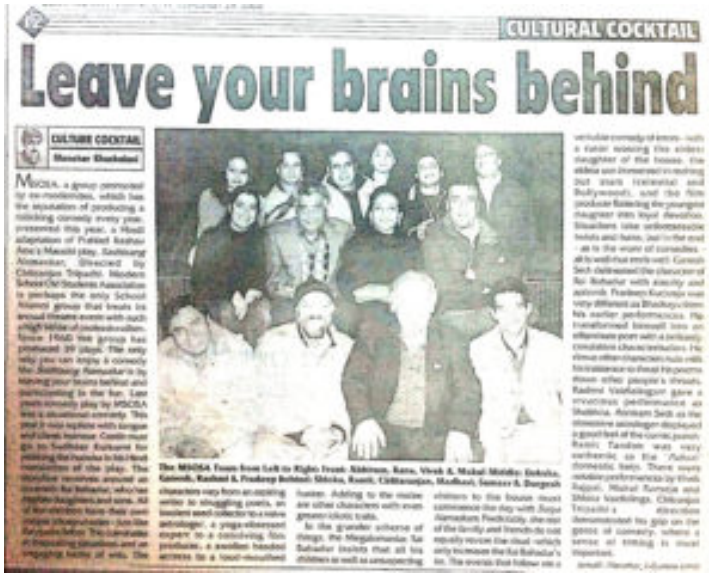
Leave Your Brains Behind by Manohar Khushalani



CULTURAL COCKTAIL

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MSCOA, a group connected by ex-residences, which has the reputation of producing a rollicking comedy every year, presented this year, a Hindi adaptation of Prakash Kadhav Atre's Marathi play, Sashtang Namaskar. Directed by Chitranjan Tripathi, Modern School Old Students Association is perhaps the only School Alumni group that treats its annual theatre event with such a high degree of professionalism. Since 1968 the group has produced 39 plays. The only way you can enjoy a comedy like Sashtang Namaskar is by leaving your brains behind and participating in the fun. Last years comedy play by MSOSA was a disastrous comedy. This year it was replete with tongue and cheek humour. Could I must go to Sudhakar Kulkarni for making the humour in his Hindi translation of the play. The storyline revolves around an eccentric Mr Bahadur, who has eligible daughters and sons. All of the children have their own unique characteristics - just like the characters in the play. The characters in interesting situations and an engaging series of events. The characters vary from an aspiring writer to struggling poets, an insolent word collector to a naive astrologer, a yoga-obsessed expert to a conniving film producer, a swollen headed actress to a loud-mouthed hostess. Adding to the melee are other characters with even greater idiotic traits.

In the grander scheme of things, the Megalomaniac Mr Sukhadev insists that all his children as well as unsuspecting visitors to the house must commence the day with Surya Namaskars. Each day, one of the family and friends do not equally receive the ritual - which only increases the Mr Bahadur's ire. The events that follow are a

The MSOSA Team from left to Right: Front: Sikhram, Renu, Vivek A. Mukul Middle: Ushaka, Ganesh, Kushal A. Pradeep Behind: Shivka, Ronit, Chitranjan, Madhavi, Sameer S. Durgesh