



राष्ट्रीय नाट्य विद्यालय
NATIONAL SCHOOL OF DRAMA
(An Autonomous Institution of the Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India)
संस्कार रंग टोली
Theatre-in-Education Company (TIE Co.)



Ministry of Culture
Government of India

(Sunday Club Part-III, Group-B (15-19 yrs))
Sunday Club Theatre Festival
KALRAV 2026
Presents



प्रेमचन्द की लडकियाँ

(प्रेमचन्द की कहानियों का नाट्य रूपान्तरण)



Design & Direction
JAYANTA RABHA

Assistant Director & Adaptation
AMIT K. KUSHWAHA

Lyrics & Composition
DEVENDRA AHIRWAR

Acting Training & Set Design
PARAMANAND

Venue: Abhimanch, January 15 & 16, 2026 at 04:00 PM & 6:30 PM

About the play

Premchand ki Ladkiyan weaves together Badi Ghar Ki Beti, Kafan, Doodh ka Dham, and Kayar into a powerful theatrical narrative. The play exposes the silent struggles of women trapped within patriarchy, social inequality, and moral hypocrisy. It reveals how society itself becomes complicit in injustice, shaping oppression through customs, poverty, and power structures. Through pain and endurance, the women emerge as symbols of resilience, where suffering transforms into strength. Their dignity becomes an act of defiance, and their silence turns into a collective voice demanding empathy, social responsibility, and meaningful change in a deeply unequal world.

About the Director



Jayanta Rabha, born in 1990 in the Udalguri district of Assam, completed a Film and Television Appreciation Course at FTII, Pune, after graduating in Acting from the National School of Drama in 2018. He specializes in classical music and has been associated as an artist and teacher with Sanskar Rang Toli of the National School of Drama since 2018. He has acted in more than 30 plays to date.

During his tenure with TIE (Theatre in Education), he directed plays such as Black Rain, Wave, Scene—Unseen, and Dance of the Dice as a group leader. In addition, he has directed Bohag Matho Eti Ritu Nohoy, Hongram, Bhookh, Hickoli, Pagla Ghoda, Homandhor Aan Eti Naam, Rupalim, Ati Riture, and Swapno, which was based on Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream. He has also directed a short film titled Duti Mon.

In 2017, he founded the theatre group “The Canvas – A Field of Creativity,” which has been continuously working with tribal children in the Udalguri district of Assam.



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Working with children aged 15–19 is challenging, yet deeply fulfilling. Despite the difficulties in understanding their varied energies and perspectives, the process was immensely enjoyable.

The objective of this production was to introduce young performers to the world of Munshi Premchand, enabling them to engage with literature and social realities—particularly the position of women in society. While exploring these narratives, it became evident that many of the issues portrayed in Premchand's stories are not confined to the past, but continue to exist in various forms even today, especially in certain regions and villages.

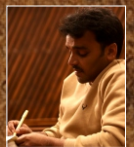
Through reading, discussion, and improvisation, the children reflected on these realities and gradually shaped them into a theatrical form, making the work both relevant and grounded.

ADAPTOR'S NOTE

Creating a unified play from four independent short stories by Premchand was an extremely challenging task from a writer's perspective. The main challenge was to preserve the core sensibility, social context, and ideological essence of each story, while ensuring that on stage they did not appear as separate, disconnected units. To achieve this, instead of relying on an external linking device, an inner emotional thread was explored—centering on shared elements such as women's suffering, poverty, moral conflict, and social injustice.

Another major challenge lay in the characters. Since the characters come from different social worlds, the effort was not to merge them into one, but to create a dialogic resonance—where a character from one story engages with a character from another, yet each behaves strictly in accordance with their original characterization as written by Munshi Premchand. As women stand at the center of all four stories, an attempt was made to develop a unified perspective and a common theatrical language.

Throughout this process, the most difficult task was to maintain a balance between creative intervention and fidelity to the original texts. My objective was that Premchand's stories, without losing their individual identities, could transform into a shared theatrical



-Amit K. Kushwaha



ABOUT MUSIC DIRECTOR



Devendra Ahirwar is from Chhatarpur, Madhya Pradesh. He completed his MPSPD in Acting in 2012 and later graduated in Design and Direction from the National School of Drama (NSD) in 2017. He writes plays, poems, and songs, and also composes music. He is the founder of Mandi House Da Band and is currently in the national spotlight for his musical show “Bahut Zor Se Pyar Laga Hai.”

Pandubbiyaan is Devendra Ahirwar's first poetry collection. He made his Bollywood debut with the film 120 Bahadur, which has received immense love from audiences across the country and around the world and is available to watch on Amazon Prime. In addition to this, Devendra has also worked in Amazon Prime's show “Band Wale,” which is expected to be released this year.

ABOUT ACTING TRAINER & SET DESIGNER



Paramanand, born in 1990 in Delhi, is an actor, writer, and director, and an alumnus of the National School of Drama (NSD), New Delhi (2015–2018). He began his artistic journey with street plays in Delhi University before receiving formal training at NSD. Trained in acting, theatre production, and set design, Param brings a comprehensive understanding of stagecraft to his work. He is also a classically trained dancer in Chhau and

Sketches.

