

**A Celebration of Heritage,
Harmony, and Dialogue:
Sanskar Bharati's Cultural
Symposium Explores the
World's Ancient Traditions**



New Delhi, May 31: The cultural symposium “Ancient Traditions of the World”, organized by the Kala Sankul of Sanskar

Bharati, unfolded as a captivating confluence of music, dance, and intellectual discourse. Blending artistic excellence with thought-provoking dialogue, the evening offered audiences a rich exploration of India's cultural heritage while drawing meaningful connections with ancient civilizations across the globe.

The event was organized as part of **Kala Sankul's ongoing monthly cultural dialogue series**, a thoughtful initiative aimed at nurturing awareness and appreciation of India's rich artistic and civilizational heritage. The series brings together distinguished practitioners, scholars, and audiences to engage with subjects that bridge art, culture, history, and philosophy. By encouraging dialogue through music, dance, literature, and scholarly discourse, Kala Sankul aspires to strengthen cultural consciousness and promote a deeper understanding of the values that connect diverse traditions across time and geography.

The programme commenced with a traditional **lamp-lighting ceremony**, led by Chief Guest **Sandeep Kaveeshwar**, National Organising Secretary, International Center for Cultural Studies (ICCS), New Delhi, alongside **Ashok Tiwari**, Central Office Secretary of Sanskar Bharati, and **Raj Upadhyay**. The ceremonial inauguration was followed by the rendition of Sanskar Bharati's anthem, setting a dignified and culturally resonant tone for the evening.

The artistic journey began with a mesmerizing performance by renowned sitar virtuoso **Pandit Pankaj Vishal**, accompanied by celebrated tabla maestro **Ustad Mustafa Hussain**. Their masterful interplay of melody and rhythm transformed the auditorium into a space of deep musical immersion. The delicate nuances of the sitar, seamlessly woven with the expressive cadence of the tabla, showcased the timeless beauty and sophistication of India's classical music tradition. The performance not only demonstrated technical brilliance but also evoked the meditative and spiritual essence that lies at

the heart of Indian classical music.

The evening continued with an enchanting Kathak recital by acclaimed dancer **Kripa Tendulkar**. Rooted in the rich aesthetics of the **Lucknow Gharana**, her performance reflected a graceful synthesis of expression, rhythm, technique, and storytelling. Through intricate footwork, elegant movements, and evocative abhinaya, she captivated the audience and reaffirmed the enduring relevance of Indian classical dance in contemporary cultural life. Her presentation beautifully illustrated how traditional art forms continue to evolve while remaining deeply connected to their cultural roots.

Following the performances, Chief Speaker **Sandeep Kaveeshwar** delivered an insightful address on the theme "**Ancient Traditions of the World.**" He highlighted the remarkable cultural parallels that emerge when studying ancient civilizations across continents. Drawing attention to shared symbols, philosophies, artistic practices, and spiritual traditions, he emphasized the importance of exploring these interconnected histories to better understand humanity's collective cultural inheritance. He noted that many elements of Indian culture find echoes in diverse civilizations around the world, opening new avenues for comparative cultural study and dialogue. His lecture was both enlightening and reflective, encouraging the audience to view world cultures through a lens of mutual respect, curiosity, and understanding.

One of the defining strengths of the event was its seamless organization and graceful presentation. **Ritambhara**, serving as the compère for the evening, guided the programme with warmth, clarity, and poise, ensuring a smooth transition between performances and discussions. Her engaging presence helped maintain the flow and coherence of the evening's diverse segments.

The event concluded with a formal vote of thanks delivered by

Vishwadeep, who expressed gratitude to the artists, speakers, guests, organizers, and attendees for their contribution to the success of the symposium. This was followed by a serene recitation of the **Shanti Mantra** by **Brijesh**, bringing the gathering to a contemplative and harmonious close.

The success of the symposium was made possible through the dedicated efforts of the Kala Sankul team. **Garima Rani, Shraboni Saha, Sneha Mukherjee, Pradeep Pathak, Mrityunjay, and Bijendra Kumar** played instrumental roles in planning and executing the event, contributing significantly to its smooth and successful realization.

