

Report on World Theatre Day, 2026

Organised by:

Drama Club, Bhasha Bhavana

Arpita Panda, Soumojit Ghosh

On 27 March 2026, the Drama Club, Bhasha Bhavana, Visva-Bharati organised a programme on ‘World Theatre Day’ which was on the theme of *Peace*. The event commenced with the song *Bishwabinarabe Bishwajon Mohichhe*, sung by Samhita Gupta, a member of the Drama Club. Usham Rojio, Co-Coordinator of Drama Club, Bhasha Bhavana delivered the welcome address and led a few exercises to help everyone calm their minds and focus on the event. Next, the Guest of Honour, Vice-Principal Dr Senthil Prakash addressed the gathering of around 80 students across Bhavanas and emphasised the significance of domain clubs in Visva-Bharati. Dheeman Bhattacharyya, Co-Coordinator, Drama Club, Bhasha Bhavana traditionally felicitated Dr Partha Gupta, Director, Birbhum *Blossom Theatre*. As the invited speaker, Dr Partha Gupta, delivered a lecture on *Santhali Tradition: Fine Arts and Performing Arts*. He discussed Santhali art practices in Birbhum and his experiences on working with his guru, the eminent theatre practitioner Ratan Thiyam. He shared his experiences of travelling from village to village in Birbhum for research on documentation of the surviving Santhali dance traditions, a project sponsored by the Sangeet Natak Akademi, Government of India. Pointing out that no tribal dance is currently practised institutionally, he suggested giving them institutional recognition at Visva-Bharati alongside other Indian dance forms. He also discussed *Araha Baha*, his theatrical transcreation of *Roktokorobi*, which he adapted using Santhali practices.

Following the lecture, Drama Club members staged two theatre productions. The first was *Breaking News: Peace Missing*, presented by Ritika Roy and her friends. The second was a solo act titled *Porichayheen* by Sushovon Mondal. Both plays were aligned with the theme of the event. Apart from students, faculty members from various departments of Bhasha Bhavana were present. Nandan Roy and Ahana Chanda were the Anchors for the event. The vote of thanks was delivered by Dheeman Bhattacharyya. The event concluded with the Ashram Sangeet.

S/d

Dheeman Bhattacharyya

Usham Rojio

Coordinators, Drama Club, Bhasha Bhavana