

REPORT

A STREET DRAMA PERFORMED BY MAHARAJA MANINDRA CHANDRA COLLEGE



Theatre is a collaborative art form which combines words, voice, movement and visual elements to express meaning. Theatre work provides a vehicle for students to reflect on important aspects of life, in the process developing their sensitivity to and deepening their understandings of others' point of view.

On 9th February 2023 the students of Maharaja Manindra Chandra College participated in an invited show of street drama organized by Kolkata Police (Shyambazar Traffic Guard) for their Safe Drive Save Life week. They performed at the Shyambazar five point crossing at around 4.30pm. The drama 'পথ নিরাপত্তা আমাদেরই হাতে'(Road Safety is in our own hands) with the duration of 5-7 minutes is written and directed by Prof. Shamba Dutta (HOD/Dept. of Library). The organizational cooperation was conducted by Dr. Shantanu Bhattacharya (Covener, Cultural Committee).

The theme of the drama was road safety. The entire story line was divided into three segments. The story starts with a dead man lying on the road. People gather by seeing this. They mistook it to be a man sleeping in the middle of road. Later on they realized that he was dead. He was hit by a truck. The driver comes up crying and he described the incident. The man was so into his mobile phone that he did not hear the driver giving horn. He was crossing the road without looking left or right. His wife comes up and starts crying, worrying about the future of herself and their son.

In the second segment, there is scene where some bikers driving recklessly on road without thinking about others' lives. Some of them did not even wore helmets. In this situation two bikes collide with each other. Both of the drivers fell of the bike and they were spot dead.

The ending scene was delivering social message regarding the necessity of Road Safety and obeying Traffic Rules.



As the drama was on Road Safety, Kolkata Police prepared the Shyambazar crossing precisely so that the play can be performed with safety and made sure that no one gets harmed. The Maharaja Manindra Chandra College team was felicitated by the Kolkata Police. The act was enjoyed and appreciated by the pedestrians and Kolkata Police so well that the team was requested perform the act twice. A large number of people stopped to watch the performance on their way to work. Students were overwhelmed to perform in such a social program. By performing in this act, they not only made people aware about road safety but also they taught themselves to be aware and cautious. Truly, a street drama can be a medium of spreading awareness with a touch of entertainment.

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