



YUVA PURASKAR 2014

February 10, 2015, Shillong
AWARDS PRESENTATION

The Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar Awards for 2014 were presented to 21 young writers at a glittering ceremony on February 10, 2015 at U Soso Tham auditorium, State Central Library, Shillong.

Welcoming the award winners, dignitaries and audience Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, talked at length about the purpose and objectives of Yuva Puraskar. He highlighted the importance of young minds to every country around the world and the need to recognize young writers and scholars. He enumerated various schemes and initiatives of Sahitya Akademi to promote young writers, poets and scholars across India in all the 24 official languages. He observed that Yuva Puraskar was instituted to fill the gap as winners of central Akademi awards are felicitated after substantial achievement and progress and to encourage young writers to continue writing till that point, Akademi instituted the award. He also observed that this Award presentation is being held for the first time in Shillong and hoped that this would inspire more young writers to take up serious writing and emerge as leading writers.



Yuva Puraskar Awardees with the Chief Guest, President and Secretary of the Akademi

Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, in his Presidential address, talked about conditioning effect of time and observed that literature and art are no exceptions. He urged the young writers to make best use of their youth and record their reflections of their life. Dr Tiwari also observed that many a best writing from around the world have been produced by young minds and young writers are vital to the growth of any and all literature and in all languages.

Dr K. Sreenivasarao read out the citations and Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari presented the awards. The winners of Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar for 2014 are:



Smt. Manika Deves (Assamese)
Sri Abhimanyu Mahato (Bangla)
Smt. Shanti Basumatary (Bodo)
Sri Kaushik Barua (English)
Sri Anil Chavda (Gujarati)
Sri Kumar Anupam (Hindi)
Ms. Kavya Kadame (Kannada)
Sri Naresh Chandrakant Naik (Konkani)
Sri Praveen Kashyap (Maithili)
Ms. Indu Menon (Malayalam)
Sri Wangthoi Khuman (Manipuri)

Sri Avdhoot Dongre (Marathi)
Sri Tika 'Bhai' (Nepali)
Sri Narendra Kumar Bhoi (Oriya)
Sri Gagan Deep Sharma (Punjabi)
Sri Raju Ram Bijarniyan 'Raj' (Rajasthani)
Dr. Paramba Shree Yogamaya (Sanskrit)
Sri Anpa Marandi (Santali)
Sri R. Abilash Chandran (Tamil)
Dr. Harinatha Reddy (Telugu) and
Sri Iltefat Amjadi (Urdu)

Sri Jeet Thayil, well-known Indian writer and Chief Guest of the function, talked about the values and virtues of youth period and the high percentage of flow of creativity during that period. He, however, highlighted the perils of being a full-time writers in a country like India with market providing very little to no financial gains to the writers. He however, applauded Sahitya Akademi for encouraging young writers in all the Indian languages. He also observed that poetry yields little benefits to the young writers and also about shortage of quality translators. He urged Sahitya Akademi to train more youngsters in the field of translation.

Prof. Sylvanus Lamare, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi proposed a vote of thanks and the awards presentation ceremony was followed by a folk-dance presentation by the Khasi troupe.

AWARDEES' MEET

February 11, 2015

As part of Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar, the Awardees' meet was held on February 10, 2015 at the Arts and Culture Hall, State Central Library, Shillong. Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the meet. All the twenty-one awardees shared their experiences in creative writing. Some of the awardees also spoke on why they write, influences on their writing etc. The session ended with a word of thanks by the chairperson to all the awardees who have presented their views.

ALL INDIA YOUNG WRITERS' MEET – AVISHKAR

February 11-12, 2015

As part of Yuva Puraskar, Sahitya Akademi organized a two-day All India Young Writers' Meet under the platform Avishkar on February 11, 2015, at the Arts and Culture Hall, State Central Library, Shillong.

In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about the benefits of such meets. He also highlighted various schemes and initiatives of the Akademi for the benefit of the young writers. In his inaugural address, Sri Lakshmi Nandan Bora, well-known Assamese writer, talked about the value of young writers as 'determining factors' in the growth of literature. He urged the young writers to have principled professional life as writers and follow truthful presentation as far as possible in their writings. Dr. Sylvanus Lamare, who was the guest of honour, thanked the Akademi for hosting this prestigious awards function in the North East and also spoke briefly about the rich oral history of Khasis for the benefit of the 21 award winners from all over India. In the poetry session that followed, seven noted young poets, Bijoy Sankar Sharma (Assamese), Riquoma Laloo (Jaintia), Aribam Rimeeta Devi (Manipuri), Geethika (Telugu), Surjit Hosh (Dogri), Irshad Magami (Kashmiri) and Vishal Khullar



(Urdu) recited their poems in original and in translations. Ms. Renu Mohan Bhan, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was devoted to 'Why do I write?' and chaired by Prof K.C. Baral, six noted young writers, Chintan Shelat, Kulvir, Manushi, Ritabrata Mitra, Salil Gewali and Uddipana Goswami, presented their papers focusing on curiosity, attempting to reach the unreachable, ability of writing to soothe pain, nature, literary heritage and personality trait as the reasons for their being writers respectively.

In the second session that was devoted to short story reading and chaired by Dr Streamlet Dkhar, three noted young fiction writers, Saroj Bal (Odia), Alfidarie Kharsyntiew (Khasi) and Prajna Mattihalli (Kannada) read out their stories.

In the final session that was devoted to poetry reading session and chaired by Prof Esther Syiem, Member, English Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, nine noted young poets, Mr. Dilip Kumar Jha 'Lootan' (Maithili), Mr. Dushyant (Rajasthani), Kamal Regmi (Nepali), Amey Naik (Konkani), Kaushal Tiwari (Sanskrit), Manoj Chawla (Sindhi), Jean S. Dkhar (Khasi), Ravi Laxmikant Korde (Marathi) and Fuguna Goyari (Bodo) recited their poems. Prof Esther Syiem delivered the valedictory address and Ms. Renu Mohan Bhan proposed a vote of thanks.

NATIONAL THEATRE FESTIVAL AND NATIONAL SEMINAR ON CONTEMPORARY INDIAN DRAMA

January 16-21, 2015, Bengaluru

Theatre Festival

Sahitya Akademi, as part of its diamond jubilee celebrations, organized a six-day National Theatre Festival between January 16, 2015 and January 21, 2015 and a two-day National Seminar on Contemporary Indian Drama on January 19, 2015 and January 20, 2015 at Guru Nanak Bhavan, Bengaluru.



Theatre Festival being inaugurated

Dr Narahalli Balasubramanya, Convener, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his introductory address observed that the concept 'theatre' is a mass art and has been fading away in the recent times and hoped that the theatre festivals of this nature would give opportunities for the theatre experts and critics.

Dr. Bhanu Bharti, distinguished theatre personality and scholar, inaugurated the theatre festival and in his inaugural address he stated that literature and performing arts grew up from oral tradition. Later, both of these were assumed to be different. But, literature and performing arts are always interwoven. Such an affiliation should be fortified. He commended the Akademi for hosting a theatre festival of this scale.

Inaugural Session:

In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and talked at length about the relationship between literature and theatre and highlighted how both differ in various ways. He stated that Sahitya Akademi has been keen on promoting the plays as it is one of the genres of Literature. Akademi has been publishing plays – from ancient treatises like Bharata's Natya Shastra to modern plays of Tagore and others. He unveiled the theme of the festival and seminar and briefly outlined the plays to be staged every evening.



Dr Chandrasekhara Kambara, Vice President, Sahitya Akademi, who presided over the session, observed that quite a lot of innovative experiments are taking place in the field of theatre. He stated that sadly in this age of information such innovations are not being shared properly among the practitioners of the art and hoped that the theatre personalities, critics and artists would benefit from the festival and share the developments and innovations in their domains with their counterparts.

During the National Theatre Festival, seminal plays Tamasha Na Hua (Hindi by Bhanu Bharti), Jamleela (Rajasthani by Arjun Dev Charan), Maranayaka (Kannada by H.S. Shivaprakash), Mohe Piya (Hindi by Waman Kendre), Karimayi (Kannada play by Chandrasekhara Kambara rendered in Hindi translation) and Jangtur Pangtur (in Assamese based on a folktale) directed by eminent theatre directors Sri Bhanu Bharti, Dr. Arjun Dev Charan, Sri Hulugappa Kattimani, Prof. Waman Kendre, Sri Lokendra Trivedi and Ms. Rayanti Rabha were staged on the evenings applying traditional and modern stage technologies.



Date	Play	Director	Playwright	Language	Troupe
January 16, 2015	Tamasha Na Hua	Bhanu Bharti	Bhanu Bharti	Hindi	Ajar Theatre Company, Udaipur
January 17, 2015	Jamleela	Arjun Deo Charan	Arjun Deo Charan	Rajasthani	Rammatt, Jodhpur
January 18, 2015	Maaranyaka	Hulugappa Kattimani	H.S. Shivaprakash	Kannada	Sankalpa Kalasangha, Mysore
January 19, 2015	Mohe Piya	Waman Kendre	Waman Kendre	Hindi	Rangapith Theatre, Mumbai
January 20, 2015	Karimayi	Lokendra Trivedi	Chandrashekhar Kambar	Hindi	Abhigyan Natya Association, New Delhi
January 21, 2015	Jangtur Pangtur	Rayanti Rabha	Folktale	Assamese	Mamchalemga, Goalpara, Assam



SEMINAR ON CONTEMPORARY INDIAN DRAMA

Sahitya Akademi, India's premier institution of Letters, as part of its diamond jubilee celebrations, organized a two-day national seminar on 'Contemporary Indian Drama' on 19th and 20th of January 2015 at Gurunanak Bhavan in Bengaluru.

In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience. He spoke about the relationship between literature and theatre and highlighted how both complement each other in various ways. He stated that Sahitya Akademi has always been keen on promoting the plays as they are also a form of literary genre. Akademi has been publishing plays – from ancient treatises like Bharata's Natya Shastra to modern plays of Tagore and others. Sahitya Akademi is keen on helping and promoting the aspiring playwrights across India and in all the 24 languages and this seminar is one in the series to encourage playwriting in the country. In his inaugural address, Dr Girish Karnard, eminent Kannada writer and playwright, talked about the nature of 'contemporary' and its relativity. He observed that 'contemporary' in his initial days belonged to the golden epoch dominated by doyens of Indian theatre. Compared to that, the 'contemporary' of present playwrights would highlight only the decline in the quantity and quality of plays. Plays reflect reality and chaotic nature of city life aptly reflects, on the other hand this decline. This explains dwindling audience and poor number of staged plays. Audience for plays are from rural areas whereas money and sponsors are in the cities. Dr Girish Karnard also highlighted the divide between creative writers and the cities. Dr Karnard also talked about the dominance of colour, music and dance in the contemporary Indian drama. Dr Samik Bandyopadhyay, eminent art and theatre critic, in his keynote address, talked about the relationship between the text, the literature and theatre. He observed that the origins of play may come from various forms of life – rural or folk or urban – but nevertheless it is still a text, a form of literature reflecting reality and presenting analytical tool to dissect reality reflected. He highlighted the fact that contemporary play has become a spectacle and agreed with Dr Karnard that colour, dance and music has taken over the plays and hence the decline of text. He observed that in some societies plays are nothing more than an entertainment. He said that text of play has the



Eminent writer, playwright and actor, Girish Karnard delivering the inaugural address

capacity to be a visually charged literature. He appealed to the established and eminent playwrights to guide and mould the younger generation of playwrights and also asked them to take up the task of reinterpreting the older texts. Dr Chandrasekhar Kambar, Jnanpith Awardee and Vice President of the Akademi, presided over the session, talked briefly about the complementary nature of literature and play and mentioned that he would present a detailed analysis at the valedictory function slated for January 20th. Dr Narahalli Balasubramanya, Convener, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was devoted to 'Writing for Stage' and chaired by Prof. Nandkishore Acharya, four eminent scholars and theatre personalities, Sri Pundalik, Dr Arjun Deo Charan, Sri Debbasis Majumdar and Prof Datta Bhagat, presented papers offering various perspectives on writing for stage and highlighted similarities between writing for stage and play as a literary production.

In the second session that was devoted to 'Exploring Stage Possibilities' and chaired by Sri Bhanu Bharti, four eminent scholars and theatre personalities, Dr. Neelam Mansingh, Prof. K.S. Rajendran, Sri Chandradasan, and Prof K.V. Akshara, presented papers offering new, contemporary issues in stage management and innovations in production and management techniques.

In the third session devoted to actors speak and was chaired by eminent theatre personality, Dr Mohan Agashe,



two eminent scholars, Sri Y. Sadananda Singh and Ms. Avereer Chaurey presented papers. Dr Agashe initiated the proceedings with a pithy remark 'life is a play' and talked about actors' role in that. In a lec-dem, Sri Sadananda Singh presented the paper on 'Role of Manipuri Traditional Arts in the making of contemporary Indian Mime.' Sri Singh elaborated on the use of body as a medium of expression and gesture as a language in encapsulating the words through acting. There was a brief video presentation as well. Ms. Avereer Chaurey talked about acting as a form of expression and elaborated on how mere body movements can encapsulate the text or play or literature without sounds. She also explained how actors, through the use of space, can transcend the words and texts at times and also contribute in a rich way to the literature at hand also.

In the fourth session devoted to 'Making Sense of Drama Historically and Politically' and was chaired by Dr Lokendra Arambam, three noted scholars, Sri T.P. Ashoka, Sri Rojio Usham and Sri Brahma Prakash, presented their papers. Sri Ashoka focused on the scenario of Kannada theatre and drama in the post-colonial era. Sri Rojio Usham presented an overview of practices and perception of theatre in India and abroad and remarked that every event or action can be brought within the domain of performance and acting. Sri Brahma Prakash focused on the feminist perspective in the Manipuri theatre and also highlighted the institutionalization of plays in the post-colonial Manipuri theatre.

In the fifth session that was chaired by Sri K.D. Tripathi, four eminent scholars, Sri K.G. Paulose, Sri Nirmal Selvamony, Sri R.S. Nandakumar and Sri Karmegam presented papers on 'Presenting Past: Theories and Practices.' Sri Tripathi talked from the point of view of Sanskrit theatre and presented a bird's eye view of the entire tradition of Sanskrit theatre and also talked about contemporary practices in that sphere. Sri Paulose's paper focused on the relevance of rasa. Sri Nirmal Selvamony's paper focused on the possibility of tracing seeds of drama in Tolkappiyam. Sri Nandakumar presented a critical appreciation of Dramaturgical/Musicology texts. Sri Karmegam presented a paper on the dramatic idioms in folk / tribal literature.

