

## PSYCHO-SEXUAL TREATMENT OF TABOO AND CSA IN MAHESH

### DATTANI'S –'THIRTY DAYS IN SEPTEMBER'

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#### ABSTRACT

*Mahesh Dattani is well known and appreciated for his famous knack for intriguing deep into the societal issues. With his play- Thirty Days in September, he has been able to repeat the feat by creating ripples in the world of taboo and related psycho sexual thoughts, impacting the life and world of the lead characters-Mala and Shanta. While narrating the dark and incestuous acts of Vinay, Mala's uncle, Dattani has also scripted the mother daughter estranged relationship. The play is a fabulous caricature framed through psycho-sexual depiction of layers within the various set of relations on display.*

*During the decade of 2000 there were several notable works which featured on themes of Child sexual abuse and related issues prominent among them were Mira Nair's-'Monsoon Wedding' and the Bitter Chocolate by Pinki Virani. Both of these works almost occurred as prologue to Mahesh Dattani's play. Dattani's play was first enacted at the famous Prithvi Theatre, in Mumbai on 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2001 (Dattani, 2005). Perpetuated as a result of demand by RAHI (Recovering and Healing from Incest) to write a play on child sexual abuse; Dattani's –'Thirty Days in September, in words of Lillete Dubey, has touched hearts and consciences everywhere' (Dattani, 2005).*

**KEYWORDS:** *Taboo, Child Sexual Abuse, Incest, Sexual Assault, Relationships*

**Received:** Feb 20, 2016; **Accepted:** Mar 01, 2016; **Published:** Mar 07, 2016; **Paper Id.:** IJELAPR20163