

Annual Report 2017-18



Sahitya Akademi
(National Academy of Letters)

President : Dr Chandrashekhhar Kambar

Vice-President : Sri Madhav Kaushik

Secretary : Dr K. Sreenivasarao

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New President and Vice President of Sahitya Akademi

The General Council of Sahitya Akademi, in its 188th meeting, elected two distinguished litterateurs, Dr Chandrashekhar Kambar and Sri Madhav Kaushik, as President and Vice President of Sahitya Akademi, respectively. Their tenure is for the period of five years between 2018 and 2022.

Dr Chandrashekhar Kambar is a prominent poet, playwright, folklorist, film director in Kannada language and the founder Vice-Chancellor of Kannada University in Hampi. He is well-known for his effective adaptation of the North Karnataka dialect of the Kannada language in his plays, and poems. He was the Chairman, Karnataka Nataka Academy and National School of Drama Society, New Delhi.



After a brief stint in teaching in the University of Chicago, he taught in Bangalore University for over two decades. He has 25 plays, 11 anthologies of poems, 5 novels and 16 research works to his credit, besides several

scholarly write-ups on folk theatre, literature and education. His plays have been widely translated and staged in many Indian languages and published in English. He has made five feature films and many documentaries for the Government of Karnataka and Government of India, a few of which won national as well as state awards. He also presented papers on Indian Folklore and Theatre in different universities in India and abroad. He was a Fulbright Scholar and has been conferred with many prestigious awards including Padma Shri by Government

of India, Jnanpith Award, Sahitya Akademi Award, Sangeet Natak Akademi Award, Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship, Kabir Samman, Kalidas Samman, Nadoja Award, Pampa Award and Karnataka Sahitya Akademi Award.

Sri Madhav Kaushik is a renowned Hindi poet and writer and has more than two dozen published books to his credit including poetry collections, short story collections and children literature. Some of his books have been translated into other Indian languages. He has also written songs and scripts for telefilms and has participated in a number of TV and radio programmes. His works have been included in the syllabus of some universities of Punjab and he has been the former Secretary of Chandigarh Sahitya Akademi and member, Governing Council, Haryana Sahitya Akademi. He is the recipient of several awards including Haryana Sahitya Akademi Award, Babu Bal Mukund Gupta Award, All India Balraj Sahni Award, Rabindra Nath Vashishth Samman, Rashtriya Hindi Sewi Sahstrabdi Samman and Abra Simabi Samman.



SAHITYA AKADEMI

(National Academy of Letters)

Sahitya Akademi, India's Premier Institution of Letters, preserves and promotes literature in 24 languages of India recognized by it. It organizes programmes, confers Awards and Fellowships on writers in Indian languages, and publishes books throughout the year and in 24 recognized languages.

Over the past six decades, the Akademi has published over 7000 books in 24 languages. The Akademi publishes original works and also works in translation — fiction, poetry, drama and criticism — covering classical, medieval, pre-modern and contemporary literature. The Akademi is also involved in promoting quality children's literature.

Akademi Awards are the most prestigious literary awards in India. Sahitya Akademi Award (awarded to the most outstanding book(s) of literary merit published in the 24 Indian languages recognized by the Akademi.), Bhasha Samman (given to writers / scholars / editors / collectors / performers / translators who have made considerable contribution to the propagation and enrichment of languages that have not been recognized by the Akademi in addition to stellar contributions to the research into classical and medieval literature of the country), Translation Prize (given to outstanding translations in all the 24 languages recognized by the Akademi), Bal Sahitya Puraskar (given to outstanding contributions to children's literature in 24 languages) and Yuva Puraskar (given to young Indian writers in 24 languages) are the awards instituted by the Akademi.