In the sixth session that was devoted to the 'Languages of Drama' and was chaired by eminent art and theatre critic, Sri Sadanand Menon, four noted scholars, Ms. Urmimala Sarkar, Ms. Anjana Puri, Sri Dilip Kumar Basu

and Sri Kumaran Valavan, presented papers focusing on 'Dance and Choreography,' 'Music,' 'Poetry' and 'Stage Technologies' respectively.

Jnanpith Award Winner and the Vice President of Sahitya Akademi, Dr Chandrasekhar Kambar chaired the Valedictory session. Dr Kambar observed that with the passage of time, Indian plays and dramas are adopting western techniques, western methods of evaluation and western style of acting and presentation. He observed that it is high time we 'bring' our plays back home. Eminent poet and playwright, Prof H.S. Shivaprakash, presented a paper on 'Playing Drama and Theatre.' Prof Shivaprakash observed that amidst all the fragmentation and categorization, 'Play' is the thing. From the text to the stage to the acting and presentation it is the play which has to be in the centre of focus.

VALEDICTORY SESSION OF THE THEATRE FESTIVAL:

The valedictory session of the six-day long National Theatre Festival was held on January 21, 2015. Dr. C. Basavalingaiah, Director, National School of Drama, Regional Centre, Bengaluru, Smt. B. Jayashree, noted theatre personality and Dr. Chandrasekhara Kambar, Vice President, Sahitya Akademi and distinguished playwright, participated in the session.

In his valedictory address, Dr Basavalingaiah talked about the greatness of native theatre forms and expressed sadness over their steady decline over the years. He commended Sahitya Akademi for taking up the cause of theatre by organizing a National Festival of this scale and also a seminar on contemporary drama. Smt. B. Jayashree spoke at length about contemporary Kannada and Indian theatre scenario. Dr Chandrasekhara Kambar said efforts are on to help the performances of original plays in future and to stop the culture of staging prominently the translated plays. He observed that Indians are mindlessly aping the western theatre models and hoped that indigenous plays will be promoted in native languages of India and in the methods which have been in vogue for centuries. Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru, proposed a vote of thanks.



SEMINAR ON 'MEDIEVAL BHAKTI LITERATURE'

January 2-3, 2015, Bhubaneswar



Inaugural Session of the Seminar in progress

As part of its diamond jubilee celebrations, Sahitya Akademi organized a two-day national seminar on 'Medieval Bhakti Literature' focusing on medieval bhakti schools of the eastern parts of India on January 2-3, 2015 at the Kalinga conference hall in Bhubaneswar.

In the inaugural session, Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the participants and audience and spoke at length about the role Bhakti movements during the medieval period played in communities across India. He observed that these movements acted both as a tool of social critique aimed at countering hegemony and at the same time offering countless ways to go beyond the daily oppressions. Sri Gourhari Das, Convener, Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his introductory remarks, talked about social changes which the medieval bhakti schools brought about across the country and the positive role they played in the uplifting of the poor and oppressed. In his inaugural address, Sri Ramakanta Rath, Fellow, Sahitya Akademi, talked about the role of medieval bhakti movements in the eastern parts of India. In his keynote address, Sri Pradip Jyoti Mahanta, noted scholar, talked about the role medieval bhakti movements played in raising the standards of literature and life across east and north-east. Sri Ashok Chandra Panda, Hon'ble Minister of Culture and Tourism, Government of Odisha, who was the chief guest, congratulated Sahitya Akademi for organizing such an important seminar in Bhubaneswar. Sri Satakadi Hota, President, Odisha Sahitya Akademi, in his Presidential address, talked about medieval Bhakti literature of Odisha. Sri Arabinda K Padhi, I.A.S., Secretary, Culture & Tourism Ministry, Government of

Odisha and Dr. Bina Thakur, Convener, Maithili Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi were guests of honor. Sri Bishnu Prasad Mishra, Secretary, Odisha Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session devoted to 'Confluence of medieval Bengali and Maithili Bhakti literature' and chaired by Dr. Bina Thakur, two noted scholars, Anjana Sen (Bengali) and Amlendu Shekhar Pathak (Maithili) presented their papers focusing on the impact of saint-poet on Vidyapati on medieval Bengali Bhakti literature and also the impact of medieval Bengali Sakta poets on the medieval Sakta literature of Maithili. In the second session devoted to 'Social Ramifications of Medieval Bhakti Movements of Odisha' and chaired by Sri Harekrishna Satpathy, three noted Odia scholars, Sri Jatin Nayak, Sri Kalidas Mishra and Sri Surendra Kumar Mishra, presented their papers focusing on the impact of Odia Bhakti literature during the medieval period starting from Sarala Dasa's Sarala Mahabharata and later saint-poets' works on communities across Odisha and their role in the social upheaval. In the third session devoted to 'Sankaradeva and North Eastern Medieval Bhakti Literature' and chaired by Sri Lakshminandan Bora, two noted scholars, Kanak Chandra Saharia (Assamese) and C. Jamini Devi (Manipuri) presented their papers focusing on the impact of Sankaradeva in the rise and spread of Vaishnava Bhakti movements across North-East and their role in social re-engineering there. In the fourth session devoted to 'Socio-Cultural Impact of Odia Bhagabat of Atibadi Jagannath Das' and chaired by Sri Raj Kishore Mishra, three noted Odia scholars, Braja Kishore Swain, Asit Mohanty and Sunil Kumar Rath presented their papers. In the fifth session that was devoted to 'Impact of Vidyapati, Jayadeva, Saraladas, Sankaradeva and Sri Chaitanya in Indian Literature' and chaired by H. Behari Singh, five noted scholars, Sanjeev Nath (Assamese), Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharjee (Bengali), Buddhinath Mishra (Maithili), N. Khagendra Singh (Manipuri) and B.N. Patnaik (Odia) presented their papers.

In his valedictory address, Dr. Sitakant Mahapatra, distinguished scholar and writer, talked about the role Bhakti movements across India played during the time of decline of authority of Hindu Kingdoms. Sri Gopal Krushna Rath chaired the valedictory session and proposed a vote of thanks.



ALL INDIA SANSKRIT POETS' MEET

January 3, 2015, Guwahati

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in collaboration with the Department of Sanskrit, Gauhati University, organized an All India Sanskrit Poets' Meet on January 3, 2015, at the University premises in Guwahati.

In the inaugural session, Sri Brajendra Tripathi, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants, dignitaries and audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi to promote and develop Sanskrit literature. Sri Abhiraja Rajendra Mishra chaired the session and Sri Ramakant Shukla was the Chief Guest. Prof Radhavallabh Tripathi, Convener, Sanskrit Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, was the guest of honor and spoke at length about the beauty and relevance of Sanskrit poetry to all times. He also highlighted modern attempts at Sanskrit poetry. In the poetry reading session, ten noted poets, Bhagirathi Nand, Pravin Pandya, Harshdev Madhav, Ramashankar Awasthi, Harekrushna Satpathi, Umakant Dev Sharma, Sitanath Acharya, G.S.R. Krishnamoorti, Balaram Shukla and Icharam Dwivedi, recited their poems. Dr. Nalini Devi Mishra of the Sanskrit Department proposed a vote of thanks.

LITERARY FORUM

January 9, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a literary forum with well-known writer-journalist Sri Madhukar Upadhyaya on 'One Hundred Years since Gandhi's return to India' on January 9, 2015 in New Delhi. Sri Upadhyaya observed that the issues that were prevalent in India on Gandhi's return from South Africa exist even today though in varied forms. He highlighted Gandhi's concern for cleanliness, simple living, Hindu-Muslim unity and corruption and remarked that these issues are still plaguing the country. He observed that the country needs to revisit 'means justify ends' in the society overwhelmed heavily by globalization and the society that is witnessing rapidly declining value systems. A brief interactive session followed the speech.

ALPHABET SERIES

January 12, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi, in association with the Centre for Translation Studies, St. Stephen's College, New Delhi, kick-started a new programme series called 'Alphabet' on January 12, 2015 at the college premises in New Delhi. This programme is a platform to have a series of

interactions with the global writers of note and aimed at giving global exposure to students and serious researchers in literature.



Philip Nikolayev reads from his works as Prof K Satchidanandan is all ears

In the first episode of the event featured Philip Nikolayev, eminent Russian-American poet and editor of Fulcrum. Prof K. Satchidanandan, Convener, English Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, introduced the series and outlined its vision. Philip Nikolayev read out some of his poems based on the experience of growing up in Russia and some others on the globally shared trauma. A brief and lively interactive session followed the reading. The event was moderated by Prof N.P. Ashley, Centre for Translation Studies, St. Stephen's College.

NARI CHETNA

January 14, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a Nari Chetna programme on January 14, 2015 at the Conference Hall in Akademi premises featuring readings by noted women writers and poets. In the programme, three noted women writers and poets, Ms. Akanksha Pare Kashiv (Hindi), Ms. Paramita Satpathy (Odia) and Ms. Tarannum Riyaz (Urdu), read out excerpts from their recent works and a brief interactive session with the audience took place after the reading session.

INTERACTIONS WITH DR. MAHESH SHARMA, HON'BLE MINISTER OF STATE FOR CULTURE

January 14, 2015, New Delhi

Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Hon'ble Minister of State for Culture (Independent Charge), Government of India, paid a visit to Sahitya Akademi premises on January 14, 2015. Welcoming the Hon'ble Minister, Dr. K. Sreenivasarao,



Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, introduced all the employees and briefed him about various initiatives and schemes of the Akademi.

Sri Pankaj Rag, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Government of India, Sri Navneet Soni, Officer on Special Duty, Hon'ble Minister of State for Tourism and Culture, Sri Kanwar Sameer Lather, Director, Ministry of Culture, Government of India and a number of officials of the Ministry of Culture also accompanied the Hon'ble Minister.



Dr. K. Sreenivasarao explaining a point to the Hon'ble Minister and Sri Pankaj Rag during the power point presentation

The Hon'ble Minister visited the library and checked various facilities created for the benefit of the readers. Hon'ble Minister was highly appreciative of the archival facilities of the Akademi and also inspected the Akademi auditorium. A detailed power-point presentation was shown to the Hon'ble Minister and the officials of the Ministry, providing recent achievements of the Akademi in the past five years and also an overview of seminal moments, achievements of the Akademi's sixty year journey and literary service to the country. Copies of 'Five Decades of Sahitya Akademi' and a Coffee Table Book of 'Six Decades of Sahitya Akademi' were also presented to the Hon'ble Minister along with other titles. Hon'ble Minister spoke briefly about the commitment to excellence and was highly appreciative of Sahitya Akademi's effort to promote literature in 24 official languages, minor languages and numerous dialects across India.

NEPALI RACHNA PATH

January 18, 2015, Nagaon

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with the Assam Nepali Sahitya Sabha, organized a Nepali Rachna Path on January 18, 2015 at Nagaon. In the inaugural session, Sri Santanu Gangopadhyay, Assistant Editor, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about translation as a bridge connecting

the little known languages with mainstream literature. Sri Lil Bahadur Chhetri, noted Nepali writer, in his inaugural address talked about the necessity of authors keeping abreast with the latest happenings in their own field and advocated compulsory reading habits across genres. In his keynote address, Sri Jiwan Namdung, well-known Nepali poet and critic, talked about the contributions of Nepali writers from Assam to Nepali literature. Sri Dambar Dahal talked about the need for Nepali writers to explore newer avenues of expression and Dr. Chinamoni Sarmah, Assam Nepali Sahitya Sabha, proposed a vote of thanks. In the first session that was devoted to short story reading and chaired by Sri Prem Pradhan, Convener, Nepali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, three noted Nepali fiction writers, Nar Bahadur Dorjee, Birendra Dhakal and Raju Atreya, read out their stories. In the second session that was devoted to poetry recitation and chaired by Sri Gyan Bahadur Chhetri, noted Nepali critic, eight noted Nepali poets, Gayatri Newar (Tezpur), Thanuram Sarmah (Margherita), Lakhsman Adhikari (Udalgudi), Jyoti Homagain (Karbi Anglong), Dharmendra Upadhyay (Lakhimpur), Shankar Pradhan(Dooars), Dr Jeevan Rana(Dooars) and CK Rai(Darjeeling), recited their poems.

MEET THE AUTHOR

January 18, 2015, Nagaon

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with Assam Nepali Sahitya Sabha, organized a 'Meet the Author' programme with Sri Durga Prasad Upadhyay, eminent Nepali writer on January 18, 2015 at Nagaon. Sri Upadhyay, who is a fiction writer, poet, playwright and critic has eight titles in different genres to his credit. He spoke at length about his early life, influences and his work. After his speech, Sri Upadhyay also read out some of his recently composed poems. A brief interactive session followed the reading.

POETRY READING

January 20, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a poetry reading session on January 20, 2015 at the Akademi conference hall in New Delhi. Three noted poets K Abhay (English), Fariyad Aajar (Urdu) and Damini (Hindi) participated in the session. Sri Abhay read out poems on various monuments from his book 'The seduction of Delhi,' Sri Fariyad Aajar presented his Ghazal poems and Ms. Damini recited some of her new poems with feminist theme. The event was coordinated by Sri Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi.



MIZO-ENGLISH TRANSLATION WORKSHOP

January 28-30, 2015, Aizawl

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with the Department of English, Mizoram University, organized a three day national workshop on translation of contemporary Mizo short stories and tales into English on January 28-30, 2015, at the conference hall of the University in Aizawl.

In the inaugural session, Prof Margaret Ch Zama, coordinator of the workshop welcomed the dignitaries and participants. In her introductory address, Ms. Gitanjali Chatterjee, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, talked at length about various initiatives and schemes of the Akademi to promote translation across the country and in 24 languages. Prof S.D. Baral chaired the session. In his inaugural address, Prof R. Lalthantluanga, Vice Chancellor, Mizoram University, appreciated the role that Akademi plays in promoting literature in various languages and hoped that more Mizo texts will be translated into other languages. Sri B. Lalthangliana, Guest of Honour, presented an overview of English to Mizo and Mizo to English translation scenario. He appealed the literary community of Mizoram to take up translation seriously as translation is the window to the world. Five writers were invited for the workshop along with the two scholars who shared the responsibilities of resource persons during the workshop and twenty two translators participated in the workshop. Dr. K.C. Lalthalamuani, coordinator, proposed a vote of thanks.

