



साहित्योत्सव Festival of Letters

28 January - 2 February 2019



भाषाएँ अनेक • देश एक

Daily News Bulletin

Wednesday, 30 January, 2019

Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Hon'ble Minister of Culture, visited the Sahitya Akademi



Sahitya Akademi Awards 2018 AWARDS PRESENTATION CEREMONY

The Sahitya Akademi Award for 2018 were presented to 24 writers at a glittering ceremony on 29 January 2019, at Kamani Auditorium in New Delhi.

The ceremony began with an invocation song. Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed Prof. Manoj Das, the chief guest Mr. Santhan Ayathurai, eminent Sri Lankan writer and Premchand Fellowship Awardee, the President and Vice President of Sahitya Akademi, Award winners and the audience. Concluding his speech Dr. Sreenivasarao thanked the Indian writers' community for their continued patronage and support through 65 years of the Akademi. Prof. Manoj Das, eminent Odia writer and Fellow of Sahitya Akademi, said that Sahitya Akademi is the pride of litterateurs and literatures. He was of the view that no geographical world has a spectacular scene as is seen today—24 writers writing in different Indian languages sitting on the same stage. He said that creative writing is a gift that needs to be treasured.

Dr. K. Sreenivasarao read out the citations and Dr. Chandrashekhhar Kambar, President, Sahitya Akademi, conferred the Awards on the awardees. Dasarati Das (Odia) and Sri Anees Salim (English) could not attend in person.

Dr. Chandrashekhhar Kambar in his presidential address stated that Indian literature is a term that suggests plurality and plenitude. Thus, we celebrate all these rich and diverse literatures and cultures of the country on this occasion. Mr. Santhan Ayathurai, an eminent Sri Lankan writer and Premchand Fellowship Awardee, congratulated all the award-winners and said that Indian Literature influenced him to a great length, and writers have a unique responsibility towards society. Sri Madhav Kaushik, Vice President, Sahitya Akademi, in his concluding remarks said that writers are the spokesmen of common men and that there is no place on this earth where writers of 24 different languages are awarded on the same stage.

Today's Events

Writers' Meet

(Featuring Sahitya Akademi
2018 Award Winners)
Rabindra Bhavan Lawns, 10.00 a.m.

Purvottari

(North-East and Northern Writers' Meet)
Rabindra Bhavan Lawns, 11.00 a.m.

Panel Discussion on Translation

Rabindra Bhavan Lawns, 2.30 p.m.

Presentation of Premchand Fellowship 2017

Rabindra Bhavan Lawns, 2.30 p.m.

Samvatsar Lecture on Faiz Ahmad Faiz by Gopi Chand Narang

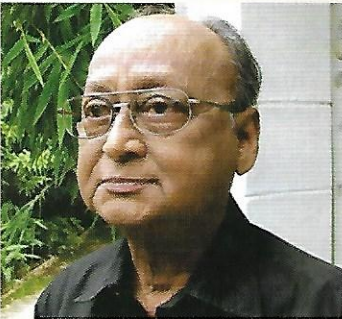
Rabindra Bhavan Lawns, 6.00 p.m.



NAMES OF THE AWARD-WINNERS

SanantaTanty (Assamese), Sanjib Chattopadhyay (Bengali), Rituraj Basumatary (Bodo), Inderjeet Kesar (Dogri), Anees Salim (English), Sharifa Vijaliwala (Gujarati), Chitra Mudgal (Hindi), K.G. Nagarajappa (Kannada), Mushtaq Ahmad Mushtaq (Kashmiri), Paresh Narendra Kamat (Konkani), Bina Thakur (Maithili), S. Ramesan Nair (Malayalam), Budhichandra Heisnamba (Manipuri), Ma. Su. Patil (Marathi), Loknath Upadhyay Chapagain (Nepali), Dasarati Das (Odia), Mohanjit (Punjabi), Rajesh Kumar Vyas (Rajasthani), Rama Kant Shukla (Sanskrit), Shyam Besra (Santali), Khiman U. Mulani (Sindhi), S. Ramakrishnan (Tamil), Kolakaluri Enoch (Telugu) and Rahman Abbas (Urdu).

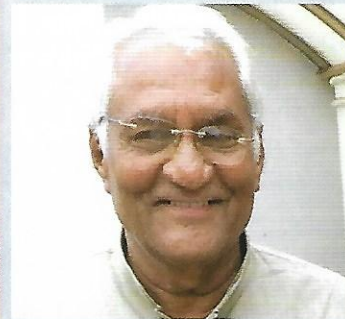
SAHITYA AKADEMI FELLOWS



Jayanta Mahapatra is a distinguished English and Odia writer. He has more than 30 published books to his credit. He is the author of such popular poems as *Indian Summer* and *Hunger*, which are regarded as classics in modern Indian English literature. He is the recipient of Sahitya Akademi Award, Jacob Glatstein Memorial Award, Allan Tate Poetry Prize, etc.



Padma Sachdev is an eminent Dogri and Hindi writer. She has 10 collections of Dogri poetry, 15 books of Hindi prose including 8 novels, one collection of short stories, an autobiography, a travelogue and more than a dozen translations to her credit. She is the recipient of several awards and honours including the Padma Shri.



Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari is a distinguished Hindi writer and the former President of Sahitya Akademi. He has more than 50 published books to his credit, which includes criticism, poetry collections, travelogues, biography and interviews. He is the recipient of many awards and honours including Hindi Gaurav Samman, Vyas Samman and Sahitya Bhushan Samman.