Every year the Akademi hosts at least 50 Seminars at regional, national and international

levels, more than 100 Symposia and a large number of birth centenary seminars and symposia, in addition to more than 400 literary gatherings, workshops and lectures. Meet the Author (where a distinguished writer talks about his / her works and life), Samvatsar Lectures (given by a distinguished writer / creative thinker who has a thorough understanding of Indian literature), Kavi Anuvadak (provides opportunity for the audience to enjoy poetry in both the original language and in translation), People and Books (where distinguished persons from interdisciplinary areas deliver lectures), Kathasandhi (a programme where a novel in the process or recently published short stories are read and discussed), Kavisandhi (providing poetry lovers an opportunity to hear the poetry being read out by the poet herself / himself), Loka (a programme on folklore comprising lectures and performances), Nari Chetna (a programme to provide platform for women writers writing in Indian languages), Yuva Sahiti (a new programme to encourage young writers writing in different Indian languages), Purvottari (a platform aimed at providing opportunities for writers from North-East to showcase their talent) Gramalok (Village Outreach Programme) and Translation workshops (bringing together translators from different parts of the country) are some of the popular programmes of the Akademi. The Akademi organizes Festival of Letters every year to celebrate Indian writing. Sahitya Akademi promotes Tribal and Oral Literature in the country through its Centre for Tribal and Oral Literature in Delhi and North-East Centre for Oral Literature in Imphal.

The Akademi also confers Fellowships on eminent Indian writers and foreign scholars who have served Indian literature. Ananda Coomaraswamy Fellowship for scholars from Asian countries to pursue literary projects and Premchand Fellowship for scholars doing research on Indian literature from SAARC countries are two other prominent Fellowships of the Akademi.

Monographs on Indian writers (MIL), Encyclopaedias and Anthologies are some of the major projects undertaken by the Akademi. Recently, the Ministry of Culture has entrusted Sahitya Akademi with the new Indian Literature Abroad project for translating, projecting and promoting Indian works of literature globally. Through this, Sahitya Akademi supports and facilitates the promotion of Indian literary heritage and translation of contemporary Indian literature into major foreign languages. The Akademi is also involved in Cultural Exchanges with different countries and sends and receives several writers' delegations every year besides taking part in literary festivals and book fairs abroad.

The President

The first President of the Sahitya Akademi was Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru. He was re-elected in 1963. After his demise in May 1964, the General Council elected Dr. S. Radhakrishnan as the President of Sahitya Akademi. Then, after the reconstitution of the General Council, Dr. Zakir Husain was elected as the President of the Akademi in 1968. After his demise in May 1969, the General Council elected Dr. Suniti Kumar Chatterji as the President. He was re-elected by the General Council in February 1973. After his death in May 1977, Prof. K.R. Srinivasa Iyengar, Vice President, was designated as the Acting President. In February 1978, Prof. Umashanar

Joshi was elected as the President. In February 1983, Prof. V.K. Gokak was elected the President and in February 1988, Dr. B.K. Bhattacharyya was elected. Prof. U.R. Anantha Murthy became the President in 1993. Sri Ramakanta Rath was elected President in 1998, after whom Prof. Gopi Chand Narang became President in 2003. Sri Sunil Gangopadhyay was elected President in 2008. Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari was elected President in 2013. The General Council was reconstituted for the term 2018-2022, and elected Dr. Chandrashekhar Kambar as its President in 2018.

The Constitution

The Sahitya Akademi was established by a resolution passed by the Government of India on 15 December, 1952, in which the Constitution of the Akademi was originally embodied. The Akademi functions as an autonomous organization and the power to amend its Constitution rests with the General Council of the Akademi. This power has been exercised from time to time.

Languages Recognized

Besides the twenty-two languages enumerated in the Constitution of India, Sahitya Akademi also recognizes English and Rajasthani as languages in which its programmes are to be implemented. There are Language Advisory Boards, which have been constituted to render advice for implementing literary programmes in the twenty-four languages recognized by the Akademi. The following are the languages recognized by the Akademi: Assamese, Bengali, Bodo, Dogri, English, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Maithili, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Odia, Punjabi, Rajasthani, Sanskrit, Santali, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu.

The Organization

Head Office: The Head Office of Sahitya Akademi is housed in Rabindra Bhavan, 35 Ferozeshah Road, New Delhi. This building was constructed in 1961 to commemorate the birth centenary of Rabindranath Tagore, and houses all the three National Akademis, namely, the Sangeet Natak Akademi, the Lalit Kala Akademi and the Sahitya Akademi. The Head Office is responsible for publishing publications and organizing programmes in eleven languages, that is, Dogri, English, Hindi, Kashmiri, Maithili, Nepali, Punjabi, Rajasthani, Sanskrit, Santali and Urdu.

