

HOMAGE TO PROF U.R. ANANTHAMURTHY

September 1, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a condolence meeting of eminent writers and scholars on September 1, 2014 at the Akademi auditorium in New Delhi to pay homage and tribute to Prof. U.R. Ananthamurthy who passed away on August 22, 2014. Prof U.R. Ananthamurthy, one of the doyens of modern Indian literature and distinguished Kannada writer was the past President of Sahitya Akademi and was decorated with vast number of honors and awards during his long and illustrious career.

Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the writers and scholars and spoke briefly about the democratic values that Prof U.R. Ananthamurthy brought to literary atmospheres in general and to the functioning of Akademi during his stint as a President. Prof K. Satchidanandan observed that literary fraternity lost a sane voice, rational mind and an insider who was the conscience keeper of all traditions – literary and cultural. Prof Harish Trivedi paid rich tributes to Prof Ananthamurthy and highlighted the secular values of the legendary writer. Dr Kedarnath Singh recalled his association with the legendary writer who was instrumental in changing the paradigm through which Indian literature was perceived. Ms. Padma Sachdev talked at length about the influence that Prof Ananthamurthy and his works had on the psyche of young Indian writers. Sri H.K. Kaul spoke briefly about the life, works and legacy of Prof Ananthamurthy. A minute's silence was observed as a mark of respect to the departed writer.



Eminent writers and scholars at U.R. Ananthamurthy condolence meeting organized by the Akademi

A large number writers, scholars, artists, media personalities and academicians participated and paid tributes to Prof U.R. Ananthamurthy.

MEET THE AUTHOR

September 4, 2014, Indore

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with Madhya Bharat Hindi Sahitya Samiti, organized a 'Meet the Author' programme with Sri Prabhakar Narayan Kawthekar, distinguished Sanskrit scholar on September 4, 2014 at Samiti auditorium in Indore.

Sri Brajendra Tripathi, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, coordinated the programme and introduced the eminent writer to the scholars and literary connoisseurs who had assembled at the venue. Sri Prabhakar Narayan Kawthekar is one of the foremost experts on medieval Sanskrit literature and has penned scores of books covering a wide range of subjects from Nyaya schools to Kavya literature to Dharma and legal digests in Sanskrit, spoke briefly about his early life, his works and the influences on his writing. The eminent author also spoke about the nuances of poetry and the massive gems lying hidden in the ancient and medieval Sanskrit literature. A brief interactive session followed and scores of writers, authors and literary connoisseurs of Indore actively participated in the session.

THROUGH MY WINDOW

September 5, 2014, Jammu

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, organized a 'Through My Window' programme at K.L. Sehgal Hall, Jammu on September 5, 2014 where noted writer and academician, Prof. Nilambar Dev Sharma talked about distinguished Dogri writer and scholar, Late Col. Shivnath. During the event, 'Mosaic of Life,' Sri Shivnath's translation of his award winning title 'Cheten di Chitkabri' was released.

Sri Santanu Gangopadhyay, Assistant Editor, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the speaker, other guests and audience and spoke briefly about the nature and objective of the platform 'Through My Window' and introduced the speaker to the audience. Prof. Lalit Magotra, Convener, Dogri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, spoke at length about significant contributions of Sri Shivnath to Dogri literature and language and about the significance of the books released. Prof. Nilambar Dev Sharma, who had a close and long association with Sri Shivnath, talked about the legendary writers, early life, humble back ground, his achievements and unique contributions he made to Dogri literature. He said Shivnath was very unique during his time in the sense that he was practically only one to prolifically write critical appreciations on and about Dogri language, literature, history and scores of texts and books. He observed that Akademi befittingly bestowed on him the Akademi Award for Cheten di Chitkabri. Prof Nilambar Dev Sharma then took up several of Shivnath's books and discussed them in detail. Sri Santanu Gangopadhyay proposed a vote of thanks.



SEMINAR ON BHAVANI PRASAD MISHRA

September 5-6, 2014, Indore

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, to commemorate the birth centenary of Bhawani Prasad Mishra, and in association with Madhya Bharat Hindi Sahitya Samiti, organized a national seminar on the legendary poet on September 5-6, 2014 at Indore.

In the inaugural session, the noted critic Sri Prabhakar Shrotriya welcomed the participants and the audience and talked briefly about the reflections of Bhavani's time in his poems. Sri Suryaprakash Chaturvedi, President of Madhya Bharat Hindi Sahitya Samiti, in his inaugural address talked about Bhavani Mishra's poems and Gandhian values. Well known poet Sri Chandrakant Devthaale, who was the Chief Guest of the session, talked at length about the qualities of Bhawani Prasad Mishra's poems and observed that his poems' ability to encapsulate time instead of reflecting it made him a great poet of his time. Sri Avdesh Pradhan, in his keynote address, gave insights into the poet's creative process. Sri Suryaprasad Dixit, Convener, Hindi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his Presidential address, observed that Bhawani Prasad Mishra's poems contain in them not only the aspirations of one community or one country or societies of one time but the aspirations and stories of entire humanity.

In the first session that was chaired by Saroj Kumar, four noted scholars, Amarendra Singh, Kashmir Uppal, Rakesh

Diwan and Dilip Chinchalkar, relived the memories of footprints left by Bhawani Prasad Mishra's poems. In the second session that was chaired by Goeshwar Singh, three noted scholars, Dinesh Kushvah, Arunesh Niran and Suresh Salil presented papers. The chair observed that Bhawani Prasad's poems cannot be discussed adequately within the boundaries which we have built for Hindi literature. In the third session that was chaired by Baldev Vamshi and which had theme of 'Nature in Bhawani Prasad Mishra's works,' four noted scholars, Shailendra Sharma, Madhav Hada, Krishna Kumar Singh and Lakshman Kediya, presented papers. The fourth session which focused on 'Bhawani Prasad Mishra and Gandhi Darshan' and was chaired by Devendra Dipak, three noted scholars Vyasmani Tripathi, Dhruv Shukla and Prabhu Joshi, presented papers. In the fifth session which focused on 'Saptak Parampara and Bhawani Prasad Mishra' and that was chaired by Ajay Tiwari, three noted scholars, Jitendra Srivatsav Niranjana, Shrotriya Arun Hota and Sudha Upadhyay, presented papers. In the valedictory session, Sri Satyadev Tripathi summed up the proceedings and noted critic Sri Vijay Bahadur Singh delivered the valedictory address wherein he provided valuable insights into the life and works of the poet. The seminar was coordinated by Sri Brajendra Tripathi, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi.



(L-R)Gianeswar Sarma, Santanu Gangopadhyay, Chhatrapal and Bansi Lal Sarma

MULAKAT & CHILDREN'S LITERATURE PROGRAMME

September 6, 2014, Jammu

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, organized two literary events, 'Mulakat' and 'Children's Literature Programme' on September 6, 2014 at Jammu.

Sri Santanu Gangopadhyay, Assistant Editor, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi in preserving and promoting Children's literature in all the 24 languages and across the country. Sri Chhatrapal, Member, Dogri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked about initiatives of Akademi in Dogri and appreciated the institution of Bal Sahitya Puraskar to encourage writers of Children's literature.

In the Children's Literature programme, noted Dogri writers and poets, led by Gianeswar Sharma, enthralled about 70 children from Jammu. Gianeswar Sharma, Akademi Awardee, read out two short stories he had written for children. Many poets also recited their poems written for children. In the 'Mulakat' programme, Dr Bansi Lal Sharma, Dogri lyricist and poet with a children's poetry book to his credit recited few poems on good manners, values etc. Known for his witty and humorous style, Dr Sharma also spoke about his writings and life briefly. Many noted Dogri writers, scholars, poets and artists participated in the events.



SYMPOSIUM ON SAINT LAXMINATH GOSAIN

September 7, 2014, Parsarma

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with Sant Laxminath Sangeet Mahavidyalaya, organized a symposium on Saint Laxminath Gosain on September 7, 2014 at his birth place Parsarma, Supaul, Bihar. Sri Laxminath Gosain was one of the greatest saint sons of Bihar who was chiefly instrumental in carrying lofty philosophies of ancient literature, especially Vedas, to masses in a direct and simple language.

In the inaugural session, Dr. Devendrakumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and the audience and spoke briefly about the legacy of Sant Laxminath Gosain and outlined the various initiatives of the Akademi. The session was chaired by Dr. Kamalkant Jha, ex-chairman of Maithili Academy, inaugural address was delivered by Dr. Tilaknath Mishra, keynote address by Dr Dhirendra Nath Jha Dhir and introductory speech was delivered by Dr. Bina Thakur, Convener, Maithili Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi. In the two academic sessions that were chaired by Sri Ravindra Rakesh and Sri Taranant Viyogi, six noted scholars, Sri Ramnaresh Singh, Sri Kulanand Jha, Sri Abhaykant Thakur, Sri Arvind Thakur, Smt. Sunita Jha and Sri Ram Chaitanya Dhiraj, presented papers covering various aspects of life and works of Saint Laxminath Gosain, the place of his works within Maithili literature and the impact his works had on the people of Mithila. The valedictory session was chaired by Sri Buchru Paswan and valedictory address was delivered by Sri Khushilal Jha and Dr. Devesh proposed a vote of thanks.

MAITHILI POETS' MEET

September 7, 2014, Parsarma

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with Sant Laxminath Sangeet Mahavidyalaya, organized a Mathili Poets' Meet on September 7, 2014 at Parsarma, Supaul, Bihar. The meet was chaired by Sri Kamal Kant Jha and eight noted Maithili poets, Smt. Bharati Jha, Smt. Bijali Prakash, Smt. Leena Singh, Ms Gunjan Kumari, Sri Amalendu Shekhar Pathak, Sri Chandramani Jha, Sri Vidyadhar Mishra and Sri Jaiprakash janak, recited their Maithili poems.

MEET THE AUTHOR

September 13, 2014, Darjeeling

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with Gorkha Dukh Nivarak Sammelan, organized a 'Meet the Author' programme with Sri Krishna Singh Moktan, well known Nepali fiction writer, on September 13, 2014 at Darjeeling. Sri Moktan talked about his early life, his works, especially the bestselling 'Jeevan Parikrama' and 'Jeevan Goretoma' which won Sahitya Akademi award, and influences on his writing. He informed the audience that he is into spiritual writing these days. A brief interactive session followed his speech. The programme was well attended by writers and scholars based in Darjeeling.

SEMINAR ON WOMEN WRITINGS IN INDIAN LANGUAGES: YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW

September 13-14, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi, in association with Praajaswamika Rachayitrula Vedika (PRARAVE) AND Delhi Telugu Sahiti, organized a two day seminar on 'Women Writings in Indian Languages: Yesterday-Today-Tomorrow' on September 13-14, 2014 at Andhra Association Building, New Delhi.

In the inaugural session, Sri K. Satyanarayana, Andhra Association welcomed the participants and the audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of Andhra Association. In his Presidential address Sri R. Mani Naidu spoke about the necessity to encourage women writings not only in the main languages but also in minor languages. Sri Kambhampati



Rammohan Rao, who was the Chief Guest spoke about women writing in 20th century and the direction it is taking in the 21st century. Prof. Katyayani Vidmahe, Akademi award winner, introduced the theme and concept of the seminar. Prof. C. Mrunalini, Member, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that focused on the social changes and literature of women and was chaired by Prof. K. Satchidanandan, eminent poet and former Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, five papers representing five different languages were presented by Ms. Antara Dev Sen, Ms. Mridula Garg, K. Satchidanandan, Ms. Urmila Pawar and Ms. Olga. In the second session that focused on women writers in classical literature and was chaired by Dr. K.N. Malleswari, four scholars, Prof. E.M. Rao, Ms. M.V. Lakshmi, Dr. M. Krishnan, Dr. Kolipaka Shobha Rani presented their papers. In the third session which focused on women writing in modern Telugu literature and was chaired by Ms. Anisetti Rajitha, three scholars, Dr. K.V. Ramalakshmi, Ms. M. Shyamala and Ms. V. Shantiprabodha presented their papers. In the fourth session which focused on women writing from 1960 to 2000 and was chaired by Ms. P. Rajyalakshmi, five scholars, Ms. Knondepoodi Nirmala, Ms. Veeralakshmi Devi, Ms. Nallori Rukmini, Ms. N. Ratnamala and Ms. Mersy Margarate presented their papers representing different genres. In the fifth session which focused on contemporary women writing in Telugu and was chaired by Dr. J. Bhagyalakshmi, four scholars, Ms. Kupili Padma, Ms. Vijayabhanu Kotte, Dr. Putla Hemalatha and Ms. M. Vimala presented their papers offering various perspectives. In the valedictory session that was chaired by Dr. K.G. Rao, Sri Kottireddy of Andhra Association welcomed the participants. Dr. S. Venugopala Chari who was the chief guest talked about women writing's role in nation building. Justice Ms. G. Rohini, who was the Guest of Honor, talked about women writing in jurisprudence and other allied fields and observed for all round development of societies women writing should be encouraged. Sri B.V.V.K. Rao, Sri D. Subrahmanyam and Dr. K.N. Malleswari talked and proposed a vote of thanks.

SEMINAR ON BHANUBHAKTA ACHARYA

September 13-14, 2014, Darjeeling

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with Gorkha Dukh Nivarak Sammelan, organized a two day seminar to commemorate the 200th birth anniversary of Sri Bhanubhakta Acharya on September 13-14, 2014 in Darjeeling. Bhanubhakta Acharya translated one of the two Epics of India, Srimad Valmiki Ramayana, into Nepali and is celebrated as 'Nepal ka Adikavi.'

In the inaugural session, Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and guests and spoke briefly about various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi to promote Nepali literature. Sri B.B. Gurung, President, Gorkha Dukh Nivarak Sammelan, chaired the session, Sri Prem Pradhan, Convener, Nepali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the introductory speech, Sri Manbahadur Pradhan, President, Nepali Sahitya Adhyayan Samiti, delivered inaugural speech and Sri Jiwan Namdung, eminent Nepali poet and critic, delivered the keynote address. Sri B.K. Rai, General Secretary, Gorkha Dukh Nivarak Sammelan proposed a vote of thanks. In the three academic sessions that were chaired by Sri Nand Hangkim, Sri Narbahadur Rai and Sri Krishnaraj Ghatani, eight noted scholars, Ms. Radha Sharma, Ms Bina Hangkim, Sri Gangaprasad Bhattarai, Sri Karna Thami, Sri Gokul Sinha, Sri Navin Poudyal, Smt. Shanti Chhetri and Smt. Sujatarani Rai presented papers covering the life, works and legacy of Sri Bhanubhakta Acharya. The valedictory session was chaired by Sri Kedar Gurung and the valedictory address was delivered by Dr. Pratap Chandra Pradhan, Dean, Sikkim University.

NEPALI POETS' MEET

September 14, 2014, Darjeeling

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with Gorkha Dukh Nivarak Sammelan, organized a Nepali Poets' Meet on September 14, 2014 at Darjeeling. The meet, divided into two sessions, was chaired by Sri Chandramit Luxum and Sri Jas Yonjan Pyasi and fourteen noted Nepali poets, Sri Sandip Kumar Pradhan, Sri Dalsingh Akela, Sri Ram Sharma, Sri Keshav Gurung, Sri Puran Giri, Sri Milan Bantawa, Sri Kiran Syangden, Sri Bhakta Sunwar, Smt. Urmila Ghising, Smt. Sharda Stefi Rai, Smt. Jyotibala Rai, Sri Narbahadur Toya, Smt. Sushma Moktan and Sri Neer Sharma, recited their poems.



HINDI WEEK

September 15-22, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized 'Hindi Week' at its office premises in New Delhi from September 15 to 22, 2014. In the inaugural ceremony held on the opening day, Dr Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, conducted the programme. He explained the objective and scope of the programme and provided details of the events to be held in the week. He also talked about the Hindi titles being produced in the Akademi. Ms. Renu Mohan Bhan, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, delivered welcome address. She talked briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi with reference to Rajbhasha and welcomed Sri Prayag Shukla to 2014 edition of 'Hindi Week.' In his Presidential address, Sri Shukla talked about the importance of Rajbhasha and said Mahatma Gandhi was a great supporter of Hindi and it was he who made it as a national language. Sri Shukla also recited a poem of Jai Shankar Prasad and Ajeya each. Sri Nishant, Hindi translator, proposed a vote of thanks.

A number of competitions were held during the week for the staff of the Akademi to establish their proficiency in the use of Hindi.

In the valedictory function held on September 22, 2014, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and the audience. A new issue of 'Aalok,' Akademi's Rajbhasha journal was released and Sri Brajendra Kumar Tripathi, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, provided a bird's eye view of the journal and its scope. Sri Ved Prakash Gaur, Director (OL), Ministry of Culture, Government of India and Sri Leeladhar Mandloi were Guest of Honor and Chief Guest respectively and they handed out the prizes to winners of the completion. In his address, Sri Mandloi said that all the citizens should work more for the development and sustenance of Hindi. Prof. Ranjit Saha, editor of 'Samkaleen Bhartiya Sahitya' proposed a vote of thanks.

KAVISANDHI AND BOOK RELEASE

September 16, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a Kavisandhi with eminent Malayalam poet and former Secretary of Sahitya Akademi, Prof K. Satchidanandan and a book release function of English translation of his Akademi award winning Malayalam poetry collection, Marannu Vecha Vasthukkal, on September 16, 2014 at Sahitya Akademi conference hall in New Delhi.

Prof Satchidanandan recited poems from his works, his recent compositions and poetry which he composed during his travels. He annotated each poem at the end for the benefit of those who do not follow Malayalam. Many eminent writers and scholars were present during the event and a brief interactive session followed the recitations.

Prof Kedarnath Singh, eminent Hindi poet, Jnanpith Award Winner, released 'Misplaced Objects and Other Poems,' English translation of Prof Satchidanandan's Akademi award winning Malayalam poetry Collection, 'Marannu Vecha Vasthukkal.' Prof Kedarnath Singh read out few poems from the book and spoke at length about the literary contributions of Prof K. Satchidanandan, both in Malayalam and English.

LITERARY FORUM

September 17, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized an evening of reading with two young and noted writers Vempalli Gangadhar from Andhra Pradesh and Yishey Doma Bhutia from Sikkim on September 17, 2015 at the Sahitya Akademi Conference Hall. Vempalli Gangadhar who writes in Telugu and Yishey Doma Bhutia who writes in English were selected as part of young writer in residence at Rashtrapati Bhavan for 2014. Both the authors read from their recent works and also spoke briefly about their lives and their views on Writer-in-Residence scheme of Rashtrapati Bhavan. The event was well attended by noted scholars and writers from in and around Delhi.



