



HIROSHIMA

a documentary in Hindi based on
Badal Sircar's Teesvin Shatabdi

A DISHANTAR PRODUCTION



A Note on the play and the production

In the course of rehearsals, my colleagues and I felt the need to substitute certain sequences and characters, to offer additional documentation, and to provide a formal dramatic structure for the play. The idea was to give the play a factual, documentary character.

I wrote to the playwright Shri Badal Sircar, explaining our approach, and sought his permission to present this version which I felt should be called "HIROSHIMA—a documentary play based on Badal Sircar's TEESVEEN SHATABDI".

Shri Sircar was gracious enough to agree to this proposal, though he expressed the view that the philosophy of the play, namely, the responsibility of all mankind for the events of our times, should be emphasised.

Fortunately soon after, Shri Sircar happened to be in Delhi, saw our version and discussed our approach with us. He felt that our production projected in essence the play he had originally written and that, while providing a different dramatic structure, and giving additional information it has in no way altered its, basic meaning.

This production is a result of the close collaboration of all those involved in it, many of whom were engaged in research, documentation, translation and dramatisation of fresh material. We are well aware that this is only a tentative effort in the direction of a type of theatre which needs to be investigated further by all those who believe that contemporary issues are the raw material for the drama of our times.

