

National Institute of Technology Karnataka Surathkal

Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Program

BHARAT DARSHAN 2018

Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat has been one of the major flagship programme of Govt. of India to bring in cultural integration of the country as a part of the vision to build a New India by 2022. EBSB is being spear headed by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India for promoting National Integration through mutual appreciation of the diverse culture of the country. EBSB was launched by the PM on 31st October 2016 to promote engagement amongst the people of State/UTs in the country so as to enhance mutual understanding and bonding between people of diverse cultures, thereby securing stronger unity & integrity of India.

India's vibrant and rich Culture makes India 'Ek Bharat' and 'Shreshtha Bharat', culture is the way, we Indians live together and remain united. Our Culture is our identity – locally, nationally and globally and we need to regularly celebrate our local culture and cultural acumen and its interface with other cultural spheres around us in any of its manifestations.

Under this program of MHRD, Uttarakhand and Karnataka have been paired to showcase their culture. The programme aims to give a boost to the existing cultural connect between Uttarakhand and Karnataka and enhance interaction between people living in different states. The knowledge of culture, traditions and practices of different states will lead to an enhanced understanding and bonding between each other thereby strengthening the unity and integrity of India. Bharat Darshan is the perfect platform to showcase this amalgamation.

Objectives of Bharath Darshan is:

1. To CELEBRATE the Unity in Diversity of our Nation and to maintain and strengthen the fabric of traditionally existing emotional bonds between the people of our country;
2. To SHOWCASE the rich heritage and culture, customs and traditions of either State for enabling people to understand and appreciate the diversity that is India, thus fostering a sense of common identity;
3. To CREATE an environment which promotes learning between States by sharing best practices and experiences.

Bharat Darshan Programme started at 6.00 pm. On 26th Jan. 2018. Prof. S.M. Hegde, Dean (Students' Welfare) welcome the gathering and explained about Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat programme and our Bharat Darshan. Prof. K. Umamaheshwar Rao, Director of our Institute, inaugurated the programme by lighting the lamp. Then from 7.00 pm. Onwards students from various states, students from Karnataka, followed by Uttarakhand, started the programme. It went to 1.00 am in the night and appreciated by all.

Bharat Darshan is that culture exhibition where all students of NITK come together and celebrate the diversity of our country. Students showcase the culture of their state through different art-forms like dance and drama. All in all it strengthens the sense of pride we take in our country and rebuild our patriotism as we enjoy mesmerizing performances on stage. This bright and colourful extravaganza showcases brilliant performances by groups representing the various states of India. And is held on the occasion of 69th Republic Day. 14 teams, namely Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Bharat, Telangana, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Kerala, North East, Bihar, UP &MP participated this year.

A Report on Drama event

“Kannada Vedike-NITK” as a part of “EK Bharat Shreshta Bharat” Abhiyana in culmination with our partner state Uttarakhand organised a Drama in our Institute on January 2nd, 2018. Performance started at 7:00 pm and around 200 audiences witnessed the wholesome extravaganza of theatre performance. Event started off with the invocation song and followed by a speech by Mr S M Hegde, Dean Student welfare in which he gave an insight of EBSB and importance of EBSB. It was followed by the Drama. Title of the drama was “Andhayuga” and was performed by artists from Gudi Samskruthika Kendra, Shikaripura. The Drama was directed by Mr. Iqbal Ahmed, founder of Gudi Samskruthika Kendra, Shikaripura.

Andha Yug (*The Age of Blindness* or *The Blind Age*) is a 1954 verse play written in Hindi, by renowned novelist, poet, and playwright Dharamvir Bharati (1926-1997). It was the first important play of 20th century India. Set in the last day of the Great Mahabharata war, the five-act tragedy was written in the years following the 1947 partition of India atrocities, as allegory to its destruction of human lives and ethical values. It is a metaphoric meditation on the politics of violence and aggressive selfhood and that war dehumanized individuals and society. Thus both the victor and the vanquished lose eventually. *Andha Yug* highlights the perils of self-enchancement in an anti-war allegory. It explores human capacity for moral action, reconciliation, and goodness in times of atrocity and reveals what happens when individuals succumb to the cruelty and cynicism of a blind, dispirited age. When a ruler, epitomized by a blind Dhritarashtra (physically and also by his ambition for his son Duryodhana), in an equally blind society fail its own side and that of their loved ones. It elaborates on the consequences, when a society fails to stop a cycle of revenge and instead choose a redemptive path, which is always available even in worst of scenarios. This is shown by Krishna's presence amid the mindlessness of fellow human beings. It was only when they collectively reject the voice of wisdom that denigration of war step upon them, leading to wide-scale bloodshed. The story hints at the perils that await a society that turns away from its wisdom culture and instead succumb to the logic of the moment that can be easily swayed by emotions. Bharati uses the war of Mahabharata to make an anti-war statement and raises questions regarding moral uprightness in the wake of Partition-related atrocities, loss of faith and national identity.

This Hindi Drama was translated to kannada by a well-known poet, story writer and translator Mr.Siddhalinga Patnashetty and this translated act was performed by the artists. There were a total of 7 artists including cast and crew. Drama was well choreographed and well scripted. Everyone who witnessed the Performance appreciated the performance.

It was an act of 90 mins, around 9:00 pm performance came to an end and a few Uttarakhand boys spoke a few words on the experience and learnings of the drama as well as a few words on culture, diversity and traditions of uttarakhand. Event was wined up by a vote of thanks. Overall the Event was a grand success and it truly lived up to the motives of “EK bharat Shreshta bharat”

Report by

Yogesh N