PEOPLE AND BOOKS

September 20, 2014, Darbhanga

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in collaboration with MRM College, Darbhanga, organized a 'People and Books' programme with the renowned scientist Dr. Manas Bihari Verma on September 20, 2014 at Darbhanga. Dr Verma spoke generally about the role of books in his life and observed that Mahabharata and Ramayana were two greatest influences on his life. He also mentioned Brajkishore Verma's 'Manipadma' and Vinod Bihari Verma's books and informed the participants that there were about 85 books in his list which he treasured in addition to science and science related titles. He also briefly spoke about his scientific works.

SEMINAR ON 'DEVELOPMENT AND TRADITION OF MAITHILI GEET KAVYA'

September 20-21, 2014, Darbhanga

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in collaboration with MRM College, Darbhanga, organized a two day seminar on 'Development and Tradition of Maithili Geet Kavya' on September 20-21, 2014 at Darbhanga.

In the inaugural session, Dr Devendrakumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and the audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi. Dr Ramdeo Jha chaired the session, Dr Saket Kushwaha, Vice Chancellor, LNM University, Darbhanga delivered the inaugural address, Dr Bina Thakur, Convener, Maithili Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, delivered introductory speech, Sri Tarakant Jha delivered a keynote address and Dr Vidyanath Jha, Principal, MRM College proposed a vote of thanks. Dr Bina Thakur's Maithili translation of 'Haat-Bajar,' a Bengali novel by Banphool and published by Sahitya Akademi was released during the session by Dr Saket Kushwaha. In the four academic sessions that were chaired by Dr Devkant Jha, Dr Indra Kant Jha, Sri Yoganand Jha and Sri Panchanan Mishra, twelve noted scholars, Sri Phoolchandra Mishra 'Raman', Dr Amarnath Jha, Dr Ashok Mehta, Dr Asha Mishra, Dr Neeta Jha, Dr Daman Kumar Jha, Dr Kamla Chaudhary, Dr Preeti Jha, Dr Shankar Deo Jha, Dr Raman Jha, Dr Mahendra Narain Ram and Dr. Muralidhar Jha presented papers covering different aspects of Maithili Geet Kavya. Dr Narayan Jha, Dr. Srishankar Jha, Dr Manzar Suleman and Dr Usha Chaudhary also shared their views as discussants during the sessions. Valedictory session was chaired by Dr Rupnarain Chaudhary and valedictory address was delivered by Dr Dharendra Nath Mishra.



Academic session in progress

SYMPOSIUM ON RAJASTHANI ASSAYS

September 25, 2014, Sridungargarh

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with Rashtrabhasha Hindi Prachar Samiti, organized a symposium on September 25, 2014 at Sridungargarh.

In the inaugural session, Sri Santanu Gangopadhyay, Assistant Editor, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and the audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi to promote literature all over India. The session was chaired by Dr Arjundeo Charan,

Convener, Rajasthani Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, and he defined an essayist to Shatavadhani, as equivalent to a person who has control of one hundred horses. Prof Jahoor Khan Mehar, noted Rajasthani essayist, delivered the keynote address and talked about essay as a genre. In the two academic sessions that were chaired by Dr Madan Saini and Dr Chetan Swami, six noted scholars, Dr Mangat Badal, Dr Namamishankar Acharya, Dr Gajadan Charan 'Shaktisuta', Dr Arjun Singh Ujjval[Sri Girdharidan Itanu and Sri Shankar Singh Rajpurohit, presented their papers covering various aspects of the evolution of essay in Rajasthani literature. The valedictory session was chaired by Sri Shyam Maharshi, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi and the valedictory address was delivered by Dr Kiran Nahta.



SYMPOSIUM ON NEPALI TRANSLATION

September 26, 2014, Mirik, West Bengal

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in collaboration with Sahitya Sunaun Parivar, Mirik, organized a symposium on 'Nepali Translation' on September 26, 2014 at Mirik, West Bengal.

In the inaugural session, Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and guests and spoke briefly about Akademi's initiatives in the field of literary translations. Smt. Kamla Rai chaired the session, Sri Sachin Rai delivered inaugural address, Sri Prem Pradhan, Convener, Nepali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the introductory speech, Sri Rajbahadur Rai, distinguished Nepali writer, delivered the keynote address and Sri Satish Rasaili was the chief guest and he talked at length about Nepali translations. Sri Madhav Buhathoki, Convener, Sahitya Sunaun Parivar, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the only academic session that was chaired by Sri Yajn Nidhi Dhakal, three noted Nepali scholars, Sri Jeevan Rana, Sri Yuvraj Kafley and Smt. Srijana Subba, presented papers on 'Translations of Poetry in Nepali', 'Translations of Prose in Nepali' and 'Challenges of Nepali Translations from other languages' respectively.

KATHASANDHI

September 26, 2014, Mirik, West Bengal

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in collaboration with Sahitya Sunaun Parivar, Mirik, organized a 'Kathasandhi' programme with the well-known Nepali fiction writer Sri Dhanveer Puri on September 26, 2014 at Mirik. Sri Dhanveer Puri read three short stories, 'Sanchmaanlaai Sancho Chhain,' 'Saanchdai Sapnaharu' and 'Mukti Unmukti' focusing on tea garden life, freedom fighting and folk tale respectively.

NEPALI POETS' MEET

September 26, 2014, Mirik, West Bengal

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in collaboration with Sahitya Sunaun Parivar, Mirik, organized a Nepali Poets' Meet on September 26, 2014 at Mirik, West Bengal. Smt. Sheela Lama chaired the meet and seven noted Nepali poets, Sri Ganesh Baraili, Sri Amar Dungmali, Sri Ranjeet Gurung, Sri Arunchandra Kulung, Sri Roshan Rai, Sri Sabeer Dilpali and Sri Shanta Kumar Rai, recited their poems based on day to day life.

LITERARY FORUM

September 26, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a literary forum programme of reading session with four noted satirists, Prem Janamejay, Sushil Siddharth, Ravindra Tripathi and Rekha Vyas on September 26, 2014 at Sahitya Akademi premises in New Delhi. Rekha Vyas initiated the proceedings with the readings from three of her short works and was followed by Ravindra Tripathi, who read from 'Beautiful history of Parliament' and 'Era of Surveys.' Sushil Siddharth read from 'What a sorrow?' and 'Who am I?' and the final participant Prem Janamejay also read from two works. Noted writer Purushotam Aggarwal summed up and evaluated the readings and spoke briefly about the genre of satire in Hindi literature. The participants thanked the Akademi for organizing a meet and hoped that Akademi will organize a national level seminar on satire works. Several eminent writers and scholars participated in the event. The forum was coordinated by Sri Brajendra Tripathi, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi.

CONVENTION ON KUMAONI LANGUAGE

September 27-28, 2014, Almora

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in collaboration with the Department of Hindi, Kumaon University and Kumaoni Bhasha, Sahitya evam Sanskriti Prachar Samiti, Almora, organized a two day convention on Kumaoni language on 27th and 28th of September at Seminar Hall, Visual Art Faculty, Kumaon University, Almora.

In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and scholars and said the purpose of the convention was to deliberate upon the past, present and future of Kumaoni language. He announced that Sahitya Akademi intends to incorporate Kumaoni language into the fold of minor languages for which Bhasha Samman and briefly explained about the nature and scope of Bhasha Samman. Sri R.S. Pathni, Director, Kumaoni University Campus, Almora, in his inaugural address appreciated the initiative of the Akademi in organizing the convention and hoped this would go a long way in enriching Kumaoni literature. Dr Sher Singh Bisht, in his keynote address, spoke at length about the rich heritage of kumaoni language, oral traditions and published works. Ms. Renu Mohan



Bhan, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the convention spread over seven sessions, scholars, writers and poets like Smt. Chandrakala Ravat, Sri Bhawanidutt Kandpal, Smt. Daya Pant, Smt. Diva Bhatt, Smt. Neeraja Tondon, Sri Lalit Joshi, and Smt. Deepa Gobadi presented papers covering, Kumaoni language, dialects, Kumaoni prose, fiction, poetry, journalism, oral traditions and folk literature. Kumaoni cultural programmes comprising folk songs and dances were also performed during the convention. There was a poets' meet too and 12 poets recited their poems in Kumaoni. Ms. Manjeet Kaur Bhatia, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM

ON NEPALI CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

September 28, 2014, Gangtok

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in collaboration with the Sikkim Akademi, organized a symposium on 'Nepali Children's Literature' on September 28, 2014 at Gangtok, Sikkim.

In the inaugural session, Dr Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and guests and spoke briefly about various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi to preserve and promote Children's literature across the country. Padmashri Sanu Lama chaired the session, Sri Pempa Tamang, President, Sikkim Akademi, delivered the inaugural speech, Sri Rudra Paudyal was the chief guest, Sri Prem Pradhan, Convener, Nepali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the introductory speech and keynote address was delivered by Dr. Pratapchandra Pradhan, Dean, Sikkim University. Dr. Pratapchandra Pradhan talked about problems in writing children's literature and challenges faced by Nepali literary community. Sri Pradhuma Shrestha, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the only academic session that was chaired by Dr. Shanti Chhetri, three noted scholars, Sri Bhim Pradhan, Dr. Kavita Lama and Smt. Snehlata Rai, presented their papers focusing on current status of and problems faced by writers of Nepali Children's literature. Sri Parasmani Dungel, President, Nepali Sahitya Parishad, Sikkim, coordinated the programme and also proposed a vote of thanks.

NEPALI POETS' MEET

September 28, 2014, Gangtok

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in collaboration with the Sikkim Akademi, organized a Nepali Poets' Meet on September 28, 2014 at Gangtok, Sikkim. Sri Gobardhan Bastol chaired the meet and seven noted Nepali poets, Sri Ambar Banaya Lahoro, Sri Arjun Piyush, Sri Yuvaraj Ghaley, Smt. Mina Subba, Sri Adarsh Milan Pradhan, Sri Yuva Baral Anant and Ms. Deepa Rai recited their poems. The poems focused on rural life, empowering the downtrodden, patriotism and natural beauty.

URDU POETRY READING

September 28, 2014, Bhopal



(L-R) Azim Gurinder Singh Kohli, Zafar Sahbai, Chander Bhan Khayal, Kausar Siddiqui and Mushtaq Sadaf

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, organized a poetry reading session of Urdu poets on September 28, 2014 at Hindi Bhavan, Bhopal. Dr Mushtaq Sadaf, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and the audience and briefly explained the nature of poetry reading programmes organized by Sahitya Akademi all over the country. Sri Chander Bhan Khayal, Convener, Urdu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the programme and nine noted poets, Zafar Sahbayi (Bhopal), Kausar Siddiqui (Bhopal), Anjum Bara Bakvi (Bhopal), Aazam Gurvinder Singh Kohli (Delhi), Naim Rashid (Burhanpur), Javed Arshi (Indore), Sheikh Nizami (Jabalpur), AtulAjnabi (Gwalior), Surya Bali Suraj (Bhopal), recited their latest poems.



Mr. Naim Kausar speaking about Taj Bhopali

THROUGH MY WINDOW

September 28, 2014, Bhopal

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, organized a 'Through My Window' programme with noted fiction writer and journalist, Sri Naim Kausar. Sri Kausar spoke about the life and works of eminent Urdu poet, scholar and lyricist, Mohd. Ali Taj Bhopali on September 28, 2014 at Hindi Bhavan, Bhopal. Dr Mushtaq Sadaf, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the guest and the audience and briefly explained the nature of the programme. Sri Naim Kausar talked about the birth, early childhood and the four works of Mohd. Ali Taj Bhopali, 'Khema-e Gul,' 'SurajNuma,' 'Nai Geetanjali and Aasman Roshan Hua. Mr Naim Kausar said the Taj's poetry was a voice of poor and the oppressed and described Taj Bhopali as a progressive poet. Mr Naim Kausar also highlighted Mohd. Taj Bhopali's lyrics in films and recalled the words of Jan Nisar Akhtar who wrote a preface to Taj Bhopali's first poetry collection and prophesied that Taj Bhopali will become great poet. Sri Chander Bhan Khayal, Convener, Urdu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, spoke briefly about the literary contributions of Mohd. Ali Taj Bhopali and thanked Sri Naim Kausar for accepting Akademi's invitation to speak on Taj Bhopali.

KAVISANDHI

September 30, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a 'Kavisandhi' programme with the eminent poet, critic, translator and writer, Sri Giridhar Rathi on September 30, 2014 at the Akademi conference hall in New Delhi. Sri Rathi, who has done yeomen service to the cause of Hindi literature through his celebrated translations of world classics and also from other Indian languages into Hindi, spoke briefly about his life, his passion for poetry and his non-poetry works. He recited poems from his latest works and the programme was well attended by scores of poetry lovers, writers and scholars from in and around Delhi.

SYMPOSIUM AND POETS' MEET

ON SWACHH BHARAT

October 1, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a symposium and poets' meet on Government of India's Swachh Bharat initiative on October 1, 2014 at the Akademi auditorium in New Delhi.

Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and the guests for the symposium and spoke briefly about the presence of environmental concerns in ancient and medieval literature in almost all the languages of India. He quoted anecdote from Sangam literature and the works of Kalidasa and Valmiki. Sri Anupam Mishra, veteran environmentalist and author was the Chief Guest at the Symposium and spoke at length about the dangers of neglecting environment. He observed that the deteriorating relationship between people and nature is primarily due to lack of concern and absence of value systems that can be traced in scores of vernacular literature of India. Prof. K. Satchidanandan, eminent author and poet and former Secretary of the Akademi chaired the session and spoke at length about the presence of Nature in the writings of poetry in both modern and post-modern literature of the world. He observed that literature reflects the reality and absence of Nature in literature is just a reflection of massive apathy of humans towards nature and environment. Sri Bindeshwar Pathak, founder of Sulabh Internation and Guest of Honor, spoke briefly about the origin of Sulabh and various initiatives of the organization towards Swachh Bharat. Noted writers Anamika and Apoorvanand also spoke on the occasion. At the poets' meet, five noted poets, Manglesh Dabral, H.K. Kaul, Subroto Bondo, Som Dutt Sharma and Mohanjit, recited poems revolving around the theme of people and nature.



SYMPOSIUM ON 'CHILDREN'S LITERATURE IN PUNJABI'

October 5, 2014, Barnala

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in collaboration with Komantri Punjabi Ilam, organized a symposium on 'Children's Literature in Punjabi' on October 5, 2014, at Seminar Hall, Gobind Bansal Charitable Trust, Barnala, Punjab.

In the inaugural session, Ms. Manjeet Kaur Bhatia, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and guests and briefly outlined various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi in promoting Children's literature in 24 languages and throughout the country. Dr Rawail Singh, Convener, Punjabi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his introductory address, talked at length about the present scenario and future possibilities of Punjabi Children literature and also about the challenges before the writers of Children's literature in Punjabi. Dr Deepak Manmohan Singh, in his Presidential address remarked that since many writers are coming forward of late to write children's literature in Punjabi, the future of Punjabi Children's writing looks bright though they must cope with the ever changing scenario and try also to adapt from other languages.

In the first session chaired by Col. Jasbir Bhullar, two noted scholars, Dr Sarabjit Bedi Ms. Jaskanwaljit Kaur presented papers. In the second session that was chaired by Dr Darshan Bhutter, four noted scholars, Darshan Singh Ast, Sri Manmohan Singh Doun, Kamaljit Neelon and Sri Tarsem read from their works. A large number of writers and scholars participated in the programme.

SAHITYA AKADEMI AT FRANKFURT BOOK FAIR

October 8-12, 2014, Frankfurt



Akademi delegation at Frankfurt Book Fair

Sahitya Akademi participated in the Frankfurt International Book Fair from October 8-12, 2014 at Frankfurt on the invitation from National Book Trust, India.

The Akademi delegation was led by Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, which also comprised Ms. Renu Mohan Bhan, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi and the noted writers, Dr Gourhari Das, Sri K.P. Ramanunni, Sri Damodar Mauzo and Sri Balram Prem Narain.

For the inauguration of India pavilion Dr K. Sreenivasarao and Ms. Renu

Mohan Bhan joined Mr. Raveesh Kumar, Consul General, Indian Embassy, Frankfurt, Dr Sadhana Rout, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Ms. Rolly Mahindra Verma, Director, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Ms. Nidhi Pandey, Director, Publication Division, Govt. of India, Sri A. K. Paul, Business Executive, Publication Division, Sri Debabrata Sarkar, Deputy Director (Art), National Book Trust, India, Sri Ramesh Mittal, Capexil and Sri Suresh Chandra, HRD Ministry, Govt. of India.

The Akademi has been participating in International fairs, including Frankfurt and organizing series of literary exchange programmes in order to promote its flagship programme, Indian Literature Abroad. The Akademi had a number of fruitful meetings with International publishers with interest in Indian literature during the Frankfurt Fair. The Akademi also arranged a daylong reading of papers and poetry by the writers of the delegation. Two of them, Sri Damodar Mauzo and Sri K.P. Ramanunni also released their works during the Fair.



MEET THE AUTHOR

October 10, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a 'Meet the Author' programme with eminent Sindhi linguist and writer, Sri Murlidhar Jetley on October 10, 2014 at the Akademi auditorium in New Delhi. Sri Murlidhar Jetley, who has more than 20 titles to his credit including history of literature, linguistics, criticism and has been decorated a number of honors, thanked the Akademi for the opportunity given. He spoke about his early life, trauma of partition, his passion for Sindhi language, troubles he faced in tracing the roots, his works and influences on his writing. He shed light on the current scenario of Sindhi language in general and literature in particular. Writers of Sindhyat, members of local Sindhi bodies, noted writers and scholars participated in large numbers. A brief interactive session followed and all the writers and scholars actively participated in the session.

LITERARY FORUM

October 16, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a literary forum featuring a play reading by eminent Hindi writer, playwright, poet and critic, Dr. Nandkishore Acharya on October 16, 2014 at the Akademi conference hall in New Delhi. Dr. Nandkishore Acharya who shot into fame with his celebrated "Ajneya ki Kaavya Titirsha" has more than 25 titles to his credit including poetry collections, plays, criticism and translations and he read out one of his plays to large number of writers, scholars, playwrights and poets who attended the event. A brief interactive session followed and the audience actively participated in the session.

SEMINAR

ON '100 YEARS OF PUNJABI THEATRE'

October 16-17, 2014, Patiala

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi and the Department of Theatre and Television, Punjabi University, Patiala, organized a two day seminar to commemorate the centenary of Punjabi theatre on October 16th and 17th, 2014 at Patiala University.

