



Kids Corner & Much More

Gift to Education to under-privileged kids

"There are multiple organizations that are diligent towards social work and are working even at a global platform. Each has its own level, own limit and area of work. The efforts put by Udaipur Lakecity Round Table India and Ladies Circle India towards building classes and providing education to the less privileged is commendable."

Chief Guest Mayor Chandra Singh Kothari spoke about the organizations while inaugurating the classes constructed at the Vidya Niketan Sr. Sec. School, situated at Badgaon, Manoharpura.

He further added that it gives an immense pleasure and satisfaction if work towards the betterment of society. He also appealed all to promote the Narendra Modi's campaign of Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao.

Udaipur Lakecity RTI's planning coordinator Shashank Singhvi informed that the RTI is an international leveled organization that was commenced in 2011 and has been working effectively towards education, health and medical etc.

Chairman Nitin Gattani informed that the organization has constructed 6 rooms on 1st floor, 4 rooms on 2nd floor with principal room, one store room, drinking water facility and separate toilets for boys and girls in a budget of Rs. 41 Lac.

During the function, school management committee's President Khubilal Singhvi, Saurabh Kothari, Manoharpura Corporator Bhagwan Kharol, Corporator Atul Chandaliya, Ladies Circle's Chairperson Sangeeta Gattani, secretary Lovely Hingad and school staff with kids were present.



A talk on mouth cancer

A talk on mouth cancer was organized in joint efforts by the GBH memorial cancer hospital and Muskaan senior citizens club of Udaipur. The program was organized in the Oriental palace hotel. In the program, Dr. Kuresh Bambara threw light on the cancer and its treatment. He said that the treatment is possible with surgery, medication, or chemotherapy. "Which of these technique will be used at what stage depends totally on the stage of the tumor. The idea remains to destroy cancer cells without affecting other cells," said Dr. Bambara. With the director of Muskaan club Krishna Gopal Gattani, other members including president Ratan Sukhwai, and editor Shyam Sundar Rajora. Group director of GBH memorial cancer hospital Dr. Anand Jha said that the hospital has appointed specialists for all types of cancers. "We ensure that every patient that comes here can avail all facilities under one roof. Also our fee for the treatment is the lowest in the state," he claimed.

'Hausalon ki Udaan' launched

Udaipur's eminent litterateur and national award recipient Khurshid Sheikh 'Khurshid's ghazal collection book 'Hausalon ki Udaan' was inaugurated today in the presence of Gulab Chand Kataria at Nehru Hostel's Tilak Auditorium. The event was presided over by Mayor Chandra Singh Kothari who expressed immense joy at the inauguration of the book. He asked Khurshid to promote his beautiful work and publish his books every 6 months so that the world of literature and the coming generation can be benefited. Special Guest Shabbir's Mustafa asked Home Minister Gulab Chand Kataria to commence 'Talent Search' program in the city for which Kataria approved and asked him to take the responsibility in this regard.

Health Camp Organized by Wonder Cement

A Health camp was organized in village Lasrawani, Nimbahera by Wonder Cement Ltd (WCL) in association with District Health Department on 13th June. 2015. Dr. Sushil Rathore of Health Department and Dr. Vishwas Jain, Medical Officer- WCL gave services to the community. Free medicine was also given by WCL. 146 patients were benefited in the camp. Weekly health camp is being organized by WCL in the nearby villages under company's CSR scheme to help old age people, women and children. S.L Verma, OSD of WCL and Jannalal Jat, Ratanlal Jat of Lasrawani were present in the camp.

North American Rajasthani to help develop Udaipur

To help develop Udaipur, few Rajasthanis living in North America will come forward. For development related project, Rajasthan Association of North America (RANA)'s President Naveen C. Shah and former President Dr. Ajay Lodha reached Udaipur on Friday. Today, the delegates will be meeting Home Minister Gulab Chand Kataria along with Collector and UIT officers. In the meeting, suggestions will be taken primarily about development from Shah and Lodha. Pre-meet, both delegates from RANA will tour the city and mark the opportunity areas. It is to consider that Kataria, a few days back had visited America to participate in RANA's program where he invited both the delegates to visit Udaipur.

