

# Shib Mukhopadhyay's Play: Mahabharat 2

Playwright: Shib Mukhopadhyay

Director: Arna Mukhopadhyay

Group: Natadha, Howrah

Language: Bengali

Duration: 3 hrs

## The Play

The period of fourteen years of exile is over for the Pandavas. It is the time for the law to take its rightful course; Duryodhana is supposed to hand-over the land of Indraprastha to his cousins. He denies returning the rightful share. Draupadi urges the Pandavas towards war. At this moment of crisis, the Pandavas seek Krishna's advice. Krishna agrees to come to Hastinapur for discussion. He meets Bhishma Pitamaha, Karna, Shakuni and Gandhari and requests them not to wage a war. Duryodhana agrees to return the land but there is a mass upsurge against returning the land to the Pandavas. War becomes inevitable.

## Director's Note

Man desires everything for himself. He wishes to possess not only that which is his but also that what is not. In this greed he forgets that he too has a past, he too has kin and kinsmen. Slowly and steadily man moves towards decadence where everything is denuded and only the 'me' remains, isolated in the abyss of time. We have tried to understand the pulse of the modern times in the mirror of the mythology. We have tried to convey the stereotypes of human reality in the characters of Duryodhana, Krishna, Draupadi, Arjuna etc. We delved deep to understand the changing facade of modern urban civilization and were amazed to find that Mahabharata is so contemporary!

The Director

Arna Mukhopadhyay is an actor and director with an M. Phil in Dramatic Arts. He started directing plays in the year 2007. Some of the plays directed by him are Ebong Socrates, Caesar-O-Cleopatra, Eka Tughlaq, Bishkaal, Shesh Rakshya, Aleekbabu, Athhoi, and Mahabharat 2. He has also acted in all the plays directed by him, as well as in many plays produced by other popular groups of Kolkata. He has been an actor-trainer imparting theatre training to the youth.

### The Playwright

Shib Mukhopadhyay has written more than sixty plays. He has adapted the plays of Tennessee Williams, Bertolt Brecht, Jean Paul Sartre, Anton Chekhov and William Shakespeare. The first part of Mahabharata written by him ended with the Pandavas going to exile. This presentation is a sequel to the same.

### The Group

Natadha was established in 1974, and besides performances and training, the group conducts social activities, festivals and publications on theatre. Natadha runs a regular theatre centre at Howrah, West Bengal. It publishes Natyamukhapatra, the only Bengali theatre newspaper which has been published every Thursday for 23 years. The group has staged Raktakarabi for almost forty years.

### Cast & Credits

Gandhari Sadhana Mukhopadhyay  
Dhritarashtra Koushik Chattopadhyay  
Uttora Upabela Pal  
Arjuna Arpan Ghoshal  
Abhimanyu Rishav Basu  
Draupadi Sohini Sarkar  
Draupadi's attendant Anurupa Sen  
Nakula Milan Kundu  
Sahadeva Sarthak Ash  
Bheema Sumit Panja  
Yudhishtira Joydev Ghosh  
Kunti Saptadwipa Chattopadhyay

Krishna Rudrarup Mukhopadhyay  
Dushshasana Sourav Samanta  
Duryodhana Arna Mukhopadhyay  
Bidura Subir Goswami  
Shakuni Ritam Sarkar  
Bheeshma Saumen Bandopadhyay  
Drona Susanta Chakraborty  
Bhanumoti Swagata Rit  
The father Subrata Chattopadhyay  
Ambassador of Virata Tufan Singharoy  
Sanjaya Sayam Das  
Karna Anujoy Chattopadhyay  
Bohitra (Attendant to Dhritarashtra) Saheb Dutta  
Budhhika (Attendant to Gandhari) Tanuja Dey  
Young Duryodhana Tathagata Pal  
The Warrior Arup Chakraborty  
The People Madhuparna Hatua, Shrabanti Saha, Shrutakirti Rooj,  
Anupurba Goswami, Amit Das, Pushpendu Sardar, Souvik Mohanta,  
Sourodeep Mukherjee.

Set Milan Kundu  
Assisted by Sarthak Ash  
Set Making Subol Maiti  
Lights Jayanta Ghosh (Kalyan)  
Music operation Bandan Misra  
Costume making Bimal Maiti  
Paintings Susanta Chakraborty  
Make-up Joydev Ghosh  
Dance Movements Sumit Panja  
Publicity material Sourav Samanta  
Teaser Saikat Chattaraj  
Logo Design Subrata Chattopadhyay  
Production control Sadhana Mukhopadhyay

Playwright Shib Mukhopadhyay  
Music & Direction Arna Mukhopadhyay

Contacts

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