Regional Office, Kolkata: The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata was set up in 1956 and is located at 4 D.L. Khan Road, Kolkata. The Regional Office of Kolkata is responsible for publications and programmes in Assamese, Bengali, Bodo, Manipuri and Odia, along with programmes in other North-East Indian languages. The Regional Office of Kolkata also maintains a library.

Regional Office, Bengaluru: The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru was established in 1990. The southern regional office was originally established in Chennai in 1959 and later shifted to Central College Campus, Dr B.R. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru in 1990. This Regional Office is responsible for the publications and programmes in Kannada, Malayalam and Telugu. This regional office also maintains a library.

Sub-Regional Office, Chennai: The Southern Regional Office was set up in Chennai in 1959 and was later converted to a Sub-regional office in 1990 with the shifting of Regional Office to Bengaluru. Chennai Sub-regional office is

responsible for programmes and publications in Tamil and is located at Guna Complex, Main Building, (II Floor) Rear Side, 443 (Old No. 304) Ana Salai, Teynampet, Chennai.

Regional Office, Mumbai: The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai was set up in 1972 and is located at 172, Mumbai Marathi Grantha Sangrahalaya Marg, Dadar, Mumbai. It looks after the publications and programmes in Gujarati, Konkani, Marathi and Sindhi. This regional office also maintains a library.

Sale of Publications: Sahitya Akademi's Sales Section is at "Swati", Mandir Marg, New Delhi. Its publications are also sold at its offices at Mumbai, Kolkata, Bengaluru and Chennai, besides sales outlets in Kashmere Gate and Vishwavidyala metro stations in New Delhi.

Library: The Sahitya Akademi Library is one of the largest multilingual libraries in India and has a rich collection of books on literature and allied subjects in the twenty-four languages recognized by Sahitya Akademi. The libraries at the Regional Offices are being built up as centres for the concerned regional languages and are being envisaged as liaison institutions for language libraries in the regions.

Sahitya Akademi Website: Sahitya Akademi's website <https://www.sahitya-akademi.gov.in> carries details of the genesis, objectives, role and history of the Sahitya Akademi, the complete catalogue of its books arranged language-wise, information about its journals, literary activities, special projects, details of Awards and Fellowships, a description of the Library, and an assessment of the achievements of the institution over the years. The Akademi website is regularly updated.

Highlights of 2017-2018

- Akademi Awards 2017 were presented.
- Akademi Translation Prizes 2016 were presented.
- Akademi Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2017 were presented.
- Akademi Yuva Puraskar 2017 were presented.
- Bhasha Samman was presented.
- Sahitya Akademi Fellowship was presented.
- For the first time in its history, the Akademi organized programmes in Lakshadweep and Nagaland.
 - A total of 560 programmes were organized across the country.
 - 55 Seminars, 88 Symposia and 2 Language Conventions were organized.
 - 115 Literary Forum programmes were organized.
 - 10 Loka, 4 Mulakat, 5 Yuva Sahiti, 16 Kathasandhi, 24 Kavisandhi, 9 Asmita, 7 Multilingual Meets, 22 Writers' Meets, 12 Tribal & Oral Literature programmes, 17 North-Eastern & Regional Meets, 11 Nari Chetna, 12 Through My Window programmes, 15 Meet the Author programmes, 5 People and Books programmes, 7 Translation Workshops and 6 Creative Writing Workshops, apart from 118 literary events in different heads and all over the country, were organized.
- 524 books including reprints were published.
- 197 book Exhibitions were organized and participated in 2017-2018.
- 1147 volumes were added to the existing collection of books in Sahitya Akademi libraries.
- 6 documentaries on eminent Indian Writers were produced taking tally of Sahitya Akademi documentaries to 136.
- 6 issues of Indian Literature, 6 issues of Samakaleena Bharatiya Sahitya and 4 issues of Sanskrit Pratibha were published.

AWARDS

Sahitya Akademi Award 2017

The Executive Board of the Sahitya Akademi which met on 21 December 2017 at New Delhi, under the Chairmanship of its President, Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, approved selection of 24 books for the Sahitya Akademi Award 2017. The books were selected on the basis of recommendations made by the Jury comprising three members each in the concerned languages in accordance with the rules and procedure laid down for the purpose. According to the procedure, the Executive Board declared the Awards on the basis of unanimous selections made by the Jury or selection made on the basis of majority vote. The Awards relate to books first published during the five years immediately preceding the year of Award (i.e. between 1 January 2011 and 31 December 2015).

