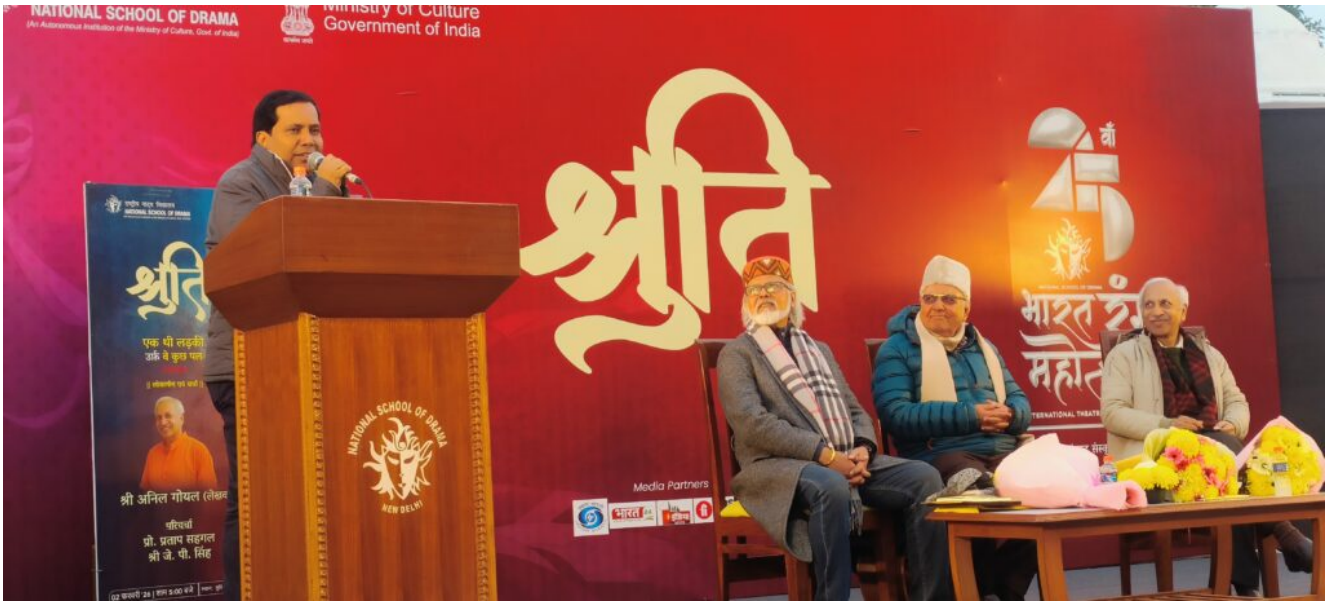
Ek Thi Ladki Urf Ve Kuch Pal: A Tale of Three Generations Unveiled at Bharat Rang Mahotsav 2026



As part of the ongoing ***Bharat Rang Mahotsav (BRM) 2026, the National School of Drama (NSD)*** recently hosted a compelling book launch and panel discussion for ***Ek Thi Ladki Urf Ve Kuch Pal,*** a new play by veteran journalist and playwright **Anil Goyal**.

Far more than a mere showcase of performances, BRM continues to serve as a vital intellectual hub where theater practitioners, scholars, and students converge to explore the evolving landscape of dramatic literature.

Memory as a Narrative Tool

Held at the Shruti Manch within the NSD campus, the event was moderated by ***Prakash Jha,*** who steered the conversation toward the play's unique structural and linguistic nuances.

Anil Goyal described the work as a pure love story, spanning a vast temporal arc from 1974 to the present day. By weaving together the experiences of three generations, the play offers

a panoramic view of changing emotional sensibilities.
Key highlights of the discussion included:

- Non-Linear Storytelling: The play eschews a traditional chronological plot, moving instead through the fluid corridors of memory and emotion.
- Dual Personification: In a striking directorial choice, the protagonist is represented by two versions on stage simultaneously—the younger self and the elder self—symbolizing the internal dialogue between past and present.
- The Language Debate: Addressing the "Ritikaal" (classical/ornate) influence on his prose, Goyal noted:

"Today's youth possess a remarkable sensitivity. Even if the language feels 'old-world,' their willingness to embrace its depth is a heartening sign for the future of Indian theater."

*Distinguished speakers **Prof. Pratap Sehgal and Shri J.P. Singh** emphasized that the play prioritizes the "state of mind" over mere plot points. They noted that because the narrative returns to the past as frequently as a flickering memory, it defies conventional scene-and-act structures, lending it a distinct, avant-garde identity.*

The panelists praised the work for its delicate portrayal of womanhood, time, and the ephemeral nature of "lost moments."

*The launch of **Ek Thi Ladki Urf Ve Kuch Pal** underscores the true essence of the **Bharat Rang Mahotsav:** viewing theater not just as a staged spectacle, but as a living tradition of dialogue and ideas. Anil Goyal's latest contribution is a testament to the enduring power of simplicity and the complexity of the human heart.*