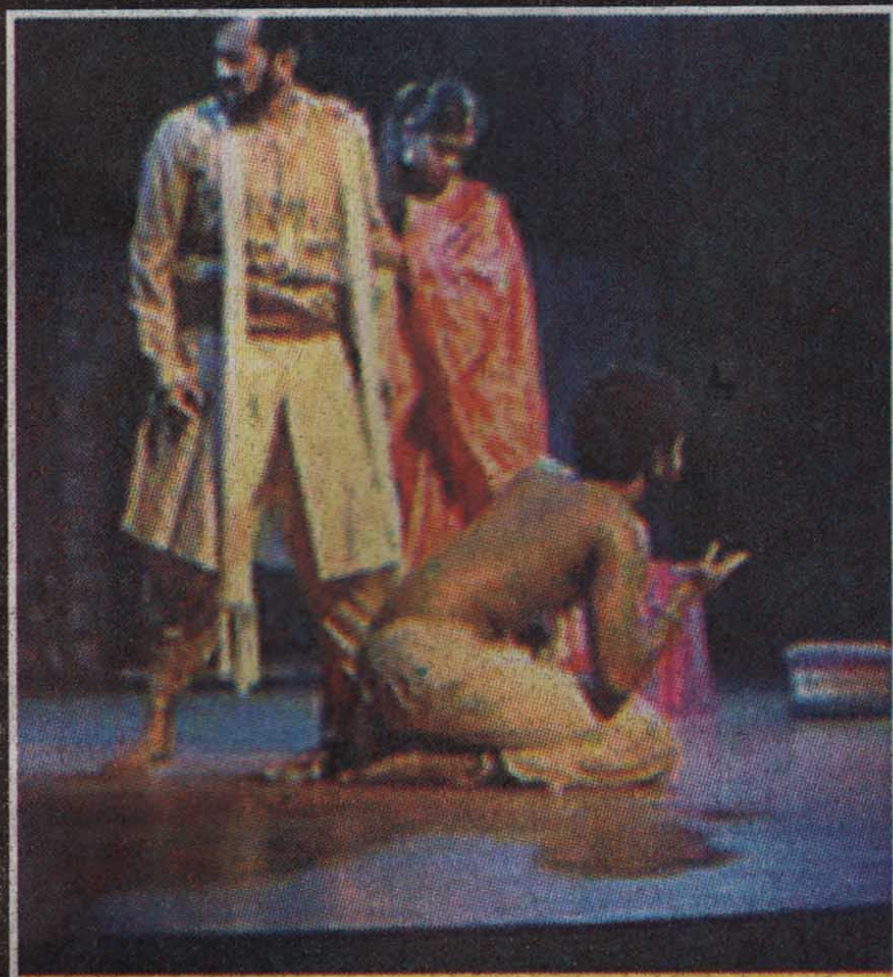


SANKALP (Theatre group of Mudra Institute of Communication, Ahmedabad) worked on an interesting adaptation of playwright Girish Karnad's *Bali* and staged it for house-full audiences at Natrani from December 1-3. An old kingdom with a king and queen juxtaposed against the present, where the king and queen of today, both sit wearing their crowns of thorn and struggle, also coming to terms with the realities of their kingdom, the play *Sacrifice* finds a projection done both, systematically and sequentially. The play aptly juxtaposes the past of a mythical kingdom with the present of a group of youngsters out on an excursion. Through the interplay of the past and the present, we see how the realities of violence, of religion and female sexuality are as real now as they were centuries ago, in this over two-hour play.

And while the actors are there for all to see and appreciate, the huge team comprised of not just actors-director-producer but included all aspects of production: from the set designing to music, choreography, make-



Making future perfect with past and present

up and dress designers. It was an in-house project, about delving into the past, living the present that would further shape the future.

Director of *Sacrifice*, Gaurav Bose says, "We aim to bring alive on stage art, to portray thoughts and messages through living, breathing characters who resemble us more closely than we realise".

Knowing Karnad as

one who often uses history and mythology to tackle contemporary issues, *Sacrifice* has been a good example to project concerns of modern day men and women, who not only battle the situation but also inject thought into the general plight of human life and condition. And everything that comes with it, then and now.

—EXPRESS FEATURES SERVICE