In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the participants and guests and talked at length about the evolution of Punjabi theatre over past 100 years, the challenges they faced and

possible avenues for future growth. Dr Jaspal Singh, Vice Chancellor, Punjabi University, in his address talked about the creative medium of theatre and announced the creation of Fellowship in the name of Norah Richards, a pioneer in Punjabi theatre, to be conferred on best theatre artist of Punjab every year. Dr Rawail Singh, Convener, Punjabi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, explained the purpose and objective of the seminar. Dr Mohinder Kumar, in his keynote address, recalled the contributions of stalwarts of yesteryears in Punjabi theatre and thanked the Akademi for organizing a timely seminar in this regard.

In the first session that was chaired by Ajmer Singh Aulakh, five noted theatre experts, Navnidra Behl, Kamlesh Uppal, Gurcharan Singh Channi, Jaspal Deol and Pritam Singh Rupal presented papers covering various facets of Punjabi theatre. In the evening a play by students of the department was staged. In the first session of the second day that was chaired by Sri Kamlesh Uppal, six theatre experts, Ravi Sharma, Navdeep Kaur, Mukesh Gautam, Manpal Tiwana, Amrik Gill and Sunita Dhir presented papers. In the valedictory session that was chaired by Sri Deepak Manmohan Singh, three scholars, Jaspal Kaur Deol, Dr Jaspal Singh, and Amrik Gill spoke. Ms. Manjeet Kaur Bhatia, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

MEET THE AUTHOR

October 17, 2014, Shillong

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with the Department of English, NEHU, organized a 'Meet the Author' programme with eminent writer Temsula Ao in Shillong on October 17, 2014.

Ms. Gitanjali Chatterjee, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, introduced Prof Temsula Ao to the audience and spoke briefly about the life, works and legacy of Temsula Ao. Prof Ao talked briefly about her early life and her education. She informed the audience that it is her teaching foreign literature brought her close to her roots and said her identity is an acceptance of the world that she had accidentally stepped into, but would not trade that for anything else in the world. She talked about the world of varying yardsticks, attempts to define oneself in that map, inextricable relationship between language and culture and how often they mirror each other, paradoxical and reflective qualities of any given language and how language helps bridge various traditions. Prof Ao recited a poem she penned during the 9th poetry festival in Argenita, 'Forgive Me' and a brief interactive session followed her lecture.



LITERARY FORUM

October 17, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a story reading session with three noted fiction writers, Premchand Sahajwala, Ashok Gupta and Vivek Mishra on October 17, 2014 at Sahitya Akademi premises in New Delhi. Vivek Mishra's story, narrated through an aspiring mother, relives the compassion for fellow beings; Ashok Gupta's two mini stories revolved around fantasy and human loneliness and Premchand Sahajwala's lengthy story traced the travails of a family aspiring to make their son an engineer. Noted writer Sanjeev summed up and evaluated the readings. Noted writer Archana Varma also offered her comments. Many scholars and writers participated in the event. The reading session was coordinated by Sri Brajendra Tripathi, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi.

'MULAKAT' AND 'MEET THE AUTHOR'

October 18, 2014, Jammu

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, organized two Dogri literary events, 'Mulakat' and 'Meet the Author,' in Jammu on October 18, 2014.



(L-R) Padam Dev Nadan, Tara Chand Kalandri, Saroj Bala, Lalit Mangotra and Mohd. Rafiq Rafiq

Sri Santanu Gangopadhyay, Assistant Editor, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants of both the programmes, introduce them to the audience and spoke briefly about the platforms of the day and also about the forthcoming events lined up for Dogri. Prof. Lalit Magotra, in his inaugural speech

spoke about necessity of the platforms like the ones where participants are participating, especially for languages like Dogri and also spoke about the contributions of Sri Prakash Premi.

'Mulakat' is a platform for the young, upcoming and aspiring writers in all the languages and regions of the country to express themselves and present their literary works to the audience. Five Dogri young writers and poets participated in the programme. Saroj Bala read her short story while four upcoming poets, Tara Chand Kalandri, Ashok Amber, Mohd. Rafiq Rafiq and Padam Dev Nadaan recited their poems. Noted writers, critics and scholars of Dogri literature participated in the event.

'Meet the Author' is the platform where eminent authors. Poets and playwrights speak about their lives, works and influences on their writings with the audience. Sri Prakash Premi, eminent Dogri poet, recited poems from his works, spoke briefly about his early life, works and the influences on his poetry. Sri Premi delighted the audience with poems of rhythm, beauty and elegance. A brief interactive session followed the recitation. Sri Santanu Gangopadhyay proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM AND KAVISANDHI

October 19, Jammu

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, organized two literary events, a Symposium on legendary Dogri writer and scholar, Sri Shivnath and a Kavisandhi programme with Prof. Champa Sharma on October 19, 2014 at Jammu.

In the inaugural session, Sri Santanu Gangopadhyay, Assistant Editor, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the audience and the participants and spoke briefly about the legacy of late Shivnath. Prof Lalit Magotra, Convener, Dogri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his inaugural speech, talked at length about significant contributions of Sri

Shivnath to Dogri literature. Shiv Nath, eminent writer, critic, literary historian and an accomplished scholar, has contributed immensely to Dogri Literature. His pioneering work on Dogri Literature is a bench-mark for future scholars and researchers. His personal essays and memoirs are very popular and are relished not only by Dogri readers but others also.

In the paper reading sessions that were chaired by Prof. Nilambar Dev Sharma and Nar Singh Dev Jamwal, four scholars, Prof Veena Gupta, Dr. Om Goswami, Dr. Bansi Lai and Dr. Nirmal Vinod presented papers covering life and various aspects of Sri Shivnath's writings.

Prof Champa Sharma, noted Dogri writer and poet, with whom Kavisandhi was held in the evening, recited a number of poems from her works betraying feminist sensibilities and the role of women in building societies and also talked at length about her writing process.

BOOK RELEASE

October 21, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a function to mark the release of Collected Works of Shantipriya Dwivedi edited by Kamal Kumar and a discussion on the book at New Delhi on October 21, 2014. Sri Vishwanath Tripathi, Sri Prabhakar Shrotriya, Sri Krishnadatta Paliwal and Kamal Kumar participated in the discussion. Sri Paliwal focused on the romanticism in Shantipriya Dwivedi's works, Sri Prabhakar Shrotriya talked about conflicts between man and nature in Shantipriya Dwivedi's works, Sri Vishwanath Tripathi talked about rhythm of prose in the Collected Works and Sri Kamal Kumar shared his experiences of editing the volume. Eminent scholars like Dayaprakash Sinha, Saumitri Mohan, Ranjit Saha, Virender Saxena and Renu Pant participated in the discussion. The function was coordinated by Sri Brajendra Tripathi, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi.



SYMPOSIUM ON KHWAJA AHMAD ABBAS

October 24, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi, to commemorate the birth centenary of Khwaja Ahmad Abbas, eminent Urdu writer, organized a symposium at Sahitya Akademi conference hall in New Delhi on October 24, 2014.

Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and talked briefly about Khwaja Ahmad Abbas' contribution to various genres of Urdu literature. Prof Gopi Chand Narang, Fellow, Sahitya Akademi, in his Presidential speech, said that Khwaja Ahmad Abbas was a multi-faceted scholar, writer, journalist and film script writer and we should make all efforts to remember and preserve his writings that were hallmark of secularism. Prof Syed Ehtesham Hasnain, former Vice Chancellor of Hyderabad Central University, who was the Chief Guest of the evening, described Khwaja Ahmad Abbas as a visionary, socialist, writer par excellence and a journalist committed to secularism. During the symposium, a monograph on Khwaja Ahmad Abbas, written by Khalid Ashraf was released.

In the paper reading session, five noted Urdu scholars, Dr Zoya Zaidi, Musharraf Alam Zauqi, Dr Khalid Ashra, Suresh Kohli and Dr Sohail Anjum, presented papers covering Khwaja Ahmad Abbas' short stories, Abbas' fiction writing, life and works of Abbas, Abbas' film writing and Abbas' journalism, respectively. Sri Chander Bhan Khayal, Convener, Urdu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks and Dr Mushtaque Sadaf, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, coordinated the programme.

SYMPOSIUM ON 'INDIA AND RUSSIA: LITERARY EXCHANGES AND INFLUENCES'

October 30, 2014, Moscow

On the first day of the Writers' Delegation of Sahitya Akademi to Russia as part of the Cultural Exchange Programme, the Indian Embassy arranged a symposium at the MGIMO, Moscow. The theme of discussion was "India and Russia: Literary Exchanges and Influences". The delegation was warmly welcomed by Dr Elena Gladkova, Head of the Indo-Iranian and African languages Chair and attended by members of the faculty- Dr Klara Drukyova, Dr Alexander Sigorsky, Dr Marina



Akademi delegation at Moscow

Alexandrova and Dr Yulia Golubkina, enthusiastic students and research scholars. Dr Gladkova felt exchanges like these and hearing first-hand from scholars and writers of India would add a new dimension to the understanding of the country for the students. In his opening remarks, Dr K Sreenivasa Rao, Secretary Sahitya Akademi mentioned that the visit was being planned and coordinated for almost a year between the Akademi and the Indian Embassy in Russia and stressed the need for reigniting the cultural ties between the two friendly countries. The cultural association between India and



Russia, he noted, dates back to several centuries and post Indian Independence these ties only got stronger. He spoke of the multi-lingual nature of India and how the writers' delegation too reflected this very plurality that India prides in.

Prof Varyam Singh, who has been pioneering scholar and researcher on Indo-Russian studies spoke prolifically in Russian, succinctly tracing the entire history of this association between the two countries and the eagerness with which several texts and literary works in Indian languages, as also subaltern voices of Dalit writing had been translated into Russian. He also recounted his own experiences at the Jawaharlal Nehru University where he was part of the Russian Studies Department. Indology studies in Russia are characterized by the holistic perspective to India embracing her history, economics, literature, arts, linguistics and culture. It is noteworthy that the study of Sanskrit has always caught the attention of Russian scholars and right from the late 18th Century, Kalidasa's works, the Epics of Ramayana and Mahabharata and the Gita were translated to Russian. It was hence apt that the next speaker, the renowned Sanskrit scholar, Prof Radhavallabh Tripathi took to stage and reminisced about these influences and exchanges. As early as in 1851, the Chair of Sanskrit was established in Moscow University and in St. Petersburg in 1855. Prof Tripathi spoke about the many scholars who have contributed to the growth and study of Sanskrit in Russia and his own association with all of them. Odia poet Dr Paramita Tripathi then spoke about her childhood memories related to Russia and its language and culture. She recalled having easy access to works of several writers of Russia like Tolstoy and Gorky, the letters of Rabindranath Tagore from Russia and the exchanges between Mahatma Gandhi and Tolstoy which showed how deeply the latter understood the problems of the Indian people struggling for freedom then. The influence of Bollywood and Raj Kapoor films too was stressed on by Dr. Tripathi. Speaking from his personal experiences related to Russia, English author and historian, Dr. Vikram Sampath mentioned two individuals who shaped his understanding of Russia- eminent painter Svetoslav Roerich and Kathak exponent Dr. Maya Rao who spent 2 years in Moscow to learn Russian ballet. He also spoke about the genre of Indian Writing in English, which unlike Indian language traditions dating back several centuries, is about 150 years old. While its writers have a wider reach and market, they have few cultural registers to draw from.

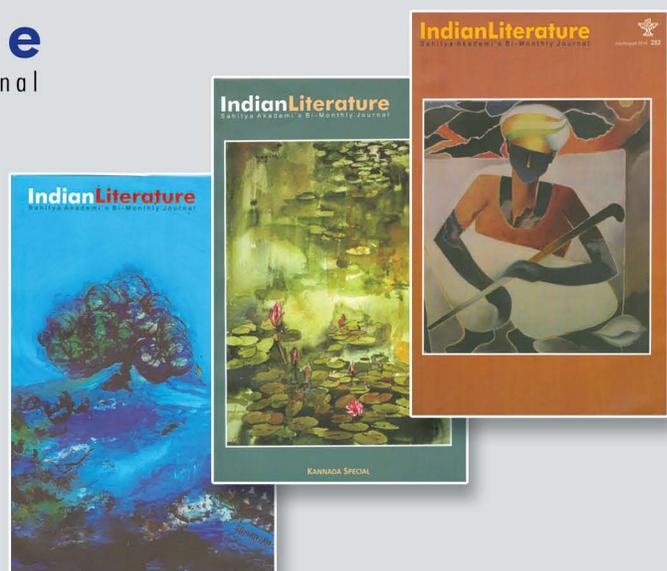
Mr. Rahul Shrivastava, Counsellor (PIC) delivered the vote of thanks. During the visit, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi also held a wide ranging meetings with publishers of Russia to promote modern Indian classics in Russian language under Akademi's flagship programme, Indian Literature Abroad (ILA).

Indian Literature

Sahitya Akademi's Bi-Monthly Literary Journal

Indian Literature, India's first and premier literary journal in English, publishes original writing in English and English translations of creative writing from 24 Indian Languages, scores of minor languages and dialects. Indian Literature is the only English literary journal in the world which publishes translations from so many tongues. Indian Literature publishes Novels, Short Stories, Poems, Plays, Critical Essays, Interviews, Dalit Literature, Oral Traditions, Folktales and Book Reviews. We appreciate your keen interest in Literature and we request you to associate with Sahitya Akademi by subscribing to "Indian Literature".

Subscription rates for the journal are
Rs. 250 for one year and **Rs. 650** for 3 years.





BHASHA SAMMAN

October 5, 2014, Thiruvananthapuram



Bhasha Samman awardees with the President and Secretary of Sahitya Akademi and the Chief Guest, Smt. Sugatha kumari

Ramachandran and Sumerchand Kesarichand Jain. Vishwanath Tripathi was conferred the Samman for his contributions to medieval Bhakti poetry. Bhasha Samman for the category of minor languages and dialects was conferred on Mahadeo Savji Andher (Posthumous) for his effort to preserve literary heritage of Warli language, on Motiraj Bhajnu Rathod and Ramchander Ramesh Arya for their contributions to Banjara / Lambadi language and on B. Lalthangliana for his contribution to Mizo language.

Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the awardees and the scholars assembled and briefly enumerated the efforts of the Akademi in preserving and promoting literature contained in all the major and minor languages of India, including numerous dialects. He praised the efforts of all the award winners for this year for their stupendous contributions to the minor languages and dialects.

Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari conferred the awards that comprised a cash prize of Rs. 1 lakh and a plaque. Dr Tiwari spoke about the relevance of preserving the literature contained in scores of dialects as they symbolize the hoar philosophies handed down from the remote past and carry relevance for all ages. He also said in his Presidential address that all the awardees of 2014 are gurus and all are worthy of the honor they have received.

Smt Sugathakumari, eminent poet and activist who was the chief guest of the evening spoke about how confluence of rich and diverse languages along with numerous customs, mores and rites that make up the soul of the nation. She said Sahitya Akademi should be saluted for encouraging and promoting literature even in minor languages, the Akademi is doing a great service to the nation as a whole. She also thanked the Akademi for choosing Thiruvananthapuram as a venue for presenting these awards.

Receiving the award, Puthusseri Ramachandran said he was very happy for this recognition and award by the Akademi but felt more research and studies are needed into medieval literature especially in Malayalam. Ramchander Ramesh Arya talked about how languages can be compared to a bouquet with different flowers and thanked the Akademi for its efforts in this direction. Lalthangliana said he was very excited to receive the award as this is a signal that not all have forgotten the tribal languages. Sri Mahadeo Savji Andher's son received the award on behalf of his father while Vishwanath Tripathi and Sumerchand Kesarichand could not attend the function due to ill health.

Sri C. Radhakrishnan, Convener, Malayalam Advisory Board proposed a vote of thanks. The event was well attended by more than three hundred scholars from all over Kerala and both print and electronic media covered the function prominently.



TRIBUTE

TO U.R. ANANTHAMURTHY

September 2, 2014 Bengaluru

Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru organized a Literary Forum “A Tribute to U.R. Ananthamurthy” on September 2, 2014 at the Senate Hall, Central College Campus, Bengaluru. Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the scholars and writers assembled to pay homage to one of the giants of modern Kannada literature and spoke about his personal experiences with the celebrated writer during his tenure as the Akademi President. Dr Chandrasekhara Kambar, Vice President, Sahitya



Dr Chandrasekhara Kambar, Vice President, Sahitya Akademi, Dr Narahalli Balasubramanya, Convener - Kannada Advisory Board and Dr L.Hanumanthaiah paying floral tributes to U.R.ananthamurthy

Akademi presided over the programme and spoke about the great qualities of Prof Ananthamurthy that made him one of the foremost modernist thinkers of India. He said Prof Ananthamurthy always upheld rationalistic views and also helped numerous young writers during his long and illustrious career. Dr Kambar also said along with Adiga, Prof Ananthamurthy was one of the forerunners of Navya movement. Dr. C.N.Ramachandran, Sri N.S.Lakshminarayana Bhatta, Sri G.K.Govinda Rao, Sri H.S.Venkatesha Murthy, Sri L. Hanumanthaiah, Sri Vivek Shanbhag, Sri Manu Chakravarthy, Dr.M.S.Ashadevi, Sri N.A.M.Ismail and Dr Narahalli Balasubramanya were also present in the programme and shared their experiences with Prof. U.R. Ananthamurthy. Sri Vivek Shanbhag while speaking on the occasion recalled many incidents and shared some qualities of Prof Ananthamurthy that are virtually unknown to the public. He also said anyone who would go to meet Prof Ananthamurthy would never empty handed, for they always gain something or the other in one's interactions with him. M.S. Ashadevi, noted writer and critic, N.S. Lakshminarayana Bhat, noted poet and C.N. Ramachandran, noted writer and critic shared some interesting anecdotes from their experiences with Prof Ananthamurthy. A documentary film on U.R. Ananthamurthy, directed by Krishna Masadi and produced by the Sahitya Akademi, was screened on the occasion.

SEMINAR

ON INDIAN LANGUAGES IN
SCHOOL EDUCATION

6th and 7th September 2014, Bengaluru

Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in collaboration with Kuvempu Bhasha Bharati Pradhikara, organized a two day seminar on ‘Indian Languages in School Education’ on 6th and 7th of September, 2014 at Nayana Sabhangana, Bengaluru.