Rope way proposed at Neemach Mata temple

Sohail Khan : After Karni Mata temple at Dudh Talai Udaipur will soon get another rope way setup at Nimach Mata temple, the rope way will be installed from Dewali area to the top of Neemach Mata temple. The proposal of rope at Neemach mata was presented by the Home Minister Gulab Chand Kataria in a meeting in Saturday participated by District Collector Rohit Gupta, Mayor Chandra Singh Kothari, UIT secretary R.N Mehta and Rural MLA Phool Singh Meena. According to Kailash Kandelwal of Onkareshwar Trade Link Company the rope way will cover a distance of 450 meters, the Jaipur based company operating the rope way at Karni mata has sent a proposal for another of it kind to administration.

Khawaja Ahmad Abbas

H.S.Chandaliya

Born on June 7th, Abbas left the world on June 1st. The whole life of Abbas thus appears a film in flash back, a technique often used in Cinema. Like the famous song of the film Mera Naam Joker in which life is compared to a show of three hours, the life of Abbas is also a show of three genres- Journalism, Literature and Cinema. The year 2014 is the centenary year of this genius who described himself as a "Communicator" and used almost all media available to put forward his ideas, feelings and thoughts in order to create a secular, socialist and democratic nation free of the blemishes of poverty, hunger, caste prejudices and communal hatred. He was an internationalist to the core and believed in universal brotherhood. His journalism, literary writings and films are best illustrations of his commitment.

In a life span of seventy three years Abbas wrote more than seventy three books, wrote, directed and produced about a dozen films and wrote scripts for more than fifty films. The much talked about 'Common Man' was valorized and brought centre stage in the films like Awara, Shri 420, Jagte Raho, Saat Hindustani, Dr. Kotnis Ki Amar Kahani, Do Boond Paani, 'Mera Naam Joker, Shehar aur Sapna and Aasmaan Mahal. It was the scripts of Abbas with a socialist leaning which gave Raj Kapur an image of the common man and endeared him to the masses not just in India

but all over the world. He made a film Pardesi in collaboration with Russia in which the directors and cast were chosen from the two countries and worked in perfect coordination with each other. The film was a success in Russia too.

Abbas belonged to a family of the well known reformist poet in Urdu Maulana Altaaf Hussain Hali, a student of Mirza Ghalib. His grandfather Khwaja Gulam Abbas was one of the chief rebels of the 1857 revolution, and the first martyr of Panipat to be blown from the mouth of a cannon. Abbas's father Ghulam-Us-Sibtain graduated from Aligarh Muslim University, was a tutor of a prince and a prosperous businessman, who modernised the preparation of Unani medicines. Abbas's mother, 'Masroor Khatun', was the daughter of Sajjad Husain, an enlightened educationist. The family tradition made him into some kind of a rebel himself. While pursuing his M.A. in English Literature he hoisted the tricolour on the student's Union office at Aligarh Muslim University and was expelled from the University for this 'crime'.

Beginning his journalistic career with the radical paper 'National Call' edited by J.N. Sahni, he went to Mumbai and joined 'Bombay Chronicle' in 1941 and served there as a sub editor, film critic and editor of the magazine. He began a weekly column 'Last Page' and shifted the column to 'The Blitz' which he joined in 1947. He continued writing this col-

Remembering a Saga of Commitment



umn without a break for more than forty five years. This is a record in the world of journalism. No where in the world in any language has there been a column which continued uninterrupted for so long.

