

# Natsamrat Theatre Festival: A Celebration of Dramatic Excellence



## Play Scene

Delhi's renowned theatre group "Natsamrat" once again mesmerized audiences with the 22nd Natsamrat Theatre Festival. This grand theatrical event brought together a collection of eight remarkable plays, each offering a unique blend of humor, drama, and thought-provoking narratives. With powerful performances and engaging storytelling, the festival successfully captured the essence of theatre, leaving a lasting impression on spectators.

The festival commenced on March 15 at 6:15 PM with Anton Chekhov's "The Proposal." This classic farce, filled with witty dialogue and situational humor, kept the audience engaged. The actors skillfully portrayed the irony of a marriage proposal turning into a heated argument over land and

a pet dog. Their impeccable timing and expressive performances made the play a delightful experience. Following this, at 7:30 PM, the satirical play "Kallu Nai MBBS" took the stage. This play blended comedy with social critique, addressing themes of domestic violence and gender dynamics. The protagonist, a drunken barber, finds himself in a bizarre situation where he must endure beatings to prove his worth as a doctor. The fast-paced narrative and lively performances ensured continuous laughter while subtly conveying a deeper message.

On March 16, the audience witnessed "Chekhov Ka Sansar," a dramatization of two of Chekhov's iconic stories. The play beautifully combined humor and profound emotions, bringing out the essence of human relationships and social contradictions. The nuanced portrayal of characters and their inner conflicts made it an enriching theatrical experience. Later that evening, at 7:30 PM, "Kambakht Ishq" explored the theme of companionship in old age. The story of two elderly individuals navigating loneliness and seeking emotional support struck a chord with the audience. The actors delivered heartfelt performances, making the play both touching and thought-provoking.

The festival continued on March 22 with "Kuch Tum Kaho Kuch Hum Kahein" by Ashish Kotwal. The narrative revolved around an elderly doctor and a lively woman, Mansi, whose contrasting worlds collide unexpectedly. The interplay of their personalities created a compelling and engaging storyline. At 4:15 PM the same day, "Meri Biwi Ki Shaadi" by Ranbir Singh entertained audiences with its hilarious premise. The protagonist, a hypochondriac, believes he is nearing death and becomes obsessed with planning his wife's future after his demise. His anxious attempts to arrange her remarriage lead to an unexpected twist, making the play both humorous and insightful.

On March 29 at 3:00 PM, the thought-provoking drama "Aadhi Raat Ke Baad" by Dr. Shankar Shesh was staged. The story

followed a thief who, instead of stealing, breaks into a judge's house to confess a crime he witnessed—a powerful businessman's involvement in a journalist's murder. Afraid for his life, he seeks imprisonment as his only refuge. The intense dialogues between the thief and the judge exposed the flaws in the judicial system, leaving a lasting impact on the audience. The festival concluded with “Kaisa Hai Yeh Paisa” by Shyam Kumar at 4:15 PM. This emotional drama explored the complexities of family relationships and material greed. A devoted father, who spent his life caring for his children, is neglected in his old age. However, when the children discover he is about to receive a large fortune, their attitude takes a drastic turn. The play's gripping narrative and emotional depth made it a memorable finale to the festival.

The festival's success was driven by the stellar performances of actors Vishwajeet, Munmun, Shivangi, Aman Kumar, Raman Kumar, Dhananjay, Ansh Rathore, and Rajan K. Bhatheja. Their dynamic portrayals brought depth and realism to each character, making every play a remarkable experience. Behind the scenes, Sunil Rathore and Suraj Singh managed stage operations efficiently, assisted by Himanshu and Nisha. Raj Rani's makeup artistry enhanced the visual appeal of the characters, while Rohit Prasad and Rekha Devi contributed to costume design. Vansh Rathore handled the musical arrangements, enriching the dramatic atmosphere. Under the expert direction of Shyam Kumar, each play maintained a unique artistic essence. Hosted at LTG Auditorium, Mandi House, the festival witnessed enthusiastic participation, with audiences applauding every performance. The overwhelming response reaffirmed the timeless charm of theatre and the vital role of groups like Natsamrat in preserving and promoting this rich cultural tradition.

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# The Triumph of Theater on Delhi's Stage through Natsamrat Natya Utsav



Recently, Delhi's theater organization Natsamrat presented a total of eight of its seven different plays. Where the audience appreciated all the plays very much. The special thing about Natsamrat's plays is that this organization performs plays that touch the souls of the audience, giving heart-touching messages to the society through laughter or simplicity. These plays were staged in LTG Auditorium, Mandi House, New Delhi.

