

# Samik Bindu's STORY OF LORI

## Director: Mayukh Dutta



Playwright: Samik Bindu

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Group: Chetla Krishti Sansad, Kolkata

Language: Bengali

Duration: 1 hr 30 mins

### The Play

The play opens with two cats ushering in a retro-future backdrop. Three notorious business tycoons monopolize the 'intangible cultural heritage' through diplomatic support of the greedy state-minister, by luring the Master Chef King, an indifferent, careless food aficionado. 'Nerdy', a pseudo-human-robot designs surveillance gadgets to track hapless commoners, daring their basic rights of singing lullabies and cooking food, which have now become red-listed. Public life is jeopardized with hungry, sleepless children and a helplesking in self-proclaimed exile. Ultimately the cats come to rescue by finding a special little girl. Together, they find the king and make him cook a unique recipe with powers to instil humane

sanity in 'Nerdy' by deleting his robot-mode.

#### Director's Note

The story is set in a fairy-tale-like background. The play symbolically depicts how crony capitalism is denying the basic rights of the people via monopolizing the natural resources of a country. The greedy corporates use state-of the-art technology to accomplish their mission. In the play three notorious businessmen monopolize two intangible cultural heritage of the people; bed-time folk-tale lullabies, ritually sung by the people for their children to make them fall asleep at night, and traditional recipes. Red-listing and commercialization of these basic rights, along with severe surveillance, results in sleepless nights, hungry, imprisoned offenders, and choked public life. Two cats find a little-girl and the king, a Master chef, to cook an ancient recipe which destroys the 'villains' strategies, finally restoring the situation to some extent.

#### The Director

Mayukh Dutta has performed in more than 40 plays of Chetla Krishti Sansad. He has worked with renowned directors of Bengal like Pinaki Guha, Raja Bhattacharyya, Manish Mitra, Tulika Das, Debesh Roychowdhury and many others. He has attended workshops of many eminent personalities like Goutam Halder, Anjan Deb and Feisal Alkazi. Story of Lori is his first directorial work in theatre.

#### The Playwright

Dr. Samik Bindu is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Zoology at Panchanan Barma University (Coochbehar, West Bengal). He is a member of Chetla Krishti Sansad and is associated with children's theatre for last 30 years. He has acted in 15 plays produced by the Sansad and written four plays staged by it.

#### The Group

Chetla Krishti Sansad was established in 1985 for the welfare

of children, and with the dream of making a social change by giving expression to the thoughts of down-trodden children through theatre. Till date it has staged more than 40 productions and has received rave reviews. Now, the group has extended to a large family; the ones who started their journey as child artists in the group have now grown up to mature theatre workers. In addition to children's welfare, the group is now equipped with productions by adults. Although the group is run only by donation and meager financial support from the common people, without any Government or non-Government sponsorship, the determination and discipline of our theatre workers give us the hope to change the mode of life through theatre.

#### Cast& Credits

Bhije Biral: Partha Debnath

Biral Tapaswsi: Piali Samanta

Mr. Baron: Aritra Dey

Mr.Tycoon: Tanmay Banerjee

Mr.Magnate: Abhishek Dey

Mantri Charmagaj: Swarnendu Das

Raja: Adrija Basu

Adabata & Man 1: Chiranjeev Haldar

Jeera Bata & Man 2: Ayan Debnath

Mr.Nerdy & Sena 2: Arkoranjana Bhattacharya

Miss Info: Shubhannita Guha / Monomita Chaudhury

Special Child: Mrityika Chakraborty

Children 1: Tanirika Das

Children 2: Dibyatanu Dutta

Children 3: Aman Ghosh

Senapati: Sundarraaj Roy

Radhuni & Man 3: Anirban Saha

Women 1: Pritha Biswas

Woman 2: Sayantika Dey

Woman 3: Srabana Chattopadhyay

Sena 1: Mayukh Dutta

Music: Subhadeep Sarkar & Aritra Dey

Set Design: Swarnendu Das

Stage set-up: Surojit Dey

Make-up: Bhanu Mitra

Light: Kalyan Ghosh

Costume: Piali Samanta

Props: Adrija Basu

Choreography: Sreya Das

Special thanks to Pinaki Guha, Samarjeet Dey, Sayantani Dey, Rwitobroto Mukherjee, Pushan Dasgupta, Anwesh Bhattacharya, Kaushik Pal, Arka Chakraborty, Debajyoti Bhattacharya, Tunak Banerjee

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