When he was writing film reviews, some producer commented that it is easy to criticise a script but is tough to write one. He took up the challenge and started writing scripts and screenplays for films. Later, he felt that the producers and directors for whom he was writing did not do justice with his stories. He then decided to produce and direct his own films. These films did not become box office hits but quite a few of them bagged national and international awards. His film Neecha Nagar won Palme d'Or at the Cannes film festival. Dharti Ke Lal was a film that he made for Indian People's Theatre Association. This and the film Shehar Aur Sapna won the Presidents Gold Medal.

As a screenwriter, Khawaja Ahmad Abbas is considered one of the pioneers of Indian parallel or neo-realistic cinema. He was a man who prac-

ticed what he wrote in his writings. When he was awarded the president's Gold Medal for his film, he took the entire crew to Delhi in the award ceremony and distributed the award money of One Lac rupees equally among all the unit members. He wrote Bobby for Raj Kapoor, a film which became a super duper hit. In this film too he did not miss his mission. He tried to preach that one must be willing to change. The parents of the hero Rishi Kapoor in the film initially do not allow him to marry the heroine Dimple Kapadia not because of religion or caste but simply because she belongs to a poor fisherman's family and the hero is the son of a rich man. The class dimension is kept much higher than any other consideration. Abbas drives home the message that the new generation will not care for the class distinctions in their relationships.

His commitment to portray the reality and create characters who take up challenges and dare for the cause of humanity is seen in about eight of his novels and five collections of short stories. I Write

As I Feel and Bread, Beauty and Revolution are two books which are compilation of his columns published in Bombay Chronicle and The Blitz respectively. His novel Inquilab published in English, Hindi and Urdu became very popular and sold more than ninety thousand copies in Russian. Abbas was planning to write a trilogy but could write only one sequel to Inquilab namely The World Is My Village. Maria, Tomorrow Is Ours, The Walls of Glass, Boy Meets Girl, When Night Falls, Distant Dreams, Divided Hearts, The Naxalites and Four Friends are some of the important novels which have made Abbas a writer of Indian English Fiction as well. However, in literature he is known more for his stories. His story "Sparrows" translated in Urdu and Hindi as Ababeel has become a classic and is included in some of the best short stories of the world.

Cages of Freedom and Other Stories, Black Sun and other Stories, Rice and Other Stories, The Thirteenth Victim and Other Stories and The Gun and Other Stories are some of the major collections of short story collections which have become popular in the world of literature. In his writings he always pleaded for democracy and secularism, economic equality and socialism and freedom of expression. He fought a case in the Supreme Court of India against the Censor Board of India for his film A Tale of Four Cities. For the first time in Indian History a film was screened in the



Supreme Court of India and the apex court not only asked the Censor Board to give a U certificate to the film but also congratulated Abbas Sahab for making such a meaningful film. In his Will Abbas wrote that after his death he should be given a Muslim Shroud but above it should be placed the pages of the Blitz with his column The Last Page because it was for this that he live and died.

Recipient of a number of National and international awards like Haryana State Robe of Honour for literary achievements in 1969, the prestigious Ghalib Award for his contribution to Urdu prose literature in 1983 Vorosky Literary Award of the Soviet Union in 1984, Urdu Akademi Delhi Special Award 1984, Maharashtra State Urdu Akademi Award in 1985 and the Soviet Award for his contribution to the cause of Indo-Soviet Friendship in 1985 in literature, and more than a dozen awards for films Abbas remains an icon in the post independence literary and cultural horizon of India.

The author is a Professor of English at Janardan Rai Nagar Rajasthan Vidyapeeth, Udaipur (Rajasthan) 313001 and is the author of two books on K.A. Abbas Ethos of Khawaja Ahmad Abbas and Script to Screen : The Progressive Vision of K.A. Abbas.

Osman Meer : Stalwart singer of India

Recently the great Folk and Gazal singer was in the city of lakes for a special concert called "Osman Meer Night" at MLSU auditorium. Primarily a Gujarati folk singer Osman bhai has raised his identity and have become famous singer of India. This happened when he sang "Man mor bani thangat kare" in film "Ramleela" of Sanjay Leela Bhansali. Bhansali had given Osman full freedom to sing the Bollywood song in his own indigenous style and this song became famous in no time. Today Osman Meer is a National figure.

