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Press Release

### **Chinar Book Festival Highlights Stalwarts of Films and Theatre on Day 6**

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*"If you read 10 books, you will learn about the lives of 10 people. You will learn from their mistakes, and their success stories will inspire you to move forward."*- says Mir Sarwar, the face of Kashmiri Bollywood. Chinar Book Festival in Srinagar witnessed a captivating showcase of talent as renowned artists, filmmakers, actors, and singers graced the event on its sixth day. Bollywood actors Ashwath Bhatt, Mir Sarwar, and Hussain Khan took center stage in a thought-provoking session on the future of Kashmiri youth in the fields of theatre, acting, and scriptwriting. Emphasizing the abundant opportunities for Kashmiri youth in the film industry, the session provided invaluable insights and encouragement. Hussain Khan urged the youth to visit the Chinar Book Festival and emphasized the importance of books in his industry. He said, "The industry I come from has its roots in books. Judging by the crowd of youth at every stall here, one can see how much the youth of Kashmir love books." Speaking about the future of youth in the film industry, Mir Sarwar highlighted the rich history, art, and heritage of Kashmir. He expressed that the youth should showcase the legacy of the valley to the world through films.

In another session at the Chinar Talks, SahityaAkademi Awardee Dr. Ashraf Zia commemorated the literary ideology of Laleshwari, AbhinavGupt, and AnandVardhan, underscoring the rich literary heritage of Kashmir. The esteemed speakers stressed the significance of preserving this tradition and providing a platform for the youth to carry it forward.

Mushtaque Basheer Barq, a well-known writer from Kashmir, explained the difference between Sufi poets and common poets. He said, "It is because of the youth of today, who listen to Kashmiri literature and Sufis, that our future is secure. We have 147 Sufi poets on whom the youth can draw inspiration."

At the Children's Corner, young visitors displayed a keen interest in learning, participating in engaging activities such as paper-making and letter writing, fostering a spirit of curiosity and creativity.

Adding to the cultural splendor, the enchanting performance of Rajasthani folk songs and the captivating presentation by the Shadaj Band from Lucknow further enriched the festival's vibrant ambiance.

As the festival progresses, a special photo exhibition by the Indian Space Research Council (ISRO) in celebration of National Space Day will enlighten attendees about India's remarkable journey in space development. This immersive exhibition features a comprehensive display of Indian satellites, achievements in space missions, and the country's advancements in space technology from 1998 to 2023. Additionally, a model of the spacecraft will be showcased, offering attendees a closer look at India's strides in space exploration.

Looking ahead, the Chinar Talks promises an exciting lineup for 23 August, Friday, including an interactive session with the renowned Bollywood director and music



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composer Vishal Bhardwaj. Furthermore, the youth can get inspirations from Writers and Poets from other professional fields, where the Cultural Stage will have Mushaira and live performance by Yugm band (Indie folk fusion).Whereas the children can join workshop on Art & Craft and a story session with renowned storyteller JayshreeSethi.

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