The seminar was inaugurated by Dr Chandrasekhara Kambar, Vice President, Sahitya Akademi and in his inaugural address Dr Kambar felt that government should step in urgently to stem the loss of languages and dialects in the rapidly changing modern societies and especially in the wake of recent Supreme Court ruling on the language of education. Dr K.V. Narayana, President, Kuvempu Bhasha Bharati Pradhikara while speaking on the occasion called for urgent revamp of the present system of imparting of education and said variety of languages and they are in hundreds, are not being represented in the education system at all. Dr Debi Prasanna Patnaik, Prof Ganesh N Devi, Prof N. Gopi and Prof K. Nachimuthu, speaking in the inaugural session called upon the government to adopt scientific methods to ensure the survival of Indian languages.

In the first academic session that was chaired by Prof O.L. Nagabhushana, Prof Annamalai, Prof Ushadevi and Prof Joseph Koipally presented their papers. In the second academic session that was chaired by Sri Bharat Inamdhar, Prof Joga Singh, Prof Kanji Patel, Prof Chandraprakash Deval, Prof O.N. Kaul and Dr Rajesh Sachdeva presented their papers. In the third academic session that was chaired by Dr Nataraj Hulyar, Dr Balram Pande, Prof Prashant Nayak, Prof Vasdev Mohi and Dr K. Sethuraman presented their papers. In the fourth academic session that was chaired by Prof C. Naganna, Dr Mahabaleshwara Rao, Prof B. Mallikarjun and Dr Meti Mallikaruna presented their papers. Dr Narahalli Balasubramanya, Convener, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi and Sri K.A. Dayanand, Director, Kannada and Culture Department, Government of Karnataka spoke at the valedictory session that was chaired by Sri C. Radhakrishnan, Convener, Malayalam Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi.





SYMPOSIUM ON 'NEW HARVEST IN KANNADA LITERATURE'

September 20, 2014, Mangalore

Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with Besant Women's College, Mangalore, organized a one-day symposium on 'New Harvest in Kannada Literature' at the college on September 20, 2014.



Sri Vivek Rai delivering inaugural address

Sri K.P. Radhakrishnan, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi Regional Office at Bengaluru, welcomed the participants, the scholars, the staff and students of the College. Dr B.A. Vivek Rai, noted Kannada scholar inaugurated the symposium and spoke at length about the role of technology in literature and forms of literature. He took the example of blog writing to analyze and elaborate the topic. Though blogs started off as medium for those who did not find enough or sufficient opportunities in the mainstream media, soon it turned into the medium for all to express themselves including those who are already in the mainstream media. Though initially the blogs served as tools at the hands of political parties, it also helped to promote creative works and to share personal lives in due course. The advancement of blogs and social media has also resulted in what we can call as Badugalillada Holagalu ('Farm without separating wedges'). Dr Rai spoke about how this is not a new literary form and gave the examples of Bharata, Champu Kavya, Ragale etc and felt that this form collage can be traced in modern Kannada novels of Purnachandra Tejaswi. Dr Rai then delved into negative aspects of use of technology and called for self-regulation as a most suitable method to deal with such negativity. Dr Rai also talked about the presence of multiple ideas, collision of ideas and combinatorial explosion of ideas and gave examples to deal with each of them. He called for traditional literary forms to embrace the new tools towards making literature without barriers and the world without borders in a true sense. Confluence of forms and

expressions need not result in combinatorial explosion nor lead to sensibilities sans morality. Dr Narahalli Balasubramanya, Convener, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi thanked the college for agreeing to collaborate and organize the symposium. He listed out various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi and then pointed out the selfless nature of the Akademi which has not been indulging in profit making even in the present and rapidly changing society. Dr Narahalli Balasubramanya also pointed out that in the ever changing world, literature too has to adopt, for, archaic language cannot express modern sentiments. But, he felt changes are not easily accepted in the world and gave the example of how even Kuvempu did not accept Basava as a poet but only as a social reformer. He said in his opinion Basava Vachanas are typical examples of seamless literary forms and the emergence of such literary form without any surprise met with non-acceptance. He said literature cannot be written keeping in mind theories of literature. All literature is the reflection of experiences of life and the latter provides the basis for the former. So, changes in the environment have to be positively perceived, understood and articulated well for enriching literature. Prof B.K. Pushpalatha, Principal, Besant Women's College proposed a vote of thanks.

LITERARY FORUM ON 'BOOK CULTURE'

September 21, 2014, Bengaluru

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru organized a literary forum on 'Book Culture' on September 21, 2014 at the office premises.

Sri K.P. Radhakrishnan, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi RO, Bengaluru, welcomed the participants, scholars and the audience. Smt. P. Chandrika, Member, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi introduced the speakers to the audience and spoke about the role and relevance of books in the modern world and listed out Akademi's initiatives in this regard. Sri J.N. Shamarao traced the existence of book culture in Karnataka to 10th century C.E. and cited the example of Dhanachintamani Attimabbe who distributed 1000 copies of the epic 'Shantipurana' written by the poet Ponna. She is remembered till date as the first publisher of Jain and Kannada works in Karnataka. He said that reading, encouraging others to read, collecting books, acquiring reading habits, interacting and expressing one's experience gained out of reading books – all that are involved in book culture but in the modern world of



gadgets this culture is fast vanishing. He also lamented textbook committees lack sensitivity for creative literature and at best said to standardize unscrupulous reading of pop literature. Sri Prakash Kambathalli in his speech said in the modern period book culture existed vibrantly in Karnataka for close to two centuries but the on the face of print and electronic media and internet the reading habits have been reduced considerably. He said English language education with the accent on technology should also share the blame and called on the state governments to make teaching in regional languages compulsory. Sri Doddegowda agreed with the previous speakers and felt that governments should do more to inculcate the reading habits in children. Sri Ravikumar, publisher, and other scholars present actively participated in the discussion that followed the speeches. Smt. P. Chandrika proposed a vote of thanks.

LITERARY FORUM – A READING

September 21, 2014, Bengaluru

The second edition of the series of programmes under the auspices of Sahitya Akademi was held at Atta Galatta on September 21, 2014 with a reading by the noted writer Samhita Arni. Sri K.P. Radhakrishnan, Programme Officer, welcomed the guest Ms. Samhita Arni and also the audience. He also spoke on the literary activities of the Sahitya Akademi. Before the reading, Samhita was in conversation with Kavitha Rao and also spoke briefly about her life, writings and influences on her writing. She read out excerpts from her books ‘The Mahabharata: A Child’s View,’ ‘Sita’s Ramayana’ and ‘The Missing Queen.’ After the reading she answered the questions about the survival of writer in the digital age. Sri Subodh Sankar of Atta Galatta proposed a vote of thanks.

HINDI SAPTAH

September 22, 2014, Bengaluru

Hindi Saptah was celebrated at the regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru with lot of enthusiasm and culminated with series of events and competitions on September 22, 2014. Smt. Maithili Rao, noted writer was the judge and presided over the function. She spoke about the role and relevance of a national language and felt that Hindi fulfils all the criteria and hence every citizen of the country should embrace it without any hesitation.



Hindi Saptah event in progress

She urged everyone to come out of the narrow domain of language politics and embrace Hindi as a national language. At the end of the competitions she gave away various prizes to the staff of the Akademi.

KATHASANDHI WITH P. SATYAVATI

September 27, 2014, Vijayawada



Ms. P. Satyavati speaking on the occasion

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru organized a Kathasandhi programme with the celebrated Telugu short story writer and feminist P. Satyavati on September 27, 2014 at Institute of Engineers Association Hall, Vijayawada. Before the reading, Ms. P. Satyavati spoke briefly about her life, her writings and the influences on her writing. Then she read out one of her stories that revolve around the waiting mother for her son to return from school. The story is the portrayal of modern mothers in constant tension for one reason or another. A brief interactive session followed the reading. At the end of the session, Ms. Satyavati observed that introspection and self-criticism is the need of the hour for the overall improvement of personalities and societies.



NARI CHETNA

September 27, 2014, Vijayawada



Participants of the Nari Chetna programme

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru in association with Telugu Bhasha Chaitanya Samiti, Vijayawada organized Nari Chetna programme for women writers on September 27, 2014 at the Institute of Engineers Hall, Vijayawada. Sri K.P. Radhakrishnan, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi RO, Bengaluru, welcomed the participants and the audience and briefly explained the purpose and objectives of the platform Nari Chetna. In the short story reading session that was chaired by Ms. Koka Vimalakumari, five noted women fiction writers including Ms. Vimalakumari, Ms. Regina,

Ms. Kopuri Pushpadevi, Ms. Jayasri and Ms Kavuri Satyavathi read out their stories. All the stories focused on the day to day problems faced by women in life. In the poetry reading session, five women poets, Ms. Pratibandla Rajani, Ms. Umamaheswari, Ms. Yellapada Vani Sarojini and Ms. Talla Sita Mahalaxmi recited their poems. Sri K.P. Radhakrishnan proposed a vote of thanks.

BIRTH CENTENARY SYMPOSIUM ON 'SANJIVDEV'

September 28, 2014, Tenali

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru organized a day long birth centenary symposium on the celebrated writer Dr Sanjivdev on September 28, 2014 at Tenali.

In the inaugural session, Sri K.P. Radhakrishnan, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi RO, Bengaluru, welcomed the participants and guests and briefly spoke about the activities of the Akademi and its efforts to popularize literature all over the country. Dr Velaga Venkatappaiah, Member, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his inaugural address talked about the place of Tenali in Telugu literature and recalled some of the doyens who hailed from there. He thanked the Akademi for choosing Tenali as the venue for the symposium and requested the officials to install a statue of Dr Dev and also publish a reader on Dr Dev. Dr N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, who chaired the session, paid tributes to Dr Sanjivdev and talked at length about the qualities of Dr Dev's writings and how his writings captivated large sections of the society. Dr Gopi observed that Tummapudi, a small village has been immortalized by Dr Sanjivdev's writings. Dr V. Kondalarao, former Director, Telugu Akademi, talked about the writings and paintings of Dr Dev and felt that they have everlasting value. In the first session that was chaired by Sri Singamaneni Narayana, noted short story writer, five scholars, Dr T. Ravichand, Dr Laxman Chakravarthi, Sri Muthevi Ravindranath, Dr Kadiyala Ramamohan Roy and Dr C. Nagabhushanam presented papers. All the papers focused on the beauty and elegance of Dr Dev's writings and poetry and is reminiscent of alltime great litterateurs of Andhra Pradesh. In the second session that was chaired by Sri Somepalli Venkata Subbaiah, President, Guntur Dt. Writers' Association, five noted scholars, Dr B. Sundararao, Sri Kottapalli Ravibabu, Sri Modugula Ravikrishna, Sri N.R. Tapaswi and Sri Mungara Jashua presented papers focusing on the prefaces, criticisms, letters, English writings and philosophies of Dr Sanjivdev respectively. Sri Ravela Sambasivarao presided over the Valedictory session and delighted all with interesting anecdotes from Dr Dev's life. Sri Vadrevu China Veerabhadru presented a valedictory address focusing on the personality of Dr Dev and Sri Inala Malleswararao proposed a vote of thanks. The event was covered in the local print and electronic media.





THROUGH MY WINDOW

October 5, 2014, Tirupati

The regional office at Sahitya Akademi organized a 'Through My Window' programme on the life and writings of eminent Telugu writer Sri Madhurantakam Rajaram at the Arts Block Auditorium of S.V. University, Tirupati on October 5, 2014. Sri Singamaneni Narayana spoke about Sri Rajaram's works. Sri Singamaneni Narayana in his speech observed that it is Madhurantakam Rajaram who was chiefly responsible for putting Rayalaseema life and idiom in the Telugu writings, especially Telugu short fiction. Hence Madhurantakam Rajaram has become synonymous with Rayalaseema short stories. Sri Narayana also strove to break the myth that Sri Rajaram was essentially a middle class writers and said that Sri Rajaram strove for the welfare and championed the cause of the poor, downtrodden and oppressed throughout his life. He cited stories like Ikkada Memanthaa Kshaamam, Vinoda Pradarsanam etc to establish his point. Sri Narayana pointed out that Sri Rajaram did not merely write about the wails and pleasures of the human life but also on the philosophies of land and they are reflected in some of his stories like Jeevanmukhudu. Sri Narayana observed that unlike many of his ilk, Sri Rajaram practiced what he wrote and led a simple and humble life till the end. He wrote stories denouncing patriarchy and practiced that; he wrote for the cause of poor and he lived that way and showed the path to fellow writers. A brief but lively interactive session followed the lecture by Sri Singamaneni Narayana. The event was well covered in local print and electronic media.

NARI CHETNA

October 11, 2014, Manampoor

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru organized a Nari Chetna programme for women writers on October 11, 2014 at Navakeralam Arts and Sports Association, Manampoor, Kerala. Dr C. R. Prasad, Member, Malayalam Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, introduced the writers and spoke at length about various initiatives of the Akademi for the promotion of Indian literature all over the country. Dr Chandramathy, noted Malayalam short story writer talked about feminism in Malayalam literature, her own writings and the influences on her writings. She felt literature should reflect society and the happenings therein. Feminism for the sake of it will not be able to do justice either to feminism or to literature. She said moderate feminism as practiced by writers like Lalithambika Antharjanam would be more constructive and not destructive. She pointed out James Joyce as a single most influence on her writings. Smt. Savitri Rajeevan, who spoke next, traced the origin of man-woman conflicts to ancient times and agreed with Dr Chandramathy that constructive feminism will help the cause of women also. Smt Rajeevan also talked about the

books, reading habits and how the digital books can never replace the experience of book reading. Dr Prasanna Mani, the next speaker talked about the necessity of women writing and urged the women writers to write more explicitly about their problems. She talked about the power of women and their superior mental strength compared to men. More than 200 women participated in the programme and the event was well covered in the local media.

SYMPOSIUM ON 'CONTEMPORARY TELUGU STORY'

October 12, 2014, Nellore

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi, in association with Nellore Zilla Rachaytala Sangham, Nellore, organized a day long symposium on 'Contemporary Telugu Story' on October 12, 2014 at Vikrama Simhapuri Conference Hall, V R High School Ground, Nellore.

In the inaugural session, Sri K.P. Radhakrishnan, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi RO, Bengaluru, welcomed the participants, writers and scholars and spoke briefly about the purpose and objectives of symposia of this type. Prof N. Gopi, who presided over the session said in his speech that stories are reflection of changes that any society undergoes and therefore it is inevitable the nature of the story is the nature of the society. He said globalization has produced more negatives than positives and hence this is bound to get reflected in the stories. Sri Vihari, noted writer, in his keynote address, presented an overview of Telugu stories especially in the period between 2009 and 2014. He generally agreed with the views of the Presidential address delivered by Prof Gopi on the ill effects of globalization and the larger marginalization of the poor. In the first session that was chaired by Dr Pellakuru Jayaprada, four noted story writers, Ms Indraganti Janakibala, Sri V. Raja Raja Mohan Rao, Sri Vennalakanti Rajeswara Prasad and Smt. Chandralatha presented papers. The papers focused on the dominant themes of modern short stories in Telugu - effects of globalization and problems of urban living, changing narratives in storytelling, effect of movies on methods of storytelling and vanishing creativity in contemporary storytelling respectively. In the second session that was chaired by V. Raja Ram Mohan Rao, three scholars, Madhurantakam Narendra, R.M. Umamaheswar Rao and Ms. Muktevi Bharathi presented papers. The papers focused on reflection of effects of globalization in Telugu short stories, diversity of themes in contemporary Telugu short stories and the contemporary Telugu stories with sea / ocean as a back drop respectively. Ms. Pathuri Annapurna chaired the valedictory session and talked about the interlinking of human life and story and observed that life itself is a story. Prof N. Gopi, presented different dimensions of contemporary Telugu Short Story writing and also spoke briefly about Telengana society and its story. Sri Nanduri Raja Gopal,



editor of Chinku, in his valedictory address, summed up the day's events and presented a critical appreciation of the symposium. Sri Mateti Ratna Prasad of Nerasam proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM

ON LIFE AND WRITINGS OF H.V. SAVITHRAMMA

October 18, 2014, Bengaluru

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru organized a one day symposium on 'Life and Writings of H.V. Savithramma' on October 18, 2014 at Krishnaraja Parishanmandira, Bengaluru.

In the inaugural session Sri K.P. Radhakrishnan, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi RO, Bengaluru, welcomed the participants and other scholars. He spoke briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi to promote Indian literature across the country. Dr C. Sarvamangala, eminent Kannada writer, in her inaugural address, described Savithramma as one of the pioneers of women's literature in Kannada along with Kodagina Gowamma. She also pioneered translations into Kannada by translating giants like Tagore, Chekhov among others. Dr Sarvamangala also explained the Gandhian effect in her later writings can be attributed to the dominance of Congress in the Princely state of Mysore from 1930s. Smt. P. Chandrika, Member, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in her keynote address, spoke about how Savithramma's partition stories are different from that of those appeared in other languages at that time and she was an original thinker par excellence. She commended Sahitya Akademi for organizing symposium on the writings of Savithramma. Dr Narahalli Balasubramanya, Convener, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his presidential address, talked about the peculiar qualities and strands of Savithramma's writings. He felt that directness and simplicity and ensuing lack of philosophical complications were the strengths of Savithramma's writings. Smt. Vasundhara Bhoopathi, President, Karnataka Lekhakiyara Sangha, Bengaluru, proposed a vote of thanks. Dr B.N. Sumitra Bai chaired the session and she spoke about the evolution of H.V. Savithramma as a writer and as she evolved more and more genre attached themselves to her repertoire. Two noted scholars Smt. Vinaya Vakkunda and Smt. C.D. Manjula presented papers on 'Savithramma's Life and Writings' and 'Savithramma's world of fiction-aspects' respectively. Smt. R. Poornima chaired the second session and three scholars, Smt. Preethi Subhachandra, Dr Sabiha Bhoomigowda and Smt. K. Shairfa presented papers on 'Novels translated by Savithramma: Question of Nationalism and Modernism,' 'Family and Society portrayed by Savithramma' and 'Savithramma: A Creative Response' respectively. Smt. Vijaya, noted Kannada writer, in her valedictory address talked about variety of

topics in Savithramma's writings and her interactions with the legendary writer. Dr Vasundhara Bhoopathi proposed a vote of thanks. The event was well covered in the local media.

BIRTH CENTENARY SYMPOSIUM

ON PRASANNAKAVI SANKARAMBADI
SUNDARACHARI

October 20, 2014, Tirupati

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in association with Telugu Bhashodyama Samiti, organized a symposium on Prasannakavi Sankarambadi Sundarachari to commemorate his birth centenary on October 20, 2014 at Sri Padmavathi Women's Degree and P.G. College, Tirupati.