He is extensively travelled in India and abroad mesmerizing audience with his powerful and melodious voice. He has given numerous performances in many states of India. He visited 25 countries.

I had a brief interview at Hotel Alka. Osman is very humble and down to earth human being. He started talks with praising beauty of Udaipur and shown excitement over his first concert at Udaipur. Osman Meer replied to my questions with high modesty and concern.

V.J.- What is your birth place and how did you start your journey of Music?

O.M.- I was born in Mandovi, Kutchh, Gujarat. We come from a traditional musician family. I learnt singing from my father, Hussien Bhai and later learnt from Ustad Ismile Bhai Datar.

V.J.- Your grip on rhythm is fascinating. How did you master it?

O.M.- Initially I learnt Tabla and played Tabla for 4 years. My inclination was towards singing. I got this opportunity at the camp of Sant Morai Bapu. Morai Bapu's son encouraged me to sing and later Sant Morai Bapu gave me chances in his programmes and blessed me with so many concerts in India and abroad.

V.J.-Do you think that Folk Music is gaining more popularity than Classical Music?

O.M.-The current scenario is favoring film music, but you know the Folk music has overshadowed on film music. Folk music is very melodious and vibrant hence the filmy songs that are based on our folk and classical music live for a longer time. My new Bollywood song is being released on June 26 is based on Prabhati Folk song of Gujarat that will give surprise.

V.J.-You have sung Rajasthani Folk songs and these songs have given refreshing melody. How many songs?

O.M.-Ten years back I sang "Kesariya Balam" for my Album "Dard ka Nasha". It was a traditional song but had touch



of Gujarat, Kacchi and Punjabi singing. It became very popular. I sang many Rajasthani songs for Albums, films and concerts.

V.J.-Do you consider yourself as Sufi singer?

O.M.-I am not confined to one brand. I am a singer. I try to sing all types of songs, Folk, Gazals and Sufi. I sing from my heart and try to sing with honesty.

V.J.-When and how do you get in to touch with Sant Morai Bapu?

O.M.- For last 16 years I have been going to Bapu. Initially I used to play Tabla as an accompanist in Bapu's orchestra. Bapu's son Parthiv bhai was impressed with my singing and recommended my talent to Bapu. I sang Kalam "Dilkash tera naksha hai, Soorat teri pyari hai." Bapu liked it and ordered me to sing this in his program. Since then I started singing and never looked behind. I am lucky to have his blessings. Even today Bapu often desires to hear the same kalam. This kalam is ever fresh.

V.J.-Did anything hurt you?

O.M.-I used to play Tabla as an accompanist and once when I commented on singing, I was criticized and warned to concentrate on Tabla only. I felt hurt that time and decided to become singer. I play Tabla occasionally but now I have become singer.

V.J.-How does music help in bringing communal harmony?

O.M.- Music is the only medium which connects people. Music has no religion, no caste, no sect and no language. Our forefathers say "Swar me Ishwar hai". It breaks all geographical boundaries and reaches to our hearts.

V.J.-Who are your prime audience?

Youngsters or Seniors?

O.M.- Yes, of course I sing for older generation, but now a days because of my entry in Bollywood music, many youngsters like my singing. I have started including more numbers for young generation in my concerts.

V.J.-What is the Secret of your success?

