

# Mahakavi Bhas Rediscovered by Manohar Khushalani



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**SPECTRUM**

## Mahakavi Bhas rediscovered

**CULTURE EXCLUSIVE**  
Manohar Khushalani

Mahakavi Bhas, an ancient Indian epic playwright's plays were rediscovered by U. Ganapat Shastri, an erudite scholar, as late as 1923, although, as you know, classical scholars, for scores of years, on a plain as early as 1700, in Kerala, mentioned the name as one of the great predecessors in the list of Mahakavyakritas. The rediscovery of Bhas's plays is, therefore, an achievement of the late 19th century. It is the discovery of Bhas's plays, therefore, that has led to the rediscovery of the Mahakavi Bhas. The discovery of Bhas's plays is, therefore, a rediscovery of the Mahakavi Bhas. The discovery of Bhas's plays is, therefore, a rediscovery of the Mahakavi Bhas.



to the performance. The story unfolds with a Brahmin family which represents the Mahakavi Bhas. The story unfolds with a Brahmin family which represents the Mahakavi Bhas.

Ganapati takes Bhas to his mother, not realising that his play will be performed for the first time. He is, therefore, a rediscovery of the Mahakavi Bhas.

played with vigour by Utag Bhas. Some of the characters were double cast in the same show with following characters and a leading actor, Venkay Narayan (N. Narayan) gave an excellent account of the Mahakavi Bhas.

great amount of interest in this play has started. It is, therefore, a rediscovery of the Mahakavi Bhas. The rediscovery of Bhas's plays is, therefore, a rediscovery of the Mahakavi Bhas.