

# **A STUDY OF HINDI FOLK DRAMA**

With Special Reference to Rām Līlā, Rās Līlā, Nautankī, Khyāl, Māch and Bidēsiyā .

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## ABSTRACT

The objective of this thesis is to study six folk dramas that represent various aspects of the folk dramas, staged in the Hindi speaking zone, North India.

Chapter 1 is a general introduction about the Hindi speaking zone and the folk dramas found in the region. It further gives a brief account of six of the dramas, namely Rām Līlā, Rās Līlā, Nautankī, Khyāl, Māch and Bidēsiyā which are selected for the present study on the basis of their form and variations with regard to the language used, the region where they are performed, and the motivations such as religiousness, entertainment, with which they are formed.

Chapter 2 describes the origin and the historical development of these dramas and their names; various theatrical styles and their distinctive features are also discussed here.

Chapter 3 gives an account of the performance structure with special reference to six selected folk dramas in the Hindi speaking zone.

Chapter 4 deals with the historical, religious, mythological, social and romantic variations and the distinctive features of the themes of these dramas and stories on which they are based.

Chapter 5 presents an account of the theatrical techniques including stage, stage settings, changing of scenes or acts, lighting, costumes and make-up.

Chapter 6 explains aspects such as the language and dialogues, the characters and their performance with regard to *Abhinayas*, as well as music and dancing, directing and training.

Chapter 7 is a discussion of audience and the methods of advertising of these dramas.

Chapter 8, which is the conclusion, includes distinctive features, similarities and differences of the six dramas discussed in this thesis.

There are two appendices ;

Appendix 1 contains stories and the musical annotations on which these folk dramas are based,

Appendix 2 shows various maps, illustrations of various musical instruments and aspects of performances.