Recipients of Sahitya Akademi Award 2017

Assamese	Jayanta Madhab Bora, <i>Moriahola</i> (Novel)
Bengali	Afsar Ahmed, <i>Sei Nikhonj Manusta</i> (Novel)
Bodo	Rita Boro, <i>Thwisam</i> (Novel)
Dogri	Shiv Mehta, <i>Banna</i> (Short Stories)
English	Mamang Dai, <i>The Black Hill</i> (Novel)
Gujarati	Urmi Ghanshyam Desai, <i>Gujarati Vyakaranna Baso Varsh</i> (Criticism)
Hindi	Ramesh Kuntal Megh, <i>Vishw Mithak Sarit Sagar</i> (Literary Criticism)
Kannada	T.P. Ashoka, <i>Kathana Bharathi</i> (Literary Criticism)
Kashmiri	Autar Krishen Rahbar, <i>Yeli Parda Woth</i> (Short Stories)
Konkani	Gajanan Raghunath Jog, <i>Khand Ani Her Katha</i> (Short Stories)
Maithili	Udaya Narayan Singh 'Nachiketa', <i>Jahalak Diary</i> (Poetry)
Malayalam	K.P. Ramanunni, <i>Daivathinte Pusthakam</i> (Novel)
Manipuri	Rajen Toijamba, <i>Chahee Taret Khuntakpa</i> (Play)
Marathi	Shrikant Deshmukh, <i>Bolave Te Amhi</i> (Poetry)
Nepali	Bina Hangkhim, <i>Kriti Vimarsha</i> (Literary Criticism)
Odia	Gayatri Saraf, <i>Etavatira Shilpi</i> (Short Stories)
Punjabi	Nachhatar, <i>Slow Down</i> (Novel)
Rajasthani	Neeraj Daiya, <i>Bina Hasal Pai</i> (Criticism)
Sanskrit	Niranjan Mishra, <i>Gangaputravadanam</i> (Poetry)
Santali	Bhujanga Tudu, <i>Tahena.n Tangi Re</i> (Poetry)
Sindhi	Jagdish Lachhani, <i>Aachhende Laja Maraan</i> (Essays)
Tamil	(Late) Inqulab, <i>Kaandhal Naatkal</i> (Poetry)
Telugu	T. Devipriya, <i>Gaali Rangu</i> (Poetry)
Urdu	Mohammed Baig Ehsas, <i>Dakhma</i> (Short Stories)



Jayanta Madhab Bora



Afsar Ahmed



Rita Baro



Shiv Mehta



Mamang Dai



Urmi Ghanshyam Desai



Ramesh Kuntal Megh



T.P. Ashoka



Autar Krishen Rahbar



Gajanan Raghunath Jog



Udaya Narayan Singh 'Nachiketa'



