



# AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE

Henrik Ibsen

# The early 19<sup>th</sup> Century Scandinavia Theatre

- ❖ The theatre of the Scandinavia
- ❖ Deplorable and sterile
- ❖ The dramatists followed Eugene Scribe (1791-1861)
- ❖ The plays reflected aristocratic life
- ❖ Sex, marriage and Adultery-main topics of the plays.
- ❖ Theatre as a medium of pure entertainment
- ❖ The dramas were type of melodrama or farce

# Establishment of a new theatre

- A theatre was established in 1849 in Bergen (Norway)
- Theatre as an ideal means to establish new drama
- Theatre as a soap-box
- Eager to establish an independent dramatic literature and life.
- One of them is Henrik Ibsen

# Henrik John Ibsen (1828-1906)

- Henrik Ibsen was born in 1828 in the small Norwegian timber port of Skien.
- Unhappy childhood days.
- His plays focused on-
- The problems of capitalist society.
- Crises of liberalism, the conflicts of bourgeois families.
- The power of economy over human relations.
- The father of realism, the pioneer of the modern drama.
- He is labelled as the realist, and the iconoclast,

# Division of Ibsen's Plays

- Ibsen's work is generally worked into three phases
- The first phase- early dramas written in verse
- The second phase –the plays of protest
- The third phase- symbolic plays
- An Enemy of the People belongs to the second phase .

# Source of the play

- The play might be based on the following real incidents
- 1. An incident of German doctor
- 2. An incident of a chemist
- 3. Ibsen's criticism

# Characters

- 1. Dr. Stockmann
- 2. Peter Stockmann
- 3. Katherine Stockmann
- 4. Petra Stockman
- 5. Mr. Hovstad
- 6. Mr. Billing
- 7. Mr. Aslaksen
- 8. Captain Horster
- 9. Morten Kill.

# The outline of the play

- 1. Dr. Stockmann's discovery of polluted waters of the Baths.
- 2. His crusade against the power the dominance of the so called majority
- 3. The consequences of his crusade.



# Problems in the play

- The problems of pollution and corruption are presented and discussed at length.
- The polluted Baths throw light on the problem of pollution.
- It also focuses on the corrupted leaders.
- Selfish readers with no courage or idealism.
- Like Baths, they are the source of evil and corruption.

# The Themes

- 1. Rivalry between Peter and Dr. Thomas Stockmann.
- 2. Crusade of Dr. Thomas Stockmann against the Baths, pollution and corruption.
- 3. A political play.
- 4. the title of the play.



□ Thank you