

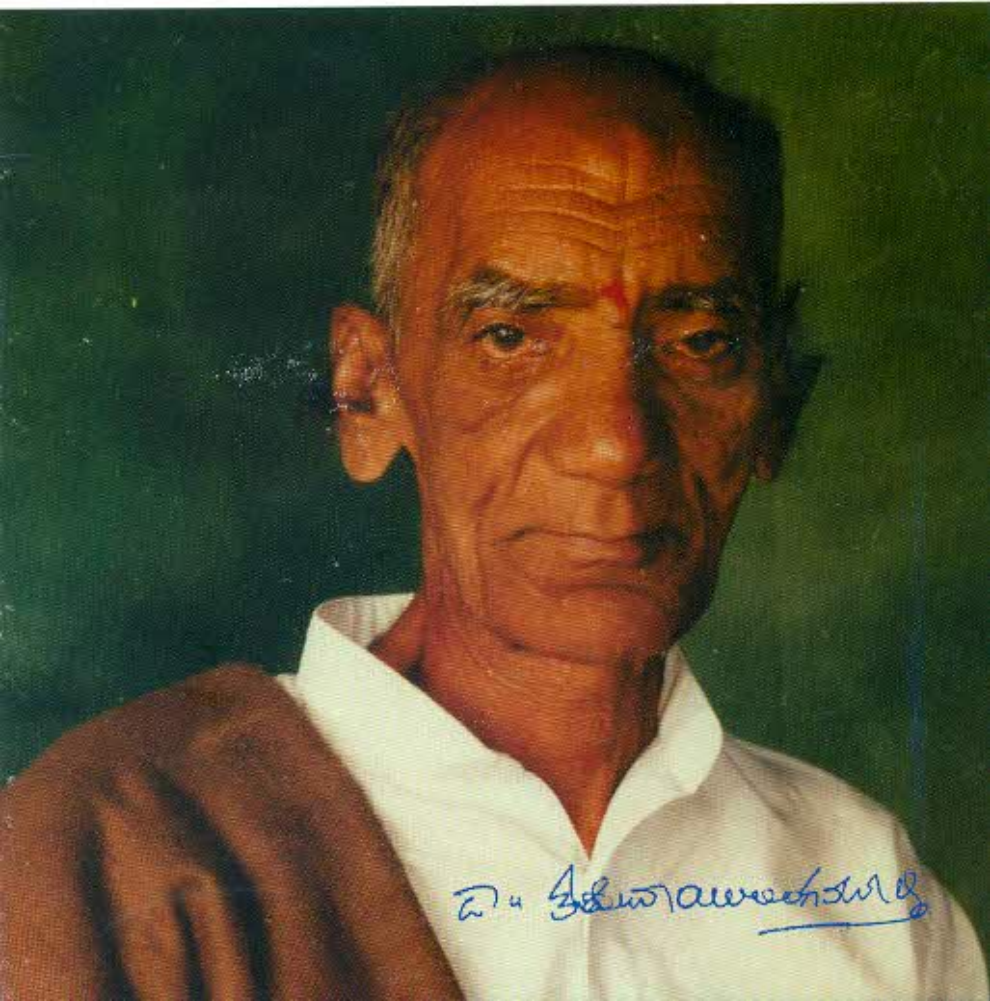


Sahitya Akademi

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meet the author

Kapilavai Lingamurthy





Kapilavai Lingamurthy couple

Kapilavai Lingamurthy, who was born on the 31st March 1928 in Jinukunta, Mahabubnagar District (erstwhile Hyderabad state) of Telangana state, is a very renowned Telugu Poet, a scholar and a writer with great prowess in many literary genres. His parents were Manikyamma and Kapilavai Venkatachalam.

Lingamurthy was inspired by his maternal uncle Chevuri Lakshmayya's erudition and had gained scriptural - historical knowledge, astrological competency, command over Sanskrit-Telugu dictionaries and immense love for literature through his interaction with him right from an early age.

Lingamurthy had graduated from Osmania University-Hyderabad in M.A (Telugu Literature). He joined as a

teacher in Nagarkurnool High school in 1954 and later on he got trained in M.O.L (Master of Oriental Learning) He joined Sri Venkateshwara Oriental College, at Palem as History Lecturer in 1972. He got retired in February 1983. Litterateur Dr. Lingamurthy is well versed in both Telugu poetry and Telugu prose. He has written more than 100 books in Telugu literature.

Many regions in the district of Palamuru are famous for their historicity – how Lingamurthy has brought out their importance and significance through his works entitled *Mahakshetram Mamillapalli*, *Bhairavakona Mahatyam*, *Someswara Kshetra Mahatyam* etc., is highly commendable. He also had written biographies of a few elevated souls on the path of spirituality, Lingamurthy's



Receiving award from N.T. Ramarao, Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh

literary repertoire has many novels written with his highly developed awareness and knowledge of history and research oriented bent of mind. His novel entitled *Uppunoothala Katha* revolves around the history of the village Uppunoothala and the famous Kedareshwara temple there in. This novel like a travelogue takes one to the Kedareshwar in Himalayas too and gives a depiction of the culture there.