K.P. Ramanunni



Rajen Toijamba



Shrikant Deshmukh



Bina Hangkhim



Gayatri Saraf



Nachatar



Nccraj Daiya



Niranjan Mishra



Bhujanga Tudu



Jagdish Lachhani



T. Devipriya



Mohammed Baig Ehsas

Jury Members of Sahitya Akademi Award 2017

Assamese

Ms. Leena Sarma
Dr. Lakshminandan Bora
Prof. Sailen Bharali

Bengali

Prof. Amitra Sudan Bhattacharya
Sri Buddhadeb Dasgupta
Sri Debes Ray

Bodo

Dr. Adaram Basumatary
Prof. Durgeshwar Boro
Sri Rabiram Ramchiary

Dogri

Dr. Gyan Singh
Sri Gianeshwar
Dr. Om Goswami

English

Sri Harish Narang
Prof. Juanita War
Prof. Shyamala A. Narayan

Gujarati

Prof. Kantilal Patel
Sri Naresh Ved
Smt. Varsha Adalja

Hindi

Dr. Sadanand Gupta
Sri Vijay Bahadur Singh
Ms. Nasira Sharma

Kannada

Dr. G.M. Hegde
Dr. Shanta Imrapura
Dr. Shivaram Padikkal

Kashmiri

Prof. Farooq Nazki
Sri Manshoor Banihali
Prof. O.N. Koul

Konkani

Sri Ramesh Veluskar
Sri Mahabaleshwar Sail
Prof. S.M. Borges

Maithili

Dr. Brajkishore Mishra
Sri Rajanandan Laldas
Sri Tulanand Mishra

Malayalam

Dr. Ajayapuram Jyothish Kumar
Dr. N. Anil Kumar
Dr. Prabhavarma

Manipuri

Dr. K. Nayan Chand Singha
Prof. Kh. Kunjo Singh
Prof. Thoidingjam Tombi Singh

Marathi

Sri Jayant Pawar
Ms. Pushpa Bhawe
Sri Sadanand More

Nepali

Ms. Indramani Darnal
Sri Laxman Srimal
Sri Pempa Tamang

Odia

Prof. Madhusudan Pati
Sri Santanu Kumar Acharya
Dr. Soubhagya Kumar Misra

Punjabi

Prof. Devinder Singh
Sri Jasbir Singh Sindhu
Sri Kewal Dhaliwal

Rajasthani

Dr. Dev Kothari
Dr. Kalyan Singh Shekhawat
Sri Shivraj Chhangani

Sanskrit

Prof. Dipti Tripathi
Prof. Haridutta Sharma
Prof. Kutumba Shastri

Santali

Sri Gobinda Chandra Majhi
Dr. J.N. Murmu
Dr. Ratan Chandra Hembram

Sindhi

Dr. Dayal Asha
Sri Vasdev Mohi
Sri Vimmi Sadaranagani

Tamil

Sri Indran
Sri Pa. Jeyaprakasam
Sri Ponneelan

Telugu

Sri A.N. Jagannatha Sarma
Sri K. Siva Reddy
Dr. Sampath Kumar

Urdu

Prof. Ashraf Rafi
Sri Nand Kishore Vikram
Sri Salam Bin Razzaq

Sahitya Akademi Prize for Translation 2017

The Executive Board of the Sahitya Akademi which met on 21 December 2017 at New Delhi, under the Chairmanship of its President, Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari approved selection of 24 books for the Sahitya Akademi Translation Prize 2017. The books were selected on the basis of recommendations made by the Jury comprising of three members each in the concerned languages in accordance with the rules and procedure laid down for the purpose. According to the procedure, the Executive Board declared the Awards on the basis of unanimous selections made by the Jury or selection made on the basis of majority vote. The prize relates, to translations first published during the five years immediately preceding the year of Prize for Translation (i.e. between 1 January 2011 and 31 December 2015).

