

'Artists must learn to express from surroundings'

■ District Correspondent

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"ARTISTS belonging to any field must learn to express from their surroundings. Only then can their creations be truly original," said Sadanand Borkar, a senior playwright and actor from the Zadi Patti region, the other day. He expressed these views while presiding over the Gramalok programme organised by the Sahitya Academy at the Secondary Ashram School of village Chandala.

Principal Raja Munghate, President of the Dandakaranya Education Society, presided over the programme while Dr Pramod Munghate, member of the Sahitya Academy, Chudaram Biharpure, well known playwright, Kusum Alam, noted poetess, Vishwambhar Gahane, and Sangeeta Thalal, writer were prominently present.

Borkar revealed the harsh real-



One of the guests addressing the meet.

ities behind his plays Maza Kunku Mich Pusal and Don Gharanche Gaav. "Superstitions, Governmental corruption, and the plight of those displaced by Government projects—the exploitation of common people was visible to me. My plays were born from these experiences, and they reached as far as the SAARC festival," he informed.

Ballarpure shared the inspira-

tion behind his play Mahamrityunjay Markandeshwar. He also narrated the efforts put into staging the grand production involving 50-60 artists and the audience's response to it. He further discussed his plays addressing tribal issues, superstitions, and tribal revolutionaries in Gadchiroli region.

Gahane spoke about his plays Birsamunda and Rani Durgavati,

sharing how he became a playwright. He explained how he expressed his surroundings, culture, and local dialect through his works.

Poetess Kusum Alam presented tribal poetry, highlighting the connection of tribal culture with deities, clan names, and the natural world. Writer Sangeeta Thalal emphasised the uniqueness of wild vegetables and medicinal plants in her region, noting that local people often remain unaware of their value. "To preserve this knowledge for future generations, I consistently write about wild vegetables," she said. She also presented her poems.

Dr Pramod Munghate delivered the introductory remarks. The programme was conducted by Satish Pawar, an Headmistress Yashodhar Usendi proposed a vote of thanks. The event concluded with Gond dance performed by the school girls.