The play 'Fauji', written and directed by Sanjay Basliyal, was staged on 16 March at 3 pm and the play "Sakharam Binder", written by Vijay Tendulkar and directed by Vishwajit Alexander, was staged at 4:15 pm on the same evening. The play

“Kuch Tum Kaho Kuch Hum Kahan” written by Ashish Kotwal and directed by Shyam Kumar was staged on 17 March at 3 pm and the play “Kambakht Ishq” written by Satya Prakash and directed by Shyam Kumar was staged on the same evening at 4:15 pm. Went. The play “Comedy Junction”, written by Anton Chekhov and directed by Fareed Ahmed, was staged on March 23 at 3 pm and the play “Chandralok.com”, written by Harishankar Parsai and directed by Rakesh Kodinya, was staged at 4:15 pm. The comedy drama “Kallu Nayi MBBS”, written by Molière and directed by Shyam Kumar, was staged on 30 March at 6:30 pm and 7:45 pm (2 shows).

All the actors associated with the drama created a different place in the minds of all the viewers with the magic of their acting. One audience even said that our family always waits for your plays. Another viewer said that Natsamrat’s plays are such that every age member of the family feels happy. Natsamrat director Shyam Kumar said that we will continue to bring such plays in front of the audience and through our plays will continue to give messages to the society on deep topics through laughter.

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# **Natsamrat Theatre Festival spreads its wings to Mumbai**

**By Shraboni Saha**

After establishing itself in Delhi, Natsamrat is now steadily making a mark in Mumbai as well. It successfully organised the 3rd Mumbai Theater Festival for Maharashtra audience





Natsamrat brought the Kumbh of plays for Mumbaikars i.e. 3rd Mumbai Theater Festival where five different plays were staged on May 26, 27 and 28 at Creative Adda Auditorium, Versova, Andheri West, Mumbai.

On May 26, at 6:30 pm, the play Napunsak, written by Manjul Bhardwaj, was staged and at 8:00 pm, the play Teen Bandar, written by Prabuddha Joshi, directed by Nagendra Kumar Sharma, both plays were staged.

The play Aadhi Raat ke Baad which was written by Dr. Shankar Shesh was staged on 27th May at 6:30 pm and the play Chukayenge Nahi, written by Dario-Fo and adapted by Amitabh Srivastava was staged at 8:00 pm and both the plays are directed by Chandrashekhar Sharma.

On May 28, at 7:30 pm, the play Kambakkht Ishq written by Satya Prakash was staged and the play is directed by Shyam Kumar, director of Natsamrat.

Artists from Delhi, Ambala, Mumbai presented the five different plays at the theater in Mumbai. In these plays, there was humor, adventure as well as social messages for the audience. Seeing the audience of Mumbai, it seemed as if they had a lot of love for theatre, that's why the entire auditorium was packed on all three days. Natsamrat director Shyam Kumar says that if anyone wants to give something to the society, it can be done through drama and the audience definitely pays attention to it because it does not give stress to the mind, instead it gives a beautiful message through entertainment.

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## **Natsamrat NatyaUtsav Schedule March 2022**

During the six-days there will be participation from ten different directors on one platform. The directors are: Chandrashekhar Sharma, Vishaw Deepak Tripathi from Rohtak,

Rajesh Tiwari, Ashraf Ali, Varun Sharma, Sunil Chauhan and Shyam Kumar and the plays are 'Lajwanti', 'Gadhe Ki Barat', 'Kambakht Ishq', 'Jaanch Padtal', 'Charandas Chor', 'Aadhe Adhure', 'Digdarshak', 'Shikasta Booton Ke Darmiyan', 'Chuhal' & 'Ek Ruka Hua Faisla'.

