

HYPOTHESIS: DALIT THEATRE FESTIVALS WILL BRING NEW SOLUTIONS TO DEVELOP AND TIGHTEN YOUNG SOCIETY OF INDIA

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Abstract

I have a strong feeling that dalit theatre festivals are the key to kill botheration of cast and greed fascination. Theatre festivals do help to widen the vision of youth to see the facts.



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Introduction:

We are the people, who forget the lively living and morally working. Ethic is the word which has got the different value according to new generation. Power of brain utility, economic strength is the key phrases today. We all know the famous quotation “Human being is a social animal.” Society works, when two or more than two people gather and interacts with each other. Mankind needed to share their experiences in between them. It helps them to regenerate the energy to fight against day today challenges and hurdles. Social interactions motivate emotional competency to develop strong and unified Mankind era. It also helps to relocate and identify their livelihood.

Today, media like internet started to change social mode of conduct. Young generation of the nation feels that they are the part of 21st century. They want to make some big changes in social behavior as well as in the society. Educated young India growing rapidly, it's a positive sign but always looking for a quick result without any contemplation will be dangerous for social harmony and peace. We need to gather young power with positive force. Since last few years, we have seen that social issues gather youth together, but ramble youth haven't a concrete ideology to bring social changes with confidence.

Some queries in my mind needed help to think over these issues. I am confident about theatre persons for that they will definitely find out some solutions. Is theatre helpful to boost up society? Shall we make changes in society through theatre? Is artist become a social face of expressions? And last but not list, are theatre festivals bringing new solutions to develop and tighten young society of India together?

Discussion:

We all are working as a theatre person. This is 21st century era. Science develops new trends and tracks for human life and its livelihood. Each one is trying to cross all boundaries and that's why Socio- cultural terms have to expand their boundaries. Socio-cultural atmosphere of this country will have to make changes in a positive way. Today India is the youngest country in the world. Youth of this country are shining brightly through every corner of human innovations. Innovative work needs inspirations. Positive inspirations towards achievement will always bring positive energy and healthy socio-cultural atmosphere in this country.

I quote 'Pre independence, British bring new changes in Indian politics, culture and communities. Around 1945 Indian society majorly divides in to three classes.

1. New rulers in India called Capitalist and industrialist.
2. A depressed framer under the *Jamindar* and feudalist community.
3. An intellectual and white collar community.'

Social, political, economical, educational and religious life of Indian's having a dramatic change. It's affects socio-cultural nature of India. Influence of British culture did some big changes in Indian literature. Now Indian literature is flows towards realism and naturalism. Theatre also brings changes to its literature and mode of presentation. *Dr. B. R. ambedkar* brings empowerment over the life of the lower cast's community of this country. I quote," *Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar* knew that if he needs to be literate these lower cast people. He has to use the medium like folk art. Folk art was the art cultivated by these people and that is why this medium was more effective to gather these people together. The art form named "*Jalasa*" was used by the followers of *Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar*. I quote," *Ambedkari Jalasa* is the developed art form of *Satyashodak Jalasa* and *Maharastrian Tamasha*." unquote.

Only because of breathless hard work of *Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar*, People from lower cast community raise their heads to speak out against oppressive and partial behavior of the society. They brought up new trend in Indian literature stated as *Dalit* Literature. *Dalit* literature is a stream includes poems, biographies, researches and theatre.

If we gaze keenly in the Marathi literature history we find that Mahatma *Jotiba Phule*, *Valangkar*, *Bansode*, *Torane*, *Kardak* are the pioneer of *Dalit* literature. I quote '*Mahatma Jotiba Phule* is the pioneer of *dalit* theatre. He is the first, who wrote a drama named "*Tritiy Ratna*" in 1855. Unquote, it was the first noble attempt that any on writes a

drama on the life of lower cast community in Maharashtra. *Tritiy Ratna* emphasis and describe the living problems of *Dalit* community.