More than a cultural programme, the symposium emerged as a meaningful platform for dialogue between India's artistic traditions and the ancient cultural legacies of the world. Through the harmonious union of music, dance, and scholarship, the evening celebrated the enduring power of culture to connect communities, transcend geographical boundaries, and illuminate humanity's shared heritage. The event stood as a reminder that in an increasingly interconnected world, the study and celebration of ancient traditions continue to inspire cultural understanding, intellectual exchange, and collective reflection.

Artistic Expression: Freedom and Boundaries – A Thought-Provoking IGNCA Symposium

Marking 75 Years of the Indian Constitution



New Delhi, 8 February 2026:

Commemorating 75 years of the Indian Constitution, a one-day national symposium titled “**भारतीय संविधान के 75 वर्ष पूर्ण होने के उपलक्ष्य में आयोजित एक दिवसीय संगोष्ठी कला अभिव्यक्ति : स्वतंत्रता एवं मर्यादाएँ**” was jointly organised by the Ministry of Culture, Sanskar Bharati and the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA). Held at the IGNCA auditorium on **8 February 2026**, the event unfolded in a dignified yet intellectually vibrant atmosphere, emerging as a meaningful cultural platform that explored the dynamic relationship between art, constitutional values and contemporary society during the ongoing *Amrit Mahotsav* period.

The programme commenced with a ceremonial lamp-lighting by Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi, **Dr. Sandhya Purecha, Shri Abhijeet Gokhale, Shri Vinod Narayan Indurkar and Shri Prabhat Kumar**. In their opening remarks, the speakers highlighted the intrinsic connection between the Constitution, culture and artistic practice. They emphasised that the Indian Constitution is not merely a legal framework but a living embodiment of cultural consciousness – one that empowers artists with freedom of expression while simultaneously

reminding them of social responsibility and ethical boundaries.

The **first session**, devoted to literature, featured insightful reflections by **Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi, Dr. Alka Sinha and Shri Kishor Makwana**. The panel discussed literature as a bridge between power structures, social realities and human sensitivity. Speakers observed that while the Constitution grants writers the freedom to articulate truth fearlessly, it also calls for thoughtful and responsible use of language.

In the **second session on visual arts**, **Dr. Nandlal Thakur, Shri Neeraj Gupta and Ms. Situ Kohli** explored the evolving landscape of contemporary and digital visual expression. They emphasised that visual art communicates beyond words and holds the power to mirror society. Constitutional freedoms, they noted, enable artists to challenge norms and provoke dialogue, provided that sensitivity and cultural balance remain central to creative practice.

The **third session**, centred on performing arts, brought together **Dr. Sandhya Purecha, Shri Chetan Joshi and Ms. Vidya Shah**. Through discussions on theatre, music and stage traditions, they reflected on the stage as a powerful medium for social engagement. Artists, they suggested, carry the responsibility to foster awareness, inclusivity and dialogue through their performances.

Cinema formed the focus of the **fourth session**, where **Shri Atul Pandey, Shri Mustaza Ali Khan and senior journalist-film critic Shri Anant Vijay** examined the wide-reaching influence of films on society. The panellists stressed the delicate balance between creative liberty and social accountability, highlighting the growing relevance of ethical storytelling in contemporary media landscapes.

During the **valedictory session**, **Sanskar Bharati's National Organisation Secretary Shri Abhijeet Gokhale** drew connections

between Bharat Muni's *Natyashastra*, the rights and duties enshrined in the Constitution, and the need for contextually relevant artistic creation. He underscored that artistic freedom achieves its true significance only when aligned with cultural awareness and societal responsibility.

A distinctive feature of the symposium was the presentation of short street plays before each session, offering audiences an engaging thematic introduction. Complementing the discussions was an exhibition showcasing the contributions of women artisans involved in the making of the Constitution and highlighting the artistic dimensions embedded within its spirit.

Overall, the symposium emerged as an enriching and reflective cultural initiative – encouraging artists, scholars and audiences to re-examine the Constitution's 75-year journey through the lens of creative practice. By fostering dialogue across disciplines, the event reinforced the enduring role of art as both a mirror to society and a catalyst for thoughtful change.