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## 16th Natsamrat Natya Utsav opens in the Capital 6th March '19



**16th Natsamrat Natya Utsav**  
6th to 10th MARCH, 2019  
10 Different Plays (In Hindi)

Play	Writer	Director	Group	Date	Time
Waiting for Godot	Translation: Anand Subramanian Writer: Samuel Beckett	Direction: Mohit Tripathi	Group: Renaissance Theatre Society, Delhi	On 6th March, 2019	At 8:30 pm
Chamkaur Ki Garhi	Writer: Dr. Hardev Singh Direction: Haseet Singh Sidhu	Group: Haseet Singh Sidhu	Group: Haseet Singh Sidhu	On 7th March, 2019	At 8:30 pm
Salyan Bhaye Kotwal	Writer: Vasant Sabharwal Direction: Sanjay Bhaskar	Group: Multi Art Cultural Centre, Kurukshetra	Group: Multi Art Cultural Centre, Kurukshetra	On 8th March, 2019	At 8:30 pm
Gorakhchandha	Writer: Jayvardhan Direction: J.P. Singh	Group: Rangmanch, Delhi	Group: Rangmanch, Delhi	On 9th March, 2019	At 8:30 pm
Sandhya Chhaya	Writer: Jayvardhan Direction: Sukesh Sharma	Group: Theatre Art Theatre, Chandigarh	Group: Theatre Art Theatre, Chandigarh	On 10th March, 2019	At 8:30 pm
Beemar	Writer: Rasool Misson Manto Direction: Pritika	Group: Ashoka Theatre Society	Group: Ashoka Theatre Society	On 6th March, 2019	At 8 pm
Djinns of Eidgah	Writer: Ashraf Ali Direction: Ashraf	Group: Ashraf, M.D. Lal Nohu College	Group: Ashraf, M.D. Lal Nohu College	On 7th March, 2019	At 8 pm
Chetna	Writer: Saanvi Direction: Saanvi	Group: Mook, Shri Anandika College (Rohtak)	Group: Mook, Shri Anandika College (Rohtak)	On 8th March, 2019	At 8 pm
The Shadow Box	Writer: Michael Cressley Direction: Chandra Kumar	Group: Vignani, Shri Vignani College	Group: Vignani, Shri Vignani College	On 9th March, 2019	At 8 pm
Einstein	Writer: Mahan Mahalanobis Direction: Atul Anand	Group: Rangmanch, ARSO College	Group: Rangmanch, ARSO College	On 10th March, 2019	At 8 pm

Venue:  
Muktadhar Auditorium  
18-19, Bhai Veer Singh Marg, Gole Market, ND-01

For More Details:  
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Entry Free

Natsamrat is one of Delhi's oldest and most consistent theatre groups. Since its inception in 1998, Natsamrat has presented 1265 shows of 35 renowned plays. Ably led by Actor, Director and Visionary Shyam Kumar, whose philosophy has really been not only to evolve his own group but also to create space for all other theatre groups which are battling heavy odds to survive in theatre. Thus 16 years ago, when Natsamrat was barely four years old, he started the **Natsamrat Natya Utsav** so



that other theatre groups also get a platform to perform. Three years ago, again Natsamrat widened its landscape by starting a Natsamrat Mahavidyalaya Natya Utsav, a student theatre festival, providing a parallel platform for the upcoming theatre generation to evolve and grow. Thus despite limited resources such a grand festival has evolved and grown. Natsamrat theatre festival thus begins with a bang on 6th March 2019 at 6.30 pm with the first performance of **Waiting for Godot**. The schedule is given above and the synopsis of the plays are given below.

On 9th March, at the same venue, Natsamrat will award the Thespians who have been supporting Theatre as Practitioners, on Stage, off stage and as promoters and critics. Read more about elsewhere

#### 1. **WAITING FOR GODOT**

Translation by Krishna Baldev, Witten by Samuel Beckett and Directed by Mohit Tripathi

On 6th March, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.



The plot of Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot* is simple to relate. Two men, Vladimir and Estragon, meet near a tree. They converse on various topics and reveal that they are waiting there for a man named Godot. While they wait, two other men enter. Pozzo is on his way to the market to sell his slave, Lucky. He pauses for a while to converse with Vladimir and Estragon. Lucky entertains them by dancing and thinking, and Pozzo and Lucky leave. After Pozzo and Lucky leave, a boy enters and tells Vladimir that he is a messenger from Godot. He tells Vladimir that Godot will not be coming tonight, but

that he will surely come tomorrow. Vladimir asks him some questions about Godot and the boy departs. After his departure, Vladimir and Estragon decide to leave, but they do not move as the curtain falls. The next night, Vladimir and Estragon again meet near the tree to wait for Godot. Lucky and Pozzo enter again, but this time Pozzo is blind and Lucky is dumb. Pozzo does not remember meeting the two men the night before. They leave and Vladimir and Estragon continue to wait. Shortly after, the boy enters and once again tells Vladimir that Godot will not be coming. He insists that he did not speak to Vladimir yesterday. After he leaves, Estragon and Vladimir decide to leave, but again they do not move as the curtain falls, ending the play.

