

## **HOW SOMALATHA SUBHASINGHE HAS USED LANGUAGE TO DRAMATIZE FOR CHILDREN'S ENJOYMENT. (WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO PUNCHI APATA DEN THEREI DRAMA)**

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Born as an outstanding woman in Sri Lankan theater, Somalatha Subhasinghe's talent is well known in children's dramas. She was able to grasp the subtle aspects of the child's mind carefully. Subhasingha has managed to capture the children's minds in a more creative and sensitive way, even though there is a limited amount of children's dramas which have been compiled as Toppi Velenda, Punchi Apita den Therei, Hima Kumariya, Valas Pawala, Ratmali, Gamarala Divaya Lokete. The research problem is how to interpret the children's enjoyment needed by today's children creatively by using language to dramatize for educational purposes. This study aims to determine whether Subhasinghe's Punchi Apita den Therei is a play in which language has been creatively manipulated for children's enjoyment. The script of Subhasinghe's Punchi Apita den Therei play will be studied. Information is gathered through academic articles, experimental theses and, interviews from expert scholars in the field. It can be observed that by integrating language creatively with dramatization, children's minds can be creatively filled with enjoyment as well as wisdom. By studying children's drama, we can observe how language has been used creatively to get closer to the child by identifying the child's mind. Subhasinghe has managed to bring the aesthetic child's mind and experience closer to the child with a linguistic and literary approach, which is lost to the children of today compared to the children of the past.

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