

VACHIKAM: A DRAMATIC READING OF THE PLAY

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1 May, 2019: Department of Languages, Literature and Aesthetics organized ‘Vachikam – A Dramatic Reading’ of the play on May 1, 2019 by the Master of Arts (English) students. It was Prof. Nigam Dave’s suggestion that the students who study a course on Literature and Theatre Arts should also receive an insight of the process of performance. Taking this in positive stride, the Master of Arts students under the guidance of Mr. Chintan Pandya, a visiting faculty and an artist himself, prepared the first act of the play ‘*Six Characters in Search of an Author*’. The play is authored by a very famous 20th century Italian playwright Luigi Pirandello.

Vachikam is one of the four different kinds of *abhinayas* mentioned by Bharatmuni in *Natyashastra*. As part of the academic course ‘*Literature and the Theatre Arts*’, students were exposed to the process of performance. Vachikam provided students with an experience of how to emote various expressions through voice. In the process, students learnt different ways of dialogue delivery, voice culture, insight into the psyche of the characters, coordination with other actors and musician, projection of different moods and age of the characters.

The performance was well appreciated by the audience.