His other popular novels - *Godadevi Katha*, *Moodutharaala Muchhata*, *Nagamani*, *Aavancha*, all are conceived and composed with the factual strength of history, religion and spirituality, hence have become very renowned.

As a reviewer and commentator, Lingamurthy has a great standing for his erudite and pertinent opinions- his explanatory commentary and interpretation of works like *Yayathi Charithra*, *Kavya Ganapathi Ashttotharam*, *Swarna Sakalaalu*, *Kalyana Taaravali*, *Rudraadhyayam*, *Hanumatsahasram* etc., are his highly acclaimed works in this genre. Lingamurthy has composed eleven Shatakams with social- devotional background.

There are many literary figures who were born in the district of Palamuru who rose to great heights and shone in the firmament of literature- one such eminent figure is Kapilavai Lingamurthy, who helped the literary pennant to fly high. He, as a story writer, novelist, researcher, poet, biographer,

essayist, composer of Sankirtanas, translator, editor, commentator and many more, is a multifaceted literary stalwart. He is known as Akshara Tapaswi - one who has done word penance, to attain sublime heights. He put in a voluminous body of research work amounting to as much as that of many universities' collective efforts put together.

Lingamurthy is known as an adept in all the genres of literature - he has proved himself as an authority in maintaining high standards, in promoting realistic presentation. Apart from doing yeoman service to the cause of literature, he put in efforts to bring to light many an ancient Palm leaf inscriptional works. Lingamurthy collected the culture specific words, dialects provincial idioms from ancient Telugu literature and language and had provided their meaning and their usage- this compilation is a real boon to the Telangana language bestowed by Kapilavai.

Lingamurthy's huge corpus of literature has been published by Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams, Potti Sreeramulu Telugu University, Emesco Publishers etc, proving the worthiness of his work. There are still about 28 very valuable literary works by Kapilavai to be brought out in print. He is extending his support and help to many a literary organisations based in Palamuru district. He helped many upcoming writers by editing, fine tuning and polishing to perfection their writings.



A. Shiva Reddy, Vice Chancellor, Telugu University, Hyderabad conferring him an award



Has been honored by Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy

He has written Forewords, Reviews, given valuable opinions for about 300 books.

Lingamurthy is both conservative and contemporary in his outlook - maintaining equanimity and balance in his personal and professional lives. These lines below are extracted from a very lengthy 'Vaakya Ashtottaram' versified by Sambaraju Raviprakash Rao from Nagarkurnool, eulogizing Lingamurthy to describe his endearing qualities both as a poet and as a person: *"He is a life size form of pristine poetry- Sukavithva Murthy, He is as supremely eminent as the Himalayas- Samunnatha Vyaktitva Murthy. He communes with a smile always - Mandasmitha Murthy. He embraces all with genuine affection- Aapyayathaa Murthy"*

Kapilavai Lingamurthy has received many titles like Kavitha Kalanidhi, Parishodhanaa Panchaanana, Kavi Kesari, Vedantha Vishaarada, Guru Shiromani, Sahithya Swarnasourabha Kesari and awards namely Prathibhaa Puraskaaram from Telugu University - Hyderabad., Burgula Ramakrishna Rao Prathibha Puraskaaram, Charles Phillip Brown Saahitya Puraskaaram., Nori Narasimha Sastri Puraskaaram, Kandukoori Rudrakavi Peetam Puraskaaram, Paalkuri Somanatha Peetam Puraskaaram.

A documentary entitled 'Kavitha Kalanidhi Kapilavai Lingamurthy' was made by Vennala Academy of Nagarkurnool, which won the coveted Nandi Award after being selected as the

second best documentary for the year 2011.

In recognition of Kapilavai Lingamurthy's commendable service to the field of literature for a period spanning around seven decades, Potti Sreeramulu Telugu University conferred him an honorary D.Litt. in their 13th Convocation Ceremony of 2014. He got honorary doctorates from various universities like Osmania University, Madurai University and Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati.

There were six research scholars who obtained doctorate degrees through their work on Lingamurthy's literary contribution, a prestigious academic marker which speaks for itself about his greatness as a literary colossus. Highly respected for his multifaceted literary persona, Kapilavai Lingamurthy stands as a supporting pillar to the poet- writer fraternity of Telangana.

Kapilavai Lingamurthy lives in Nagarkurnool town. He named his house as 'Vaani Sadanam' (Abode of Saraswathi) which has a huge library of Telugu books. He is a tireless traveler in the world of words enjoying every turn and every milestone. Vocation and avocation, both he had honed and sculpted to make a beautiful tapestry of his life, purely through discipline, dedication and determination. After his very first literary publication more than seventy years ago, he never seemed to have put his pen down- affirms his prolific and vast literary output.



With C. Narayana Reddy, Jnanpith Awardee and office bearers of Andhra Saraswatha Parishat, Hyderabad

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MISCELLANEOUS

Six research scholars did research on Kapilavai Lingamurthy's literature and got doctorates from various universities viz., Osmania University, Telugu University, Hyderabad, Madurai University and Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati



Honoured by Andhra Pradesh Governor, Krishna Kanth