Dance Tribute at Kala Sankul: A Divine Confluence of Navaras and Navadurga



On 28th September, 2025, at the auspicious time of the festive season, the monthly stage art symposium organized under the aegis of Sanskar Bharati transformed the **Kala Sankul** premises in New Delhi into a vibrant cultural celebration. The theme “Navaras and Navadurga: Harmony of Emotion, Devotion and Art” brought together diverse performances and reflections that illuminated the depth and spiritual essence of Indian culture.

The evening commenced with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp by **Padma Shri Shovana Narayan**, whose presence added grace and solemnity to the occasion. The aura was filled with devotion and beauty, as though the blessings of Goddess Durga herself sanctified the gathering.

The first performance came from **Sh. Abdul Khalid**, whose Kuchipudi presentation vividly portrayed the essence of the nine sentiments (navaras). Following this, **Ms. Muskan Nagpal** enthralled the audience with her Kathak recital, embodying the nine divine forms of Goddess Durga. Her mastery of rhythm, expression, and movement captivated the audience, drawing

prolonged applause that resonated throughout the auditorium.

In her keynote address, chief guest and veteran Kathak danseuse **Padma Shri Shovana Narayan** remarked:

“Art is not merely a medium of expression; it is a bridge that unites emotion, devotion, and social consciousness. The union of Navaras and Navadurga is a living testimony to the vastness and profundity of Indian culture.”

Her words inspired the gathering to reflect deeply on the spiritual and cultural dimensions of art.

Art connoisseurs, students, and intellectuals in attendance experienced a rare blend of Indian classical dance and the spiritual power of culture. The performances were met with appreciation and admiration, leaving an indelible impression on all.

The Kala Sankul family of Sanskar Bharati expressed gratitude to the participants and guests, affirming that such events would continue to be organized regularly, preserving and promoting the invaluable heritage of Indian art and culture.

The event was successfully coordinated by **Sneha Mukherjee**, with stage comparing by **Garima Rani** and a gracious vote of thanks by **Shruti Sinha**. Valuable contributions were also made by **Raj Upadhyay**, Senior Announcer **Bharti Dang**, tabla maestro **Pradeep Pathak**, **O P Sagar** along with **Harshit Goyal**, **Raman Kumar**, **Mrityunjay**, **Faizy Abdul Kalam**, **Lavanya**, **Brajesh**, **Satyam** and others, whose collective efforts added grandeur to the evening.

Ultimately, the symposium held on 28th September, 2025 emerged as a spiritual dance offering to Goddess Durga, leaving the audience with a sense of fulfillment and cultural pride.

A Theatrical Ode to the Stories of Santosh Choubey



A celebration of Santosh Choubey's literary world on stage

New Delhi, September 5, 2025. The *Sammukh Auditorium* at the National School of Drama (NSD), New Delhi, witnessed a

powerful confluence of literature and theatre with the staging of two acclaimed stories by **Senior Poet–Novelist, Director of Vishwarang, and Chancellor of Rabindranath Tagore University, Sh. Santosh Choubey**—*Unke Hisse Ka Prem** and *Garibnawaz*. The plays were directed by veteran theatre director **Devendra Raj Ankur** and presented by **Sambhav Art Group, Delhi**, under the aegis of **Vanmali Srijan Peeth**.

Sh. Santosh Choubey, celebrated for his profound and sensitive contribution to Hindi literature and theatre, has carved a niche through his exploration of human emotions and the complexities of contemporary society. His stories, marked by simplicity of language and depth of expression, continue to inspire both readers and performers.

In *Unke Hisse Ka Prem*, the fragmented relationships and emotional struggles of an institutional boss are revealed through the unique perspectives of inanimate objects—his desk, pen, chair, diary, and mirror. By transforming these objects into living witnesses, Shri Santosh Choubey's pen captures the poignancy of solitude and the delicate nuances of human vulnerability.

Garibnawaz, on the other hand, starkly contrasts capitalist success with the resilience of the working class. The clash between Vishwamohan's opulent BPO office—symbol of globalized affluence—and the modest yet spirited *Garibnawaz Chicken Shop* next door, becomes a metaphor for the strength of labor and grassroots survival. Here, Sh. Santosh Choubey incisively exposes the paradoxes of urban politics, unauthorized encroachments, and local power nexus.