NATIONAL WORKSHOP-CUM-SEMINAR ON TRANSLATION OF
CONTEMPORARY SHORT STORIES & TALES - MIZO TO ENGLISH



Participants of Mizo to English National Translation Workshop

the necessity of knowledge of the source language and loss of meaning in translations. Vannehtluanga talked about the demands of differing landscapes and challenges in translating them. Lalrammawia Ngente talked about the challenges of fidelity to the original. Zirsangkima talked about the importance of translators in literary community. C. Lalnunchanga talked about the shifts in the understanding of meaning along with the shifts in the structure of the stories. Prof Zama, one of the coordinators thanked the Akademi and the department for making the workshop a reality.

In the second session, Dr Margaret L Pachuau, one of the resource persons gave a presentation on key factors in translating and highlighted the language use, cultural ethos, use of metaphors, and gathering information about the source text and language and the fidelity to the original. Sri C. Lalsiamthanga, another resource person, analysed the translations presented and pointed out weaknesses among them. Prof Zama talked about her own difficulties as a translator though she has a number of translations to her credit and highlighted differences between translations and adaptations. She also observed that the translator has to translate sarcasm, humour, mood and irony of the original along with the meaning. In the third session, the participants were divided into three different groups for group discussions with one Language Resource Person and translator per group. The translated texts were discussed and analysed and corrections were suggested where deemed necessary. In the fourth session that was moderated by Prof S.D. Baral, reports were given by representatives of each group about their discussions. These reports were then analysed and debated among the participants. A discussion on the nuances of translation followed. In the final session of the workshop, final reviews were presented. Certificates were handed out to each of the participants.

In the first session, Prof M. Zama gave a presentation 'Translation: Theory and Practice' vis-à-vis Mizo language and highlighted some of the important factors for the scarcity of quality translations in Mizo language. Sri C. Lalsiamthanga, who moderated the session talked about the challenges in translation. Some of the translators, Dr C. Lalawmpuia Vanchiau, Dr Rualzakhumi Ralte, Dr Lalthansangi Fanai, Prof R. Thangvunga, Dr K.C Lalthlamuani, Lalmalsawmi Ralte, Josephine L.B Zuali, Alexander Lalrinzama, Dr. Lalrindiki T. Fanai, Henry Lalmawizuala and A. Hmangaihzuali Poonte also talked about the problems they faced in their translations. After the translators, the writers of the translated stories were given time to come up to the podium to share their thoughts. Mafaa Huhnar spoke about



ALL-INDIA WOMEN WRITERS' MEET

January 29-30, 2015, Bhopal

As part of its diamond jubilee celebrations, Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, organized an All India Women Writers' Meet on January 29-30, 2015 at Bhopal.

In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke about how the women writers, apart from giving us first rate writings they also challenged and changed the literature produced by men by bringing a different content, idiom, flavour and sensibility. He also highlighted various schemes and initiatives of the Akademi aimed at the women writers. Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, in his presidential address highlighted the genuine presence of creative women writers in many Indian languages and recited few poems by celebrated women poets of India. Dr Pratibha Ray, distinguished Odia writer, in her inaugural address, observed that there is an increasing tendency to distinguish male and female writers and she was opposed to this dichotomy. Dr Rukmini Bhayya Nair, noted English writer and academic, in her keynote address, called for decoding the new slogans in the context of social, political and economic scenario.

In the first session devoted to the short story reading, four noted fiction writers, Ms. Jayshree Goswami Mahanta (Assamese), Ms. Santosh Sangra (Dogri), Ms. Yashodhara Mishra (English) and Dr. Alpana Mishra, read out their recent short stories. In the second session that was devoted to 'Being a Woman, Being a Writer' and chaired by Dr Varsha Adalja, three noted writers, Dr. Mridula Garg (Hindi), Smt. Urmila Pawar (Marathi) and Dr. C. Mrunalini (Telugu), presented their papers. In the third session that was devoted to poetry reading and chaired by Ms. Naseem Shafai, eight noted women poets, Dr. Gayatri Gagoi (Assamese), Smt. Sebanti Ghosh (Bengali), Dr. K. Srilata (English), Ms. Neelesh Raghuvanshi (Hindi), Ms. Pragya Rawat (Hindi), Dr. Pratibha Nandakumar (Kannada), Dr. J. Bhagyalakshmi (Telugu) and Dr. Nusrat Mehdi (Urdu) recited their recent compositions. In the fourth session that was devoted to short story reading and chaired by Dr Mridula Garg, four noted women fiction writers, Ms.

Urmila Sirish (Hindi), Smt. Jayanti Naik (Konkani), Smt. Indira Jha (Maithili) and Ms. Sangmu Lepcha (Nepali) presented their recent short stories. In the fifth session devoted to 'Being a Woman, Being a Writer' and chaired by Dr Srilata, four well-known women scholars, Smt. Esther Syiem (English), Dr. Varsha Adalja (Gujarati), Smt. Damayanti Beshra (Santali) and Smt. Vaasanthi (Tamil) presented their papers. In the sixth session devoted to poetry reading and chaired by Dr J. Bhagyalakshmi, ten noted poets, Dr. Mapahie Rojje Boro (Bodo), Dr. Savita Singh (Hindi), Dr. Savita Bhargav (Hindi), Ms. R.K. Devarita Devi (Manipuri), Ms. Kalpana Jalindar Dudhal (Marathi), Smt. Harpreet Kaur (Punjabi), Ms. Nagaratna Hegde (Sanskrit), Smt. Droupadi Chandani (Sindhi), Ms. Mubeen Sadhika (Tamil) and Smt. Mumtaz Peerbhoy (Urdu) recited their compositions.

URDU POETS' MEET

January 29, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a programme 'Urdu Poets' Meet' on January 29, 2015 at the conference hall in Akademi premises. Sri Chandra Bhan Khayal, Convener, Urdu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the meet and five noted Urdu poets, Javed Anwar, Zamarud Mugal, Amir Imam, Saalim Salim and Brajesh Ambar, recited their recent compositions.

PRAVASI MANCH

January 31, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a session of poetry reading by Ms. Nishi Chawla, eminent English poet from U.S.A., in the programme 'Pravasi Manch' on January 31, 2015 at the Conference Hall in Sahitya Akademi premises in New Delhi. Ms. Chawla talked briefly about her life, influences on her poetry writing, status of Indian diaspora writing in the American continent and then recited her latest compositions. A brief interactive session followed the reading session.



SEMINAR ON GOPINATH MOHANTY: THE MAN AND HIS CREATIONS

February 1-2, 2015, New Delhi

As part of its diamond jubilee celebrations and also to commemorate the birth centenary of Gopinath Mohanty, distinguished Odia writer, Sahitya Akademi organized a two-day seminar on 'Gopinath Mohanty: The Man and His Creations' on February 1-2, 2015 at the Akademi auditorium in New Delhi.



Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari delivering the Presidential address at the Seminar

In the inaugural session, Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about the life, personality and works of Gopinath Mohanty. He observed that the portrayal of social realities in Gopinath Mohanty's works were not localized and his works betrayed a very deep understanding of universality of human life. In his introductory remarks Sri Gourhari Das, Convener, Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked about how Gopinath Mohanty's life and works reflect the society in transition with the hopes for bright future. In his inaugural address, Sri Namwar Singh, eminent critic, talked about the positive role which writings of Gopinath Mohanty provided to many an aspiring writer across India. He observed that simply by this fact he should be viewed and treated as pan-India writer rather than within the narrow confines of

Odia literature. Dr. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, in his presidential address talked about multifaceted personality of Gopinath Mohanty and his influence in varied walks of life and observed Gopinath Mohanty's influence on society is unparalleled in modern India. In his keynote address, Dr. Sitakant Mahapatra, distinguished scholar and writer, presented a fascinating picture of Gopinath Mohanty as a recorder of life's varied experiences. He observed that Gopinath Mohanty was a colossus among the post-independence fiction writers in India with no equals. Sri Omkar Nath Mohanty of Gopinath Mohanty Foundation Trust proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was devoted to 'Plays, Essays and Autobiography of Gopinath Mohanty' and chaired by J.P. Das, three noted scholars, K.K. Mohapatra, Sangram Jena and Arun Mohanty presented their papers focusing on how his prolific output in story writing eclipsed his versatility as an essayist and biographer par excellence. In the second session that was devoted to 'Gopinath Mohanty and Sarala Dasa' and chaired by Sri Sumanyu Satpathy, two noted scholars, Sri Raj Kishore Mishra and Sri Basanta Kumar Panda, presented their papers highlighting how Gopinath Mohanty's research revealed new facts about the legendary saint-poet of Odisha, Sri Sarala Dasa, led to the rewriting of history of Odia literature.

In the third session that was devoted to 'Fictional World of Gopinath Mohanty' and chaired by Pratibha Ray, three noted scholars, Bikram Keshari Das, Gourkishore Das and Yashodhara Mishra, presented their papers focusing on varied portrayal of social reality and landscape in Gopinath Mohanty's stories. In the fourth session that was devoted to 'Shaping Voices: Gopinath Mohanty and the Tribal World' and chaired by Santanu Kumar Acharya, three noted scholars, four noted scholars, Jatin Nayak, P.C. Pattanaik, Jayant Kumar Biswal and Raj Kumar, presented their papers focusing on the portrayal of tribals in Gopinath Mohanty's works. In the fifth session that was devoted to 'Placing Gopinath Mohanty in Indian Literature' and chaired by Raghuveer Chaudhuri, four noted scholars, Sayantan Dasgupta, Manu Chakravarthy, P.P. Raveendran and B.N. Patnaik, presented their papers focusing on the influence of Gopinath Mohanty in other literatures of India.

ASMITA

February 1, 2015, Bokaro

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, organized a literary programme for Santali women writers under its 'Asmita' programme on February 1, 2015 at Bokaro, Jharkhand. Smt. Joba Murmu, Member, Santali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi chaired the programme. Three noted women writers, Holika Marandi, Lusi Tudu and Mani Soren, read out their stories and poems focusing on the Santali society, struggles and their relationship with Nature.



MULAKAT

February 1, 2015, Bokaro

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, organized a ‘Mulakat’ programme for young Santali writers on February 1, 2015 at Bokaro, Jharkhand. Sri Gangadhar Hansda, Convener, Santali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the event and two noted young Santali writer, Ms. Suchitra Hansda and Sri Mangat Murmu, read out their stories and poems focusing on the challenges of Santal values in the midst of rapidly changing world.

‘THROUGH MY WINDOW’

February 1, 2015, Bokaro

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, organized a ‘Through My Window’ programme on February 1, 2015 at Bokaro, Jharkhand in which the eminent Santhali playwright and Akademi award winner, Sri Bhoqla Soren talked about distinguished Santhali writer Shyam Sunder Hembram’s works. He took for discussion, Sri Hembram’s early plays and highlighted many unique features and reiterated their greatness. He also observed that Sri Hembram’s poetry is part of modern Santal literary heritage.

PEOPLE AND BOOKS

February 1, 2015, Bokaro

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, organized a ‘People and Books’ programme on February 1, 2015 at Bokaro, Jharkhand, featuring renowned politician, legislator and litterateur, Sri Surya Singh Besra. Sri Besra, who has translated famous works such as ‘Madhushala’ and ‘Gitanjali’ into Santhali language, mentioned those books along with a host of others that impact his life most. He also thanked the Akademi for promoting Santhali language and literature and hoped that Santhali language will be taught in every school.

MAITHILI KAVI SAMMELAN

February 1, 2015, Bokaro

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with the International Maithili Society, organized a Maithili Kavi Sammelan on February 1, 2015 at Bokaro, Jharkhand. Dr Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty,

Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi to promote literature across India and in 24 languages. Noted Maithili poet Sri Brudhinath Jha chaired the Sammelan. Sri Vinay Kumar Mishra, Ms. Usha Chaudhari, Sri Sunil Mohan Thakur, Sri Gangesh Kumar Pathak, Sri Sridev Chaudhuri, Sri Vijay Shankar Mallik, Dr Ashok Avichal, Sri Amarnath Jha ‘Amar’, Sri Navonath Jha ‘Vivek’ and Sri Brudhinath Jha, recited their compositions. Sri Shivnath Jha proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON KHUSHWANT SINGH

February 2, 2015, New Delhi

To commemorate birth centenary of distinguished Indian writer Sri Khushwant Singh, Sahitya Akademi organized a symposium on the legendary writer on February 2, 2015 at the Akademi auditorium in New Delhi.



(L-R) Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Prof K. Satchidanandan, Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, Prof Harish Trivedi, Sri Rahul Singh and Sri M.J. Akbar

In the inaugural session, Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about the works and legacy of Sri Khushwant Singh. He ended his speech with Khushwant’s own obituary: “Here lies one who spared neither man nor God/ waste not your tears on him, he was a sod/ writing nasty things he regarded as great fun/ thank the lord he is dead, this son of a gun.” Prof K. Satchidanandan, Convener, English Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, addressed the multi-dimensional character of this great figure from his journalistic venture, sense of humour, tolerance to religion to his passion towards literature.



In the first session chaired by Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, three eminent scholars, Prof Harish Trivedi, Sri Rahul Singh and Sri M.J. Akbar, talked about different aspects of Khushwant Singh's life. A documentary film on Khushwant Singh directed by Suresh Kohli was screened between the sessions. In the second session chaired by Prof K. Satchidanandan, three eminent scholars, Prof Indu Banga, Prof G.J.V. Prasad and Sri David Davidar, presented their papers. Indu Banga concentrated on Khushwant Singh's History of the Sikhs, purpose of his writing and his limitations as a historian. GJV Prasad discussed in detail about his fictions bringing out his realist side, his interest in relationships and human values. David Davidar's paper revolved around Khushwant Singh's Delhi: how it got written and edited and his understanding of texture and flavour of Delhi down the ages. In the third session chaired by Prof Harish Trivedi, two noted scholars, Prof Pushpinder Syal and Prof M. Asaduddin, presented their papers. Pushpinder Syal examined Khushwant Singh's perspective on women in her paper which she found contradictory to his literary sensibilities. Though exposing male hypocrisy about sex they ended up re-enforcing it. M. Asaduddin talked about his another facet of being a translator which got overshadowed by his other facets. Event concluded with the Open Forum on Memoirs and Impressions of Khushwant Singh where his acquaintances and admirers paid tribute to his memory.

SEMINAR ON JAISHANKAR PRASAD

February 3-4, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a national seminar on Jaishankar Prasad at the Akademi auditorium in New Delhi on February 3-4, 2015.

