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**THE STUDENTS OF JAIN HERITAGE SCHOOL**

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## Students recreate the epic saga of Mahabharata

Express News Service

**Bangalore :** The students of Jain Heritage School brought to life one of the most magnificent epics of India, the *Mahabharata*, on the occasion of their 6th Annual Day function recently. A harmonious ensemble of the epic that highlighted Indian morals, value system and legacy was presented by the students over a period of three days. The students were proud to present the literary heritage of India in all its glory. It was indeed a magical moment when all the characters that the students have only read and heard about in history were beautifully recreated on stage.

The event was an amazing opportunity for students to relive the rich history of India. Principal Archana Vishwanath said that the objective was to rekindle the spirit of rich Indian cultural legacies. "In today's fast paced world and busy schedules, our cultural values seem to have taken a back seat. Their significance appears to be blurred. We believe in inculcating in our



Students of Jain Heritage School perform Mahabharata during their annual day celebrations

students strong Indian values and morals. This is the reason we chose *Mahabharata* as the theme for our Annual Day. We wanted to reignite our glorious past in the minds of parents through the performance of students, while bringing both groups closer to our roots," she added.

The first day of the event saw the spectacular presentation of *Krishna Drishy-*

*avalli* by the students who put up a delightful narration of the popular escapades of Krishna in his early years. The tiny tots charmed the entire audience with their flawless singing and dance drama performance. Shilpa Kalyan, one of the parents who was very impressed with the show, said, "It was amazing to watch all these kids, right from cute two-and-half-year-olds to

charming five-year-olds who put up not just an adorable show but performed exceptionally well. It was truly heart-warming to see the kids embrace our cultural roots so beautifully."

The second day of the event was a perfect ode to the epic *Mahabharata* by the students. Elaborate costumes, fabulous stage set up and remarkable lighting coupled with interesting performances set the stage for a great show of talent. The show was a wonderful blend of dance, song, ballet, mime and drama. The students brilliantly breathed life into the heroes of *Mahabharata*: Bheeshma, Krishna, Yudhishtira and the other Pandavas and the Kauravas. The cultural heritage portrayed in *Abhigyan Shakuntala* and *Draupadi Swayamvara* to the illusionary Royal Palace of Pandavas, Indraprastha, and an action-packed sequence of the Hidamba and Bakasura *vadhe* made the performances a pure visual treat.

The third and final day of the Annual Day were infused with the spirit of devotion

and depicted the climax of the war between right and wrong in *Mahabharata*. The students put up the rendition of Vishwaroopa Darshan, an essential incident of the Kurukshetra war and Abhimanyu's struggle in the *chakravyuha*. The most brilliant instances of the third day were the depiction of the fall of the mighty warriors such as Ghatotkaja, Karna, Drona and Dussasana. But undoubtedly the most splendid moment was the coronation of Yudhishtira, signifying the ultimate victory of good, beating all odds.

"The show turned out to be a grand success and the ultimate aim to bring forth the culture and tradition of India in all its glory was achieved. The parents were completely overwhelmed after seeing the performance of their children. The students too had a really exciting time, getting a close look at the traditional and cultural inheritance of India. The entire experience for both students and parents was indeed thrilling, and it felled them with pride," said Archana Vishwanath.