

For CMAT Exam

INDIAN THEATRE

Introduction

- Jogimara cave and Sitabena caves ---World oldest Amphitheatres
- Oldest treaties for theatre art -----Bharatmuni Natyashastra(200BC-200AD)

Classical Sanskrit Theatre

Types : Lokadharmi --These were realistic depiction of daily life
Natyadharmi ----realistic depiction + artistic narration

Historical Sanskrit plays

Writer	Name of the play
Ashvaghosh	Sariputra Karana
Sudraka	Mrichhakatika
Kalidasa	Malvika Agnimitra, vikram urvashi, Shakuntalam
Bhavabhuti	Mahavir Charitra
Vishakhadatta	Mudrarakshasa
Harshvardhan	Ratnavali

Rules in Classical Theatre :

- Four to seven act plays
- Must have a happy ending
- Male performer
- Well defined opening, progression, pause and conclusion

Features of play :

- Pre play rituals are must

- Initiated with deity worship
- Sutradhar set timing for drama
- Theatre has capacity of at least 400 person
- 2 storeyed building

Reasons for the decline of Sanskrit theatre

- Playwright were becoming more interested in poetry
- Orthodoxy presence and limited Popular appeal of sanskrit language
- Dominance of regional and vernacular language
- Arrival of muslim lead to promotion of Persian language

Folk theatre

- Common people oriented
- Simple languages used
- Depicting local lifestyle, custom and traditions

Types of Folk Theatre

1. Ritual Theatre : Famous during Bhakti movement

Name of the play	Place	Theme	Other Feature
Ramman	Garhwal(Uttarakhand)	Bhumital devta	UNESCO Intangible cultural heritage
Ramlila	Uttar pradesh	Life of Shri ram	Perform by Male Actor
Kala	Assam	Vaishnavite	Perform in group
Ankia nat	Assam	Krishna theme	Started in time of Bhakti movement
Raslila	Gujarat and Mathura region of uttar pradesh	Krishna and Radha	Perform during janmashtami
Bhuta	Karnataka	Dead ancestors	

2. Entertainment Theatre:::::More Secular and depicting Love, valour and day to day activities

Name of the Play	Place	Theme	Other Feature
Bhavai	Gujarat(Kutch and	Romantic	Small play called

	Kathiawar)and Rajasthan		vesha Semi classical music
Daskathia	Odisha	Social and religious	Musical instrument called KATHIA used
Garodas	Gujarat	Romance and valour	By Garoda community
Jatra	Odisha and eastern india	Krishan teaching,include other theme like ram,chandi,shiv	Popularised by Sri Chaitanya mahaprabhu
Kariyala	Himachal Pradesh	Village fair and festival	Performed in open theatre
Maach	Malwa(Madya Pradesh)	Mythological ,Romantic	Dialogues called as Ranger Dohas
Nautanki	North india	Drama,play	Mention in Ain-e-Akbari
Powada	Maharashtra	Valour in Name of Shivaji	Sung by Folk musician Gondhalis and Shahirs
Swang	Haryana,Punjab	Social,Folk and Political	Mostly in Vernacular language
Tamasha	Maharashtra	Humour and erotic content	Mainly performed by Females
Villu pattu	Deccan	Ramayan	Also called as Bow Song
Bhand Pather	Jammu and kashmir	Social satire and mythical stories	Perform by Muslim
Bhaona	Majuli Island (assam)	Vaishnavite	Social and moral message are spread

Theatre of South India

Name of theatre	Place	Theme	Miscellaneous
Yakshagana	Andhra pradesh,Karnataka	Dance drama performed by Jakkula Varu	Originate in Vijayanagara empire Perform by Jakkula varu

Burra katha	Andhra pradesh	Dead ancestor	Used BURRA---a Percussion instrument
Pagati Veshalu	Telangana & Krishna District	Role playing act like Vesham(Disguise)	
Bayalata	Karnataka	Story of Radha Krishna	Perform in Open theatre
Theyyam	Kerala	Ancestors,vaishnavism,Shaktism and shaivism	Costume include head gear and colourful
Krishan Attam	Kerala	Life story of krishna	8 day carnival
Kuravanji	Tamil nadu	Love struck heroine	Dance ballet form

Modern Indian Theatre

- Originated in 19 th century in calcutta
- Theme include Social and religious like sati parhta, caste system,nationalism also
- Commercialized in nature Unlike Open to all
- Parsi theatre started in Gujarat and maharashtra
- Indian People's theatre association was formed in 1943 By CPI
- Today Theatre is performed as an academic session with establishment of
- National school of drama(New delhi)