

SPEECH OF SHRI LA. GANESAN, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF
MANIPUR AT THE INAUGURAL SHOW OF DANCE-DRAMA
"KANSA VADH" ON 3RD NOVEMBER, 2021 AT JNMDA, IMPHAL

Shri N. Manishyam Singh ji, President, Harimati Dance and
Music Centre,

Shri Ng. Uttam Singh, Director, Art & Culture, Government of
Manipur,

Distinguished Invitees,

Friends from Electronic and Print Media,

Respected Gurus,

My dear young Artistes and Students of Harimati Dance and
Music Centre,

Brothers and Sisters,

It is, indeed, a privilege for me to have this opportunity of
witnessing the Dance-Drama "**Kansa Vadh**" composed,
directed and choreographed by Smt N. Harimati Devi ji, Guest
Faculty, Department of Dance and Music, Manipur University.
It is a matter of great satisfaction to note that Smt. Harimati ji
has been working in the Department of Dance and Music,
Manipur University for the last more than sixteen years.
Congratulations Smt. Harimati ji for your invaluable
contribution in the field of dance and music.

Respected Gurus and distinguished invitees and
personalities present here today are well aware that the

Harimati Dance and Music Centre was established in the year 1972 and since its inception, that is, forty-nine years ago, the Centre has been producing ballets and Dance Dramas on various themes every year. In addition, this Centre has also been organizing seminars, symposia, apart from various activities like training, research, documentation, etc. We all know that Manipur is today best introduced to the world through her rich performing arts and culture and not through her geographical position and size. It is through the Manipuri dance that the world knows the existence of such a tiny State in this far-flung North Eastern part of the country. Artistes from this State have given innumerable shows in our country and abroad and have brought commendation and recognition from various foreign countries. The grace and power attracting the viewer's mind is superb in the elegant Manipuri dance which is a delicately sensitive type of classical dance. I would like to reiterate that Manipuri dance is not the art of Manipur alone, it is also an art of India as a whole. Hence, its development is as important as the development of other aspects of our total cultural heritage. It is, therefore, our bounden duty to preserve, nurture and enrich Manipuri culture so that it may continue to enrich the Indian culture.

I am happy to know that the Centre is at present conducting courses in other forms of art. I have no doubt that the introduction of some other classical dances in this Centre with an objective for their dissemination among the artistes of the State will further enrich the Centre. I am told that Nata-Sankirtana is indispensable for any religious function of Hindus in Manipur, as they are part of the rituals of the celebration. The students of the Centre have excelled in their chosen field and they have spread Manipuri dance far and wide. Their contribution is immense in the preservation of the rich cultural heritage of the State.

I am happy that the Harimati Dance and Music Centre , which was established more than four decades ago with the sole objective of preserving and propagating Manipuri culture, particularly dance, has been devoting itself whole heartedly to this noble cause since then. I express my appreciation for the Gurus for their dedication. I am also glad to know that the Centre has been bringing out various forms of Dance-Drama which have brought fame. I congratulate the Artistes who are playing different roles in the Dance-Drama “**Kansa Vadh**” which we will witness in a short while from now. After assumption the office of the Governor of Manipur and Chairman, J.N. Manipur Dance Academy, I have witnessed

cultural shows on two occasions in Raj Bhavan. I was quite impressed with the performance of our Artistes. Therefore, I do not intend to take much of your time as everybody must be eagerly waiting to see the beautiful Dance-Drama. My good wishes to all the Artistes, Gurus, particularly, Smt. Harimati Devi ji who took pain to compose, direct and choreograph this Dance-Drama “**Kansa Vadh**”.

Thank You,

Jai Hind.