

ABOUT THE GROUP

Rasaranjani, established in 1983 at Hyderabad, is a theatre organisation dedicated to the promotion of Telugu theatre by producing trend-setting plays, and helping other organisations to produce such plays by providing them a platform and find ways and means to create a serious and selfsustaining theatre activity in Andhra Pradesh. It has produced more than 500 plays till date, either by its own Repertory or by other important groups. It has also started a Theatre School which trains young actors, ultimately to work with the Repertory.



ABOUT THE DIRECTOR



Nagabhushana Sarma, a Director,
Playwright, Actor, Researcher and Theatre
Teacher is one of the prominent theatre
directors of Andhra. A doyen of theatre
education in Andhra, he is a playwright with
more than 20 original plays and another 15
adaptations from Sanskrit, English and
modern Indian plays. He has directed 20
plays in English for DCH of which he is a
Director and more than 40 plays in Telugu
including classics such as Mirchakatika,

Mudraraktharam, Raja Onlipus, Doll's House, An Enemy of the People and Emperor Jones. A retired professor in English and theatre arts, Prof. Sarma is on the visiting faculty of several Universities in the departments of theatre and drama.

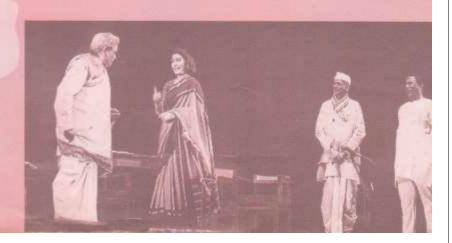
DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The play, Praja Nayakudu Prakashare is about contemporary politics, vitiated by selfish aggrandizement of power-mongers and power-brokers. Tangururi Prakasham Pantulu, the first Chief Minister of Andhra, a victim of such power politics, is the hero of the play. A relentless fighter against corruption in politics, he has to lose power many a time. His name is a house-hold name in Andhra, even today, for he sacrificed everything for his country and sacrificed high positions to keep up principles and public morale. A dauntless fighter, his name is synonymous with selfless sacrifice, uncompromising under severe pressure.

The play is based on Naa Jeevitha Yatra an Autobiography of Prakasham. Episodes were built around ideas and passing incidents and comments consolidate into full-pledged scenes of dramatic conflict.

My main thrust in the play is to examine the status of politician who holds certain democratic principles and ethical stance in life today. I am also interested in graphing the life of a poor-boy coming from utter poverty to climb into the corridors of power by sheer hardwork and honesty. His contrast defines the making of a politician yesterday and today.

Designed as an epic play about politics, the play has two narrrators commenting on the story and relating it with the present. They generalize, intrude, comment and philosophise. It is episodic and uses poetic comentary, songs, slides and several other features to tell the story of today's politicable it in Anchra or anywhere in India. the play is designed for an open stage (proscenium of thrust) with simultaneous staging with locales specified by area lighting.



ABOUT THE PLAY

Praya Najukudu Prakashan is a play on the life of the first Chief Minister of Andhra, Tanguturi Prakasam Pantulu, a dauntless fighter all through his life. Lovingly called the Andra Kesari, 'the Lion of Andhra', Prakasam rose to heights in his profession as lawyer, who has come from a poor family. He left his profession on the behest of Gandhiji and soon led the Satyagraha movement and became the unquestioned leader of the Telugu people. He gave away his entire property and his earnings for the national movement. His sacrifice is still remembered with gratitude by the people.

Prakasam had to fight relentless battles against his political adversaries both at home and in the high command of the Congress party. He fought for what he thought was in national interests, and what he thought to be beneficial to Andhra at large. He fought with the greatest leaders of those days, including Gandhiji and Rajaji for upholding his belief in what was right. His life was perhaps a noble example of the nationalist spirit and also of the real Andhra psyche.

The play tries to show some of the excruciating events in prakasam's life – both personal and political. While his personal life illustrates how a man, confronted with poverty and meagre means of sustenance, can

still fulfil his desires to be a successful barrister and a leader, his political life refelcts the challenges that he faced - challenges that threatened not an individual, but the whole nation, the entire system of national thinking and democracy.

Many of the incidents that showed Prakasam's encounters with the political leaders of the day are directly based on the his autobiography, Naa Jeevitha Yaatra.

B. Ananda Mohan

M. Anjaneyulu

B. Rabbunandan

Pundarikaksha Sarma

Garimella Ramamurthy

Garimella Ramamurthy

C. Narayana Swamy

Kramadhati Venkateswara Sarma

ON STAGE

Narrators Dr. M.N.Sarma, B.P. Prasad
Prakasam III Charla Sriramulu
Narayana Rao B. Narayana
Govindacharyulu M. Francis

Mother (Subbamma) Bürra Subrahmanya Sastry

Sreeramulu I PrakasamI

Immaneni Hanumantha
Rao Naidu Duggirala Someswara Rao

Lakshmamma Bh. Kalyani
Ramaiah C. Narayana Swamy
Ainala Taraiah Naidu K.V. Sastry

Chilakamarthi Kramadhati Venkateswara Sarma

Hema Manasa

Prakasam II Nadiminti Jagga Rao Sriramulu II Nataraj

Swaminathan M. Francis
Kanchumarthi Rumachandra Rao Tulasi Balakrishna
Messenger Malladi Kutumba Sarma
Venkataramana Rao Y. Mallikarjun

Janakiramaiah Chandrakanth Doctor S. Mohan

Satyagraha Volunteers Mohan, Krishnam Raju, Mallikarjun,

Kutumba Sarma, Venugopal, Ramesh Rahamatullah, Manaah, Dayakar, Rajesh, Chandu Vemana

Cosntables Keerthan, Mahesh Kumar, Rameah Kumar, Chendrasekhar,

Commissioner Cunningham Y. Anil Kumar

Magistrate Patale K.B.R. Krishnam Raju

Judge Davis Tulasi Balakrishna

Tenneti Viswunatham Kadapa Koti Reddi Vijayarama Raju Konda Venkatappaiah Kamaraj Nadar V.V. Giri N.G.Ranga T.V. Giri T.V. Raghava Rao

T.V. Raghava Rao B. Narayana
Rajaji Mutnuri Kameswara Rao
Surya Kumari Surabhi R. Syamala
Pattabhi G.B. Rama Krishna Sastry

OFF STAGE

Lights Sets

Costumes & Make up

Audio Poems Rendered by

Songs Stage Manager

Assistant Director Set, Costumes Design & Production Playweight & Direction

Duration: 2.10los.

Jolly Puthusseri, Nagendra Prasad

V. Poornachendra Selchar, Kishore, Venu, Prabhu Harischandra, Gopalswamy

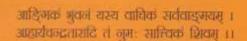
Madhu Kramadhati

Under the guidance of Burra Subrahmanya Sastry

Mohan

Pundarikasha Sarma B.P.Prasad

Garimelia Rama Murthy Dr. M. Nagabhushana Sarma



"Salute the one accomplished in all emotion, whose actions belong to the cosmic body Whose speech is all language, and whose vestaments are the moon and the stars."

From the Abbinaya Dorpan.



National School of Drama

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राष्ट्रीय नाट्य विद्यालय

वहातलपुर हाउँस, भगवान दास मार्ग, नई दिल्ली १९०००१, (भारत) दुरभाव नंत - ०११-३३८७१३७, ३३८९४०२ प्रैंतस: ३३८४२८८