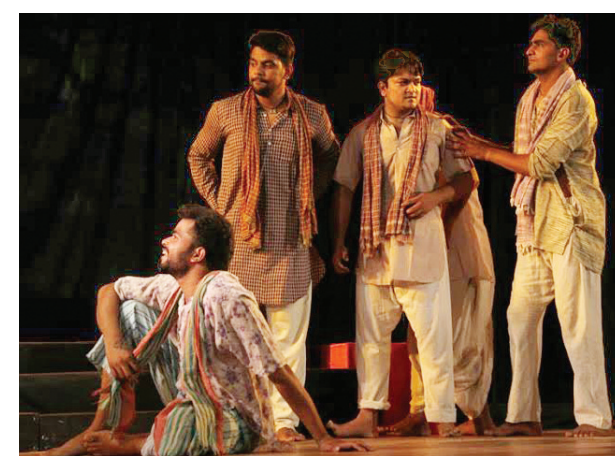
O.M.- Blessings of my mother, "Shakeena ma", my father "Hussen bhai" and my Peer "Abdulla Shabava" (of Abdasa-Kutchh) played significant role in my progress. My Hard work, modesty and positive thinking give me strength. I do not believe in show off. I want to remain simple.

V.J.-Did you ever have fusion with Western musicians?

O.M.- With the blessings of Bapu, I went to Lester (England) and I along with Shivmani and a singer from Bengal had fusion with an orchestra of Hundred musicians of England. It was much hit programme. But I still remember my show my show at Babbly Arena Hall, London where I had gone with Bapuji. The hall was full and there were many singers were invited to the concert. When my presented my Ghazals and finished, audience did not let me go. I had to sing two more Ghazals, still they were not ready to leave me. I sang one more song and then I begged pardon. I received standing ovation. I cannot forget that programme.

V.J.-Finally what do you say to our young generation?

O.M.-I recommend them to listen to music as Music gives you mental peace in this fast going life style. Even if you don't sing, try to understand it as it would help you to get rid of worries.



"Maya Ram Ki Maya" Mesmerizes

Last Sunday seasoned actors of New Delhi presented hilarious play "Maya ram ki maya". This was written by Jayvardhan and directed by J.P. Singh. Team of 24 artistes kept the spectators engrossed throughout the play. Their professional enactment made the story very interesting.

The story is all about a human being (Man) who wants to establish himself parallel to God and challenges the supreme power of the God. Even All mighty God repents for creating Human being. The protagonist of play is "Maya Ram", a shrewd person who is so selfish that he deceives his own persons. All the villagers are sick of his ill tricks as each of them had bitter experience of becoming fool. He donates cow to the village Pandit (Priest) whose happiness evaporates when Pandit knows that the cow was very sick and breathing last. This way he earns Punya of Godan at the same time gets rid of feeding old and ailing cow. Certainly the Pandit gives him curse but no effect to Mayaram who was capable to even put All might God, Brahma, The creator of Universe in terrible trouble. The script was very polished and imbued satire on the present status of society with latent messages. Dialogues were candid and their delivery with optimum timing and acting made scenes very effective.

Director intelligently opted Folk style for the play. Nagada and Harmonium accompanied all the thematic songs (mostly Kabeer Vani) rendered by the cast. Creating scenes of Brahmalok with bare minimum set, use of different languages and commenting on the contemporary political, bureaucratic and sociological situations portrayed talent and experience of the Director, J.P. Singh who also enacted role of Brahma with perfect mannerism. Costume and make up and lights were impressive. Himmat Singh Negi excelled in role of Maya Ram. Other actors Yogesh Sharma (Sewak Ram), Rakesh Sharma (Pandit Ponga Ram), Rohit Sharma (Jaggu), Pankaj Dwivedi (Maghai), Jitendra Chauhan (Prapanchi), Girish Panda (Goga), Arun Sode (Chitrugupt), Madan Dogara (Yamraj), Rohit Tripathi (Narad), Jatin Joshi (Jakad-Yamdut), Ravi Paarcha (Pakad -Yamdut), Piyush Sharma (Thanedar Manmauji Pandey), Guneet Singh (Dwarpal), Prince (Kabari Gaay), Latika and Pragati (Nartakee) and Bhanu Pratap Singh (Gayak) justified characters given to them.

"Rangshala" a monthly event of staging Drama by West Zone Cultural Centre is now an established event which is eagerly awaited by the drama lovers of the town.