Dr. K. Sreenivasaro, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants, scholars and others who attended the event and spoke briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi to promote Indian literature all over India. He said he was very happy to attend the birth centenary symposium of the poet who gave telugu people their state anthem. Prof N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the session and explained how the song 'Maa Telugu Talliki ...' represents all of Sundarachari's writings and though he had been writing over 40 years, Sundarachari received due recognition only in 1975. Prof W. Rajendra, Vice Chancellor, S.V. University, Tirupati, hoped the legendary poet's poems and writings should inspire all Telugus to unite though the state might have been divided. Sri Mannava Bhaskara Naidu, Guest of Honor, who looked after the poet till his death narrated interesting anecdotes. Prof R. Chandrasekhara Reddy, Member, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi talked about the simplicity of Sundarachari's poems. Dr N. Venugopal, AIR, Chennai appealed to the people to publish Sundarachari's complete works so that the gems contained in those works can be passed onto the future generations without any loss. Dr Gnanakumari, Principal of the College thanked the Sahitya Akademi to host the symposium in the college premises.

In the first session that was chaired by Sri Kota Purushotam, President, Aarasam, two noted scholars, Prof. M. Narendra and Prof M. Sampath Kumar presented papers on Geetanjali and Bhudha Geeta respectively focusing on the aesthetic element of the poems. Prof G. Balasubrahmanya, Sri Krishnadevaraya University, chaired the second session and presented a paper on Sundara Sudha Binduvulu. In the session, three scholars, Dr Srimannarayana, Dr M. Mallikarjuna Reddy and Sri A. Murali presented papers on 'Sundarabharatham,' 'Sundara Sangraha Ramayanam' and 'Sundarachari's use of Thetageethi' respectively. In the third session that was chaired by Prof K. Madhujyothi, two papers were presented. Ms. G. Sreedevi presented a paper on 'Naa Swami' and Prof. Madhu Jyothi on 'Samvedana of Sundarachari.' Sri Sakam Nagaraja, a noted scholar chaired



the valedictory session and spoke in detail about the Telugu language protection movement in Chittoor District. Dr R.A. Padmanabha Rao, Retired Additional DG of Doordarshan, in his valedictory address spoke about the multifaceted beauties of Sundarachar's poems. A resolution was passed at the symposium requesting Sahitya Akademi to publish a monograph on Prasannakavi Sankarabadi Sundarachari. Many professors and scholars from S.V. and Dravidian Universities along with the local writers participated in the symposium.

SYMPOSIUM ON PERCEPTIONS OF NATIONALISM October 26, 2014, Chitradurga

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, in association with Abhiruchi Literary and Cultural Forum, Chitradurga, organized a one day symposium on 'Perceptions of Nationalism' on October 26, 2014 at Mayura Yatri Nivas Auditorium, Chitradurga.

In the inaugural session, Sri Suresh Kumar, Sahitya Akademi RO, Bengaluru, welcomed the participants and scholars and spoke briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi. Dr K. Marulasiddappa, noted Kannada writer, inaugurated the symposium and in his inaugural address presented various perspectives of 'nationalism.' He said Gandhi's vision of gram swaraj or Nehru's vision of nation building through villages or the vision of Tagore or Gokhale – all are perspectives of nationalism only. He traced the roots of 'nationalism' in modern era and also presented an analysis of the development of auxiliary concepts at the same time. Sri Veerendra Kumar, noted Kannada writer, in his introductory address, talked about the development of nationalism in local roots and also the influences therein. Dr Rajendra Chenni, in his key-note address, talked about how perceptions of nationalism reached the crescendo in consonance with the rage against the rulers hitting the peak and also how the current perceptions of nationalism are components of modernism. Dr Narahalli Balasubramanya, Convener, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, who chaired the session, talked about various perspectives of nationalism and also talked about various activities of the Akademi. In the first session that was chaired by Dr Rajaram Hegde, two scholars, Dr T. Avniash and Dr Vageeshwari presented papers 'Multidimensional aspects of nationalism' and 'Nationalism and Gender contested notions' respectively. Dr Siraj Ahmed and Dr Meti Mallikarjuna presented their analysis. In the second session that was chaired by Dr Chandrasekhara Talva, two scholars, Smt. Tarini Subhadayini and Dr Rahamat Tarikere presented their papers 'Nationalism-problems and challenges ahead' and 'Perceptions of Nationalism and Religious beliefs' respectively. Dr Mahesh Harave and Dr Eranna presented their analysis of the papers presented. In the valedictory session that was chaired by Dr Doddamalliah, Abhiruchi

Forum, Dr Banjagere Jayaprakash delivered a valedictory address and talked about nationalism vis a vis language, state and nation. In addition to writers, students and faculty of post graduate colleges attended the symposium.

BIRTH CENTENARY SYMPOSIUM OF VATTIKOTA ALWARUSWAMY October 30, 2014, Hyderabad

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru organized a day long symposium to commemorate the birth centenary of eminent Telengana writer Vattikota Alwaru Swamy on October 30, 2014 at the Andhra Saraswatha Parishath Hall, Hyderabad.

Chairing the inaugural session, Prof N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and scholars, spoke briefly about the initiatives of the Akademi and at length about the life and works of Vattikota Alwaru Swamy. Chief Guest, Sri K. Srinivas, Andhra Jyothi, talked about the necessity to understand the social and literary aspects of Alwaru Swamy's writings matching with his life. Dr Ammani Venugopal, Member, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his keynote address brought out several hitherto unknown facets of Alwaru Swamy's life. Sri Vattikota Srinivasulu, son of the legendary writer participated as a guest of honor and Dr Bala Srinivasamurthy proposed a vote of thanks. In the first session that was chaired by Dr S.V. Satyanarayana, Member, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, four scholars, Sri Sunkireddy Narayana Reddy, Sri Venu Sankoju, Sri Sangisetty Srinivas and Dr G. Bala Srinivasamurthy presented their papers focusing on various aspects of Alwaru Swamy's life and works. In the second session that was chaired by Ms. Mudiganti Sujatha Reddy, five scholars, Sri B.S. Ramulu, Sri Rapolu Sudarshan, Sri Yendluri Sudhakar, Sri Kasula Pratapa Reddy and Sri S. Raghu presented their papers. In the valedictory session, the chief guest, Dr C. Narayana Reddy, eminent writer, reminisced about the days of his association with Alwaru Swamy and provided interesting anecdotes. Ms. C. Mrinalini, Member, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi and Ms. Nandini Sidha Reddy also spoke during the session.

KAVISANDHI October 30, 2014, Hyderabad

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru, as part of the symposium on Alwaru Swamy, organized a Kavisandhi with the noted Telengana poet, Sri Jukanti Jagannatham on October 30, 2014 at Andhra Saraswatha Parishath Hall, Hyderabad. Sri Jukanti Jagannatham spoke briefly about his life, the works and the influences on his poetry and then recited several poems from his poetry collections. A brief interactive session was held after the recitation.



SYMPOSIUM ON KAMBADASAN

September 1, 2014, Karaikal

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai held a daylong symposium at Karaikal on September 1, 2014 on Poet Kambadasan.

In the inaugural session, Sri. A.S. Ilangovan, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Chennai welcomed the participants and scholars and spoke briefly about various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi in Tamil Nadu. Prof K. Nachimuthu, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his Presidential address talked about the literary milieu of Pondicherry which is rich in content and structure. He also briefly narrated Akademi's efforts to promote the 20th century Tamil poets and their noteworthy contributions. In his keynote address, Dr Sayabu Maraickayar, noted Tamil scholar spoke at length about the revolutionary ideals and socialist philosophy inherent in Kambadasan's poems which he actually imbibed from his master Bharatidasan. Through English translations Kambadasan's poems with social messages reached far off lands and drew critical acclaim. Dr Sambath, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi said that in terms of poetic outburst and quality of the rhythm and motion, Kambadasan's poems were next only to Subramania Bharati and Bharatidasan. He appealed to the youngsters to follow the ideals of his poems. Dr N. Ilango chaired the first session and recounted a poem of Kambadasan. Dr R. Kamarasu, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi, presented a paper on the short stories of Kambadasan. Sri Villianur Palani presented a paper on Kambadasan's epics and Smt. Avvai Nirmala presented a paper on social reflections in Kambadasan's poetry. In the second session that was chaired by Thirumeni Nagarasan, two scholars, Sri Bharathi Vasanthan and Sri Ellai Sivakumar, presented papers on movie lyrics and essays of Kambadasan respectively. In the valedictory session, Prof Uthayasoorian, who delivered valedictory address, talked about the contribution of Kambadasan to variety of genres including plays and minor literature. Sri Sundara Murugan, Member, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked about the superiority of Kambadasan's songs and lyrics compared to the present times. The event was well attended by scholars and writers and was covered prominently in local media.

HOMAGE TO SU. KRISHNAMOORTHY

September 10, 2014, Chennai



Sahitya Akademi organized a homage meeting in respect of Sri. Su. Krishnamoorthi, Sahitya Akademi translation prize winner and veteran litterateur. Sri. Maalan, Member, Tamil Advisory Board chaired the meeting. He mentioned that Krishnamoorthi is an accomplished Tamil translator. But he got the translation prize for his Bengali translation of Kuruthipunal (River of Blood), novel authored by Indira Parthasarathi. He worked in the accounts department but all along fell in love with Bengali language and Tamil language and worked for the intercommunication of these two languages. He participated in the literary activities of Bharathi Tamil Sangam in Kolkata and invited many scholars from Tamil Nadu to Kolkata every year. He translated the masterpieces of Bengali writers like Mani Magesh and "Sidhaintha Koodu." Sri. K.R. Sachidanandam, intimate friend of Krishnamoorthi and his brother recounted the course of his life and literary pursuits. Thiruppur Krishnan paid homage to Krishnamoorthi's love and respect for all languages without narrow mindedness. He gave a detailed talk with relevant examples regarding the literary contribution and the pioneering path undertaken by the translator. Prof Rama Gurunathan mentioned that Krishnamoorthi treated Sahitya Akademi as his second family and he loved the Akademi sometimes more than the worldly pursuits. Prof Muhilai Rajapandian, Athithan, Pulavar Prabhakaran, Pandiyarajan and Journalist Kumaraguru paid glowing tributes to the veteran translator in the meeting.





SYMPOSIUM ON KU. SA. KRISHNAMOORTHI September 14, 2014, Pudukkottai

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai held a daylong symposium at Pudukkottai on September 14, 2014 to mark the birth centenary celebrations of noted poet and lyricist Sri Ku Sa Krishnamoorthi.

In the inaugural session, Sri A.S. Ilangovan, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, Chennai, welcomed the participants, audience and scholars and spoke briefly about the life and legacy the poet Ku Sa Krishnamoorthi. Sri Ki. Nachimuthu, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the inaugural session and talked about the contributions of Krishnamoorthi to movies, dramas, poetry, history and criticism in addition to occasional journalistic



(L-R) Prof K. Nachimuthu (Speaker), Sri Silamboli Sellappan and Sri Sethupathi

ventures. He said he is proud to be part of this centenary celebrations held by Sahitya Akademi and said the Akademi will take up the centenary celebrations of all prominent literary personalities of Tamil Nadu. Silamboli Su Sellappan, who delivered key-note address said Krishnamoorthi was an all-round personality and it is unfortunate that the poet could not make a telling and sustained contributions to Tamil literature for variety of reasons. Sri C. Sethupathi, Member, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks. Sri Vijaya Triuvengadam chaired the first session in which three scholars, Sri P. Venkataraman, Sri Tamaraikannan and Sri M. Palaniappan presented papers enumerating various dimensions of the poet. Sri Venkataraman talked about how brilliant a poet Ku Sa Ki was from childhood and traced the Krishnamoorthi's inspirations that eventually turned him into a great poet. Sri Tamaraikannan referred to the reach and sweep of Ku Sa Ki's creative works and pointed out in addition to his poetry collections and movie lyrics, he has also made a weighty contribution to Tamil Literature in the form of "Tamil Nataka Varalaaru." Sri Palaniappan, the last speaker of the session recited the selected verses of Ku Sa Krishnamoorthi and also made critical observations on the poems recited. Sri S. Ramanujam chaired the second session

that saw three scholars, Sri Ravi Subramanian, Sri K. Parthiba Raja and Sri R. Kurunjivendan, presented multi-perspective analysis of Ku Sa Krishnamoorthi's contributions to the field of films and music. Sri Ravi Subramanian referred to "Paruvamazhai" & "Isai Inbam" and said he was a rare genius who composed songs and setting music to them by himself and then could sing out also. He mentioned a very popular song "Kutram Purindhavan" from the movie Ratha Kanneer as a testimony to Ku Sa Krishnamoorthi's versatility and talent. Sri K. Parthiba Raja enumerated the list the plays written and staged by Ku Sa Ki and how that helped him in later life in his writing movie dialogues and scripts. Sri R Kurunjivendan presented and analyzed the overall contribution of Ku Sa Ki to the world of movies. Sri Thangam Moorthy chaired the final and poetry reading session in which three promising poets, Sri Singamuthu, Ms Swathi and Sri Sembai Manavalan recited their verses. The event was well covered in the print and electronic media and was well attended by scholars from nearby cities and towns.

LITERARY FORUM September 15, 2014, Erode

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai, held a literary forum on "R. Shanmugasundaram's Writings" in collaboration with the Dept of Tamil, Chikkaiah Naicker College, Erode on September 15, 2014. Sri A.S. Ilangovan, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants, students and the faculty of the College and said R. Shanmugasundaram was a very important literary figure in the 20th century literature and thanked the Dept of Tamil for coming forward to host this programme. The programme was chaired and moderated by Prof S. Saravanababu, who spoke briefly about the life, works and legacy of R. Shanmugasundaram and then introduced the speakers to the audience. He thanked the Akademi for giving such a wonderful opportunity to participate in a quality literary programme. Gana Kurinchi spoke about the common and recurrent themes of his novels and pointed out how pessimism and love-failure were the common currents running through his stories. He said though Shanmugasundaram was qualitatively different writer than Camus and lived in different cultures, both can be compared and he gave example of "Azhiyaa Kolam." Prof Sooryakanthan talked the translation prowess of R. Shanmugasundaram and recalled with great pleasure his fabulous translations of great works from Bengali and Hindi such as the works of Sarat Chandra Chattopadhyaya, Bankim Chandra and host of other eminent writers from across the border of vindhya. Prof R. Venugopalswamy listed out the short-stories and critical essays penned by R. Shanmugasundaram and how they reflect the pathetic nature of the oppressed and the equally appalling apathy of the ruling society. He also said this aspect of



R. Shanmugasundaram's thought brought a sharper edge to his critical essays. Prof Po Ma Palaniswamy, described how Shangmugasundaram came to be known as father of regional dialect or 'Vattaara Vazhakkin Thanthai.' He dealt at length with Shanmugasundaram's celebrated novel "Nagammal" and how this work might have helped and encouraged the current crop of writers attempting to write in vattaara vazhakku. Prof P. Kamala Kannan, Dept of Tamil, proposed a vote of thanks.

NARI CHETNA

September 22, 2014, Cuddalore

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai organized a 'Nari Chetna' programme with four Tamil women writers on September 22, 2014 at C. Kandasamy Naidu College for Women, Cuddalore. Sri R. Sambath, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants, the faculty, the students and other literary connoisseurs who attended the event and outlined the objective of the platform 'Nari Chetna' and enumerated Akademi's efforts to encourage and promote aspiring women writers of all sections of the society. Prof Mallika Chandiran, Principal of the college and also the Guest of Honour at the event, thanked the Akademi for organizing such an important literary event in the college and spoke briefly about emancipating the oppressed and suppressed women across the globe and the role of literature in such endeavours. In the academic session that was chaired by the noted writer Prof Ilamathi Janakiraman of Pondicherry University, three women Tamil writers, Ms. Soundaravalli, Ms. Kala Visu and Ms. Rajalakshmi, gave lectures on "The necessity for feminist writers," "Techniques and Crafts of feminist novels, short stories and poetry" and "Feminist Literature in Tamil Nadu" respectively. All the papers focused on the contemporary feminist issues and trends in Tamil literature. Summing up the papers and positions, Prof Ilamathi Janakiraman spoke at length about improving the standard of the feminist literary productions and felt such efforts should start from the school level. To commemorate the event, students of the Tamil department at the College had organized an exhibition comprising feminist books, paintings and photographs. Prof Sundara Murugan, Member, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi proposed a vote of thanks.

HINDI WEEK

September 15-22, 2014

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai organized a Hindi week from September 15 to 22, 2014. On the concluding day, Sri Sourirajan, renowned

Hindi translator, chaired the meeting of the staff of Chennai office. He talked at length about the value of Hindi as a national language linking various cultural and literary traditions. Various competitions such as reading, transcribing and elocution competition were conducted. Sri Sourirajan distributed the prizes to the winning staff. Sri A.S. Ilangovan, Officer-in-Charge, thanked Sri Sourirajan for conducting Hindi week over the years and stressed the importance of Hindi language in promoting literature and literary values.

LITERARY FORUM

October 7, 2014, Nagercoil

The Sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai, in association with S.T. Hindu College, Nagercoil, organized a literary forum on October 7, 2014 at S.T. Hindu College, Nagercoil on eminent poet Kavimoni's Writings. Prof T. Neela Kanda Pillai chaired the literary forum. He mentioned that Kavimoni was a poet with Gandhian ideals. He wrote on the ideals and ethos of Kannyakumari district which has a blend of Pandiya and Chera literary elements. P. Arumugam Pillai, Chairman of the College and Principal Dr. S. Perumal praised the literary acumen of the poet. Dr. Muhilai Rajapandian spoke on the poems written by the poet for children. A. K. Perumal mentioned about the poems relating to Mahatma Gandhi and the freedom struggle. T.H. Issac Samuel Nayagam commented on the spiritual aspects of his poetry. M. Selvam spoke on his work "Marumakkal Vazhi Manmiyam" which dealt with the problems between sons and nephews, daughters and nieces for owning the ancestral property. Athithan analyzed the poetic beauty, prosody, style and poetic devices of Kavimani. T.V. Jagadeesan proposed vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM

ON MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES
OF TAMIL POETRY

October 11, 2014, Viluppuram

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai, in association with Deivanai Ammal College, Viluppuram, organized a day long symposium on 'Multiple Perspectives of Tamil Poetry' on October 11, 2014 at the college auditorium.