The stage came alive through remarkable performances by **Nidhi Mishra, Gauri Dewal, Rachita Verma, Amitabh Srivastava, Amit Saxena, Prakash Jha, Harikesh Maurya, and Sahaj Harjai**. The evocative musical design by **Rajesh Singh** and **Sahaj Harjai**, complemented by the lighting design of **Raghav Prakash Mishra**, intensified the impact of the narratives. The evening was

skillfully anchored by **Vikrant Bhatt**, Associate Director of Tagore Theatre School.

Adding a visual dimension, an exhibition based on the works and books of Shri Santosh Choubey was curated by **Prashant Soni, Vikrant Bhatt, Uendra Patne, and Yogesh Kumar**. The *Sammukh Auditorium* was packed with an enthusiastic audience, who responded with admiration for this rare blending of literature and performance.

Without relying on elaborate sets or theatrical gimmicks, the evening reaffirmed that the strength of theatre lies in the richness of writing and the precision of direction. **The pen of Sh. Santosh Choubey and the direction of Devendra Raj Ankur together proved that great stories are as alive on stage as they are in the imagination of the reader.**

Reflecting Society Through Playwriting: A Mirror to Social Challenges



New Delhi, August 31

The monthly symposium at the Central Office of *Sanskar Bharati* once again emerged as a vibrant confluence of art, literature, and culture. This gathering witnessed a rare harmony of music and theatrical literature, leaving the audience deeply moved and inspired.

The evening commenced with a soulful performance by young vocalist **Suhani Kaushik** and flutist **Sumit Sharma**, whose melodious notes transported the audience into a realm of devotion and artistic grace, setting the perfect tone for the sessions ahead.

The highlight of the symposium was the intellectual discourse on "*Playwriting from a Social Perspective: Possibilities and Challenges*", led by **Prof. Rajnish Kumar Mishra** of Jawaharlal Nehru University and **Prof. Chandan Chaubey** of Delhi University.

Prof. Mishra emphasized that no art can achieve true meaning without immersing itself in the life of the people. He

observed that even today, society often feels uneasy when confronted with literature that dares to mirror its realities. Prof. Chaubey, on the other hand, highlighted how devotional traditions found their widest expression through performing arts, which have carried culture directly into the hearts of the masses. He further reflected on the responsibility of playwrights, noting that their craft contributes to shaping the cultural and historical dimensions of character creation.

The thought-provoking addresses inspired the audience towards deeper reflection and dialogue. The session was skillfully moderated by **Raj Upadhyay**, Stage Arts Coordinator of Delhi Province.

More than just a platform for artistic expression, *Sanskar Bharati's* monthly symposium reaffirmed its role as a forum for meaningful intellectual engagement on art, society, and culture. Once again, the event underscored the timeless truth that art, literature, and society together shape the cultural personality of the nation.

The program was graced by eminent Mohan Veena artist **Ajay Kumar**, Sanskar Bharati Delhi Province Minister **Dr. Prashant Upadhyay**, along with distinguished professors, research scholars, and students of Delhi University.

The success of the symposium was made possible through the dedicated efforts of Program Coordinator **Kuldeep Sharma**, Symposium Coordinators **Shruti Sinha, Bharti Dang, Garima Rani, Sneha Mukherjee, Harshit Goyal, Saurabh Tripathi, Vijender Kumar, Sushank, Brijesh** and team members. A special appreciation goes to **Vishwadeep**, who not only played a vital role as co-coordinator but also skillfully conducted the stage proceedings with grace and excellence.

Guru Purnima Celebration at Sanskar Bharati, Delhi – A Sacred Confluence of Art, Devotion, and Tradition



On the auspicious day of 10th July 2025, the Guru Purnima Celebration held at the Kala Sankul premises of Sanskar Bharati, New Delhi, transformed into a vibrant cultural

expression of India's eternal guru-shishya tradition – not just in words, but through the language of dance, music, and soul.

The program began with Nataraja worship and Guru Vandana, infusing the atmosphere with a rare spiritual luminosity. The sacred invocation was not merely a ritual—it became a journey of surrender, discipline, and artistic elevation.