He is the writer, director, and actor of the acclaimed play Shaadi Ke Mandap Mein, recognized among the top five theatre shows in Mumbai, and performed internationally in Russia and Italy. As a set designer, he has worked on notable productions such as Sur Vyanjan Manoranjan, Dance of Dice, U Shape Ki Gully, and Shaadi Ke Mandap Mein. He has also acted in celebrated plays including Mahanagar Ke Jugnu and Middle Class Dreams.

Param continues to actively work across theatre productions and films.



ON STAGE

Bhungi	: Syna Khanna
Bhudhiya	: Manya Malhotra
Prema	: Yashika / Vanshika Rani
Anandi	: Ananya Singh/ Kanishka Sharma
Anandi's mother	: Kanishka Sharma / Ananya Singh
Gangi	: Prachi sain
Nandini	: Vanshika Rani/ Yashika
Shreekanth's mother	: Aadhya saini
Thakurain	: Kriti
Budhi Amma	: Raga Gupta
Prema's mother	: Simar Chawla
Dancers	: Yashika, Vanshika Rani, Manya, Ananya Singh & Kanishka Sharma
Madhav & Shri Kanth	: Prithvi Verma
Ghisu	: Chaitanya
Pandit ji	: Amogh Jaiswal
Benimadhav & Lala ji	: Adhyan Das
Keshav	: Aryan Khera
Bhup Singh	: Mohd. Haaris
Baabu Maheshnath	: Anant raj
Kamta & Lal Bihari	: Saathi



OFF STAGE

Stories	: Premchand
Design & Direction	: Jayanta Rabha
Asst. Director & Adaptation	: Amit K. Kushwaha
Lyrics & Compositions	: Devendra Ahirwar
Acting Trainer & Set Design	: Parmanand
Choreography	: Rakesh Kumar
Light Design	: Saras Kumar
Costume Design	: Savitri Mishra
Acting Inputs	: Ankur Saxena, Manan Dewan & Kaustubh Bhardwaj
Production Manager	: Aman Singh, Dhruvdyoti Rabha
Set Execution	: Rajneesh Moni
Set & Property Assistant	: Achintya Kumar, Dipankar Saikia & Avneet Singh
Vocalists	: Kabir Khan, Khushi Khan, Zara Khan & All on stage, off stage artists
Instruments	: Kabir Khan & Narender Kumar
Painter	: Artist Siddhartha Manna
Music Execution	: Aman Singh
Documentation	: Sanchi Garg
Costume Assist	: Pooja Rajak
Brochure & Poster Design Assistant	: Alok Kumar
	: Kaustubh Bhardwaj, Manan Dewan, Ananya Singh & Chaitanya
Attendant	: Sameer Ahmad

TIE TEAM

<u>Attendants</u>
Sunil Kumar Md. Rashid
<u>Costume Tailor</u>
Sanjay Yadav (Master), Saroj, Phool Singh
Deepak, Museebat and Juvant
<u>Costume Department</u>
Reena Kala
<u>Light Department</u>
Joginder Singh Dharendra Kumar
<u>Sound Department</u>
Mukesh Kumar
<u>Carpentry Department</u>
Ramavtar Meena
Brijesh Sharma and Dharmu
<u>Administration</u>
Darmiyan Singh Shailender Kumar
<u>TIE Coordinator</u>
Jayanta Rabha
<u>TIE Chief</u>
Riken Ngomle

SPECIAL THANKS

Shri Chittaranjan Tripathi (Director, N.S.D)
Shri Pradeep Kumar Mohanty (Registrar N.S.D)
All T.I.E Artists, all departments of NSD
And parents of all children



About The THEATRE – IN – EDUCATION COMPANY

The Theatre – in – Education Company (Samskar Rang Toli) of the National School of Drama was established on 16, October 1989, and is one of the important educational resource centers of country.

PERFORMANCE OF CHILDREN: The TIE Co. consists of a group of actor – teacher working with and performing for children. The major focus of the company is to perform creative, curriculum based and participatory plays in School, designed and prepared specially for children of different age groups.

SUMMER THEATRE WORKSHOP: A one month long intensive “Summer Theatre Workshop for Children” is organized in May-June every year. The workshop aims at the social integration of children from various backgrounds to sensitize them towards themselves and their surroundings through theatre activities in a play way method.

SUNDAY CLUB PART-I : An extension program of the Summer Theatre Workshop, in which children work to devise original performances through a process of improvisation.

SUNDAY CLUB PART-II : A Step further towards developing children's understanding of theatre as an art.

SUNDAY CLUB PART-III: A space for understanding basic theatre elements and bringing them into practice.

TEACHERS WORKSHOP: TIE Co. offers workshops for teachers to establish and apply theatre “meaningfully” with their pupils. It also offers skills, techniques for effective and enjoyable teaching-learning activities in classroom situation and to build a common understanding about the role of drama in overall development of child.

WORKSHOP AND FESTIVAL TOUR: Workshops for colleges, parents, social organizations and children with special needs are also TIE Co.'s important activities. TIE Co. organizes theatre festival and has undertaken extensive tours in collaboration with various departments, organizations, institutions and groups of various states of the country and also abroad.

JASHEBACHPAN: TIE Co. organized its first ever National Theatre Festival for Children, titled “Jashn-e-Bachpan” from 1998 which is now a regular biannual feature of the TIE Company that invites plays by and for children from different parts of the country.

BAL SANGAM: With the start of new millennium TIE Co. started a new biennial event “ Bal Sangam” , a festival of Indian performing folk and traditional arts presented by children practicing these arts from different regions of the country.