In the inaugural session, Sri A.S. Ilangovan, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Chennai welcomed the participants, scholars, faculty and students of the college and spoke briefly about the multiple perspectives available in Tamil milieu itself and also through comparative



analysis of poetry available in numerous other languages of India. He said that Akademi provides the latter and urged all to embrace the initiatives of the Akademi. Prof K. Nachimuthu briefly explained the structure, initiatives and programmes of the Akademi help one and all in gaining multiple perspectives, not only in poetry but also in other genres. He informed the audience about numerous schemes and programmes of the Akademi. Sri T. Radhakrishnan, I.P.S., in his address drew parallels from ancient Sangam poetry and compared them with the 20th century Tamil poetry and also made comparisons to English poetry. Sri E. Samikannu, Sri S. Senthil Kumar and Dr Kasthuribhai Dhanasekaran of the college praised the initiatives of the Akademi and thanked the Akademi for organizing a symposium in their premises. Dr R. Sambath, while proposing a vote of thanks, talked briefly about various perspectives of Tamil poetry. The first session was chaired by Prof Muhilai Rajapandian and three scholars, Dr Porkalai, Sri K. Ganesan and Smt. Premalatha presented papers focusing on feminist perspectives of modern poetry, poetic traditions of 20th century Tamil poetry and post-modern perspectives respectively. The second session was chaired by Sri Pazhamalai and three scholars, Ms. Saroja Babu, Sri Sundara Murugan and Sri Chella Perumal presented papers focusing on contemporary social reality, especially that of Dalit and other oppressed communities' aspirations. In the valedictory session Prof Rama Gurunathan summed up the perspectives presented in the symposium and offered critical appreciation, while Dr Mangaiarkarasi proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON BHARATIDASAN October 16, 2014, Pollachi

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi, in association with the Department of Tamil Studies, N.G.M. College, Pollachi, organized a daylong seminar on October 16, 2014 at N.G.M. College, Pollachi, to commemorate 125th birth anniversary of Bharatidasan.

In the inaugural session, Sri A.S. Ilangoan, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Chennai welcomed the participants, scholars, faculty and the students of the college and talked about the relevance and importance of Bharathi and Bharatidasan. Prof K. Nachimuthu, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his Presidential address, briefly narrated various initiatives of the Akademi in promoting literature. He also enumerated the literary achievements of Bharatidasan. Dr Krishnaraj Vanavarayar, President of the College was the Guest

of Honor. Dr Sirpi Balasubramanian, eminent poet, presented a critical appreciation of Bharatidasan's poetry and also provided numerous interesting anecdotes from Bharatidasan's life and his friends. Mannar Mannan, son of Bharatidasan and grandsons Bharathi and Selvam were felicitated during the session. Dr Sambath, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi, talked about the literary milieu in which Bharatidasan flourished while proposing a vote of thanks. In the first session that was chaired by Sri R. Sundaramurugan, Member, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, three scholars, Dr. R. Kamaraj, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi, Sri Y. Manikandan and Ms. Yazh Chandra presented papers focusing on nationalism, humanism, diverse genres and feminism in Bharatidasan's poetry. In the second session that was chaired by Sri Puviyarasu, noted writer and translator, two scholars, Sri Sethupathi and Sri Gowthaman presented papers focusing on Philosophy of Nature and Comparative Analysis of Bharathi and Bharatidasan respectively. Sri Erode Tamizhanban chaired the valedictory session and compared Bharatidasan with Shelley and Byron. Dr K. Chellappan delivered the valedictory address, Prof Badri Narayanan, Principal of the College, delivered felicitations and Sri P.M. Palanisamy proposed a vote of thanks.

LITERARY FORUM October 17, 2014, Trichy

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi, Chennai in association with the Department of Tamil Studies, Urumu Dhanalakshmi College, Trichy, organized a literary forum on 'Recent Trends in Tamil Short Stories' on October 17, 2014 at Urumu Dhanalakshmi College, Trichy. The Literary Forum was presided over by Dr. R. Kamarasu, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi and Dr Sekar, Principal of the College was the Guest of Honor. Dr Kamarasu talked about the realism in the contemporary Tamil short stories and cited the stories penned by Jayakantan and Samuthiram as examples of that. Three scholars presented papers.

Dr. P. Madhivaanan examined the structure, texture and the themes of 21st century short stories. Ko. Veeramani commented on the social perspectives, problems and solutions of modern stories.

Dr. Aranga Malliga presented the problems of women and Dalit dealt by modern young writers. The meeting was well attended by students of literature, writers and the literary fraternity of Tiruchirappalli.



LITERARY FORUM

October 25, 2014, Chennai



Sri Maalan speaks as others are keenly listening

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai organized a literary forum on ‘Tamil Perspectives of Mahabharatham’ on October 25, 2014 at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Chennai. The programme started with a minute’s silence and homage to Smt. Rajam Krishnan, eminent writer who had passed away recently. Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, paid rich tributes to Smt. Rajam Krishnan. He then welcomed the participants and scholars who had assembled for the forum and talked about various renditions of Mahabharata themselves offering multi perspectives of the Scripture and explained how Sahitya Akademi is striving to preserve and promote various literary and cultural traditions. Sri Maalan, Member, Tamil Advisory Board, chaired the forum and talked at length about Bharathi’s Panchali Sabatham and other translations of Mahabharata and adaptations in Tamil offering different perspectives of the characters and feministic element inherent in the Scripture. Four noted scholars Sri Sachidanandam, Smt. Rogini Jagannathan, Smt. Rajeswari and Sri Thuriyanandam presented the versions of Vaali, Bharathi, Villiputhurar and Nalla Pillai. The social phenomenon of the widespread worship of Draupadi in northern Tamil Nadu from Kancheepuram up to the boundaries of Pallava kingdom was examined. The traditional drama forms of the folklore celebrate the success of Pandavas over Kauravas in Mahabharata. Sri A.S. Ilangovan, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Chennai, proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON MAHAVIDWAN MEENAKSHISUNDARAM PILLAI

October 29, 2014, Thiruvaurur

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai, in association with the Central University of Tamil Nadu, organized a daylong symposium on Mahavidwan

Meenakshisundaram Pillai’s writings to commemorate his 200th birth anniversary to CUTN, Thiruvaurur.

In the inaugural session, Sri A.S. Ilangovan, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Chennai, welcomed the participants, scholars, faculty and the students of the University and briefly talked about the significance of Mahavidwan’s writings. Prof K. Nachimuthu, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, explained various initiatives of the Akademi to preserve and promote literature and literary traditions in the country and hoped both the Akademi and CUTN would organize more such seminars and symposia in the future. Dr Sengathir, Vice Chancellor of the University, praised Akademi’s role in promoting literature, especially in translations and children’s literature and offered full support and co-operation for all programmes especially any inter-lingual meets and seminars. Sathya Gnana Mahadeva Desika



A.S. Ilangovan, K.Nachimuthu, SGM Paramacharya, T.Senathir

Paramacharya Adigalar, Pontiff, Velakkurichi Adheenam, Thirupukalur delivered an erudite speech on the role of literature and religion in molding and motivating young minds for a better future. Sri K. Jawahar proposed a vote of thanks. In the first session that was chaired by Dr. Y. Manikandan, three scholars, Dr. R. Sambath, Sri Kovai Mani and Sri Kunjithapatham presented papers on Mahavidwan’s art and poetry, Mahavidwan’s contemporaries and minor epics of Mahavidwan respectively. Sri V.R. Madhavan chaired the second session and Sri Solai Sundara Perumal and Sri Sathish presented papers on descriptions from Chola Kingdom and Seerkazhi Kovai respectively. The valedictory session was chaired by Dr. R. Kamaraj, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi and Sri P. Velmurugan welcomed the gathering. Sri T.N. Ramachandran, eminent scholar delivered a passionate thoughtful valedictory address. Sri V. Rajasekaran delivered felicitation. P. Kumar proposed the vote of thanks.



LITERARY FORUM

September 12, 2014, Kolkata

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata organized a literary forum on Sankari Prasad Basu at Sahitya Akademi auditorium, Kolkata on September 12, 2014. Noted scholars Swami Shastrajananda, Sri Tarun Goswami and Sri Swapan Basu spoke on the occasion.

Dr Ramkumar Muhopadhyay, Convener, Bengali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, introduced the speakers to the audience. He briefly talked about the influence of Sri Sankari Prasad's writings on 20th century Bengal. Swami Shastrajananda talked about Sankari Prasad's contributions to literature on Swami Vivekananda, Sister Nivedita and Subhas Chandra Bose. Sri Tarun Goswami talked about Sankari Prasad's contributions to sports literature, especially on Cricket. Sri Swapan Basu talked at length about diverse literature left behind by Sankari Prasad and their influence on different genres of Indian literature.

KAVISANDHI

September 12, 2014, Bhubaneswar

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata organized a Kavisandhi with eminent Odia poet Debdas Chhotray on September 12, 2014 at Bhubaneswar. Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, welcomed the poet and the audience and explained briefly about the objectives of Kavisandhi and various other initiatives of the Akademi. Dr Gourahari Das, Convener, Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the introductory address and introduced the poet to the audience. Accepting the felicitations, Sri Chhotray thanked the Akademi for the opportunity and spoke briefly about his life, works and influences on his writings. He recited some of his poems and participated in the lively interactive session that followed. Sri Banoj Tripathy, Member, Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.



SEMINAR ON PRANABANDHU KAR

September 13, 2014, Bhubaneswar

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in association with the Department of Odia, Utkal University, organized a daylong seminar on Pranabandhu Kar to commemorate the birth centenary of legendary fiction writer and playwright on September 13, 2014 at Bhubaneswar.

In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants, dignitaries and scholars, spoke briefly about the activities of the Akademi and also on the impact of Pranabandhu Kar's works on other genres. Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi talked about the exalted place of Pranabandhu Kar in the landscape of Indian Literature. Prof Ashok Kumar Das, Vice Chancellor of Utkal University and Chief Guest thanked the Akademi for choosing the University and talked briefly about Pranabandhu Kar's influence in his own life. Noted critic and playwright Prof Narayan Sahu, in his keynote address, talked about how the blending of Marxism and Existentialism served as a significant tool at the hands of Pranabandhu Kar in portraying social reality. Sri Gourhari Das, Convener, Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked about the influence of Pranabandhu Kar on the subsequent generation of Odia fiction writer. Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, proposed a vote of thanks. Pranabandhu Kar's unpublished one act play "Chihna Mati Achihna Akasha" was released in the inaugural session.

In the first session devoted to Pranabandhu Kar's fiction and chaired by Prof Baishnab Charan Samal, five scholars, Dr Khirod Behera, Dr Prakash Parida, Dr Santosh Ku Tripathy, Prof Udayanath Sahu and Prof Sanghamitra Mishra presented their papers focusing on inclusive portrayal of social reality in Pranabandhu Kar's short stories. In the second session devoted to Pranabandhu Kar's plays and chaired by Prof Hemant Kuman Dasand, four scholars, Smt. Bishnupriya Ota, Sri Narayan Sethi, Smt. Rajalaxmi Jena and Sri Samar Mudali presented their papers focusing on the art and style of play writing of Pranabandhu Kar.

The valedictory session was chaired by Prof Niladri Bhusan Harichandan. Doyen of Odia theatre, Sri Ananta Mahapatra was the Chief Guest and shared interesting anecdotes from Kar's life. Sri Srimoy Kar, Pranabandhu Kar's son was the Guest of Honor. Sri Banoj Tripathy, Member, Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi proposed a vote of thanks.



SEMINAR ON SRADDHAKAR SUPAKAR

September 14, 2014, Sambalpur

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata organized a birth centenary seminar on eminent Odia writer Sraddhakar Supakar on September 14, 2014 at Sambalpur.

In the inaugural session, Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, welcomed the participants and audience while briefly explaining various initiatives of the Akademi. Sri Hara Prasad Das, eminent writer and poet, inaugurated the seminar and in his inaugural speech talked at length about the life and works of Sraddhakar Supakar, substance and style of his writings and the reflection of his personality on his writings as well as perceivable influences on his writings. Prof Gopal Krushna Ratha, Member, Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, presided over the inaugural session and highlighted the passion and personality of Sraddhakar. Smt. Smita Devi, Principal of the College and Dr Shyam Sundar Dhar, noted scholar and critic paid glowing tributes to Sraddhakar Supakar. Sri Naku Hansda proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session chaired by Prof Krushna Chandra Pradhan, Member, Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, four scholars, Dr Gouridas Pradhan, Sri Laxminarayan Panigrahi, Sri Shyama Bhoi and Sri Ganeshram Nahak presented papers focusing on autobiography of Sraddhakar, poetry of Sraddhakar, Travel Writing of Sraddhakar and leadership of Sraddhakar respectively. In the second session that was chaired by Prof Kumuda Ranjan Panigrahi, three scholars, Sri Bhagawat Prasad Nanda, Dr Dwarikanath Nayak and Dr Pradip Kumar Panda read out papers focusing on Sraddhakar Supakar's plays, fiction and political activism. Sri Aurobinda Mahapatra chaired the valedictory session in which Sri Karunakar Supakar presented valedictory address and Sri Goutam Paul proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM

ON "TRANSLATION OF CHILDREN'S LITERATURE:
FROM BENGALI INTO ENGLISH"

September 20, 2014, Kolkata

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata organized a symposium on "Translation of Children's Literature: From Bengali into English" on September 20, 2014, at the Sahitya Akademi auditorium, Kolkata.

In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and scholars and spoke at length about

the advantages of translating literature, especially children's literature, into English as that will enable children of other languages can also read, enjoy and benefit from the stories of the original language. He also explained the difficulties involved therein and how Bal Sahitya Puraskar is helping this cause. Sri Samik Bandyopadhyay, eminent theatre personality talked about the problems of languages, culture and childhood in different times as major obstacles in translating children's literature. He also said despite all this, one cannot shy from the fact that the range of translation from Bengali to English remain poor. Prof K. Satchidanandan, eminent writer and former Secretary of Sahitya Akademi, talked about translation in general without going into specific genre, explained in detail the process of translation in different areas and cited various examples from different languages to drive home the points made. He also said the Akademi should be congratulated for organizing important seminars of this type. Sri Sirshendu Mukhopadhyay, eminent Bengali writer, said that though it is true that vast material remains untranslated, he had his own problems and doubt about translating all kinds of children's literature into English including his own, for he writes for children from rural background. Smt. Bharati Ray proposed a vote of thanks.

Dr Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay chaired the first session. Sri Partha Ghosh, Prof Sukanta Chaudhuri and Sri Sukhendu Ray presented papers. Sri Partha Ghosh talked about translating scientific essay in children's literature. Prof Sukanta Chaudhuri talked about problems of languages in translating children's literature. Sri Sukhendu Ray gave example of his own troubles in translating children's literature and observed that translating rhythm is the most difficult in children's literature. In the second session that was chaired by Prof K. Satchidanandan, three scholars, Prof Ipsita Chanda, Smt. Shoma Chatterji and Prof. Anasuya Guha presented papers focusing on untranslatable elements in children's literature, translating magical realism in children's literature and adaptations of foreign writings in children's literature respectively.

Smt. Sujata Sen who delivered the valedictory address talked about market of translations from a publishers' perspective and analyzed the demands of intended readership. Sri Goutam Paul, Officer in charge, Sahitya Akademi Eastern Region, proposed the vote of thanks.



SEMINAR ON AYEKPAM SHYAMSUNDER

September 21, 2014, Imphal

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, in collaboration with Naharol Sahitya Premee Samiti, organized a seminar to commemorate the birth centenary of Ayeckpam Shyamsunder on September 21, at Dave Literature Centre, Imphal.

In the inaugural session, Sri A.C. Netrajit, Member, Manipuri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and thanked the Akademi for organizing important seminars like this at Imphal. Prof H. Behari Singh, Convener, Manipuri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked briefly about the importance and relevance of seminars of this type and about the life and works of Ayeckpam Shyamsunder. Sri Laishram Birendrakumar Singh, in his keynote address, talked about various dimensions of Ayeckpam Shyamsunder's writings. Prof Polem Nabachandra Singh, in his Presidential address talked about the works of Ayeckpam Shyamsunder and urged the youngsters to take up research on old classics. Manipuri translation of Chemmeen by Laimayum Birendrakumar Sharma was released during the session. Dr Binodkumar Sharma, General Secretary, Naharol Sahitya Premee Samiti, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was chaired by Sri Laimayum Birendrakumar Sharma, three scholars, Dr Athokpam Kholchandra, Dr Gurumayum Bijoykumar Sharma and Dr Lamabam Gojendra presented papers 'Life and Works of Ayeckpam Shyamsunder,' 'Ayeckpam Shyamsunder as a Creative Writer' and 'Ayeckpam Shyamsunder as an actor and director' respectively. In the second session that was chaired by Sri B. Jantakumar Sharma, three scholars, Dr Rajen Toijamba, Smt. R.K. Musuksana and Dr Chirom Rajketan Singh presented papers focusing on Ayeckpam Shyamsunder as a dramatist and on translations. Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, spoke briefly about the works of Ayeckpam Shyamsunder during the session.

LITERARY FORUM

September 22, 2014, Kolkata

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata organized a literary forum on the Life and Works of noted Bengali writer Nabarun Bhattacharya on September 22, 2014 at Sahitya Akademi auditorium, Kolkata. Sri Nabarun Bhattacharya had passed away on July 31, 2014. The forum was chaired by Prof Manabendra Bandyopadhyay and three noted scholars, Dr Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, Sri Rajib Choudhuri and Sri Goutam Sengupta presented papers focussing 'Nabarun, the story teller,' 'Archaic language in Nabarun's writings' and 'Writing style of Nabarun' respectively. While summing up, Prof Manabendra Bandyopadhyay informed that Nabarun Bhattacharya also published Bengali translations of stories and poems from other Indian languages in Bhashabandhan magazine. Dr Mihir Kumar Sahoo, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, proposed a vote of thanks.

SEMINAR ON RAJKUMAR SHITALJIT

September 22, 2014, Imphal

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with Leimakol Khorjeikol (LEIKOL), organized a seminar on September 22, 2014 to commemorate birth centenary of eminent writer Sri Rajkumar Shitaljit at Dave Literature Centre, Imphal.

In the inaugural session, Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about the life and works of Rajkumar Shitaljit, especially his contributions towards cultural and literary ties between Bengal and Manipur. Dr Kh. Sarojini Devi, who presided over the session, gave interesting anecdotes from the life of the eminent writer and talked about how he inspired generations of writers. Dr S. Shantibala Devi, who delivered keynote address described Shitaljit as a father of modern Manipuri short stories and one of the founding fathers of modern Manipuri literature. Dr Shantibala also talked about diverse expressions of Shitaljit. Prof H. Behari Singh, who was the Chief Guest, described Shitaljit as a writer who was instrumental and Manipuri literature and society in the national map. Dr Maya Neprom proposed the vote of thanks.