Nagen Saikia is an eminent Assamese writer. He has more than 125 published books to his credit including short stories collections, criticism, travelogue and translated books. He is the recipient of many awards and honours including Sahitya Akademi Award, Assam Valley Literary Award, Hariprasad Rai Award, Sabda Sahitya Award and Mohan Chandra Sarma Award.

ALL INDIA TRIBAL WOMEN WRITERS' MEET

Today was the second day of Tribal Women Writers' Meet in which three sessions were conducted. The first session was chaired by K. Vasamallii (Toda) and the speakers were B.T. Lalitha Naik (Banjara), Mangla Garwal (Bhili) and Sudha Chauhan (Chaudhri). Sudha Chauhan representing the Chaudhri language highlighted that it was due to the influence of Gandhian age which created awareness among the Chaudhri community to write the intangible literary heritage. Mangla Garwal in her paper expressed in detail about the influence of Bhili literature on the life of Bhili people. B.T. Lalitha Naik said that the Banjara literature was influenced by the great epics. Chairperson K. Vasamallii said that Tribal culture is the footprint of the Indian culture. Tribals and their divine lands are inseparable, without their land there is no tribal literature.

The second session of the Meet was on Tribal Literature: Challenges and Solutions. The session began with Neetisha Xalxo (Limbu) reading her paper. She started by singing a beautiful regional song depicting the oral traditions. The second speaker was Shakuntala Tarar (Chhattisgarhi). She said that the Adivasis are so rich in culture that they have a song for each and every occasion. Sahitya Akademi Bhasha Samman awardee for Kokborok language, Sri Chandrakanta Murasingh, also shared his thoughts on this occasion. He requested all to respect their language and use it well, as when we respect our language and culture only then we will be able to face the challenges which come along with it. Chairperson, Sova Limboo Yolma (Limbu) said that in Sikkim the Adivasi language Limbo has been included in schools and colleges through which they have



given the kids a platform to learn it as an optional language, thereby giving an opportunity for the language to grow.

The third session was chaired by Satarupa Datta Majumdar Saha (Lepcha) who shared her experience of working on the languages of tribal communities of the Northeast. She laid her emphasis on the situation of language maintenance and shift, which is leading towards the language endangerment of the Koch community of the North East. Rashmi Choudhury (Bodo), K. Anjali Belagal (Bagri), Anuradha Mundu (Ho), Athira RC (Kanikkar), Archana Das T. (Kurichya), Anna Madhuri Tirkey (Kurux), Vishwasi Ekka (Kurux), Priska Kujur (Kurux - Oram), Indumati Lamani (Lamani - Banjara), Abi Maya Thapa Manger (Manger), Krairi Mog Choudhury (Mog), Heera Meena (Rajasthani), Shakuntala Besra (Santali) and Nagrekha Gaonkar (Tulu) recited their poems.

MEDIA INTERACTION WITH SAHITYA AKADEMI AWARDEES



Sahitya Akademi organized Media interaction with Award winners at Rabindra Bhavan Lawns on Tuesday, January 29, 2019. The Award winners interacted with the media personalities and shared their award-winning works, their experiences and interests with the audience. Sri Anupam Tiwari, Editor (Hindi), Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, Mumbai and S.P. Mahalingeshwar Regional Secretary, Bangalore, Sahitya Akademi, coordinated the event.



CULTURAL PROGRAMME

Naaty-Katha: *Krshna* by Sonal Mansingh and troupe



Programmes of Festival of Letters

31 January 2019

Face-to-Face
(Interaction with Akademi Awardees 2018)
(10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m.) Rabindra Bhavan Lawns

Yuva Sahiti : The New Harvest
(Young Writers' Meet)
(10.30 a.m. - 5.30 p.m.) Rabindra Bhavan Lawns

GAYAN-BAYAN, MATI AKHORA & RAM BIJOY KHONDA DRISYA
by Sri Sri Uttar Kamalabari Satra, Sankardev Kristi Sangha, Assam
(6.00 p.m.) Rabindra Bhavan Lawns

NATIONAL SEMINAR
Gandhi in Indian Literature
(11.00 a.m. - 5.30 p.m.)
Sahitya Akademi Auditorium

1 February 2019

NATIONAL SEMINAR : GANDHI IN INDIAN LITERATURE
(10.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m.)
Sahitya Akademi Auditorium

PANEL DISCUSSION : MEDIA AND LITERATURE
(11.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m.)
Rabindra Bhavan Lawns

PANEL DISCUSSION :
Present Scenario of Play Writing
(2.30 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.) Rabindra Bhavan Lawns

INDO FUSION MUSIC
by Sunita Bhuyan and Troupe
(6.00 p.m.) Rabindra Bhavan Lawns

2 February 2019

NATIONAL SEMINAR : GANDHI IN INDIAN LITERATURE
(10.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m.) Sahitya Akademi Auditorium

SPIN-A-TALE : PROGRAMMES FOR CHILDREN
(10.30 a.m. - 2.00 p.m.) Rabindra Bhavan Lawns

PANEL DISCUSSION : PUBLISHING IN INDIA
(11.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m.) Rabindra Bhavan Lawns

TRANSGENDER POETS' MEET
(2.30 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.) Rabindra Bhavan Lawns

