

Library

21 October 2011



Sahitya Akademi



Indian Institute of Sindhology

invite you to

meet the author

Kala Prakash





scene, a new dawn emerged on the wings of Sindhi fiction. Her novels and short stories rear up like a towering wave in the ocean of Sindhi fiction's battle for the future of mankind. Being an adorned writer, Kala Prakash is considered today as one of the foremost women writers of Sindhi literature.

Kala Prakash is an eminent fiction writer and a pinnacle of poetic prose of Sindhi literature.

Kala Prakash has walked steadfastly on a thorny path of struggle during the post partition period of Sindhi literature. That was the time when a displaced Sindhi community was struggling to find its roots on a raw soil.

With arrival of Kala Prakash on the Sindhi literary

Born in a middle class family in Karachi - Sindh (now in Pakistan) in 1934, she migrated to India after the Partition of the country and settled in Bombay (now Mumbai). Having her primary education in Karachi, she pursued her secondary and college education in Bombay (now Mumbai), where she acquired her Masters degree from Bombay University. She joined government service for a short period, but soon after she quit it to take up a profession of her choice that was of an academician and joined as a lecturer in Sindhi in



Kala Prakash in her office in Dubai (1990)



Kala Prakash along with her husband Moti Prakash being felicitated in a function in Dubai by Sindhi Sangat. (2002)

one of the reputed colleges. In the year 1980, she immigrated to Dubai to join her poet husband, Moti Prakash, and took up a position of Head Mistress of a secondary school.

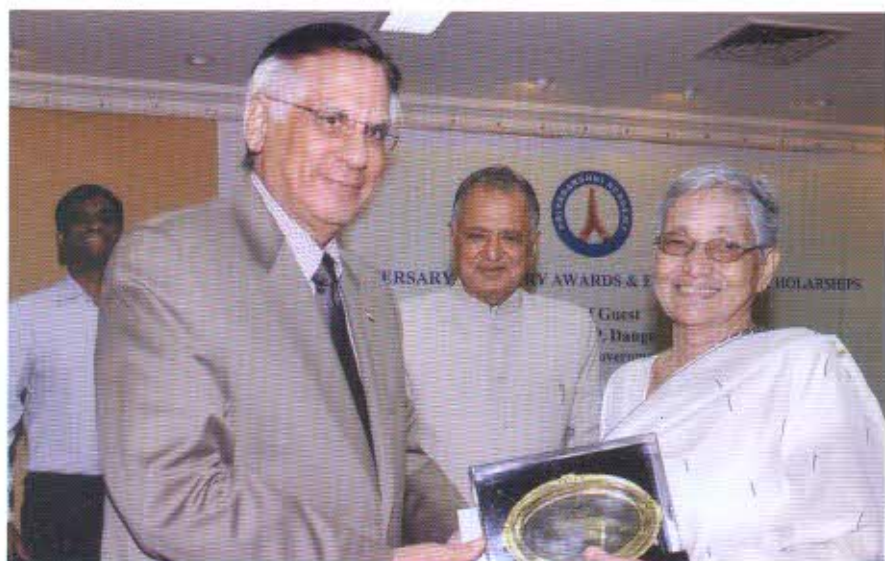
Kala Prakash's yeoman services to the cause of literature are spread over the last six decades. Her first short story "Dohi-Be Dohi" (Guilty-Not Guilty) appeared in 1953

in a prominent literary magazine *Naeen-Duniya*, published from Bombay (Now Mumbai). Since then, she has not looked back.

During the initial period of her writings, the themes of Kala Prakash's novels and short stories revolved around the dilemma of an uprooted community and the problems faced by it in the post partitioned India. Her short



Kala Prakash with Mahtaab Mehboob, Mahboob, Salim Memon & Taj Baloch



Kala Prakash receiving Ram Panjwani Literary Award

story, "Khanwahan", earned her an instant success as story-teller. This story is translated into many a regional language and published rapidly in Sindhi where it is adjudged as a masterly creation of a writer of intellectual honesty and emotional maturity.

Kala Prakash's novel *Arsee-a-Ado* (In front of Mirror) which earned her the

is projected to be an iconic contribution to Sindhi literature.