In the inaugural session, Sri Brajendra Tripathi, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants, dignitaries and audience. In his inaugural address, Sri Raghuvir Choudhary, eminent writer, talked about how the works of Sri Prasad betray his deep understanding of human psyche and his works are testimony to his ability to translate the indescribable into beautiful poetry. Dr. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi,

in his Presidential address, stressed the need to revisit Sri Prasad's works for a better understanding of the legendary writer and also of human consciousness. In his keynote address, Sri Prabhakar Shrotriya, well-known writer, talked about Kamayani's new cultural exchange and highlighted the interrelationship between growth and destruction. He observed that Kamayani was 20th century's biggest creation. Sri Brajendra Tripathi proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was devoted to the Poetry of Prasad and chaired by Dr. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, three noted scholars, Ashish Tripathi, Rajendra Prasad Pandey and Madhav Hada, presented their papers. In the second session that was devoted to Short Stories of Prasad and chaired by Gopal Rai, three noted scholars, Arvindakshan, Madhuresh and S. Shesharatnam, presented their papers. In the evening, a dance presentation of Kamayani by Roopvani troupe from Varanasi and directed by Vyomesh Shukla was staged.



(L-R) Dr. Raghuvir Chaudhari, Dr. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari and Dr. Prabhakar Shrotriya

In the third session that was devoted to the Plays of Prasad and chaired by Narendra Mohan, three noted scholars, Alok Gupta, Ram Gopal Bajaj and Soma Bandyopadhyay, presented their papers. In the fourth session that was devoted to the Novels of Prasad and chaired by Ajay Tiwari, three noted scholars, Ramesh Rishikalp, Chitranjan Mishra and Neeraj, presented their papers. In the fifth session that was devoted to Poetics of Prasad and chaired by Nityanand Tiwari, three noted scholars, Anant Mishra, Ramshankar Dwivedi and Vinod Tiwari, presented their papers. In the valedictory session that was chaired by Sri Suryaprasad Dixit, Sri Krishnadutt Paliwal delivered the valedictory address and Sri Om Nischal proposed a vote of thanks.



LITERARY FORUM WITH SPANISH WRITERS

February 4, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, organized a literary forum with the visiting writers' delegation from Spain featuring a reading session by them on February 4, 2015 at the Conference Hall in Akademi premises. Mr. Carlos Aganzo, eminent Spanish poet, Mr. Jesus Aguado, noted Spanish critic, Mr. Jose Mario Quiros, noted Spanish biographer and poet, Mr. Fermin Herrero, noted Spanish poet, Mr. David Rodrigues, eminent Spanish writer and translator and Mr. Guillermo Rodriguez, noted Spanish scholar, read out excerpts from their works. A brief interactive session with the audience took place after the reading session. Prof. H.S. Shivaprakash, distinguished Indian poet and playwright, coordinated the programme.

DELHI METRO SAHITYA AKADEMI BOOK SHOP OPENING

February 5, 2015



Sahitya Akademi, in association with the Delhi Metro, opened a Sahitya Akademi sales outlet at Kashmere Gate Metro Station, New Delhi, on February 5, 2015. Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, inaugurated the shop and talked about such good ventures should be spread across the country and highlighted the excellent facilities in metro stations in Europe, especially Moscow, for the benefit of avid readers. Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, thanked the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation for facilitating this venture and highlighted that this is the first outlet to be opened by the Akademi in 60 years outside its premises. He hoped this venture would lead to more and more metro outlets of the

Akademi. Sri Rakesh Kumar Roshan, Deputy GM, Delhi Metro, remarked that this venture is part of Delhi Metro's efforts to enhance cultural awareness of Delhi citizens. Prof Harish Trivedi, well-known scholar, observed that Indian Railways and Literature have a historical bond this venture just strengthens that bond more. On the occasion, Sahitya Akademi also launched Book Club for the benefit of the readers with special discounts for the members and metro passengers.

ALL INDIA SHORT STORY FESTIVAL

February 7-8, 2015, Gangtok

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, organized a two-day All India Short Story Festival at Gangtok, Sikkim on February 7-8, 2015.

In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about various schemes and initiatives of the Akademi to promote fiction across India in 24 official languages. In his Presidential address, Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, talked about



Inaugural session of the Short Story Festival in progress

the antiquity of story-telling activity among humans and the need to preserve and promote this human endeavour. In his keynote address, Prof E.V. Ramakrishnan, presented an overview of short story writing in mainstream Indian languages. Ms. Gitanjali Chatterjee, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was chaired by Prof Govind Mishra, noted scholar Prof Jayita Sengupta, talked about narrative experimentation in Bangla short story writing. During the session, four noted fiction writers, Bipul Khataniar (Assamese), Devarshi Sarogi (Bengali), Aurobindo Uzir (Bodo), and Manoj Kumar Sharma (Dogri) read out their stories. In the second session that was chaired by Prof E.V.



Ramakrishnan, Ms Monica Mukhia presented a paper on contemporary trends in Nepali short story writing and Sri Narendra Mohan (Hindi) and Sri Raghavendra Patil (Kannada) read out excerpts from their writings during the session. In the third session that was chaired by Prof Jayita Sengupta, noted Kannada critic Sri T.P. Ashoka presented his paper on trends in Kannada story writing. During the session Autar Krishen Rahbar (Kashmiri), Gajanan Raghunanth Jog (Konkani), Paul Zacharia (Malayalam), Shyama Prasad Choudhury (Odia), Prashant Bagad (Marathi), S.D. Dhakal (Nepali) and Haobam Priyokumar (Manipuri) participated in the readings. In the fourth session that was chaired by Paul Zacharia, noted Gujarati writer, Sri Hasit Mehta presented a paper on trends in Gujarati short story writing. Ms. Shanti Chhetri chaired the fifth session and she presented a paper on trends in Punjabi short story writing. Surinder Kaur (Punjabi), Malchand Tiwari (Rajasthani) and Rampada Kisku (Santali) participated in the readings. In the sixth session that was chaired by Prashant Bagad, noted Nepali scholar Ms. Monica Mukhia presented a paper on Nepali short story writing. Kishan Ratnani (Sindhi), M.A. Susheela (Tamil) and Abdul Rehman Abbas (Urdu) participated in the readings.

Sri Thiru Prasad Nepal, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON HINDI-URDU- ENGLISH: DIALOGUES AND EXCHANGES

February 9, 2015, New Delhi

A one-day symposium on Hindi, Urdu, English: Dialogues and Exchanges was organised by the Sahitya Akademi on February 9, 2015. The Symposium was meant to look at the tangled histories of Hindi and Urdu languages and literatures, the claims and counter-claims by the champions of both the languages and the translations between them as well as those from both into English and vice versa.

In his introductory talk, Prof K.Satchidanandan, Convener, English Advisory Board, traced the history of the controversy citing the arguments of Tara Chand, Amrit Rai, Shamsur Rahman Faruqi, Stuart McGregor, Sheldon Pollock and others. He also pointed out how the positioning of Urdu against Hindi became a convenient tool in the hand of communalists. Urdu and Hindi both



Participants of Symposium on Urdu-Hindi-English

claim Hindi as part of their traditions right from Amir Khusrau, Maulana Daud and Vishnudas onwards. The debate raised the issues of oneness or similarity and rift/split and commonality or the sharing of a common ground. He also observed how the use of Hindustani in songs and ghazals and the hegemony of English being resisted together by the two languages have brought them closer.

Harish Trivedi, Alok Bhalla, Avadhesh Kumar Singh, Anisur Rahman, Asaduddin, Sumanyu Satpathy, Nishat Zaidi and Tapan K Basu took part in the symposium and looked at the issue from varying perspectives to bring out the complexity of the problem and the challenges it poses to Indian literary historiography. The symposium helped the participants arrive at a deeper and nuanced understanding of the issue.

CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

February 11, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with LTI Korea (Literature Translation Institute, Korea), organized a poetry session on February 11, 2015 featuring South Korea's most feted poets, Choi Seungho and Choi Jeongrye, as part of Akademi's cultural exchange programme scheme. Born in 1954 in South Korea, Choi Seungho has written more than ten books of poetry which have been highly acclaimed. Choi has received numerous awards including the Today's Writer Award in 1982, the Kim Sooyoung Literature Prize in 1985, the Isan Literature Prize in 1990, the 2000 Daesan Literature Prize in 2000, and the Midang Literature Prize in 2003. Choi Jeongrye was



Choi Seunggho and Choi Jeongrye at the Cultural Exchange Programme

born in Hwaseong, a city near Seoul, in 1955. She studied Korean poetry at Korea University, from which she later received her doctorate degree. She has published six books of poems and two collections of essays, and has received a range of literary awards, including the prestigious Modern Literature Award. Choi participated in the University of Iowa's International Writing Program in 2006. Both the poets recited some of the poems. The event was moderated by the noted Indian writer, Ms. Devapriya Roy and the distinguished Indian poet Prof H.S. Shivaprakash provided Indian perspective on aesthetics.

MULTILINGUAL WRITERS' MEET

February 14, 2015, Delhi Book Fair

Sahitya Akademi, in association with the National Book Trust, organized a multilingual writers' meet featuring north and north-eastern writers on February 14, 2015 during Delhi Book Fair at Pragati Maidan. The meet was coordinated by Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi and Dr. Ganga Prasad Vimal, noted Hindi poet and writer, chaired the meet. Sri Anupam Kumar (Assamese), Sri Paul Lyngdoh (English), Sri Gobind Basumatary (Bodo), Sri Upendra Kumar (Hindi) and Sri Amar Mudi (English) participated in the meet.

SEMINAR ON LITERARY JOURNALISM IN HINDI

February 14-15, 2015, Haldwani

Sahitya Akademi, in association with the Uttarakhand Open University, organized a seminar on 'Literary Journalism in Hindi' on February 14-15, 2015 at Haldwani.

In the inaugural session, Sri Brajendra Tripathi, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the dignitaries, participants and audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi to promote literature in 24 official languages. Sri Suryaprasad Dixit, Convener, Hindi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, introduced the theme and concept of the seminar and introduced the guest speakers to the audience. Dr. Subhash Dhulia, Vice Chancellor, Uttarakhand Open University, talked about the changing values in the society and how they get reflected in the field of journalism as well. He observed that in the given scenario, brands and ambassadors are replacing the intellectual discussions and editors. Prof Achyutanand Mishra, Former Vice Chancellor, Makhanlal Chaturvedi University, in his Presidential address, delineated the historical relationship between writers and journalists. He observed that some of the best writers have also been outstanding journalists and highlighted how such writers have influenced societies much more than mere writers or journalists. Prof Govind Singh, Director, Uttarakhand Open University, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was devoted to 'Literary Writing and Journalism' and chaired by Madhukar Upadhyaya, three noted scholars, Ravindra Tripathi, Chandrashekhar Bainjwal and Pallava, presented their papers. In the second session that was devoted to 'Forms of Literature in Print Media and Electronic Media' and chaired by Rahul Dev, two well-known scholars, Rakesh Tiwari and Manglesh Dabral, presented their papers. In the third session that was devoted to 'Literary Journalism of the last 200 years' and chaired by Vishnu Nagar, three noted scholars, Jyotish Joshi, Sunil Shah and Bharat Bharadwaj, presented their papers.

In the fourth session that was devoted to 'Contemporary Literary Journals: Limitations and Possibilities' and chaired by Pankaj Singh, three noted scholars, Ramkumar Krishak, Kishan Kaljayee and Shayam Kashyap, presented their papers. In the fifth session that was devoted to 'News, Media and Literature' and chaired by Raj Kishore, three noted scholars, Geeta Shree, Prayag Joshi and Chandra



Trikha, presented their papers. Sri Kailash Chandra Pant chaired the valedictory session. Sri Leeladhar Jagudi, eminent scholar, delivered the valedictory address. Ms. Sadhna Agrawal proposed a vote of thanks.

ALPHABET SERIES

February 16, 2015, New Delhi

The second event of the Alphabet series jointly organized by Sahitya Akademi and St. Stephen's College was held on February 16, 2015 at the college premises in New Delhi. The second episode featured Ari Sitas, eminent South African writer and thinker. Suchismita Panda welcomed the gathering and Shayeree Chakravarty introduced the speaker. Ari Sitas read out poems on Cyprus, South African experience and on Iraq invasion. In the interactive session, Prof K. Satchidanandan made opening remarks and the event was moderated by Dr Natasha Vasisht.

YUVA SAHITI

February 16, 2015, New Delhi Book Fair

Sahitya Akademi, in association with the National Book Trust, organized a Yuva Sahiti programme featuring north and north-eastern young writers on February 16, 2015 during Delhi Book Fair at Pragati Maidan. The meet was coordinated by Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi and Sri Sushil Siddharth, noted Hindi writer, chaired the meet. Noted young writers, Sri Sagar Sapkota (Nepali), Sri Okendro Khundongbam (Manipuri), Ms. Anupriya (Hindi), Sri Ranjeet Singh Chauhan (Urdu) and Sri Shashi Bhushan Dwivedi (Hindi) participated in the programme.

KAVI-ANUVADAK

February 18, 2015, New Delhi Book Fair

Sahitya Akademi, in association with the National Book Trust, organized a Kavi Anuvadak programme featuring north and north-eastern poets on February 18, 2015 during Delhi Book Fair at Pragati Maidan. The meet was coordinated by Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi and in the programme Sri Rajendra Bhandari recited his Nepali poems and Sri

Pradip Bihari read out Hindi translations of the same. Ms. Manikuntala Bhattacharya recited her Assamese poems and Sri Dinakar Kumar read out Hindi translations of the poems.

NARI CHETNA

February 19, 2015, New Delhi Book Fair



V.K. Karthika makes a point as other participants are keenly listening

Sahitya Akademi, in association with the National Book Trust, organized a Nari Chetna programme featuring a panel discussion on "What are Women Writing Today?" on February 19, 2015 during Delhi Book Fair at Pragati Maidan. The event was moderated by Ms. Devapriya Roy, noted Indian English writer and the participants were three noted Hindi writers, Anamika, Savita Singh, Rohini Agarwal and Ms. V.K. Karthika, well-known publisher. The subjects discussed ranged from the topics favored by women writers to problems faced by the women writers in the world of letters to radical politics etc.

BAL SAHITI

February 20, 2015, New Delhi Book Fair

Sahitya Akademi, in association with the National Book Trust, organized a Bal Sahiti programme featuring a panel discussion on "Are Fairy Tales still relevant for Children today?" on February 20, 2015 during Delhi Book Fair at Pragati Maidan. The event was moderated by Atiya Zaida, noted publisher. Kshama Sharma, Hindi journalist, Shyam Singh Shashi, Hindi writer, Amrita Tripathi, English writer and Bhim Pradhan, editor of Nepali Children's magazine, participated in the discussion.



