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Janakaraliya journeys to the holy city

The first ever mobile theatre group in Sri Lanka, "Janakaraliya" goes to Anuradhapura with its award winning theatrical production, films, workshops and other educational activities from March 1 to 18.

'Janakaraliya Drama festival' will be held from March 1 to 10 and the International Film Festival with some of the classics and artistic cinematic creations will be screened from March 11 to 18 at the Central College grounds in Anuradhapura for the school children and the general public.

Two of the dramas scheduled for performance include 'Charandas' which was adjudicated the best drama at the National Drama Competition - 2006 bagging 9 awards in both Sinhala and Tamil categories and 'Sekkuwa' - winner of 6 awards at the State Drama Festival in 1976. The other dramas to be performed are "Meti Karaththaya", "Seethambarapataya" (written by Mangala Senanayake) and "Anadaramal". The plays will be staged at 9 am and 6.30 pm and the tickets will be sold at concessionary rates.

The International Film Festival includes classical films made based on William Shakespeare's renowned plays 'Hamlet' and 'Macbeth' and wellknown Iranian films like 'Children of Heaven', 'Father' and many more.

Janakaraliya also has dedicated a day for the provincial artistes of Anuradhapura district providing them the opportunity to perform their arts during the festival in the Mobile Theatre on March 8.

During its festival 'Janakaraliya' will also conduct drama and theatre workshops and drama appreciation programmes for teachers and school children and other programmes, workshops and other activities in the district of Anuradhapura.

The 'Janakaraliya Theatre Arts Programme' will be conducted by Parakrama Niriella, Amitta Weerasinghe, Prematilake Perukanda, and Dilip Rohana.

Janakaraliya members Nishantha Kularathne, Sumudu Mallawaarachchi, Palitha Abeylal, Muniyandi Kalidas, Sokkalingam Krishanthan, Ajanthan Shanthikumar, Verny Theresa, Arosha Tharanganee, Ronika Charmali, Sineth Devinda, Thyagaraja Shivaneshan, Manjula Ranasinghe, Tarzan Sam Paul, Rasaiah Lohananthan, Malithi Kumari, Selvaraj Leelawathie, Inoka Lankapura, Chandanie Malkanthi, Ranjith Sumith Fernando, Jayantha Muthuthantri, Dinesh Sri Livera and Suneth Shanthapriya are extending their unreserved cooperation for the programme.

The programme is assisted by Ministry of Cultural Affairs and the National Heritage and Provincial Education Department of the North Central Province.

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