In the first session that was chaired by Prof A.K. Sharma, three scholars, Sri Soram Kesho Singh, Sri Kakchingtabam Brajamani Sharma and Dr Arambam Ongbi Memchoubi presented papers focusing on life of Shitaljit, on the impact of Vaishnavism in his writings and Shitaljit as a poet respectively. In the second session that was chaired by Prof. Ph. Iboyaima Sharma, three scholars, Dr Heigrumjam Sumbatibala Devi, Dr Heman Shilla Devi and Dr Khundongbam Gokulchandra Singh presented papers focusing on novels of Shitaljit, short stories of Shitaljit and Shitaljit's contribution to the emergence of modern Manipuri literature. A short interactive session followed the paper presentation.



LITERARY FORUM

September 23, 2014, Imphal

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with Nongchup Haram Khorjei Lup (NOHAKHOL), organized a literary forum on 'Critical Assessment of Khamba Thoibi Seireng as an Epic' on September 23, 2014 at Public Theatre, Phojing, Nambol. Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, welcomed the participants and audience. Prof Behari Singh, Convener, Manipuri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his Presidential address said that Khamba Thoibi Seireng is indeed an Epic, the only Epic of the North East and the shining star of North East literature. Dr L. Shashikumar talked about the life and nature as found in the Khamba Thoibi Seireng. Sri Gouro Thongamcha, President, NOHAKHOL, thanked the Akademi for organizing a literary forum on the Epic and urged youngsters to take up the Epic for serious research from modern perspectives. Sri T. Shamungou, General Secretary, NOHAKHOL proposed the vote of thanks. In the paper reading session that followed and was chaired by Prof L. Shadananda, three scholars, Smt. Y. Bhanu, Sri Ibopishak Nongthomba and Dr Ng. Akasini Devi, presented papers focusing on various aspects of the Epic.

LITERARY FORUM

September 23, 2014, Thoubal

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with Manipur Sahitya Samiti, organized a literary forum on 'Present Scenario of Manipuri Language and Literature' on September 23, 2014 at Kshetri Sanglem,

Thoubal, Manipur. Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, welcomed the participants and the audience. Prof H. Behari Singh, Convener, Manipuri Advisory Board, presided over the forum. Sri Moirangthem Rajendra Singh, in his keynote address, talked about the various aspects of Manipuri literature. Dr Th. Khomdon Singh, President, Manipur Sahitya Samiti, Thoubal chaired the session. Dr Ak. Bojen Meitei proposed a vote of thanks. In a brief paper reading session chaired by Prof Ch. Yashwanta Singh, four scholars, Dr Longjam Anand Singh, Sri Angom Surjit Meitei, Sri L. Bimal Singh and Dr T. Kunjeshor Singh, presented papers focusing on different aspects of Manipuri literature.

LITERARY FORUM

September 25, 2014, Imphal

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, in collaboration with Progressive Writers' Association, Manipur, organized a literary forum on 'The life and works of Jana Neta Irawat' on September 25, 2014 at Manipur Press Club, Imphal. Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, welcomed the participants and talked briefly about the literary works of Jana Neta Irawat. Sri Salam Tomba and Sri Ibosana Khuman, Progressive Writers' Association, and Prof Behari Singh, Convener, Manipuri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked about the relevance of Irawat's works to contemporary Manipuri society and his influence on generation of writers. In

the paper reading session that followed and was chaired by Prof Jodha Chandra Sanasam, two scholars, Sri Langol Iboyaima and Sri O. Kunjo Singh, presented papers on the life and works of Irawat. Sri Salam Tomba, in his presidential address, focused on the greatness of Jana Neta Irawat and his distinguished activities. The forum ended with singing of songs by Irawat.

PEOPLE AND BOOKS

September 25, 2014, Guwahati

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with the Department of Bodo, Gauhati University, organized a 'People and Books' programme with the eminent Bodo scholar Dr. Phanindranarayan Narzary on September 25, 2014 at the Department of Bodo, Gauhati University, Guwahati. Dr. Narzary spoke briefly about his life, his childhood, his interest in books and writing and the influences on his writing. Dr. Narzary then highlighted and focused on the relationship between human beings and the books. He talked at length about the influence that books can have on civilization and cited several examples to drive home his point. He talked about his book on Jajnos, performance of rituals and his effort and struggle while composing a dictionary, 'Quadruple Vocabulary', his collection of Bodo folk tales with the assistance of Madaram Brahma and many more of his literary endeavours. A brief interactive session followed the lecture. Dr Swarna Prabha Chainary proposed a vote of thanks.



SEMINAR ON “LITTLE MAGAZINES IN BODO AND ITS IMPACT ON SOCIETY”

September 26, 2014, Sonitpur

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with Bodo Sahitya Sabha, organized a seminar on ‘Little magazines in Bodo and their impact on society’ on September 26, 2014 at Rangapara College, Sonitpur, Assam.



(L-R) Bisweswar Basumatary, Premananda Machahary, Kameswar Brahma and Baneswar Talukdar

In the inaugural session, Dr Premananda Machahary welcomed the participants and scholars and talked about Bodo language, literature and the opportunities available to the young and aspiring. He thanked the Akademi for organizing such an important seminar. In his inaugural address, Dr Kameswar Brahma, President, Bodo Sahitya Sabha, talked about the importance of the seminars of this kind lies in their ability to mold social integrity and enhancing awareness about other cultures and traditions. In his introductory address, Prof Prasanta Boro, enumerated the current situation prevalent in several sections of the society and how little magazines impact them. Dr Anil Kr. Boro, in his inaugural speech traced the origin of little magazines of North East, especially Bodo and hoped that people would take advantage of opportunities like this seminar in a fruitful way. Sri Bisweswar Basumatary, in his keynote address, addressed the problems of little magazines and unless there is an overall participation their role in society will diminish. Sri Prasanta Boro, Secretary, Bodo Sahtiya Sabha, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was chaired by Sri Gopinath Brahma, two scholars, Sri Promod Ch. Brahma and Dr Tulan Mochahary, presented papers ‘Little Magazines published from 1952 to 1972 and their impact’ and ‘Little Magazines published from 1974 to 2002’ respectively. Dr Anil Boro commented that some of the magazines mentioned in the first paper do not come under the category of little magazine. In the second session that was chaired

by Sri Nabin Malla Boro, two scholars, Dr Chinan Narzary and Dr Phaguna Barmahelia presented papers focusing on the publication of little magazines from 2003 till present. In the valedictory session, Prof Baneswar Talukdar said impact of little magazines should not be overlooked. Sri Kamala Kt. Mushahary of Bodo Sahtiya Sabha thanked the Akademi for organizing a seminar on important topic and its efforts to promote Bodo literature. Sri Dipak Kr. Basumatary, in his valedictory address urged enhanced participation for the success of little magazines and called for a healthy literary atmosphere.

SEMINAR ON MAHESWAR NEOG

September 26, 2014, Guwahati

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with the Department of Assamese, Gauhati University, organized a seminar on September 26, 2014 to commemorate birth centenary of eminent Assamese scholar Maheswar Neog at Phanidhar Dutta Auditorium, Gauhati University.

In the inaugural session, Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata welcomed the participants and scholars and spoke briefly about the life and works of Maheswar Neog. Dr Mridul Hazarika, Vice Chancellor, Gauhati University, thanked the Akademi for choosing Gauhati University as a venue for the seminar and expressed his gratitude to the participants for their enthusiastic participation. Prof. Karabi Deka Hazarika, Convener, Assamese Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, released a book on Maheswar Neog, Prachyatatwavid Dr Maheswar Neog: Kriti aru Krititwa, during the session and spoke about the polymathic dimensions of Maheswar Neog’s understanding and knowledge. Prof Dipti Phukan Patgiri, in her inaugural address spoke about genres covered by Maheswar Neog. Prof Kamaluddin Ahmed and Prof Nagen Saikia who delivered keynote address talked about versatility of Maheswar Neog’s writings.

In the first session that was chaired by Dr Malinee Goswami, three scholars Dr Pradipjyoti Mohanty, Dr Pona Mahanta and Dr Anjali Sharma presented papers ‘The study of Assam theory of Maheswar Neog,’ ‘The prose style of Maheswar Neog’ and ‘Biographical Writings of Maheswar Neog’ respectively. In the second session that was chaired by Dr Prabin Chandra Das, five scholars, Dr Tarani Deka, Dr Prafulla Kumar Nath, Prof Kamaluddin Ahmed, Prof Bimal Majumdar and Dr Pranjal Sharma Bashishtha, presented papers ‘The role of Maheswar Neog



in the Nationalistic movement of Assam,' 'The study of Vaishnab literature by Maheswar Neog,' 'The Maheswar Neog under one sky,' 'Maheswar Neog's contribution towards the study of Sankaradeva' and 'Maheswar Neog as a Historiographer of Religion' respectively. In the third session that was chaired by Dr Golokeswar Goswami, six scholars, Dr Pranita Devi, Dr Rekharani Devi, Dr Kalpana Sharma Kalita, Dr Prasana Kumar Nath, Dr Arup Kumar Nath and Dr Lakshmi Hazarika, presented papers 'The language of Assamese poems by Maheswar Neog,' 'History of Assamese Literature by Maheswar Neog,' 'The editing of ancient manuscripts and Dr Maheswar Neog,' 'The Assamese poems of Maheswar Neog: A discussion,' 'The study of Lakshminath Bezbaroa by Maheswar Neog' and "Dr Maheswar Neog: Playwright and Fictionist" respectively. Prof Upen Rabha Hakacham delivered valedictory address and Prof Kanak Chandra Saharia proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON "SIGNIFYING WOMEN IN BODO LITERATURE"

September 27, 2014, Guwahati

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, in collaboration with the Department of Bodo, Gauhati University, organized a symposium on 'Signifying Women in Bodo Literature' on September 27, 2014 at the Department of Bodo, Gauhati University, Guwahati.



(L-R) Goutam Paul, Premananda Machahary, Phanindranath Narzary and Dipti Phukan Patgiri

In the inaugural session, Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-charge, welcomed the participants and the audience. In the inaugural address, Dr Dipti Phukan Patgiri, appreciated the theme and concept of the seminar. Prof Swarna Prabha Chainary, in her introductory address briefly dwelt on the

topic of the symposium and remarked that symposiums of this type are the need of the hour. Dr Premananda Machahary, Convener, Bodo Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, briefly talked about the role and contributions of women writers in enriching Bodo literature. Dr Swarna Prabha Chainary proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first academic session that was chaired by Dr Premananda Machahary, four scholars, Smt. Maikan Basumatary, Smt. Dipali Kherkhatary, Smt. Rupali Swargiary and Smt Mallika Basumatary presented papers, 'Reflection of Women in Old and Modern Literature,' 'Uneducated and Educated Women Reflected in the Five Short Story Books of Nilkamal Brahma,' 'Signifying Self by Women Poets' and 'Women Character as Reflected in the Novels of Chittra Ja Muchahary' respectively. In the second academic session that was chaired by Sri Birupaksha Giri Basumatary, four scholars, Smt. Champa Khakhalary, Dr Pratima Brahma, Smt. Bhairabi Boro and Smt Rahel Mochari presented papers, 'Women character in the Ovel Gwrbwni Radal,' 'Female Character through the Lens of Female Short Story Writers,' 'Boro Women in the View of Boro Male Writers' and 'Female Character in Ma Ora Jan Lahary's Novels' respectively. Dr Swarna Prabha Chainary proposed a vote of thanks.

HINDI TO BODO TRANSLATION WORKSHOP

September 27-28, 2014, Guwahati

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata organized a Hindi to Bodo translation workshop on September 27-28, 2014 at Guwhati. Eminent Hindi poet Sri Kedarnath Singh's Akademi award winning book of poems Akaal Mein Saras (Cranes in Drought) was chosen for the workshop. Seven translators, Dr Swarna Prabha Chainary, Sri Srikanta Basumatary, Sri Binon Chandra Boro, Sri Hemanta Swargiary, Sri Hari Narayan Khakhalary, Sri Mithun Ramchiary and Sri Prafulla Swargiary participated in the workshop with Dr Premananda Machahary, Convener, Bodo Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi as a Director of the workshop and Sri Phukan Chandra Basumatary as a resource person.





SYMPOSIUM ON “HUMANISM: AN ENQUIRY”

October 27, 2014, Nagaon

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with Prof Nagen Saikia Saraswat Trust Board and Mahapurush Srimanta Sankaradeva Viswavidyalaya, organized a symposium on ‘Humanism: An Enquiry’ on October 27, 2014 at Nagaon, Assam.

In the inaugural session, Dr Satyakam Barthakur delivered a welcome address and spoke briefly about the objective of the symposium and thanked the Akademi for organizing it. Prof K.K. Deka, Vice Chancellor, Mahapurush Srimanta Sankaradeva Viswavidyalaya, thanked the Akademi for organizing the symposium and said that ‘humanism is relevant in all theories and subjects. Sankaradeva was also a great humanist. Though ‘humanism’ is a modern idea, Sankaradeva, Chandidas and later on the Romantic poets also wrote poetry about humanism.’ Prof Madan Sarma, in his keynote address, talked about various issues pertaining to humanism and the humanistic tradition and talks about the recent developments such as a ‘post-humanism’ and ‘trans-humanism.’ Chair of the session, Prof Karabi Deka Hazarika talked about how common people became the subject on literature during the Romanitic period and gave examples of humanistic writings of Sankaradeva and Lakshminath Bezbaroa.

In the first session that was chaired by Prof Pradip Saikia, two scholars, Prof Girish Barua, Prof Arindam Barkataky and Prof Pradip Saikia, spoke about ‘Idealism and Humanism’ and ‘Literature and Humanism’ respectively. In the second session that was chaired by Prof Dayananda Pathak, three scholars, Prof Dinesh Ch. Goswami, Sri Prabhat Bora and Sri Ratul Ch. Bora, presented papers ‘Science, Technology and Humanism,’ ‘Liberal Humanism’ and ‘Sankaradeva and Humanism’ respectively. In the valedictory session Prof Mahendra Ahom and Prof Nagen Saikia talked about history and various aspects of humanism. Prof Bhaskarjyoti Sarma proposed a vote of thanks.



Dr Satyakam Barthakur speaking in the inaugural session

SYMPOSIUM ON “LIFE AND WORKS OF DR BIRENDRA KUMAR BHATTACHARYYA”

October 28, 2014, Guwahati



(L-R) Nalinidhar Bhattacharyya, Sailen Bharali, Nagen Saikia, Lakshminandan Bora, Karabi Deka Hazarika, Binita Bhattacharyya and Malaya Khound

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata organized a symposium on ‘Life and Works of Dr Birendra Kumar Bhattacharyya’ on October 28, 2014 at Vivekananda Kendra, Guwahati, Assam.

Prof Karabi Deka Hazarika, Convener, Assamese Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, presided over the session. The inaugural address was delivered by Dr Lakshminandan Bora and the keynote address by Prof Nagen Saikia. The Guests of Honor during the session were Sri Sailen Bharali and Smt. Binita Bhattacharyya.

In the first session that was chaired by Prof Govinda Prasad Sarma, three scholars, Sri Bimal Mazumdar, Sri Deepali Bhattacharyya Baruah and Sri Jayanta Kumar Borah, presented papers ‘Novels of Birendra Kumar Bhattacharyya,’ ‘Humanism in the Writings of Birendra Kumar Bhattacharyya’ and ‘Short Stories of Birendra Kumar Bhattacharyya’ respectively. In the second session that was chaired by Prof Dipti Phukan Patgiri, three scholars, Smt. Lutfu Hanum Salima Begum, Smt Namita Deka and Sri Satyakam Barthakur presented papers, ‘Poems of Birendra Kumar Bhattacharyya,’ ‘Birendra Kumar Bhattacharyya as an Editor’ and ‘Songs of Birendra Kumar Bhattacharyya’ respectively. The valedictory address was delivered by Sri Malaya Khound with Sri Nabin Barua in the chair.



KATHASANDHI

September 7, 2014, Goa

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, in collaboration with Institute Menezes Braganza, organized a Kathasandhi programme with Sri Gajanan Jog, eminent Konkani fiction writer, on September 7, 2014 at the Institute in Panaji, Goa. Dr Tanaji Halarnakar, Convener, Konkani Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the audience and introduced the guest-writer to them. Sri Gajanan Jog read out his short story – “Morpakha” in Konkani. His story dealt with rural life. Getting to know that peacocks destroy the grain in a village, he decided to write a short story on this subject, and “Morpakha” was its outcome, he said. Sri Jog answered the questions posed by the audience after his talk.

KAVISANDHI

September 7, 2014, Goa

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, in collaboration with Institute Menezes Braganza, organized a Kavisandhi programme with Ms. Nayana Adarkar, eminent Konkani poet, on September 7, 2014 at the Institute in Panaji, Goa. Ms. Nayana Adarkar recited her poems – Shala Ashi Asata Kaay?, Ye Re Pausa, Sagale Aata Itihasjama, Atak Matak Chawali Chatak, Yev Re Puta, Yev. All her poems attacked social customs that restrict creative freedom of an individual. After poetry recitation, Ms. Adarkar interacted with the audience. Finally Sri Gorakh Mandrekar, Director, Institute Menezes Braganza, proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM

ON POST-INDEPENDENCE MARATHI CRITICISM

September 9, 2014, Nanded

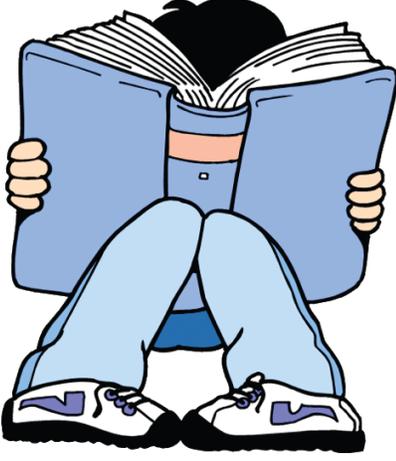
The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, in collaboration with Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University organized a symposium Post Independence Marathi Criticism on September 9, 2014 at the University in Nanded. Sri Gangadhar Pantavne, eminent writer and critic, inaugurated the symposium.