## 2. **CHAMKOUR KI GARHI**

Wriiten by Dr. Harcharan Singh and Directed by Harjeet Singh Sidhu

On 7th March, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.



‘Chamkour di Gadi’

play Regarded as one of the most important battle of the Sikh history. It was against the Mughal army led by Nahar Khan; the Muslim commander was killed, while on Sikh side the remaining two elder sons of the Guru – Ajit Singh and Jujhar Singh, along with other Sikh soldiers were killed in this battle.

## 3. **SAIYAN BHAYE KOTWAL**

Wriiten by Vasant Sabnis and Directed by Sanjay Bhasin

On 8th March, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.



Saiyan Bhaye Kotwal is a translation of famous Marathi folk play Vichha Majhi Puri Kara, which was written by Vasant Sabnis. The story of the play is focused on the king and his scheming prime minister. As per the hierarchy, the present Havaladar have to be promoted to that post. However, the wronged Havaladar and hi girl Mainavati, a dancer, plans to frame the new Kotwal. The play is based on traditional tamasha and is a slapstick comedy which brings out the political undercurrents of nepotism.

#### **4. GORAKHDHANDHA**

Wriiten by Jayvardhan and Directed by J.P.Singh  
On 9th March, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.



When money becomes the be all and end all of one's existence, when money becomes one's religion then all relations, all ethics and morals are rendered meaningless. When one's sole aim is to accumulate wealth then the person's conniving mind keeps on scheming towards that end. There are some people who

are adept at extracting something out of nothing. The protagonist of this play is such a character who will resort to any means to hoodwink people out of their money. While seemingly he is being helpful and charitable towards others, however, all he is doing is helping himself in the guise of helping others. He believes that there is a certain honesty to his dishonesty. In his games of deceit, he is forced to tell lies after lies till in the end he is so caught up in his web of untruths that he is neither able to give up nor get out. Gorakhdhandha is a fictional play based on true stories. Its dialogues and anecdotes don't just tickle our funny bone but rather force us to break out into bouts of laughter.

## **5. SANDHYA CHHAYA**

Written by Jaywant Dalvi and Directed by Sudesh Sharma

On 10th March, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.



Sandhya Chhaya is a story about an old couple, an aged couple who spent their lives in the upbringing of their children and they are the ones who live alone and long for the love, affection and togetherness of their children. It is a story about a man and woman fondly called Nana, Nani respectively and it deals with the emotional turmoil the parents have to go through. In spite of having being deprived of love from their children, they still have the courage to fight the melancholy and pathos of their lives. They support and love each other and as the play unfolds, the audience also falls in love with them. Older people who are not so useful in today's materialistic age bear the brunt of the changing values. They get lonelier and lonelier. This play is entertaining and simultaneously it tells us about old age and Loneliness. It is

a great play, which can be very easily called a classic of Modern times. They have two sons, Deenu (the elder one) and Nandu (the younger one). Deenu is settled in USA and Nandi is in the Air Force. Deenu very rarely comes to meet his parents. He just sends money at regular intervals, meanwhile as the play progresses, they get to know that Nandu has been killed in the war. The whole play revolves on the nuclear families' concept where in the parents are left alone and their children are settled somewhere else. The whole play is poignant collective mixture of emotions portrayed by an old couple, be it happiness, loneliness, love for kids, their childhood etc. On the whole, the play stresses on the fact and asks the society a very straightforward question that parents who have been there for us the whole life, do they deserve such a lonely old age? Do they really?

### **3rd Mahavidyala Natya Utsav**

#### **1. BEEMAR**

Wriiten by Saadat Hassan Manto and Directed by Prince  
On 6th March, 2019 at 8 p.m.

#### **2. DJINNS OF EIDGAH**

Wriiten by Abhishek Majumdar and Directed by Aadhar  
On 7th March, 2019 at 8 p.m.

#### **3. CHETNA**

Wriiten and Directed by Team  
On 8th March, 2019 at 8 p.m.

#### **4. THE SHADOW BOX**

Wriiten by Michael Christopher and Directed by Chandan Kumar  
On 9th March, 2019 at 8 p.m.

#### **5. EINSTEIN**

Wriiten by Mohan Maharishi and Directed by Abdus Ansari  
On 10th March, 2019 at 8 p.m.