

DAILY EXCELSIOR

JAMMU – Dec. 30, 2011

EKTA's nine-day drama fest opens at Abhinav Theatre

JAMMU, Dec 29: A nine-day drama festival organized by EKTA- Ensemble Kashmir Theatre Akademi, Srinagar in collaboration with Ministry of Culture, New Delhi, started at the Abhinav Theatre, here today.

Written by eminent playwright of the State, Moti Lal Kemmu, directed by Bhawani Bashir Yasir, the opening performance of the festival, contemporary play 'Trunouve', in Kashmiri, was based on the story of an off-stage ambiguous character who is on visit to a village about which the on-stage characters do not know and identify him with three names to their understanding-thus justifying the title of the play Trunouve-hence portraying a triangular conflict of identities-the crises of Kashmiri 'Sahib' viz- a-viz the identity of every Kashmiri.

The five performing characters of the play are symbolic caricatures of popular folk characters like Ladi Shah, Qadir Bhand, Farzi Loung, and Parrie Woul.

The play was a socio-political satire and at the same time portrayed the common mind-set of rural Kashmiri living in hope and despair.

The dramatic form of the play used elements drawn from Kashmir folk theatre Bhand Pather in a manner to portray contemporary sensibilities.

The cast of the play included Shaukat Hussain Mir, Bashir Lone, Raja Nisar Rah, Shahnawaz Bhat, Junaid A. Rather, Rayees A. Kuchhay and musicians and dancers.

Earlier, before the start of the play, EKTA felicitated veteran personalities of theatre for their contribution to the field including Moti Lal Kemmu, Pran Kishor Kaul, Kavi Rattan Sharma, Sajood Salani and Makhan Lal Saraf.