THROUGH MY WINDOW

February 20, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi, in association with K.K. Birla Foundation, organized a 'Through My Window' with the eminent writer, Smt. Pushpa Bharti on February 20, 2015 in New Delhi. In the programme, Pushpa Bharti talked about the life, legacy and works of the distinguished poet Dharamveer Bharti in her lecture 'Dharmveer Bharti: Kavitate Anth-Sutra.' Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the guest-speaker and briefly talked about the works of Sri Bharti. Smt. Pushpa Bharti highlighted how the formative years of Sri Dharamveer Bharti became foundations for his romantic poems he wrote later in his life. His poems also betray his extraordinary sensitivity for human suffering and struggles. Many eminent scholars and writers participated in the programme. Sri Suresh Rutupurna, Director, K.K. Birla Foundation, proposed a vote of thanks.

HOMAGE TO KRISHNADATTAPALIWAL

February 23, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi paid homage to Prof Krishna Dutt Paliwal on February 23, 2015 in New Delhi. Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the condolence message. A minute's silence was observed as a mark of respect to the late writer. Dr. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, talked about Prof Paliwal's boundless desire to write and he described Prof Paliwal as a voracious reader and a gentleman. Prof Nityanand Tiwari talked about Prof Paliwal's contribution to various genres. Kamal Kishore Goenka described Prof Paliwal as a great mentor. Smt. Rita Rani Paliwal, wife of Prof. Paliwal, said her husband was a friend to all and therefore she lost a great friend not a mere husband. Sri Ajit Kumar described his loss as irreparable to the world of literature. Rameshwar Rai, Ramesh Rishikalp, Ganga Prasad Vimal, Prabhakar Shrotriya, Dvik Ramesh, Prof Harish Trivedi, Dr. Jyotish Joshi, Harimohan Sharma, friends, family members and relatives of Prof Paliwal participated in the homage along with many more literary luminaries.

ASMITA

February 26, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a multilingual reading programme under 'Asmita' platform featuring three noted women writers on February 26, 2015 at the conference hall of the Akademi. The event was coordinated by Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi. Tamil poet Ms. A. Sathya recited her Tamil poems which focused on the problems faced by women in day-to-day living. Ms. Rama Bharati recited her Hindi poems focusing on the realities of life in Kashmir. Ms. Leena Sharma read her Assamese short story. All the readings were read out in Hindi / English translations simultaneously.

RAJASTHANI KAVITA UTSAV

February 26-28, 2015, Jaipur

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in collaboration with Rajasthan Adhyan Kendra, University of Rajasthan, organized a Kavita Utsav on February 26-28, 2015 at the University in Jaipur.

In the inaugural session, Sri Arjun Dev Charan, Convener, Rajasthani Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants, dignitaries and audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives and schemes of the Akademi in promoting poetry in 24 official languages and across India. Dr. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, in his Presidential address, talked about the beauty of poetry and the inherent trait of poetry to bind people and communities. He highlighted the role poetry meets play in the development of many a young poet and



Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari addressing the poets



also in creating platforms for learning from each other. Prof. Hanuman Singh Bhati, Vice Chancellor, University of Rajasthan, chaired the inaugural session and thanked Sahitya Akademi for organizing such a poets' meet in Jaipur and hoped both the Akademi and the University can collaborate more in future and organize programmes of this nature. Sri Krishna Dev Kalpith, Doordarshan, Jaipur, was the guest of honor and Prof. Krishna Gopal Sharma of the University proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was devoted to poetry reading and chaired by Mohan Alok, five noted poets, Bhagavati Lal Vyas, Nand Bharadwaj, Chandra Prakash Deval, Arjun Dev Charan and Shyam Maharshi, recited their compositions. In the second session that was devoted to poetry reading and chaired by Farooq Afridi, five noted poets, Neeraj Dahiya, Santosh Maya Mohan, Om Nagar, Kumar Ajay and Kishore Parikh, recited their compositions. In the third session that was devoted to panel discussion on 'Modern Rajasthani Poetry' and chaired by Dr. Govind Shankar Sharma, three noted scholars, Nand Bharadwaj, Chandra Prakash Deval and Arjun Dev Charan, participated. In the fourth session that was devoted to poetry reading and chaired by Sawai Singh Shekhawat, five noted poets, Malchand Tiwari, Jyotipunj, Aidan Singh Bhati, Meetesh Nirmohi and Ambika Dutt, recited their compositions. In the fifth session that was devoted to poetry reading and chaired by Krishna Gopal Sharma, five noted poets, Rajesh Kumar Vyas, Vinod Swami, Kalyan Singh Shekhawat, Harish B. Sharma and Rajuram Bijaraniya, recited their compositions. In the sixth session that was devoted to panel discussion and chaired by Malchand Tiwari, three noted scholars, Chetan Swami, Neeraj Dahiya and Jagadish Giri, participated. In the seventh session that was devoted to poetry reading and chaired by Om Purohit Kagad, three noted scholars, Chetan Swami, Mukut Maniraj and B.L. Mali Ashant, recited their compositions. In the eighth session that was devoted to poetry reading and chaired by Mangat Badal, five noted scholars, Shyam Sundar Bharati, Kamal Ranga, AtulKanak, Bhavishya Dutt Bavishya and Ravi Purohit, recited their compositions. In the ninth session that was devoted to poetry reading and chaired by Madhu Acharya, five noted poets, Harshvardhan Singh Rao, Lakshmandan Kaviya, Rajendra Barhat, Kundan Mali and Anand Acharya, recited their compositions. In the valedictory session, Prof Madhav Hada chaired the session and Sri Hariram Meena, I.P.S., delivered the valedictory address.

URDU SHORT-STORY READINGS

February 27, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a programme 'Urdu Short Story Readings' on February 27, 2015 at the conference hall of Sahitya Akademi in New Delhi. In the programme, four noted short story writers, Ibne Kanwal, Zakia Mashahadi, Tariq Chatari and Mushraf Aalam Zauki, read out their stories. A brief interactive session took place after the readings.

SYMPOSIUM ON RAMNATH SHASTRI

February 28, 2015, Jammu

Sahitya Akademi organized a centenary symposium on eminent Dogri writer Sri Ramnath Shastri on February 28, 2015 at Jammu. Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience. In his inaugural address, Prof Devanand Sharma, observed that Sri Shastri not only served the Dogri literature but also the entire Dogra population by instilling self-belief and pride in them and it is because of him Dogras started taking pride in their language and culture. In his Presidential address, Prof Lalit Magotra, Convener, Dogri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked about the multi-dimensional personality of Sri Shastri. Dr. Padma Sachdev, eminent Dogri writer was the guest of honor and talked about works of Sri Shastri interspersed with interesting anecdotes involving legendary writer. Sri Chhatrapal, Member, Dogri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks. The paper reading sessions were presided over by Prof. Nilamber Dev Sharma and Prof. Veena Gupta. Dr. Om Goswami, Prakash Premi, Prof. Shashi Pathania, Desh Bandhu Dogra 'Nutan' and Prof. Veena Gupta made presentations on the life, poetry, short stories, translations and contribution to Dogri Movement respectively.



Dogra Nutan, Shashi Pathania, Veena Gupta and Lalit Magotra at Ramnath Shastri Birth Centenary Symposium



AVISHKAR

February 28, 2015, Jammu

Sahitya Akademi organized an evening of musical presentation of geet and ghazals of Sri Ramnath Shastri under 'Avishkar' platform on February 28, 2015 at Seghal Hall, Jammu. The inspiring poetry of Sri Shastri were set to music by well-known composer Sri Sham Sajan and were performed by prominent Dogri singers, Ms. Sargam Sharma, Ms. Apoorva Jamwal, Sri Virender Kapadia, Sri Rahul and Sri Sham Sajan. The event was coordinated by Sri Rajkumar Behrupia. Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

SEMINAR ON GUJARATI-HINDI INTERRELATIONSHIP

February 28, 2015 – March 1, 2015, Gandhinagar

Sahitya Akademi, in association with the Central University of Gujarat, Gandhinagar, organized a seminar on Gujarati-Hindi Interrelationship at the University on February 28, 2015 and March 1, 2015.

In the inaugural session, Dr. Alok Gupta of the University welcomed the participants and audience. In his introductory remarks, Sri Suryaprasad Dixit, Convener, Hindi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked about various initiatives of the Akademi to promote the healthy relationship among various Indian languages. In his Presidential address, Dr. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, talked at length about various aspects of the relationship between Hindi and Gujarati over centuries. He observed that this intermingling and exchanging of ideas, concepts, words and sounds provide in rich way to the vibrant and lively existence of numerous languages of India. Sri Om Prakash Kohli, H.E. Governor of Gujarat, in his Presidential address, talked about the debt which every evolving language owes to the neighboring language and at times to even alien sounds. He thanked the Akademi for choosing Gandhinagar as a venue for this important seminar. Sri S.A. Bari, Vice Chancellor, Central University of Gujarat, was the Chief Guest and Sri Raghuvir Choudhary, noted Gujarati writer was the Guest of Honor. Sri Brajendra Tripathi, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was chaired by Prof Sitanshu Yashaschandra, two noted scholars, Satish Vyas and Shambunath, presented their papers on Gujarati and Hindi Literature pertaining to the respective literature during the renaissance period. In the second session that was devoted to 'Gujarati-Hindi Bhakti Literature' and chaired by Sri BalwantJani, four noted scholars, Sri Dalpat Padhiyar, Sri Brajendra Kumar Singhal, Sri Rajesh Pandya and Sri Pooranchand Tandon, presented their papers 'Gujarati Nirguna Literature,' 'Hindi Nirguna Literature,' 'Gujarati Saguna Literature' and 'Hindi Saguna Literature' respectively. In the third session that was devoted to 'Gujarati-Hindi Literature and Gandhi' and chaired by Sri Naresh Ved, four noted scholars, Usha Upadhyaya, Anamika, Mansukha Salla and Satyakam, presented their papers, 'Gujarati Poetry and Gandhi,' 'Hindi Poetry and Gandhi,' 'Gujarati Fiction and Gandhi' and 'Hindi Fiction and Gandhi' respectively. In the fourth session that was devoted to 'Post Independence Gujarati-Hindi Literature' and chaired by Sri Mahavir Singh Chauhan, four noted scholars, Vinod Joshi, Awadhesh Pradhan, Bharat Mehta and Shambhu Gupta, presented their papers, 'Modernity and Gujarati Literature,' 'Modernity and Hindi Literature,' 'Communities on the periphery and Gujarati Literature' and 'Communities on the periphery and Hindi Literature' respectively. The valedictory session was chaired by Sri Dinkar Joshi. Sri Nandkishore Acharya delivered the valedictory address and Sri Sanjeev Kumar Dubey proposed a vote of thanks.



SYMPOSIUM ON YASHWANT CHITTAL

January 4, 2015, Mumbai



G.N.Upadhyya, Dr.Poornima Shetty, Smt. Kamala, Smt.M.S.Asha Devi,
Dr. H.S.Raghavendra Rao, P.Chandrika, Sri S.P.Mahalingeshwar

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in association with the Kannada Department, Mumbai University, organized a day long symposium on the life and works of noted Kannada writer, Yashwant Chittal at the Mysore Association, Mumbai on January 4, 2015.

Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and briefly spoke about various activities of Sahitya Akademi. He observed that Yashwant Chittal was a unique writer and humanitarian story teller of repute. In his inaugural address, Dr H.S. Raghavendra Rao, noted Kannada writer and critic, talked about Chittal, the modern novelist and short story

writer and highlighted the tale of two places – Hanehalli (where Chittal was born) and Mumbai (where Chittal lived). Dr M.S. Ashadevi, noted Kannada writer, talked about distinctive nature of female characters in Chittal’s works. Smt. P. Chandrika, Member, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked about Chittal’s fiction in comparison with certain international films and observed that both are creative and vibrant in nature. Dr G.N. Upadhyya, Member, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi and Head, Kannada Department, University of Mumbai, who chaired the session talked about the contributions of Chittal and his association with the writer.

Dr Raghunath, Dr Suresh Naik, Dr Poornima Shetty, Smt. Kamala, Dr Vishwantha Karnad, Sri Srinivas Jokatte, Dr Vyas Rao Ninjoor and Sri Omdas Kannangar participated in the deliberations.

Sri Shekar Ajeekar, noted journalist, exhibited rare photographs of Yashwant Chittal with annotations. Sri Narayan Navilekar of Mysore association proposed a vote of thanks. The programme was well attended by writers, scholars and students and was covered prominently in the local media.

LITERARY FORUM

January 10, 2015, Vijayawada

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in association with Vijayawada Book Festival Society organized a short story reading session featuring noted short story writers, Valluri Siva Prasad. Dr. V. Chandra Sekhar Rao, Sri P. Surya Prakasa Rao and Peddibhotla Subba Ramayya, on January 10, 2015 at the Swaraj Maidan, Vijayawada. The stories narrated in the session amplified the contemporary social issues and increasingly complex human relationships of the region. Smt. Jayanti, Sahitya Akademi, proposed vote of thanks.



Ravibabu, Valluri Siva Prasad, Dr. V. Chandrasekhara Rao,
Peddibhotla Subbramaiah, Ponnada Satyaprakasarao



LITERARY FORUM

January 15, 2015, Mala

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in association with the Post-Graduate Department of History, Carmel College, Mala, organized a literary forum on 'Historicizing Literary Texts: Recent Perspectives' on January 15, 2015 at the college auditorium. Five noted scholars, Prof Shamsad Hussain, Prof K.N. Ganesh, Prof Abdul Razaq, Prof Mary Joseph and Prof K.S. Madhavan, presented their papers, "History of Women writings in Mappilapattu," "Historicizing Literary Texts- A Study on Ezhuthachan," "Resistance literature and the Anti- colonial struggles in Malabar," "Literature and History" and "Oral Text as a Source of History" respectively. Prof T.K. Reena, Department of History, Carmel College, proposed a vote of thanks.

NATIONAL SEMINAR ON IMPACT OF TECHNOLOGY ON LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

February 5-6, 2015, Tirur

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in association with the Thunchan Memorial Trust, Tirur, organized a two-day National Seminar on 'Impact of Technology on Language and Culture' on February 5, 2015 and February 6, 2015 at Tirur.