To confine Nataraja merely as the “Lord of Dance” would be to overlook His cosmic magnificence. This deeper essence came alive in the words of Chief Guest, Sh. Murari Sharan Shukla, who eloquently remarked that Nataraja is not a symbol bound to art alone, but the embodiment of motion and universal consciousness itself. His reflection echoed through the hearts of the audience:

“The posture of Nataraja resonates with the movement of the cosmos—it is the rhythmic expression of Shiva's creative power.”

Though Sh. Shukla's address came at the culmination of the event, its philosophical resonance permeated every segment of the evening.

The musical trio that followed offered a melodic glimpse into the richness of Indian ragas. Yagyata Gaba's performance reflected youthful innocence intertwined with musical maturity. Then came Urja Akshara, who rendered a composition in Raga Desh, evoking the musical aroma of the monsoon. Finally, the ensemble presentation by disciples of Sneha Mukherjee – Manya Narang, Ruhi Jaiswal, Lavanya Sinha, and Siddh Jaiswal – stood as a living testimony to the bond between guru and disciple.

Their collective performance glowed not only with technical finesse but with grace, harmony, and discipline. It was an offering, filled with sweetness and reverence, a melody wrapped in devotion.

The sequence of dance performances that followed created a visual symphony for the soul. Nandini's Kathak recital, a tribute to her guru Smt. Shruti Sinha, was a dance of devotion – an artistic pranam. Through the rhythm, expression, and precision of Kathak, she sculpted an unspoken homage to her teacher. The event was anchored gracefully by Garima Rani, whose poised compering added charm to the proceedings.

This celebration was far more than an annual ritual – it emerged as a sacred yajna, where each disciple offered their art in heartfelt tribute to their guru. Every act on stage was not just a performance, but a living sentiment – of respect, surrender, and the continuation of a timeless legacy.

This Guru Purnima will be remembered not only for its artistic brilliance, but because it upheld a profound truth:

That the Guru is the light of life, and Art is the language of that light.

Sanskar Bharati must be lauded for keeping this flame alive – not just on stage, but in the spirit of every participant. In honoring the guru, they honored the very soul of Indian cultural heritage.

**Three Days of Percussion
Magic: Kala Chaitanya's
Tabla-Dholak Workshop in**

Priyadarshini Vihar

New Delhi, Priyadarshini Vihar –From May 27th to 29th, **Kala Chaitanya Society** organized a grand three-day Tabla and Dholak workshop at the *Priyadarshini Vihar Club*. The workshop was conducted by **Dr. Shrikant Shukla**, an awardee of the Uttar Pradesh Sangeet Natak Akademi and a distinguished expert in Tabla and Dholak. Art enthusiasts from Delhi-NCR and nearby regions participated with great enthusiasm.

The workshop was completely free of cost and open to individuals of all age groups. Participants received intensive training in the fundamentals of Tabla and Dholak, including basic techniques, understanding of rhythmic cycles (taals), hand coordination, and practical aspects of rhythm and tempo.

Sh. Vishavdeep, the President of Kala Chaitanya Society and an internationally acclaimed Kathak artist, shared that the objective of this workshop was not only to impart training but also to preserve and pass on vanishing art forms to future generations. He remarked, "Just as ancient languages like Prakrit and Pali faded away due to lack of preservation, many art forms are also nearing extinction. It is our collective responsibility to ensure that cultural conservation does not remain confined to words, but is practiced at a grassroots level".

The Society's Secretary, **Sh. Pradeep Kumar Pathak**, emphasized that the initiative aimed to connect people from all walks of life with music. He believes that engagement with the arts positively influences one's mindset, sensitivity, and social behavior.

The workshop commenced with a ceremonial welcome by **Sh. Ashok Tiwari, Secretary of Sanskar Bharati** – Kala Sankul, who felicitated **Dr. Shrikant Shukla** with a traditional angavastram. The event was graced by several esteemed

personalities, including senior Kathak guru **Sh. Subhash Chandra**, renowned theatre artist and Head of the Theatre Department at Modern School, Delhi, **Sh. Raj Upadhyay**, Secretary of Priyadarshini Vihar Club, **Smt. Shikha Sobti**, and Head of Dance at Mata Gujri School, **Smt. Ruchika Bagga**.

