sensitive about divorce. Women have taught to treat their husbands as Gods. They bear violence and blames to keep these marriages intact.

Very few take step to move on in life without getting affected.

Mostly family members and friends stop females to take divorce. They treat these females as criminals who are responsible single handedly for such a fate.

In many cases females become brighter, better and wiser after getting a divorce. When they choose to remarriage a person,

females become wiser and more emotionally stable. They can handle the in-laws, the house, petty fights and sensitive situations very well. They know when to start and where to end a battle. Second marriages are more successful in foreign countries. They don't feel awkward doing this. They give preference to individual's choice. But in our society we always give preference to society and neighbors and not to our own happiness.

We try to please each and every person and end up losing ourselves completely. Indian politics is not so bad sometimes. Indian families may give complex to these politicians. We don't seek happiness in our marriages, we seek everything else except happiness.

Indian males may keep girl friends secretly but never try to think about the repercussions and ill effect on their wives. It's better to continue their marriages or to leave their spouses for better choices. If they can cheat silently, their wives have full right to search for better partners.

If people can cope up with extra marital affairs, they must continue to live with each other but without dragging the issue. It's your personal choice. No one has a right to teach you against your will. In such cases couples must not blame others. It is unacceptable in your opinion then it's better to leave your partner without putting pressure.

After taking the decision, it's pointless to feel dejected and melancholy. Feeling shattered after a divorce is plain silly. Remember, both of you ejected to save yourself. In fact, your newly-single status today signals the start of a brighter, better, wiser future. You're absolutely done making compromises. Why to feel dejected and confused after taking a bold step?

Always think twice before leaving a person and try to revive but do not look back after taking a strong decision.

May be some better future partners are waiting for you to be happy ever after. Give a chance to yourself to regain confidence and start a new life. Your children will never suffer to see you happy. You can save them from ugly fights and lost childhood.

- Hritu Sodhi