



ZAHOOR ALAM

Akademi Award: Direction

Born on 20 December 1955 in Nainital, Uttarakhand, Shri Zahoor Alam has been associated with theatre since his childhood. He earned his Master's in Sociology, and later in Commerce. He learnt the nuances of theatre while working with many esteemed directors including B.M. Shah, Mohan Upreti, D.R. Ankur, Suresh Sharma and D.R. Purohit. Beyond his directorial prowess, Zahoor Alam has held prestigious positions such as Vice President of Uttarakhand Sahitya Kala Parishad and membership in several cultural governing bodies including Uttarakhand Sanskriti Vibhag.

Shri Zahoor Alam has extensively worked for nurturing theatre environment in the hill city of Nainital and nearby areas. His theatre group Yugmanch has been active for the past more than 45 years which has provided stage to budding and upcoming as well as amateur and professional artists of the city. His play *Natak Jaari Hai* (1986) was staged with the Akademi's support and since then he has directed numerous plays, conducted theatre workshops for a number of institutions including universities. His more recent production *Hari Suman Bisht's Khwab Ek Udta Hua Parinda* based on the folklore of *Rajula Malushahi* has also been appreciated by audience and critics alike.

Shri Zahoor Alam has been honoured by a number of institutions.

Shri Zahoor Alam receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for the year 2023 for his contribution to the field of theatre as a director.