Over the course of three days, the workshop fostered an atmosphere of inspiration and deep emotional engagement. Participants described the experience as invaluable and expressed a keen desire for more such initiatives in the future.

**Grace and Glory: Padma Shri
Nalini-Kamalini Illuminate
Kala Sankul Symposium**



The monthly cultural symposium held at Sanskar Bharati's central office, *Kala Sankul*, has blossomed into a vibrant celebration of Indian art and heritage, where the essence of tradition comes alive in its most graceful form. This month's gathering was made truly special by the **presence of the Chief Guest, Padma Shri Smt. Nalini-Kamalini**, the renowned Kathak duo, whose distinguished contribution to Indian classical dance brought gravitas and inspiration to the evening.

The program began with the **auspicious lighting of the ceremonial lamp**, symbolizing the light of knowledge and culture. The ceremony was conducted by **Padma Shri Shrimati Nalini-Kamalini, Sh. Vijay Kumar** (Regional Organizational Secretary, Sanskar Bharati), **Sh. Ashok Tiwari** (President, Kala Sankul), **Smt. Shruti Sinha**, and **Sh. Raj Upadhyay** (Coordinator, Performing Arts, Delhi Region).

The cultural performances commenced with a mesmerizing Kathak recital by **Ms. Anjali Munjal**, who beautifully portrayed the depth of classical dance through an elegant blend of *laya*, *taal*, and expressive *bhaav*. She was followed by **Ms. Damini**

Bisht, whose powerful Kathak performance, enriched with emotive expressions and rhythmic finesse, captivated the audience.

The evening reached a deeper resonance when the **Chief Guest, Padma Shri Shrimati Nalini-Kamalini**, took to the stage to address the gathering. Kamalini ji shared,

“Art is not merely an expression—it is the beauty of the soul, shaped by years of devotion and discipline. It refines the individual and uplifts society.”

She emphasized the value of consistency, purity, and dedication in artistic practice, highlighting art’s transformative power as a tool for national development.

“In today’s world,” she said, “art awakens inner consciousness, fosters social unity, and becomes a powerful medium for cultural resurgence.”

The symposium was gracefully anchored by **Garima Rani** and **Shri Vishwadeep**, who maintained a seamless flow and upheld the dignity of the evening. The event was enriched by the presence of many eminent personalities from the cultural sphere, including **Sh. Pradeep Mohanty** (Registrar, National School of Drama), **Kathak Guru Subhash Ji**, **Chhau exponent Sapan Acharya Ji**, renowned Kathak artist **Anu Sinha**, **Deepali Sinha**, and the duo **Vikash-Aparna**, among others.

The success of the event was the result of sincere efforts by a committed team of volunteers: **Shraboni Saha**, **Sneha Mukherjee**, **Sakshi Sharma**, **Bharti Dang**, **Priyanka**, **Nandini**, **Aanchal**, **Ayushi**, **Sakshi**, **Tarushi**, Senior Theatre Artist **Shyam Kumar**, **Kuldeep Sharma**, **O.P.Sagar**, **Saurabh Tripathi**, **Raman**, **Harshit**, **Digvijay Pandey**, **Brijesh**, **Shivam**, **Satyam**, and **Mrityunjay**—whose dedication brought vitality to the entire celebration.

Toward the end, Smt. Shruti Sinha delivered a heartfelt vote of thanks, expressing gratitude to all artists, dignitaries, and organizers. The symposium concluded with the **collective chanting of the Shanti Mantra**, a sacred moment that left an everlasting impression of the divinity and elegance of Indian art and culture in the hearts of all present.

“आत्मज्ञान” : A Vivid Exploration of Identity Through the Art of Uttarakhand



Held from **May 19 to 22, 2025**, at **Kala Sankul**, Sanskar Bharati's esteemed cultural centre in **New Delhi**, the group art exhibition “आत्मज्ञान” (meaning *identity*) is a compelling tribute to the artistic spirit of **Uttarakhand**. Organized by the **Rangeet Art Centre, Haldwani (Nainital)**, the exhibition aims to give national visibility to the region's artists—both emerging and established.

