

MAIN COURSE PRODUCTIONS &  
CHEQUERED FLAG ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY  
present

# Chanakyaśāstra

FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO RULE THE WORLD...

- A Play in English & Hindi



Written & Directed by SANJAY SRINIVAS



## **CHANAKYASHASTRA**

### **STORYTELLING: A METHOD TO SUCCESS IN THE 21ST CENTURY**

The human animal is a narrative animal. We are made of stories. We speak them, understand them, remember them and live them. In the ethereal image of village people sitting around a fire at night, everybody is listening to the storyteller share his experiences. The tales were about life itself – living it, surviving it and ending it - whether historically or metaphorically. An increasing number of professionals are discovering the power and applicability of storytelling for business management, knowledge management, organisational development, coaching, sales and software interface design. A good story makes us laugh, listen, engage ourselves, learn and remember. And nothing better, if the story is told through a theatrical performance which contains lights, sound, images, visuals and videos. Storytelling ignites action in Knowledge Organisations. Chequered Flag Entertainment Company presents ChanakyaShastra, a concept that is set to redefine corporate learning. Combining the power of an impactful medium like theatre and the possibilities of effective classroom training, this new concept is set to make inroads into every single Knowledge Organisation in the country.

### **CHANAKYASHASTRA – THE GRAND SHOW**

ChanakyaShastra is a fine play that highlights the leadership practices of Chanakya, the greatest known kingmaker, strategist and thinker in the history of our nation. It showcases the nine powerful gems (Navratnas) used by Chanakya in creating a leader like ChandraGupta Maurya. Written and Directed by corporate trainer, theatre and film director, Sanjay Srinivas, the play is based in a corporate setting and aims to underline the usefulness and applicability of Chanakya's profound wisdom and invaluable teachings for the future leaders of this country. An elite cast of professional actors will perform this unique play exclusively for your organisation at one of the city's leading theatre venues.

The shows will be staged only for a limited number of Knowledge Organisations.

Contact now to ensure your early booking.



## **LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM**

Chequered Flag Entertainment Company will work closely with the key shareholders of your organisation along with your Human Resource team to customize a follow-up leadership program for a select group of executives.

The leadership program on Chanakya's Navratnas for creating future leaders shall be conducted by Sanjay Srinivas, the special feature of the program being the video analysis of the Navratnas by nine famous achievers from the corporate world. This unique training program will also use Hollywood and Bollywood films for study and analysis of the practical applications of Chanakya's Navratnas. Theatre games and exercises shall also be employed to bring out the values of certain ratnas. The combination of the play and the leadership program will be a first of its kind approach in the area of corporate learning and organisational development.

## **CHANAKYA'S NAVRATNAS – THE 9 GEMS OF CREATING FUTURE LEADERS**

Of all the great achievements that Chanakya is credited with, the creation of the great king ChandraGupta Maurya was one of the most important in the history of our nation. He chose a Vaishya boy, converted him into a Brahmin and later made him a great Kshatriya who ascended the throne of Magadha. In the process of the creation, Chanakya gave him several useful stratagems that made him the leader that he is remembered as. Nine of the most powerful gems given by him are classified as the Navratnas, each being as powerful as the other. ChandraGupta Maurya developed a strong, fearless and focused mind, an ability to exercise self-control, a power to influence his peers and subordinates, a way to remain unpredictable, a technique to play the perfect courtier, a knack to discover others' weaknesses, a desire to understand his true potential, a plan to time his actions perfectly and the fire inside to crush his enemy by using the Navratnas. A careful examination would reveal that these Navratnas are universal and timeless in their application. Their teachings can transform a modern day manager as much as they did ChandraGupta Maurya. ChanakyaShastra, the play, the leadership program and the soon to be released book are based entirely on the Navratnas. The nine gems and their meanings are highlighted in the three books written by Chanakya - Arthashastra, Chanakya Niti and Nitishastra.



## THE LEGEND OF CHANAKYA

Chanakya was born in Magadha (ruled by the Nandas) as the son of acharya Chanak. At an early age, he began study of the Vedas, then considered the toughest scriptures to study and memorise. He was a diligent student and loved to study political science, especially the role of the king and the ways of effective administration. After his father was accused of being a traitor and killed in prison, Chanakya left Magadha vowing never to come back.

He later came back to ask the Nandas for help against the Greek invasion only to be humiliated and sent back. Chanakya then vowed to cause the downfall of the Magadha empire.

He was responsible not only for helping Chandragupta Maurya ascend the throne, but also for uniting the Indian states for fighting against the attack by Alexander the Great around 327 BC. His main philosophy was "A debt should be paid off till the last penny; an enemy should be destroyed without a trace". He seemed to have lived to his philosophy.

Chanakya (c.350 – c.275 BC), also known as Kautilya or Vishnugupta, was a professor of political science at the Takshasila University. He is regarded as one of the earliest known political thinkers, economists and king-makers.

In Jawaharlal Nehru's *Discovery Of India*, Chanakya was called the Indian Machiavelli.



# Chanakyaśāstra

FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO RULE THE WORLD...

the master strategist



the opportunist pro



regony aunt



the ceo's man



the megalomaniac ceo



the future



the genius cfo



the peon



the supporting wife

- A Play in English & Hindi



## CHANAKYASHASTRA – SYNOPSIS

The year is 2010. The nation is seeing industrial growth like never before and Indian exports are fast becoming the benchmark for world trade. One corporation which is setting global standards is New India New Energy (NINE). NINE, headed by CEO, Karan Nanda, is one of the world's biggest corporations in the area of power and energy. He is powerful, he is connected, he is corrupted and he is unbeatable.

Corruption, nepotism and harmful politics have now become accepted practices under his leadership.

Siddarth Srivastav, is young, energetic and ambitious. He is the General Manager - Marketing at the corporate office in Mumbai. One day, he is mercilessly shown the door by Karan Nanda. The night after his exit from NINE, he reads Kautilya's Arthashastra. To his complete shock, Siddarth sees Chanakya come back to life and volunteer help to overthrow the corrupt, Mr. Karan Nanda and establish a rightful leader as the CEO. Siddarth rejoins NINE after publicly apologizing to Karan Nanda.

He follows the leadership style proposed by Chanakya every step of his way and starts becoming an influential leader. He creates his own group of loyalists and secretly starts a campaign against Nanda. He uses Chanakya's Navratnas to ensure that he makes the right moves and employs the appropriate strategies to achieve his goal.

Can Chanakya achieve one more success in history?

Can he help Siddarth achieve what they have set out to achieve?



## THE TEAM

writer & director

**SANJAY SRINIVAS**

producer

**NIRAV PAREKH**

hindi adaptation by

**ATUL TIWARI**

music

**RICHARD MITRA & KASHYAP SOMPURA**

creative consultant

**DHAVAL SHAH**

exec. producer

**HIDAYAT SAMI**

sets

**BHOLA SHARMA**

make - up

**HEMANT GHADIGAONKAR**

back stage

**SHAILESH HEJMADY SHAILESH SINGH GHANSHYAM YADAV SURESH YADAV**

design

**MANOJ ZORE (ideas & dreams)**