In the inaugural session, Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, observed in his welcome note that considering the year of our independence and the major shift of literary trends that took place around 1960s, the symposium was divided into two sessions viz., Post Independence Marathi Criticism – 1947-1960 and Post Independence Marathi Criticism – 1960-until the date, and that in the period between 1947 and 2014 we certainly had a picture of Marathi literature that was created by our criticism, and the symposium had objective to evaluate this picture, to evaluate literary canons that were developed by our criticism. Sri Gangadhar Pantavne, in the inaugural address, stated that our criticism was equipped with several values, and was dominant during 1950s. D.K. Bedekar, S.K. Kshirsagar, D.B. Kulkarni were significant critics during this period, he observed. He said that the nature of Marathi criticism had gradually been changed, and criticism failed to withstand our literature after 1960 which we considered today was entirely of reformation. Further he observed that our criticism still was dependent on western canons. Sri Digambar Padhye, eminent Marathi critic, delivered keynote address. He said that the span of criticism begins at book reviews and reaches critical theory, and criticism was of two types basically, viz., applied and theoretical. He observed that it was possible earlier to categorize our criticism but it was not possible now, for criticism today was not oriented to look at literary work of art from merely a single point of view. Sri Pandit Vidyasagar, Vice-Chancellor of the University and Chief Guest at the event, heartily thanked Sahitya Akademi for offering opportunity to the University to collaborate in organizing such an event. Sri Ramesh Dhage, Director, School of Languages and Literature, SRTM University proposed a vote of thanks. The first session was chaired by Sri L.S. Deshpande, and Sri Ashutosh Patil, Sri Avinash Sapre and Ms. Aruna Dubhashi presented their papers. Sri Patil said that between 1947 and 1960 criticism of Marathi poetry was oscillated between artistic and realistic and there was no theoretical criticism. Amongst the significant critics during this period were Mardhekar, Karandikar, W.L. Kulkarni, Dilip Chitre and Kusamawati Deshpande. Ms. Aruna Dubhashi’s paper discussed criticism of novels in Marathi from 1947 to 1960. She observed that this period was known for the impact of short stories and for the novel to come to the centre it took Nemade’s Kosla to come. But still S.V. Ketkar and Vaman Malar Joshi contributed to a great extent to criticism of novel. Sri T.S. Kulkarni chaired the second session, Sri Neelakantha Kadam, Sri Satish Badve and Sri Ramchandra Kalunkhe presented their papers. All the three papers established that Sudhir Rasal, Bhalchandra Nemade, Dilip Chitre, Vilas Sarang, Sudha Joshi and M.D. Hatkanangalekar were the major critics in the period from 1960 to until the date. The last session was meant for a Poets’ Meet. Sri Neelakantha Kadam, Sri Shridhar Nandedkar, Sri Keshav Deshmukh, Sri P. Vithal and Sri Pritviraj Taur recited their poems at the meet. Finally, Sri Kautikrao Thale Patil, Member, Marathi Advisory Board, delivered valedictory address.



PEOPLE AND BOOKS

September 12, 2014, Ahmedabad



The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, in collaboration with H.K. Arts College, organized a People and Books programme with Sri Bhagyesh Jha, Secretary Ramat-Gamat Yuva and Sanskriti Ministry, Gujarat State, in Ahmedabad at the Conference Hall of the college on September 12, 2014. Sri Harshadev Madhav, Member, Sanskrit Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the audience and introduced Sri Jha as a voracious reader, and a highly disciplined secretary of the state. Shri Bhagyesh Jha, talked about his favourite books of Sanskrit, English and Gujarati. Sri Jha concentrated his talk mainly on Meghdoot of Kalidasa. He narrated beauty of the relationship between mankind and nature and spoke of poetic art of metres, figures of speech and sentiments in the epic. Sri Subhash

Brahmbhatt, Principal, H.K. Arts College, proposed a vote of thanks.

HINDI SAPTAH

September 15 to 22, 2014, Mumbai

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai celebrated Hindi Week from 15th to 22nd September 2014. Handwriting, essay writing, and translation competitions were held during the week. Staff members including the ones working on contractual basis enthusiastically participated in the competitions. Prizes to the winners in the competitions were given away on Friday, 12th September 2014 by Sri Noor Parkar, noted Hindi and Urdu litterateur. Sri Parkar heartily congratulated all the staff members for so sportily participating in the competitions, and also appreciated their attempts. He said that it was very important that one felt to express himself/herself in Hindi. Further he said that we were probably linguistically richest nation and it was our cultural hallmark, but it was Hindi language that bridged the gap between languages and functioned as competent lingua franca. There were ample of dialects in Hindi and we should encourage, accept each of them. Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

MEET THE AUTHOR

September 14, 2014, Aurangabad

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, in collaboration with Marathwada Sahitya Parishad organized a Meet the Author with Sri Satish Alekar, distinguished Marathi playwright, on September 14, 2014 at Yashwantrao Chavhan Theatre, Aurangabad. Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed Sri Alekar and the scholars who had assembled and briefly spoke about the life and works of Sri Satish Alekar. Sri Alekar said that he was equally interested in taking his plays to audiences all over the country and abroad, and it was essential part of his creativity. He learnt a lot while watching his plays or for that matter any play, again and again, from the wings, said he. He said that he belonged more to the tradition of performance than that of literature, and had written plays only to be performed by his group. Sri Satish Alekar talked about various influences on his style and work and remembered fondly his teachers and other doyens of theatre. He talked about his friendship with Sri Jabber Patel that changed courses for him. He said that he was happy that there were number of excellent playwrights in Marathi today but the theatre lacked in organizational support. After his speech, he answered the questions put by the audience.



SYMPOSIUM ON SOCIAL AMBIENCE IN LITERATURE

September 27, 2014, Mumbai

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, organized a symposium on 'Social Ambience in Literature' on September 27, 2014 at Sahitya Akademi Auditorium in Mumbai. Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, welcomed the participants and audience. In order to understand the orientation of literature in the four western languages today, one must needs study their traditions and the literature in as many dimensions as possible, and at this symposium one would get to understand social ambience in literature, he said. The symposium was inaugurated by Sri Kirit Doodhat, distinguished Gujarati fiction writer. In the inaugural address Sri Kirit Doodhat elaborated on the tradition of Gujarati short stories and said that social ambience reflected in the works of Himanshi Shelat, Bindu Bhatt, Mahendra Parmara, Kanji Patel, Ajit Thakore and Mohan Parmara is noticeable. Sri Tanaji Halarnakar, Convener, Konkani Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the inaugural session. He said that social ambience varies from writer to writer even in same language, and as social ambience can influence literature, a literary work of art also can influence our social ambience.

Sri Prem Prakash, Convener, Sindhi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the first session. The papers were presented by Sri Kantibhai Malsattar (Gujarati), Sri Edwin JF DSouza (Konkani), Smt. Kamala Goklani (Sindhi), and Sri Krishna Kimbahune read out Sri Ranadhir Shinde's (Marathi) paper. Sri Kantibhai Malsattar said that social ambience could be studied in a more appropriate way in Gujarati folk literature than in the main stream Gujarati poetry. Contemporary dalit literature in Gujarati also competently reflected Gujarati social ambience. Sri Edwin JF DSouza's paper discussed the issues of scripts – Kannada, Devanagari and Roman – Konkani was written in. This paper also discussed as to how religion intervene literature. Sri Ranadhir Shinde's paper brought out the fact that the socio-cultural atmosphere was competently dealt with by Marathi fiction writers. Smt. Kamala Goklani said that the Sindhi poetry before the 20th century was influenced by Arabic and Persian literature. Social ambience in Sindhi literature could be felt considerably after 20th century Sindhi literature and today's literature reflected the issues of globalization and capitalization. Sri Balchandra Nemade, Convener, Marathi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the second session. Sri Pravin Pandya (Gujarati), Sri N. Shivdas (Konkani), Sri Mahendra Bhavare (Marathi) and Sri Jetho Lalwani (Sindhi) presented their papers. Sri Pravin Pandya pointed it out that politics, market, entertainment the so called "isms" had been overpowering human mind and the real social issues got skipped, but still a number of Gujarati writers and poets such as Govardhanam Tripathi,

Mahatma Gandhi, Zaverchand Meghani, Jayanti Dalal, Sitanshu Yashaschandra and Rajendra Shah wonderfully reflected social ambience. N. Shivdas said that social ambience in Konkani literature in Goa also reflected among communities of Goa, i.e., Hindu and Catholic, so to some extent as told earlier due to Portuguese influence of nearly 450 years, religious writings mainly was done in Roman script later on even some fictions too were written in Roman scripts. Mahendra Bhavare's paper discussed social ambience in terms of tradition of dalit literature in Marathi. He said that this literature reflected dark and brutal side of the society and evoked the deep sense of the need of liberation and revolt. Sri Jetho Lalwani said that contemporary Sindhi literature mostly dealt with human life in metropolitan cities hence it represented metropolitan ambience which was too incompetent to be termed as social ambience.

NARI CHETNA

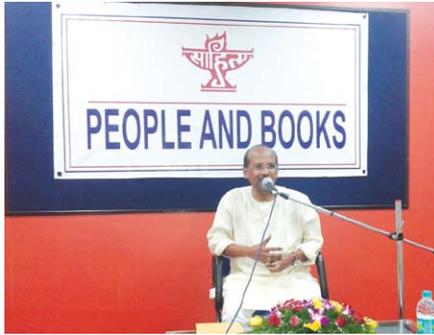
October 4, 2014, Jalna

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, in collaboration with Urmi Literary Organization, organized Nari Chetanaprogramme at Jalna on October 4, 2014. Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, welcomed the audience and introduced the participants to them. Ms. Aruna Dhere, Member, Marathi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the programme. Urmila Pawar, Chhaya Mahajan, Lalita Gadge and Sanjeevani Tadegaonkar participated in the programme. The programme was coupled with a two day Books Exhibition, and the exhibition was inaugurated by Urmila Pawar. Urmila Pawar read out excerpts from her highly acclaimed autobiography Aydan. Chhaya Mahajan read out her short story "Chakravyuv". Her story dealt with shallow and so called modern living styles and generation gap. Lalita Gadge recited four poems – "Deep", "Kahani", "Majhee Aai" and "Deesha Ujalat Aahet". Sanjeevani Tadegaonkar recited poems namely "Sagalyanchyach Nashibi Nasate", "Daatate Kaa Mani Murhur", "Dahuktya Paanyaaachya". Speaking from the chair Ms. Aruna Dhere appreciated the literature presented by the invitees saying that it was a very significant platform that Sahitya Akademi constituted, for it presented woman writers of various generations and this certainly proved that woman writing in Marathi is very important. Finally Sri Jayaram Khedekar, Manager, Urmi, proposed a vote of thanks.



PEOPLE AND BOOKS

October 10, 2014, Mumbai



Sri Bheemrao Panchale speaking about his life and books

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, organized a People and Books programme with Sri Bheemrao Panchale, celebrated Marathi ghazal singer in Mumbai, at Sahitya Akademi Auditorium on October 10, 2014. Welcoming the audience and the guest speaker, Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, introduced the Sri Panchale to the audience saying that Sri Panchale had been rendering his art of singing ghazals for last forty years in India and abroad. Besides singing, he was a very well-known social activist and an avid reader of literature. Sri Panchale talked about the impact of books and literature on his life. He said that he was the first in his entire family to take up education and habit of reading and today his personal library had around 5000 books. It was books and his art of singing that earned him lot of close friends and made his entry possible in Marathi intelligentsia of the world, he said. He shared that he loved reading Wali Dakhani, Meer Taqui Meer, Mirza Ghalib, Manto, Qurtul-Ein-Hyder, Franz Kafka, Ebn-e-Insha, Khusro, Charles Chaplin, Renu, Srilal Shukla, P.L. Deshpande, Suresh Bhat, Bhalchandra Nemade and N.D. Manohar et al. He said that after reading Suresh Bhat's Marathi ghazals he probed deeper into the genre and that led to his ghazal singing. After his spontaneous talk he enthusiastically interacted with the audience.

KAVISANDHI

October 11, 2014, Pune



Nand Jhaveri reciting his poems

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, in collaboration with Sindhi Adbi Sabha, organized a Kavisandhi programme with the noted Sindhi poet Sri Nand Jhaveri in Pune on October 11, 2014. Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, introduced Sri Jhaveri to the audience. Sri Jhaveri shared his traumatic experiences during the partition of India and read out his poems – "Sujanam", "Kachhu", "Paris Mein", "Jooti", "Hik Sadha Ki Sidhbel Khan Vapas", "Munh Kitne Chayo Hai", "Aghori Kavita", "Maan Pal Par Jo Paghi" and "Kudrat Jo Kanun". After poetry recitation, he answered the questions posed by the audience.

THROUGH MY WINDOW

October 17, 2014, Mumbai



Vasant Patankar speaking on the occasion

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, organized a Through My Window programme with Sri Vasant Patankar, who spoke of the life and works of the late Namdeo Dhasal, distinguished Marathi poet, in Mumbai, at Sahitya

Akademi Auditorium on October 17, 2014. Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the scholars assembled and introduced Sri Vasant Patankar to the audience. Sri Patankar said that he knew Dhasal from 1972-73, they were not close friends though. He studied Dhasal's poetry as well as his growth as human being and socio political activist. Dhasal wrote prose as well but what he had achieved in poetry was for greater than what he did in prose, he observed. Dhasal wrote more than 400 poems and his creative energy was invariably received by the readership with awe, he said. Sri Patankar observed that Dhasal's poetry in early stage included revolt, in the middle stage sorrow, pain, sympathy, helplessness and angst, and in the last stage it encapsulated metaphysics of human life, he categorized. Further he said that Dhasal's poetry stepped up the tradition of Marathi poetry, and the linguistic affluence of Marathi could easily be experienced in his poems. Dhasal's worldview as a poet was deeply influenced by the writings of Phuley, Ambedkar and Marx. Sri Krishna Kimbahune proposed a vote of thanks.

MEET THE AUTHOR

October 17, 2014, Panaji



Madhav Borcar

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, in collaboration with Kala Academy, Goa organized a Meet the Author programme with Sri Madhav Borcar, Sahitya Akademi award winning Konkani poet, on October 17, 2014 in



Panaji at Kala Academy. Mrs. Hema Naik, Member, Konkani Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the guest writer and audience, and invited the writer to deliver the speech. Sri Madhav Borkar talked briefly about his early life and influences on his writings etc. Then he said not only Marathi and Konkani litterateurs but giants like Rabindranath Tagore and Umashankar Joshi also influenced his worldview and poetry. He observed that once a poem was written, it hardly remained the poet's property but it was now the property of its readers. After his talk he interacted with the audience. Sri Tanaji Halarnakar, Convener, Konkani Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

MEET THE AUTHOR

October 18, 2014, Panaji



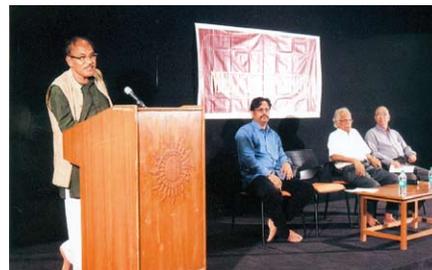
Prakash Padgaonkar speaking about poetry and his life

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, in collaboration with Kala Academy, Goa organized a Meet the Authorprogramme with Sri Prakash Padgaonkar, Sahitya Akademi award winning Konkani poet, on October 17, 2014 in Panaji at Kala Academy. Sri Tanaji Halarnakar, Convener, Konkani Advisory Board, welcomed the guest writer and audience, and invited the writer to deliver the speech. Sri Prakash Padgaonkar said that he attempted to search his identity through poetry and that he

and his poetry were inseparable. He reminisced his painful childhood and poverty which caused many obstacles in his education. While sharing the process of writing poetry he said that in the gap between the two poems lied the birth of a new poem. He shared that the modern man of the day was the major theme of his poetry. After his talk he answered the quires put by the audience. Sri Prakash Parienkar, Member, Konkani Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

MEET THE AUTHOR

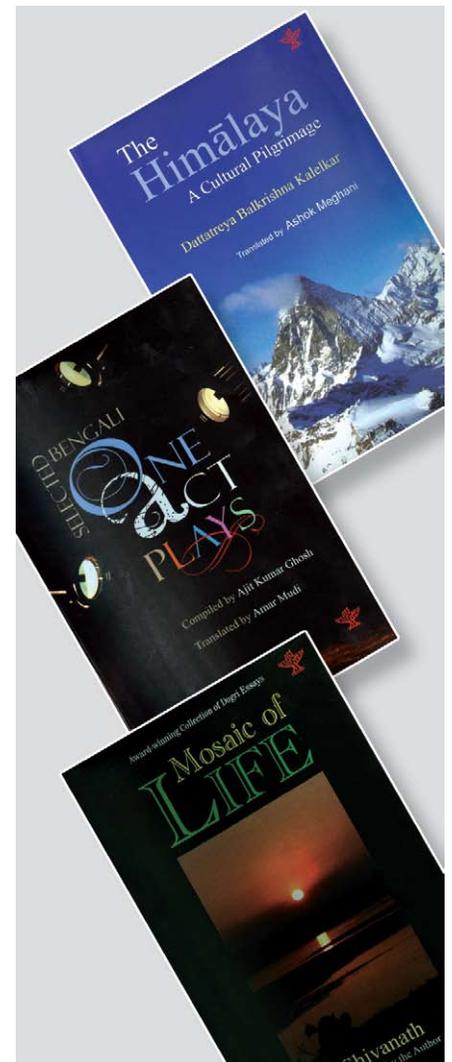
October 19, 2014, Panaji



Mahabaleshwar Sail interacting with the participants

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, in collaboration with Kala Academy, Goa organized a Meet the Authorprogramme with Sri Mahabaleshwar Sail, Sahitya Akademi award winning Konkani fiction writer, on October 19, 2014 in Panaji at Kala Academy. Father Mouzinho Ataide, Member, Konkani Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the guest writer and audience, and invited the writer to deliver the speech. Sri Mahabaleshwar Sail said that the Konkani language was his life and soul, and he found it to be matter of pride to express himself in Konkani. He observed that it was his unusual range of experiences that compelled him to write fiction. His experiences were so unusual and varied that

they ranged from the life in armed forces, forests, pleasing nature at his native village, and the life in foreign countries like Egypt and others. Sri Sail also said he made a prerequisite for himself that no experience in his life be skipped from his creative writing, and that his writing should encapsulate each of the social strata. He shared that a socio historical theme of his latest novel Yug Sanwar was very challenging for him, for he attempted to engulf the period of almost 400 years in the novel. After his talk he frankly interacted with the audience. The series of programmes was ended with a vote of thanks by Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi.





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