In the inaugural session, Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi. In his inaugural address, Sri Chandrakant Patil, eminent Marathi writer, talked about the nature of culture and societies and observed that the study of impact of technology which in itself is a chief catalyst of globalization on the culture and language is a fascinating one. Sri Shiv Vishwanathan, distinguished social scientist and scholar, in his keynote address, talked at length about the adverse impact of technology on cultural and linguistic traditions across the world. He observed that while technology has helped humanity at certain levels, the overall impact of the technology on societies across the globe is less than desirable. He pointed out that humans and language has the power to create while technology seems to be at the other end of the spectrum. Sri C. Radhakrishnan, Convener, Malayalam Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, said that while technology cannot be avoided, humans should be conscious of and alive to the perils that technology may possibly bring to the table.

In the first session that was devoted to 'The impact of technology on Indian languages' and chaired by Sri M. Mukundan, eminent Malayalam writer, two noted scholars, Sri Kannan Sundaram and Sri Joga Singh, talked about 'Positive impact of technology on Tamil language and linguistic traditions' and 'Factors aiding technology in its impact on culture' respectively. Sri Mukundan, in his introductory speech, highlighted the hidden agendas of societies which create technology and the necessity of under-developed societies to be aware of them.

In the second session that was devoted to 'The influence of Techno Culture on Malayalam' and chaired by Sri K. Sethuraman, I.P.S., three noted scholars, Sri T. T. Sreekumar, Prof V. Sanil and Dr P.K. Rajasekharan, talked about 'The adverse impact of video games on Children,' 'The relationship between technology and value systems' and 'Humanism in the New Age' respectively. Sri Sethuraman, in his introductory speech observed that the reach of literature has become easier due to technology. There was a brief interactive section at the end of the session and the role of social media, alternative technology, relevance of value based education etc were discussed.

In the third session that was devoted to 'The influence of Technology on Culture' and chaired by Smt. I.V. Suneetha, three noted scholars, Sri Mahesh Mangalat, Sri P.P. Ramachandran and Sri Sabu Kollukkal presented their papers, 'Writings in electronic media,' 'Technology, Language and Culture' and 'Cultural Manifestation' respectively. Smt. Suneetha, in her introductory speech observed that contrary to assertions of the experts, technology is taking over the societies.



BIRTH CENTENARY SEMINAR ON K. S. NARASIMHASWAMY

February 15-16, 2015, Bengaluru



Dr.Chandrashekhara Kambar, S.P.Mahalingeshwar, Kamala Hampana,
Dr.Narahalli Balasubramanya, Shanti Iyer

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in association with the Jain University, organized a birth centenary seminar on distinguished Kannada writer Sri K.S. Narasimhaswamy on 15th and 16th of February 2015 at the Jain University auditorium.

In the inaugural session, Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and presented a comprehensive overview of K.S. Narasimhaswamy's life and works. Dr Chandrasekhara Kambar, Vice President, Sahitya Akademi, inaugurated the seminar

and spoke at length about the uniqueness of K.S. Narasimhaswamy's writings. He observed that the body of works left behind by the legendary writer embody dignity, grace and elegance, unparalleled in the history of Kannada literature. He highlighted the tenderness of mellifluousness of K.S. Narasimhaswamy's writings especially the ones related to social realities. Dr Kamala Hampana, eminent Kannada writer, in her keynote address, talked about the symbolism, exalted usage of idiomatic expressions and Narasimhaswamy's poetic sensibilities. She observed that it is quite remarkable that Narasimhaswamy never left these behind even when tackling the complex issues of social reality. She also highlighted K.S. Narasimhaswamy's contribution to Kannada literature through translations and remarked that Narasimhaswamy's accomplishment was a unique one in that he established a synergy between 'Kavya Brahman' and 'Nada Brahman.' Dr Narahalli Balasubramanya, Convener, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, who chaired the inaugural session, observed that K.S. Narasimhaswamy was a poor man's poet and drew parallels between Narasimhaswamy and Pablo Neruda.

In the first session that was chaired by Sri T.S. Nagabharana, well-known film director, two noted scholars, Sri Venkateshmurthy and Sri M.S. Murthy, talked about the life and works of Narasimhaswamy and personal experience with the legendary writer, respectively. Sri Nagabharana, in his introductory remarks, talked about his experience with the legendary poet while making of 'Mysuru Mallige.' Sri Venkateshmurthy, in his talk, highlighted the introspective elements in the life and poetry of Sri Narasimhaswamy. Sri M.S. Murthy in his talk drew attention to two contrasting strains of Narasimhaswamy – abiding in the tradition and bringing folk into traditional art form.

In the second session that was chaired by well-known poet Dr Sumathindra Nadig, eight noted poets, by Sri S.M.Krishna Rao (Konkani), Smt. Lalithamba (Hindi), Smt. Mekala Venkatesh (English), Sri Sa Raghunath (Telugu), Sri N. Dass (Tamil), Sri Sudhakaran Ramanthali (Malayalam), Smt. Usha P Rai (Tulu) and Sri Abdul Majeed Khan (Urdu), recited Sri Narasimhaswamy's poems in translations.

In the third session that was chaired by Prof C.N. Ramachandran, three noted scholars, Sri Sridhar Hegde, Sri Hatwar Girish Rao (Jogi) and Sri Sridhar Balagar, presented their papers focusing on the works of Sri Narasimhaswamy. In the fourth session that was chaired by Sri B.R. Lakshman Rao, three noted scholars, Sri Chandrashekhara Talya, Sri Jayant Kaikini and Smt. H. L .Pushpa, presented their papers focusing on the impact of Sri Narasimhaswamy's poetry. Sri A.R. Mitra, well-known scholar, delivered the valedictory address and presented a lively lecture filled with interesting anecdotes.



SEMINAR ON DALIT LITERATURE

February 21-22, 2015, Chennai

As part of its diamond jubilee celebrations, Sahitya Akademi, through its sub-regional office in Chennai, organized a two day seminar on “Dalit Literature – Towards Literary Perfection” at the Book Point Auditorium, Chennai, on February 21 and 22, 2015.



Ms. Bhama, eminent Dalit writer speaking in the inaugural session

At the inaugural session, Sri A.S. Ilangovan, Officer-in-Charge, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi in promoting Dalit literature across India. Prof. K. Nachimuthu, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, who could not attend the seminar, said through a statement that Dalit literature not only denotes the literature of particular castes or communities but is a collective voice of the oppressed. Prof. S. Bama, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi, spoke at length about how Dalit literature contributes to the completion and perfection of any and all literary aspirations.

Prof. R. Kamarasu, Member, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked about various aspects of Dalit writing in Tamil milieu. Sri Maalan, noted journalist and member, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked about various connotations of the word ‘dalit’ and at length about the great surge of dalit literature in Tamil milieu over the past quarter of a century.

In the first session that was chaired by Prof. R. Kamarasu, Sri. Azhagiya Periyavan, presented a paper ‘Future of Dalit Literature’ and talked at length about the necessity for dalit literature to be inclusive to avoid the pitfalls of the past and hoped future of dalit literature will be all inclusive rather merely sectarian or regional. In the second session that was chaired by Prof R. Sambath, two noted scholars, Ms. P. Sivakami and Sri Yaazhan Aathi, presented papers, ‘Socio-political contributions of Dalit Literature’ and ‘Grace and Beauty of Dalit Poetry’ respectively. In the third session that was chaired by Sri Maalan, three noted scholars, Sri Mathivannan, Sri Imayam and Smt. Sukirtharani, presented their papers, ‘Spaces in Dalit Literature,’ ‘Necessity of Dalit Literature’ and ‘Women in Dalit Literature’ respectively.

The fourth session was chaired by Smt. V. Geetha, Member, Tamil Advisory Board and a well-known translator and activist. She presented an incisive analysis of problems faced by women and dalit and advocated a radical change in the society. Sri. Yakkam spoke appreciatively on the advent of dalit literature. The changes in dalit polity and the micro and macro political customs encompass nascent awakening of youth in dalit movements. He condemned groupism, narrow mindedness and disruptive tendencies. Sri. Sridhara Ganesan spoke on his role in dalit literature.

Sri. Athavan Deetchanya spoke on an expansive and realistic idea and possibilities of castles literature. He wished that men and women could be given a level playing field without discrimination of caste. He mentioned that the urban situation has improved but the rural setting bristles with contradictions.

Smt. Bama delivered the valedictory address. The event was well covered in the print and electronic media and was well attended by erudite scholars.



Ms. Sivakami presenting a paper



LITERARY FORUM

February 24, 2015, Madurai

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai, in association with the Department of Tamil, Vivekananda College, Thiruvudagam, organized a literary forum on the veteran scholar Chozhavandan Arasan Shanmuganar at Thiruvudagam, Madurai on February 24, 2015.

Sri A.S. Ilangovan, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants, students and the faculty of the College and thanked the Department of Tamil for coming forward to host this programme. Dr. Ramakrishnan, Head, Department of Tamil delivered the introductory address and gave a brief introduction to the life and works of the distinguished poet.

Dr. Ramamoorthi, President, Vivekananda College delivered his presidential address. He elaborately spoke on the unique contributions of the acclaimed genius and grammarian. He mentioned that the works of Chozhavandan are noteworthy and his research articles manifest his degree of command and cognizance he possessed in the classical language.

Felicitations were given by Sri. Kamalavelan, Sahitya Akademi award winner, Sri. Avadaippan, former Director of Connemara Library, Chennai, Sri. Cheralaathan, German Professor, Sri. Nayambu Arivudainambi, author of the MIL on Chozhavandan Arasan Shanmuganar and Sri. Raveenthiran, District Library Officer, Madurai. Vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Prabhakaran, Librarian.



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LITERARY FORUM

January 8, 2015, Nabarangpur

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata organized a literary forum on 'Contemporary Odia Literature' along with a poetry reading session at Mondei Stage, Nabarangpur on January 8, 2015. Sri Pradeep Kumar Hota, Member, Odisha Sahitya Academy, welcomed the participants and audience. Prof Krushna Chandra Pradhan of Sambalpur University chaired the forum. Sri Dilip Kumar Hota, and Smt. Smruti Panda, noted scholars, presented papers offering multiple perspectives of contemporary Odia literature. Sri Abani Ranjan Dash, Lok Adalat and Sri Dhiman Seth were the Chief Guest and Guest of Honour respectively. In the poetry reading session, twelve noted poets, Sri Ashok Pattnaik, Sri Ballav Rout, Sri Lalit Mohan Pattnaik, Sri M. Himansu Achary, Sri Manoj Kumar Pattnaik, Smt. Manorama Majhi, Sri Narayan Panda, Sri Ram Prasad Patro, Sri Sadasiv Sahoo, Sri Sai Ramesh Rao, Smt. Sushree Sanjukta Tripathy and Sri Tutubabu Pattnaik, recited their poems. Sri Pradeep Kumar Hota proposed a vote of thanks.

LOKA: THE MANY VOICES

January 18, 2015, Howrah

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in association with the Nicwon Sanskritik Mela, organized a 'Loka: The Many Voices' programme on January 18, 2015 in Nicwon Sanskritik Mela, Bally, Howrah and the theme for this year's fair was on the role of flutes in folk cultures.

Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about Akademi's initiatives in the areas of tribal and folk literature. Sri Partha Nag, Secretary, Nicwon, briefly explained about the fair and the chosen theme. The programme was inaugurated by Sri Bimal Chakraborty, eminent actor and theatre personality. In his inaugural address, Sri Chakraborty talked about various art forms of Bengal. Two eminent scholars, Sri Amarendra Nath Naskar and Sri Chaitanyadeb Roy, talked about puppet dances of Bengal and Boiriti Nrityaa, respectively. After the lectures, there were performances of puppet dance and Boiriti Nrityaa by Maynaguri troupe from Jalpaiguri. Sri Caesar Bagchi proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON "COMPARATIVE STUDY OF CREATIVE AND JOURNALISTIC WRITINGS IN ASSAMESE LANGUAGE AND THE MEDIA OF ASSAM"

January 20, 2015, Guwahati

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in association with the Department of Communication and Journalism, Gauhati University, organized a symposium on "Comparative Study of Creative and Journalistic Writings in Assamese Language and the Media of Assam" on January 20, 2015 at the seminar hall of the varsity.

In the inaugural session, Dr. Kamaluddin Ahmed, Member, Assamese Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi in Assam. Prof Hari Prasad Sarma, Rector of the University and who was the chief guest, talked about the creative writers being journalist and gave examples of Khushwant Singh, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Birendra Kumar Bhattacharyya and host of others. Dr. Ramesh Pathak, noted columnist and scholar, delivered the keynote address and talked about the confluence of creative writing and journalistic writings. Sri Chandan Kumar Goswami proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was chaired by Dr Ramesh Pathak, four noted scholars, Prof Dilip Bora, Prof Bibhash Choudhury, Sri Nava Thakurja and Prof Abhijit Bora, presented their papers focusing on 'Challenges in Assamese journalistic writings,' 'Assamese Journalistic Language,' 'Journalism and Literature' and 'Journalism as a form of creative writing' respectively.

In the second session that was chaired by Prof Umesh Deka, two noted scholars, Sri Samudra Gupta Kashyap and Dr Prafulla Kumar Nath, presented their papers focusing on the acquisition of requisite knowledge prior to writing and creative and journalistic writings of Assam, respectively. Prof Chandan Kumar Goswami proposed a vote of thanks.





LITERARY FORUM ON 'ASSAMESE CHILDREN'S LITERATURE'

January 21, 2015, Jorhat

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in association with Asom Book Festival Committee, organized a literary forum on 'Assamese Children's Literature' during Jorhat Book Fair on January 21, 2015.

The forum was inaugurated by Dr. Karabi Deka Hazarika, Convener, Assamese Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, who welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi in north-eastern region. She also presented the overview of Assamese children's literature. The forum was chaired by Sri Santanoo Tamuly. Six noted scholars of Assamese children's literature, Dr Swadhinata Mahanta, Sri Dilip Kumar Barua, Smt. Shamim Nashrin, Sri Troilokya Bhattacharyya, Sri Debobrata Mahanta and Sri Abhijit Sharma Barua, talked about various aspects of Assamese children's literature and challenges faced by the writers of children's literature. Sri Santanoo Tamuly delivered a valedictory address.

BIRTH CENTENARY SEMINAR ON HEM BARUAH

January 22, 2015 Sibsagar



Inaugural Session of the Seminar in progress

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in association with Sibsagar Commerce College, organized a birth centenary seminar on the legendary Assamese writer, Sri Hem Baruah on January 22, 2015 at Sibsagar Commerce College.