Dalit Theatre is not just a theatre but also a movement. I quote ‘*Dalit* theatre movement was born and develops in Maharashtra in 1970’s decade. “*Dalit Rangbhumi*” a theatre association established in 1979 by *B.S. shinde, Texas Gaikwad, Ramnath Chavhan* and others. It was the first theatre, which works for lower cast community of Maharashtra.’ Unquote, *Dalit* theatre brings folk theatre in Marathi theatre as a true theatre. It’s began to gather folk artists together. Everyone knew that folk theatre is the basic art and through this all these classical performing arts become *shastra*.

To reconstruct the ideology of life we have to destruct everything. Such types of sentences do some positive changes through living. There are some major issues, put-up hurdles across the entire humanity. *Dalit* theatre started working as a movement of expressionism. Theatre devotees began their theatre movement from the root of this society. *dalit vasti’s* in villages and in the slam areas of the city’s. *Ambedkari jalsa*, Street plays, and one act plays are the key activities of this theatre.

These activists realize the importance of theatre in emerging life of *dalit* community in India. They found that such theatre activities will enhance the thinking power of this community. Now these people started working as a movement. Finally this theatre movement found medium known as *natya sammelan* and the concept of *Akhil Bhartiy Dalit Natya Sammelan* took place.

Akhil Bhartiy Dalit Natya Sammelan was not the concept that only focused on just doing theatre activities. They needed wide canvas to do theatre activities on large scale for this community so they can explore the real power of expression in such community. Theatre can help them to learn and understand their social and political rights. Theatre activists know that this is the way to guide these people effectively. They did this festival activity for many years regularly. This festival organized by *Dalit* Theatre in various cities like *Pune, Ahemdagar, Ambejogai, Aurangabad, Nanded, Nashik, Dule, Pravaranagar* etc. Various issues, problems and challenges regarding *Dalit* people were discussed and performed by these theatre activists through this festival. *Ambedkari Jalasa’s*, full length Dramas and one act plays were the mode of presentation. Problems like ban on water usage, slavery. Issues like untouchability, equal opportunity, conflicts in between upper cast and lower cast, inter-cast marriage were the major subjects for presentation. Since 1970

here are some notable *Dalit* dramatists like *B.S. Shinde* writes *Kalokhachya garbhat, Bhumiputra. Prakash Tribhuvan- Thamba Ramrajya Yet Aahe. Datta Bhagat- Kheliya, Wata-Palwata. Premanad Gajvi- Ghotbhar Pani, Kirvant, Devnavari, Gandhi ani Ambedkar, etc.* and many more who writes and presents dramas to taught and guide *dalit* people.

Why do we have to organize *Dalit* theatre festivals? Generally we know that entertainment makes people relax and talkative. But *Dalit* theatre festival is the place to discuss and understands the issues and problems of lower cast peoples. Attend and participate in such festivals is the opportunity to feel the pain of their soul and being one of them is the mean to go through their real life. A theatre festival like *Akhil Bhartiy Dalit Natyasammelan* brings such experience for the people who don't understand why these people still crying and fighting for socio-cultural freedom.

Conclusion:

This kind of theatre festivals are the fruitful annex of theatre festival movements in India. Doing such activities, we have to able to do some social work. Weather there is an *Akhil Bhartiy Dalit Natyasammelan* or *Akhil Bhartiy Marathi Natyasammelan*, it is more important that we have to organize such festivals through all over India. To discuss and conclude solution on some of the socio-cultural issues and problems. We have to get together to regenerate theatre energy. Writing should be more close to day to day life of a common man. Less discussion and more activities through theatre is the key to develop theatre importance for common people. Theatre festivals give few interesting and exciting experiences to society. These theatre festival activities help us to develop theatre as well as socio-cultural integrity in our country.

Eminent and scholar youth of our nation is well aware of their achievements. We all have to do the best in organizing such theatre festivals for this young hearted people. It helps them to get the knowledge about socio-cultural atmosphere of this country. Once they experience the actual status of their society, I hope, they feel the pain of a lower cast community people. They acknowledge the work of Dr. *B.R. Ambedkar* and they will be able to know, why he insists social freedom first instead of political freedom for the majority people of this country. I have a strong feeling that theatre festivals are the key to kill botheration of cast and greed fascination. Theatre festivals do help to widen the vision of youth to see the facts. They will be able to develop and tighten young society of India together.

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