Kala Prakash was married to Moti Prakash, distinguished Sindhi poet and writer. The couple has a son Shrikant 'Sadaf' and daughter Sindhu. Shrikant 'Sadaf' is a young poet, having made a mark in ghazal form of poetry, with freshness of thought and modern imagery.



Kala Prakash receiving the Sahitya Akademi Award at the hands of U. R. Anantha Murthy

Kala Prakash has created a niche for herself in her novels by maintaining congruity between intellectual as well as popular class of readers as such she is adorned by readers of every hue. Her handling of sensitive and delicate subjects and themes of her novels as well as short stories shows her awareness which makes her distinct from her contemporary writers.

Kala Prakash in her novels and short stories has depicted a realistic picture of middle class society, in which female characters are not only prominent, but at times domineering. Her Sahitya Akademi Award winning novel *Arsee-a-Ado* (In front of Mirror) is based on a life story of a person, who is struggling to cherish his dreams which he has brought along with him to an alien land. In this award winning novel Kala Prakash has successfully reflected various facets of life and human behaviour.

Besides this award winning novel, all of Kala Prakash's writings are written in a lucid style, in which she has restrained herself from verbose narrative. These qualities make Kala Prakash's writings quite stirring. Together with her poet husband Moti Prakash, the writer couple happens to be the only Sahitya Akademi Award winning wife-husband duo.



at the
Sahitya Akademi Award function

Apart from novels and short stories, Kala Prakash has successfully tried her hand in other genres of literature, such as travelogue, pen portrait and papers for literary seminars.

Her collection of prose-poetry *Mamta-Joon-Lahrn* (Waves of Motherly Love) portrays a child's innocent mind and its spontaneous response to maternal love and care. Full of motherly sentiments, it vividly describes the curious mind of a child to know about worldly things. With lyrical diction, clarity of expression and profundity of thought, this fresh format of Kala Prakash's prose-poetry reminds a reader of Tagore's lyrical style. The collection has gone into many editions in India and Sindh (Pakistan).

A SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

NOVEL

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------|
| <i>Hik Dil Hazaar Arman</i> | 1957 |
| <i>Shishe Ji Dil</i> | 1960 |
| <i>Hik Sapno Sukhan Jo</i> | 1971 |
| <i>Hayaati Hotan Re</i> | 1975 |
| <i>Waqat-Vithyoon-Vichhotiyoona</i> | 1988 |
| <i>Aarsia Ado</i> | 1992 |
| <i>Pyar</i> | 1997 |
| <i>Pakhan Ji Preer</i> | 1998 |
| <i>Samund Ain Kinaro</i> | 2004 |
| <i>Aukha Pandh Pyaar Jaa</i> | 2010 |

POETIC PROSE

| | |
|----------------------------|------|
| <i>Mamta Joon Lahrn</i> | 1963 |
| <i>Mamta Joon Lahrn II</i> | 2006 |

SHORT STORY

| | |
|-----------------------|------|
| <i>Murk Ain Mamto</i> | 1973 |
| <i>Varan Me Gul</i> | 1993 |
| <i>Intezaar</i> | 2008 |

PENPORTRAIT

| | |
|------------------------------|------|
| <i>Je hiamre Manjh Huran</i> | 1987 |
|------------------------------|------|

A CHRONOLOGY

- 1934 Was born on 2nd January
- 1953 Graduated from University of Bombay
Joined Sindhi Sahit Mandal
First short story – “Dohi Be Dohi” – published
- 1954 Married Moti Prakash, eminent Sindhi poet and writer
- 1957 First novel – *Hik Dil Hazaar Armaan* - published
- 1965 Won Akhil Bharat Sindhi Boli Ain Sahit Sabha's appreciation of her book *Mamta Joon Lahrn*.
- 1992 Maharashtra Sindhi Sahitya Academy Award for contribution to Sindhi Literature. Felicitated by Sindhi Community in Dubai
Akhil Bharat Sindhi Boli & Sahit Award (second time)
- 1994 The Sahitya Akademi Award
- 2001 Ishwari Jivat Buxani Award along with Moti Prakash
- 2010 Priya Darshini Academy Award (Ram Panjwani Literary Award for Sindhi Literature)
- 2011 Sindhi Language Authority Award