In the inaugural session Sri Pankaj Jyoti Hazarika welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about the life, legacy and works of Sri Hem Baruah. Dr. Saumar Jyoti Mahanta chaired the session and talked about the multifaceted personality of Hem Baruah. In his inaugural address, Sri Imraan Shah shared interesting anecdotes involving Hem

Baruah and talked at length about Hem Baruah's numerous travelogues. In her keynote address, Dr. Karabi Deka Hazarika, Convener, Assamese Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked about various contributions of Hem Baruah and also spoke briefly about Akademi's various initiatives to promote Assamese literature. Smt. Nirupama Mahanta also spoke on the life and works of Hem Baruah and Prof Lakhimi Dutta proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session devoted to 'Hem Baruah and his literature' and chaired by Sri Basanta Goswami, three noted scholars, Sri Ajit Bharali, Dr. Jyotiprasad Saikia and Dr. Rashmi Gogoi, presented their papers focusing on the Poetry of Hem Baruah, Realism and Romance in Hem Baruah's works and travelogues of Hem Baruah.

In the second session that was devoted to Hem Baruah and his other activities and chaired by Sri Sonaram Baruah, two noted scholars, Sri Chandan Sharma and Sri Sanjib Poul Deka, presented their papers focusing on the revolutionary politics of Hem Baruah and Gandhian and Marxian ideals of Hem Baruah.

Sri Khagendra Nath Bhuyan chaired the valedictory session. In his valedictory address, Sri Dilip Chandan, editor of Asom Bani, talked about journalism of Hem Baruah and his work towards the development of Assam and Assamese literature. In his concluding remarks, Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, talked briefly about various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi to promote north-eastern literature and also spoke at length about literary works of Hem Baruah.



SEMINAR ON 'DEVAKANTA BAROOAH AND EMERGING TRENDS IN ASSAMESE POETRY'

January 23-24, 2015, Nagaon

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in association with A.D.P. College, Nagaon, organized a two-day seminar on 'Devakanta Barooah and Emerging Trends in Assamese Poetry' at the college premises on January 23-24, 2015.

In the inaugural session, Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about the life and works of Sri Devakanta Barooah. In her inaugural address, Prof Karabi Deka Hazarika, Convener, Assamese Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked about different styles of Devakanta's works. Sri Mahim Bora, who chaired the session, talked about multi-faceted contributions of Devakanta Barooah. Sri Pradip Acharya, in his keynote address, talked about the impact created by Devakanta's writings in different spheres of life. Dr. Rajita Kalita, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was devoted to poetry reading and chaired by Prof Karabi Deka Hazarika, fifteen noted poets, Sri Anis Uz Zaman, Sri Gnyan Pujari, Sri Rafikul Hossain, Sri Sameer Tanti, Sri Anubhav Tulsi, Sri Bipuljyoti Saikia, Sri Nilim Kumar, Sri Binayak Bandyopadhyay, Smt. Nilima Thakuria Haque, Sri Biman Kumar Doley, Sri Kushal Dutta, Sri Prayag Saikia, Sri Bijoy Sankar Barman, Sri Pranab Kumar Barman and Sri Mridul Haloi, recited their recent compositions.

In the second session that was devoted to 'Devakanta Barooah and Emerging Trends in Assamese Poetry' and chaired by Sri Pradip Acharya, four noted scholars, Dr Kamaluddin Ahmed, Smt Monojyotsna Mahanta, Sri Pranjal Sharma Basistha and Sri Sanjeev Poul Deka, presented their papers.

In the third session that was chaired by Sri Gnyan Pujari, four noted scholars, Dr Satyakam Borthakur, Dr Pranjit Bora, Sri Debabhushan Bora and Sri Binayak Bandyopadhyay, presented papers. In the fourth session that was chaired by Sri Anubhav Tulsi, four noted scholars, Sri Sameer Tanti, Sri Gnyan Pujari, Sri Bipuljyoti Saikia and Sri Nilim Kumar, presented their papers. The valedictory address was delivered by Dr. Nityananda Pattanayak and Dr. Karabi Deka Hazarika chaired the valedictory session.

LITERARY FORUM ON "DISCOURSE ON THE CONTRIBUTION OF NORTH EASTERN LITERATURE TOWARDS INDIAN LITERATURE"

January 31, 2015, Kolkata



Participants of Kolkata Book Fair Literary Meet

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata organized a literary forum on "Discourse on the Contribution of North Eastern Literature towards Indian Literature" with a short poetry reading session at the Kolkata Book Fair on January 31, 2015.

Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about the diversity of North East Indian literature, a sense of alienation and their collective contribution to Indian literature. Dr Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, Convener, Bengali Advisory Board, Sahitya

Akademi, presented an overview of literature from North East India and also talked about the contribution of folk and oral literature from North East India to Indian panorama. Seven noted poets, Smt Rashmi Rekha Bora, Sri Shyamal Kanti Das, Sri Tapan Bandyopadhyay, Sri Anil Kumar Bodo, Sri Nandakumar Debbarma, Sri Tongbram Amarjit Singh and Sri Mafaa Hauhnar, representing Assamese, Bengali, Bengali, Bodo, Kokborok, Manipuri and Mizo respectively recited their original poems along with Hindi / English translations. Each poet also presented overview of the status of poetry in his / her language. Sri Goutam Paul proposed a vote of thanks.



KAVITA UTSAB (POETRY FESTIVAL) February 14-15, Santiniketan

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in association with Abrittilok, Kolkata, Visva Bharati and Ministry of Culture, Government of India, organized a Kabita Utsab (Poetry Festival) at Lipika, Santiniketan, on February 14-15, 2015.

In the inaugural session, Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about the history of the Utsab, Sahitya Akademi's association with it and the long list of literary luminaries who participated in the Utsab. Dr Sushanta Duttagupta, Vice Chancellor, Visva Bharati, inaugurated the Utsab. Sri Syed Shamsul Haque, eminent Bengali poet from Bangladesh, who was the Chief Guest of the Utsab, recounted the past editions of the Utsab and shared some interesting anecdotes. Sri Soumitra Mitra, Abrittilok, enumerated the details of the current edition and highlighted significant sections. In the first session, eight noted poets, Sri Syed Shamsul Haque, Sri Ranajit Das, Sri Amitabha Choudhuri, Sri Pinaki Thakur, Sri Rajatendra Mukhopadhyay, Sri Kaustav Mani Saikia, Sri Debesh Thakur and Sri Avik Ghosh, recited their poems. In the second session three noted poets, Sri Soumitra Mitra, Sri Rabin Majumdar and Smt. Nupur Basu recited their poems. In the cultural segment, a performance was given by the renowned 'Violin Brothers.' In the third session, five noted poets, Sri Bibhas Raychoudhury, Sri Srijata, Smt Bithi Chattopadhyay, Sri Syed Al Faruk and Sri Tarikh Sujat recited their poems. In the fourth session, Smt Chaiti Ghoshal, Sri Aniruddha Singha, Sri Prasanta Ghosh, Sangeet Bhawan and Abrittilok, gave a presentation "Sheet O Basanter Sanglap: Sakti Chattopadhyay." In the fifth session, Sri Abhijit Sen and Smt Srilekha Chattopadhyay recited their poems and a presentation of Rabindra Sangeet was given by Sangeet Bhawan and a special performance by Bratati Bandyopadhyay also took place in the session.



LITERARY MEET February 22, 2015, Agartala

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in association with the Manipuri Sahitya Parishad, organized a literary meet at the Agartala Press Club on February 22, 2015.

Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about the nature of the literary meets organized by Sahitya Akademi across the country and their scope. He highlighted the number of aspiring writers getting platform through Sahitya Akademi to showcase their skills and hoped there will be future collaboration between the Akademi and Parishad for the benefit of vast number of aspiring writers. In his introductory address, Dr H. Behari Singh, Convener, Manipuri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, seconded the views of Sri Paul and spoke briefly about the status of Manipuri literature and the future prospects. Sri Kh. Prakash Singh, noted Manipuri writer, in his speech talked about the lack of interest in literature among youth and welcomed literary meets organized by the Akademi. Sri Bhanulal Saha, Hon'ble Minister for Information and Cultural Affairs and Chief Guest of the meet, talked about the contribution of Manipuris to Tripura and about various initiatives of the government to preserve and promote language and literature. Dr Prafullajit Singha, Hon'ble Mayor of Agartala Municipal Corporation, was the Guest of Honour and Sri Saibam Suresh Singh, President, Manipuri Sahitya Parishad, chaired the meet. Sri R.K. Jitendrajit Sinha proposed a vote of thanks. In the story reading session that was chaired by Dr Brajagopal, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi, two noted fiction writers, Sri K. Dharendra Singha and Sri L. Birmangal Singh, read their stories. In the poetry reading session that was chaired by Sri Th. Rathidra Singh, eight noted poets, Sri A Rabindra Singha, Smt K. Sarita Sinha, Sri Kh. Birala, Sri L. Binode Kumar Sinha, Sri N. Dilip Sinha, Sri L. Kumar Sinha, Sri S, Gambhini and Sri W. Birmangal Singha recited their poems. Sri M. Abhiram Singha, Vice President, Manipuri Sahitya Parishad, delivered the valedictory address.



BIRTH CENTENARY SEMINAR ON KAMAL KUMAR MAJUMDAR

February 23-24, 2015, Kolkata

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata organized a birth centenary seminar on Kamal Kumar Majumdar on February 23-24, 2015 at the Akademi auditorium in Kolkata.

In the inaugural session, Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke at length about the life and works of Kamal Kumar Majumdar. In his keynote address, Sri Alok Sarkar, noted Bengali scholar, spoke in detail about the language of Kamal Kumar Majumdar and observed that the legendary writer always strived to use the language of the ordinary folks and deliberately deviated from the traditional Bengali language structure. He highlighted the Sadhu Bhasha used by Kamal Kumar in the latter parts of his career and presented a comparative analysis of the writing styles of Kamal Kumar Majumdar, Rabindranath Tagore, Sudhindranath, Rammohan and Vidyasagar. Sri Debes Ray, noted Bengali scholar and writer, who was the Chief Guest, spoke about unique aspects of Kamal Kumar Majumdar's writings. He highlighted that Kamal Kumar wrote much less than most and yet was one of the most popular writers ever and compared his writing style with that of Saratchandra, Tagore and Bankim. Dr. Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, Convener, Bengali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, who chaired the session, talked briefly about significant contributions of Kamal Kumar Majumdar.

In the first session that was devoted to the novels of Kamal Kumar Majumdar and chaired by Sri Bani Basu, two noted scholars, Sri Madhumay Pal and Sri Swapan Panda presented their papers focusing on 'Antarjali Yatra' and 'Pinjhara Basia Sukh' respectively. In the second session that was also devoted to the novel of Kamal Kumar Majumdar and chaired by Prof Ujjwalkumar Majumdar, three noted scholars, Smt. Alpana Ghosh, Sri Goutam Basu and Sri Sukanti Dutta, presented their papers focusing on the plot structures, character representations etc in 'Golap Sundari' and 'Anila Smarane.' In the third session that was devoted to the short stories of Kamal Kumar Majumdar and chaired by Sri Raghav Bandyopadhyay, three noted scholars, Smt Jhumur Pande, Sri Rabisankar Bal and Sri Soharab Hussain, presented their papers providing in-depth analysis of language, theme and presence of western sensibilities in Kamal Kumar's stories. Sri Raghav Bandyopadhyay talked briefly about Kamal Kumar's contributions to little magazines.

In the fourth session that was devoted to the plays and films of Kamal Kumar Majumdar and chaired by Sri Dipankar Dasgupta, two noted scholars, Sri Sanjay Mukhopadhyay and Sri Ujjwal Chattopadhyay, presented their papers focusing on the films based on the works of Kamal Kumar Majumdar and the theatre of Kamal Kumar respectively. In the fifth session that focused on Kamal Kumar Majumdar and fine arts and was chaired by Sri Manasi Majumdar, three noted scholars, Sri Hiran Mitra, Sri Samir Rakshit and Sri Sushobhan Adhikary, presented their papers focusing on the origin of the paintings of Kamal Kumar Majumdar, Kamal Kumar's philosophy of art and the craft and techniques of Kamal Kumar Majumdar, respectively. In the sixth session devoted to the personality of Kamal Kumar Majumdar was chaired by Sri Aniruddha Lahiri. Three noted scholars, Sri Debasis Bandyopadhyay, Sri Subha Mukhopadhyay and Sri Subrata Rudra, presented their papers focusing on undefinable nature of Kamal Kumar's personality, religious nature of Kamal Kumar the person and the relationship of Kamal Kumar with other luminaries of his time, respectively.

Sri Goutam Paul proposed a vote of thanks.





SEMINAR ON KONKANI YUVA LITERATURE

January 10, 2015, Goa

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, in association with Fr. Agnel College of Arts and Commerce, organized a seminar on “Konkani Yuva Literature: an Introduction, Evaluation and Future Journey” on January 10, 2015 at Fr. Agnel College Auditorium, Pilar, Goa.

Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Mumbai, welcomed the audience and writer participants. While making introductory remarks Fr. Fedrik Rodrigues, Principal, Fr. Agnel College of Arts and Commerce, Pilar, thanked Sahitya Akademi for holding a seminar on Konkani Yuva Literature: an introduction, evaluation and future journey in collaboration with the Fr. Agnel College of Arts and Commerce. He said that the college rejoiced in collaborating with Sahitya Akademi in organizing such a significant seminar.

Sri Vishnu Surya Wagh, noted Konkani poet, delivered keynote address. He said that it was essential to evaluate and reevaluate what is current in literature any genuine inventive experimental creative writing could be termed young irrespective of the age of the writer. So, genuine readership should always be keen on and after what is new and genuine in literature, he opined. Dr. Tanaji Halarnakar, Convener, Konkani Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the inaugural session, he said that it was needed to observe what the current Konkani generation was writing about, what were there areas of concerns and how they dealt with it through the medium of language and it was possible at the platform of the seminar. Ms. Biula Parekh, Head, Department of Sociology, Fr. Agnel College of Arts and Commerce, proposed a vote of thanks.

Sri Sham Varenker chaired the first session – ‘Konkani Yuva Literature: yesterday, today and tomorrow’. Sri Prakash Parinekar, Ms. Anvesh Singbal and Fr. Francis Rodrigues presented their papers at this session. All the three papers observed that there were number of new writers in Konkani today and they were attempting wonderfully to master almost every genre of literature and this was quiet satisfactory literature scene for the day.

