Abstract

In the 1990s, several young and vibrant theatre groups began to suffice in the Singapore Chinese theatre scene. The emergence of these groups brought with them a newness to local Chinese theatre that was yet experienced. Over the past few years, some of these groups have overtaken the importance of older groups to become the key theatre players of this decade.

The main purpose of this academic exercise is to trace and give an account of the formation and development of these new groups. Prior to this, a brief summary of the history of Singapore Chinese Theatre will be given. In Chapter 4 of this study, several characteristics of the newly formed groups will also be highlighted.

The sources of this study are mainly taken from Lianhe Zao Bao, The Straits Times, and other works and theses that deal with the overall development of theatre activities in Singapore. Programme booklets of past theatre performances were used as supplementary materials. Interviews with the various groups were also conducted for better insight into some of the topics discussed.

This study found that the new groups ventured into areas that previous groups had not entered. Thus new frontiers for the local Chinese theatre were opened up due to the emergence of these groups.