This thoughtfully curated event showcases contemporary artworks that are deeply rooted in the cultural soil of Uttarakhand. It presents a striking fusion of folk traditions and modern expression, offering viewers a fresh perspective on the region's identity, struggles, and everyday beauty.

The **inaugural event** was attended by notable figures including **Shri Ashok Tiwari** (Central Executive Member & Secretary, Sanskar Bharati), **Shri Digvijay Pandey** (Manager, Kala Sankul), **Shri Himanshu Dabral** (Programme Coordinator, Lalit Kala Akademi), and senior artists **Naval Kishore** and **Ajay Sameer**, who lent their support and presence to the cause of regional art.

The artworks featured in **संस्कृत** reflect the landscapes, lifestyles, and layered emotions of mountain life. From the role of women in society to the quiet resilience of remote communities, each canvas tells a story with nuance and sincerity. In some works, traditional folk art forms like *Aipan* are reimagined through a contemporary lens—bridging past and present in powerful visual narratives.

The exhibition includes works by a diverse group of artists: **Tshering Negi, Priyom Talukdar, Kusum Pandey, Papil Manna, Maninder Singh, Shanu Sharma, Chetan Joshi, Kaveesh Nabiya, Ritika Bhatt, Dipanshu Dugtal, Khasti Palari, Riya Kabdal, and Archita Padiyar.**

Despite their varied techniques and themes, what unites them is a shared commitment to giving voice to Uttarakhand's cultural heritage.

Located in the heart of Delhi, **Kala Sankul** is more than just a gallery—it is a dynamic space for artistic exchange rooted in Indian knowledge traditions. The venue regularly hosts panel discussions, performances, and cultural programs, making it an ideal platform for showcasing regional creativity on a national stage.

In essence, **आयुध्या बाबु** is not merely an art exhibition—it is a cultural statement. It reaffirms the idea that art, when grounded in identity and tradition, can transcend regional boundaries and speak to a larger collective consciousness.

Ayodhya Babu Sanak Gaye Hain— A Mirror to Modern Madness



On April 29, 2025, the Sammukh auditorium of the National School of Drama, New Delhi, witnessed a deeply moving theatrical experience as part of the '**Katharang**' series. The play "**Ayodhya Babu Sanak Gaye Hain**", presented by Mailorang (Maithili Lok Rang) and staged by Sambhav Theatre Group, resonated profoundly with the audience. Based on a powerful

short story of the same name by noted writer Umashankar Chaudhary, the production explored the contradictions and emotional fragmentation in contemporary society through an impactful dramatic interpretation.

Directed by Professor Devendra Raj Ankur, the play reflected a sharp eye for detail and a deep sense of social sensitivity. He intricately wove the essence of the original story into the dramatic structure, using characters as instruments to deliver a scathing commentary on present-day societal realities.

Amit Saxena delivered a layered and sensitive portrayal of the son. His internal conflict, the clash between duty and emotion, and the discomfort arising from Ayodhya Babu's supposed madness were brought out with striking realism.

Hema Bisht, as the mother, left an unforgettable impression – especially in the final scene where her silent, broken presence on the deathbed conveyed volumes. Her performance evoked quiet grief and emotional depth.

Amitabh Srivastava brought the complex and multi-dimensional character of Ayodhya Babu alive on stage. His portrayal transcended mere eccentricity, revealing a soul tormented by truth and resistance against social hypocrisy. His 'madness' became a metaphor for the courage to speak truth in a world of convenient lies.

The lighting design by Raghav Prakash Mishra played a vital role in enhancing the emotional gravity of the scenes. Particularly in the strained moments between mother and son, the lighting subtly underlined the unspoken pain and tension.

With its naturalistic language, piercing dialogues, and emotionally resonant characters, the play captivated the audience from beginning to end. It was not merely a source of entertainment, but an invitation to introspect.

“Ayodhya Babu Sanak Gaye Hain” compels us to ask: who is truly

mad – the one who dares to speak the truth, or the one who comfortably lives with lies? This remarkable production by Maithili Lok Rang and Sambhav Theatre Group stood out as a shining example of theatrical depth, creativity, and social commitment. By the final scene, the audience was not only emotionally moved but left with lingering questions and reflections.