Sri Madhav Borcar chaired the second session – ‘Evaluation of Konkani Yuva Literature: necessity and present scenario’, at this session Sri Mukesh Tali, Ms. Sneha Varenker and Smt. Hema Naik presented their papers. The three papers discussed that although numbers of significant issues were left to be dealt with by young writers, their linguistic skills, experimentation in style, imagination were remarkable.

Ms. Rajashree Sail chaired the third session – ‘Yuva Sahityakaro ki Dharanayein’, at this session up and coming Konkani writers Sri Naman Sawant Dhawaskar, Sri Naresh Naik and Ms. Jofa Gonsalavis shared their views about their experiences in creative writings.

The fourth session included reading by young writers and the session was chaired by Ms.

Quinnie Viegas, and this session Ms. Antara Bhide read out her essay, Ms. Smita Prabhu read out her short story, and Sri Suraj Nagekar, Sri Jaison Sequeira, and Ms. Purva Gude recited their poems. Sri John Mendonsa, Member, Konkani Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, made concluding remarks and Fr. Mousinho Ataide, Member, Konkani Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the valedictory session.





SYMPOSIUM ON WOMEN WRITING IN THE WESTERN INDIAN LANGUAGES

January 11, 2015, Panaji

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, in association with the Institute Menezes Braganza, Panaji organized a symposium on “Women Writing in the Western Indian Languages” on January 11, 2015 at Conference Hall, Institute Menezes Braganza in Panaji.



Ms Aruna Dhere, Ms Usha Upadhyay, Sri Pundalik Naik, Sri Harishchandra Nagvenkar and Ms Vimmi Sadarangani

women writings in any of the literatures had been extremely remarkable.

Mrs. Kiran Budkuley chaired the first session – ‘women in women writing’. Ms. Indu Joshi of Gujarati, Ms. Sonia Sirasat of Konkani, Smt. Anupama Uzgare of Marathi and Mrs. Meena Roopchandani of Sindhi presented their papers.

Sri Pundalik Naik chaired the second session – ‘men in women writing’. Ms. Usha Upadhyaya of Gujarati, Sri Harishchandra Nagavenkar of Konkani, Ms. Aruna Dhere of Marathi and Ms. Vimmi Sadarangani of Sindhi presented their papers.

Sri Uday Bhembre chaired the third session – ‘society in women writing’. Ms. Parul Desai of Gujarati, Ms. Priyadarshini Tadakodkar of Konkani, Ms. Shobha Naik of Marathi and Ms. Maya Rahi of Sindhi presented their papers.

SEMINAR ON SATRAMDAS SOBHASINGH JURIASINGHANI ‘SAYAL’

January 18, 2015, Ahmedabad

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, in association with the Sindhu Sewa Samaj, Ahmedabad, to commemorate the birth centenary of Sri Satramdas, organized a seminar on Satramdas Sobhasingh Juriasinghani ‘Sayal’ at Sindhu Bhavan, Ahmedabad on January 18, 2015.

Dr. Prem Prakash, Convener, Sindhi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the guest participants and audience. In his keynote address, Sri Jetho Lalwani, praised ‘Sayal’ as teacher, professor, poet and writer, and said that he would be remembered for long for his contribution to Sindhi poetry and education. Sri Amar Doultani, Director, Sindhu Sewa Samaj, while proposing vote of thanks stated that he took pride in being a student of ‘Sayal’ and a passionate reader of his poetry too.



First session was chaired by Sri Hundraj Balwani. Sri Jagdish Shahadadpuri presented his paper on 'Sayal: jeevan evam sahitya'. He said that after partition, Sayal's life turned for worse, but he overcome all the obstacles. Sri Vasdev Mohi's paper discussed the significant contribution of 'Sayal' to lexicography. Sri Bhagwan Nirdosh's paper elaborated upon stories of the Mahabharat, the Ramayan, retold in poetic form by 'Sayal'.

Sri Vasdev Mohi chaired the second session. He observed that Sayal's career as teacher and poet was like a light house. Sri Hundraj Balwani, Ms. Meena Shahadadpuri and Sri Jairam Chimnani presented their papers at this session and Sri Chandrakant Sayal, Sri Kanayalal Goplani, and Sri Balraj Jumani shared interesting anecdotes of 'Sayal'. Dr. Prem Prakash, Convener, Sindhi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, provided concluding remarks.

KATHASANDHI

January 20, 2015, Gandhinagar

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, in association with the Umar Arts and Natiba Commerce College for Women, Gandhinagar, organized a Kathasandhi programme with Sri Mohanlal Patel, eminent Gujarati fiction writer, on January 20, 2015, at Sheth Khimaji Vishram Samskar Bhavan, Uma Arts and Natiba Commerce College for Women, Gandhinagar.

Sri Manibhai Prajapati, Member, Gujarati Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the audience and the guest writer, and invited Sri Mohanlal Patel to read out his short stories. Sri Mohanlal Patel read out two short stories and interacted with the audience.

BIRTH CENTENARY SEMINAR ON MANUBHAI PANCHOLI 'DARSHAK'

January 27-28, 2015, Sanosara



Sri Mansukhlal Salla, Sri Arunbhai Dave, Sri Shirish Panchal,
Sri Sitanshu Yashaschandra and Krishna Kimbahune

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, in association with Darshak Foundation and Lokbharati Gram Vidyapeeth, organized a birth centenary seminar on Manubhai Pancholi 'Darshak' at Saraswat Bhavan, Sanosara, on January 27-28, 2015.

While welcoming the audience and guest participants Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Mumbai, highlighted that the significant contribution of 'Darshak', the reward thinker, educationist, historian, novelist, writer and playwright would be understood and its contemporary relevance would be thought of at this seminar. In his introductory remarks Prof Sitanshu Yashaschandra, Convener, Gujarati, Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, stated that Darshak's

major concerns were Gandhian thought and Indian freedom struggle as a writer. Sri Mansukh Salla, in his keynote address, stated as a writer 'Darshak' had his one eye our history and the other our compassion. Mahatma Gandhi had a profound influence on him and hence he became writer who was a passionate seeker of rural life in India. Sri Shirish Panchal chaired this session and Sri Arunbhai Dave, Director, Lokbharati, proposed a vote of thanks.



Sri Raghuveer Chaudhari chaired the first session – ‘Darshak ka Manovishwa’, at this session Sri Vidyut Joshi, Sri Mahendra Chotaliya and Sri Prakash Shah presented their papers. Sri Yogesh Bhatt and Sri Ambadan Rohadiya participated as discussants. At the second session – ‘Vachikam’. Sri Mahendrasinh Parmar and Sri Pravin Pandya read out selected writings of ‘Darshak’.

On the next day at third session – ‘Darshak ki Bhavasrushthi’, Ms. Bindu Bhatt, Ms. Mrudula Parik, Sri Dhirendra Mehta and Ms. Mrinalini Kamat presented their papers, and Ms. Kalindi Parik participated as the discussant, Sri Shirish Panchal chaired this session. The last session was chaired by Sri Narottam Palan, and Sri Bharat Dave, Sri Raman Soni, and Sri Balvant Jani presented their papers, and Sri Harshad Trivedi participated as discussant.

LITERARY FORUM

February 7, 2015, Ahmedabad

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, in association with the Rang Karm Theatre, organized a literary forum on February 7, 2015, at M.G. High School, Ahmedabad. Sri Prem Prakash, Convener, Sindhi Advisory Board, welcomed the poet-participants and audience. Sri Bhagwan ‘Nirdosh’, Sri Kodumal ‘Janib’, Sri Vedaho Rafiq, Sri Srichandra Kesavani, Sri Tharu Guranani, Sri Subhash Sharma, Ms. Meena Shahadadpuri and Sri Naresh Ughani recited their poems at the forum.

PEOPLE AND BOOKS

February 7, 2015, Ahmedabad

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, in association with Rang Karm Theatre, organized a ‘People and Books’ programme with Dr. Mahadev Lohana, a renowned physician and surgeon, on February 7, 2015, at M.G. High School, Ahmedabad. Welcoming the audience and the guest speaker, Sri Prem Prakash, Convener, Sindhi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, introduced the Dr. Mahadev Lohana to the audience. Dr. Mahadev Lohana talked about the books and authors who impacted his life and also interacted with the audience.

SYMPOSIUM ON ‘SINDHI BAL SAHITYA’

February 8, 2015, Ahmedabad

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, in association with Sindhi Sahitya Academy, organized a symposium on ‘Sindhi Bal Sahitya’ on February 8, 2015, at M.G. High School, Ahmedabad

Dr. Prem Prakash, Convener, Sindhi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the audience and guest

writers. In the inaugural address, Sri Yeshwant Mehta said that to encourage literature for children, we needed to translate children’s literature in other languages into Sindhi and vice versa. In the keynote address, Dr Prem Prakash said that until 1992 there were attempts to encourage and study literature for children in Sindhi after that there was a gap, and this symposium was an attempt to consider all the possibilities in connection with children literature in Sindhi. Sri Vasdev Mohi chaired the inaugural session and congratulated Sahitya Akademi for taking up the cause of Children’s literature in Sindhi. Sri Hundraj Balwani chaired the first session. Sri Jetho Lalwani, Sri Khiman Mualani presented their papers. Sri Jetho Lalwani chaired the second session, Ms. Veena Sringi, Ms. Vimmi Sadarangani, and Sri Hundraj Balwani presented their papers. Dr Prem Prakash delivered valedictory address and Sri Jagdish Shahadadpuri proposed a vote of thanks.

SEMINAR ON PREMANAND

February 7-11, 2015, Vadodara, Surat and Nandurbar

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, in association with the Maharaja Sayajirao University, Vividh Bharati, Balvant Parekh Centre for General Semantics & Other Human Sciences, Mahakavi Premanand, Triveni, Vadodara, & Mahakavi Premanand Mahotsav Samiti, Surat, Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industries, Agarwal Vikas Trust and Srimati Shanthabhen Hirabhai Charitable Trust, organized a five day Seminar - Sanskriti Yaatraa event, Premanand-ne-Pagale Pagale, a trans-regional cultural journey from Vadodara to Surat, Surat to Nandurbar, the places where Premanand, 17th Century poet, travelled and lived for a span of time and rendered his Akhyana, narrative poems, from 7-11 February 2015 at Vadodara, Surat in Gujarat and Nandurbar in Maharashtra.



Sri Premprakash, Ms Laxmi Thakur, Sri Lakhmi Khilani, Hon'ble Sri Vasudev Devnani and Sri Kailash Sodhani

COLLOQUIUM ON SINDHI SHORT STORY

February 13-14, 2015

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, in association with Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati University, Ajmer, organized a colloquium on 'Sindhi Short Story' as a tribute to the completion of 100 years since the appearance of first Sindhi short story on February 13-14, 2015 at the University, Ajmer.

Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Mumbai, welcomed the audience and writer participants. Sri Lakhmi Khilani, inaugurated the seminar. He said that like the short stories

in any other regional languages the short story in Sindhi also was transcending its limits. In the keynote address Sri Prem Prakash, Convener, Sindhi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, said that although some critics differ in opinion. Sri Kailash Sodhani, Vice-Chancellor, Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati University, chaired the inaugural session and thanked the Akademi for choosing to organize the seminar at the University. Sri Vasdev Devnani, Honorable Minister for Education, Primary and Secondary Education, Govt. of Rajasthan was the Chief Guest. Sri Vasdev Devnani elaborated upon Sindhi culture and congratulated Sahitya Akademi for promoting the cause of Indian literature in various languages. Mrs. Lakshmi Thakurof Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati University proposed a vote of thanks.

Sri Bansi Khoobchandani chaired the first session. Sri Hunderaj Balwani presented paper on 'Sindhi ki pahali kahani'. Sri Kaladhar Muthava, Ms. Ritu Bhatia, Ms. Shalini Sagar, Sri Kishan Ratnani and Sri Ashok Jamnani read out their stories. Sri Jetho Lalwani chaired the second session. Sri Suresh Bablani, Sri Bansi Khoobchandani and Ms. Indira Punavala 'Shabnam' read out their stories. Sri Haso Dadlani chaired the third session. Sri Mohan Himatani presented paper on 'Sindhi kahani ka vikas: vibhajan se aaj tak'. Sri Mohan Gehani, Ms. Veena Sringi, Ms. Jammu Chugani and Sri Bhagwan Atlani read out their stories. Sri Lachman Bhambani chaired the fourth session. Sri Hari Himatani, Sri Hunderaj Balwani, Sri Lakhmi Khilani, Sri Sunder Agnani, Sri Jetho Lalwani and Sri Khiman Mulani read out their stories. Sri Khiman Mulani chaired the fifth session. Ms. Kamala Goklani, Ms. Jaya Jadwani, Sri Namdev Tarachandani and Sri Vasdev Mohi read out their stories. Sri Sunder Agnani chaired the sixth session, at this session Ms. Vimmi Sringi presented her paper on 'present status of Sindhi short story', and Ms. Jaya Jadwani, Mrs. Kamala Goklani, Sri Namdev Tarachandani and Sri Vasdev Mohi shared their experiences in creative writing. Sri Kaladhar Mutva chaired the seventh session. Sri Bhagwan Atlani presented paper on 'Sindhi kahani ki alochana (pichala dashak)'. Sri Lachman Bambani and Sri Prem Prakash read out their stories. Sri Prem Prakash, Convener, Sindhi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the valedictory address and Ms. Kamala Goklani proposed a vote of thanks.



Chandrama Bijur, Bipin, Uday Mankikar

LITERARY FORUM

February 15, 2015, Mumbai

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi, in association with the Saraswat Mahila Samaj, Gamdevi, and the Kanara Saraswat Association, organized a Literary Forum at the Talmakiwadi Hall, Tardeo, Mumbai on February 15, 2015. Mrs Sadhana Kamat, Member, Konkani Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience. Scenes from classic plays in different languages, translated into Konkani, were dramatically read out. The excerpts from the plays Abhidnyana Shakuntalam (Sanskrit), Sangeet Saubhadra (Marathi), Barretts of Wimpole Street (English), Bhaubandaki (Marathi),

Bollopurer Rupkatha (Bengali), Yayati (Kannada) and Lekure Udanda Zali (Marathi). Sri Aron Heblekar, eminent Konkani writer, chaired the forum.

Sri Uday Mankikar, Ms Deepa Savkur, Sri Bipin Nadkarni, Ms Smita Mavinkurve, Sri Chandrashekhhar Shenoy, Ms Chandrama Bijur, Sri Krishna Chandavar, Ms Kanchan Honavar and Sri Kedar Mavinkurve were the participants who read out excerpts from the plays. Ms Jaya Tracy and Sri Arun Hattangadi accompanied the readings with musical instruments.



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