



anklets of fire

In the 1st Century A.D. , Poompuhar the birth-place of the characters in 'ANKLETS OF FIRE', was a harbour city handling exports and imports on a large scale. Trading relations between the Roman Empire and Tamilnad had been established before the 1st Century A.D. The Romans brought over gold, glassware and liquor amongst other things. The main export was the much sought after spice, pepper. References are made to the port of Musiri in southern India, where ships arrived laden with gold and returned with cargoes of pepper. Tamilnad was also known for its pearls and cloth. There is an instance in Colachan, where convicts sentenced to death were made to dive for pearls for export to Rome. To the Tamils the Greek and Roman traders were known as 'Yavanas', and quite a few were employed as palace-guards.

Against this backdrop of prosperous trading relations, Ilango set his epic 'Cillappathikaram'. His story reflects the lives of the ancient Tamils; their love of art, their religion and political organisation. It is not only a tale of injustice and its awesome consequences, but also an historical account of South India.

THE CAST

KANNAGI	Naushaba Khan
KOVALAN	Nizwar Karanj
MADHAVI RANI KUNTHI ADIGAL	Sudha Bhuchar
MARCUS	Ayub Khan Din
HUNCHBACK GOLDSMITH	Ajaykumar

PRODUCTION

DIRECTED	by	Yogesh Bhatt
ADAPTED	by	Jatinder Verma
CHOREOGRAPHED	by	Mala Sikka
DESIGNED	by	Magdalen Rubalcava
STAGE MANAGER		Rezaul Kabir
ASSISTANCE IN PRODUCTION		Rajni Chudasama
PUBLICITY		Nandita Jain
ADMINISTRATION		Rekha Prashar



THE COMPANY

B. Row	Rezaul
C. Row (L to R)	Rekha, Nandita, Sudha, Naushaba
F. Row (" " ")	Nizwar, Yogesh, Ayub, Ajay, Rajni

TARA ARTS GROUP is a pioneering Asian Theatre Company.

In 8 years of activity, the GROUP has developed from a community-based theatre activity into four separate wings: the Touring Company, Tara-in-Education, the Community Company and Tara Arts Centre.

The professional touring company was launched at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 1982 with production of 'Lion's Raj'. Since then the company has toured regularly throughout Britain. Productions have varied considerably, ranging from company devised plays based on research, to adaptations of ancient Indian classics.

Over the years the GROUP has also sought to be more involved in the field of education; through schools workshops, performances and lectures. In January 1985 it launched Tara-in-Education, its own Theatre-in-Education company to develop closer structural links with education. Their first production 'Crawl' - a company devised play is currently performing in London schools.

The Community Company is based at the Centre in South London. Together they are maintaining a crucial link with the community. The Centre has a regular programme of training workshops, performances by Asian artists and activists forums. The community company will be involved in local history projects, drawing on information and active participation from the residents in the area.

TARA ARTS GROUP thus stands for an alternative approach and commitment to professional arts activity in Britain today. Its aim is to present Asian perspectives of life in Britain, through the development of distinctive styles of theatre.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Touring from 14th Oct to 1st Dec, a company-devised production in collaboration with a woman director from India's National Academy of Drama on 'Asian Communism'.

Touring 17th Feb to 30 Mar, a play on Asians who arrived in Britain in 18th and 19th centuries, the 'Lascars' (sailors).

FOR DETAILS OF THE GROUP'S ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS AT THE CENTRE
CONTACT THE GROUP AT TARA ARTS CENTRE, 356 GARRATT LANE,
LONDON , SW18 4ES. TEL 01-871 1458.

TARA ARTS GROUP gratefully acknowledge the help given by the following people :

Brien Vahey for constructing the set and Simon English for painting it. Sunil Gupta for taking the Company photo. Debbie Green for assistance in the choreography.

If you would like to know more about the GROUP, or would like to become a member of TARA ARTS CENTRE, fill in the details below and send them to TARA ARTS GROUP, 356 Garratt Lane, London SW18 4ES Tel 871 1458. Membership is £5 (individual) and £7 (family) per year, cheques should be made payable to TARA ARTS GROUP.

NAME.....MEMBERSHIP.....(ind/family)
ADDRESS.....
..... TEL
OTHER INFORMATION, eg any particular interest.....
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