Recipients of Sahitya Akademi Prize for Translation 2017

- Assamese Babul Tamuli, *Eti Koli Duti Pat* (*Two Leaves And A Bud* [English], Novel by Mulk Raj Anand)
- Bengali (Late) Utpal Kumar Basu, *Kebal Atmai Jane Kibhabe Gan Gaitte Hay: Nirbachita Kabita* (*Only The Soul Knows How To Sing* [English] Poetry by Kamala Das)
- Bodo Gobinda Basumatary, *Gaddar* (*Gaddar* [Hindi] Novel by Krishan Chander)
- Dogri Yash Raina, *Pichhlag* (*Angalyat* [Gujarati] Novel by Joseph Macwan)
- English Ranjita Biswas, *Written In Tears* (*Selection* [Assamese] Short Stories & Novella by Arupa Patangia Kalita)
- Gujarati Harish Meenashru, *Hampeena Khadako* (*Evaregina Hilatena Kela* [Kannada] Poetry by Chandrashekhar Kambar)
- Hindi Pratibha Agrawal, *Abhinay Natak Manch* (*Abhinay Natak Manch* [Bengali] Rangmunch by Sombhu Mitra)
- Kannada H.S. Srimathi, *Mahashweta Devi Ayava Katha Sahitya(1 & 2)* (*Selected Stories Of Mahashweta Devi* [Bengali] Short Stories by Mahashweta Devi)
- Kashmiri Iqbal Nazki, *Araam Kursi* (*Chaivu Narkali* [Tamil] Novel by Thopil Mohammad Meeran)
- Konkani Prashanti Talpankar, *Dirgh Maun Tye* (*That Long Silence* [English] Novel by Shashi Deshpande)
- Maithili Indra Kant Jha, *Aangliyat* (*Aangliyat* [Gujarati] Novel by Joseph Macwan)
- Malayalam K. S. Venkitachalam, *Agrahaarathile Poocha* (*Selection* [Tamil] Short Stories by Jayakanthan)
- Manipuri Naorem Bidyasagar Singha, *Manimahesh* (*Manimahesh* [Bengali] Travelogue by Uma Prasad Mukhopadhyay)
- Marathi Sujata Laxmikant Deshmukh, *Gauhar Jaan Mhantaat Mala* (*My Name Is Gauhar Jaan* [English] Biography by Vikram Sampath)
- Nepali Chandramani Upadhyaya, *Jibanka Batama* (*Jiban Ka Batotama* [Assamese] Novel by Bina Barua)
- Odia Suryamani Khuntia, *Yugant* (*Yugant* (Marathi Story of the Mahabharata) [Marathi] Short Stories by Irawati Karve)
- Punjabi Jinder, *Ramdarsh Mishra Dian Chonvian Kahanian* (*Ramdarsh Mishra : Sankalit Kahaniyan* [Hindi] Short Stories by Ramdarsh Mishra)
- Rajasthan Krishna Jakhar, *Gatha Tista Paar Ri* (*Tista Parer Britant* [Bengali] Novel by Debesh Rai)
- Sanskrit Praveen Pandya, *Soundaryasrotarswini Narmada* (*Saundaryana Nadi Narmada* [Gujarati] Travelogue by Amrit Lal Vegad)
- Santali Surya Singh Besra, *Matkom Rasa* (*Madhushala* [Hindi] Poetry by Harivansh Rai Bachchan)
- Sindhi Arjun Chawla, *Sarhad Taan* (*Sarhad Se* [Hindi] Poetry by Manohar Batham)
- Tamil Yuma Vasuki, *Kasaakin Ithikasam* (*Khasakkinte Ithihasam* [Malayalam] Novel by O. V. Vijayan)
- Telugu Venna Vallabha Rao, *Viraamamerugani Payanam* (*Khanabadosh* [Punjabi] Autobiography by Ajeet Cour)
- Urdu Mahmood Ahmad Sahar, *Kalidas Ki Azeem Shairi - Meghdoot (Vol-I)* (*Meghdoot* [Sanskrit] Poetry by Kalidas)



Late Babul Tamuli



Late Utpal Kumar Basu



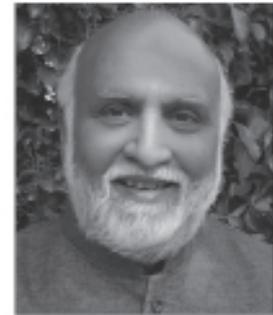
Gobinda Basumatary



Yash Raina



Ranjita Biswas



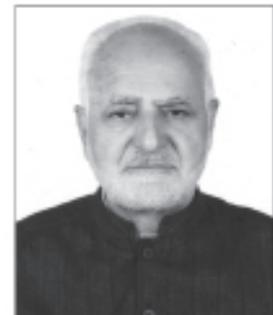
Harish Meenashru



Pratibha Agrawal



H. S. Srimathi



Iqbal Nazki



Prashanti Talpalkar



Indra Kant Jha



K. S. Venkitachalam



Naorem Bidyasagar Singha



Sujata Laxmikant Deshmukh



Chandramani Upadhyaya



Suryamani Khuntia



Jinder



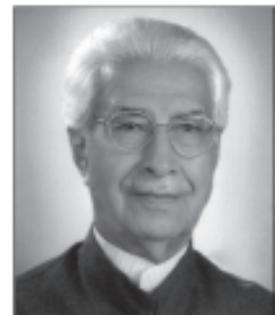
Krishna Jakhar



Praveen Pandya



Surya Singh Besra



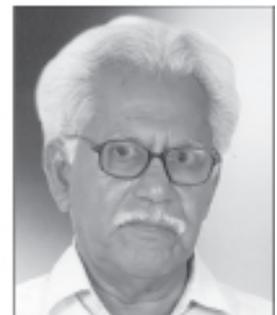
Arjun Chawla



Yuma Vasuki



Venna Vallabha Rao



Mahmood Ahmad Sahar

Jury Members of Sahitya Akademi Prize for Translation 2017

Assamese

Dr. Kutubuddin Ahmed
Dr. Lilawati Saikia Bora
Dr. Umesh Deka

Bengali

Prof. Sudeshna Chakraborty
Prof. Sukanta Chaudhury
Smt. Shubha Chakraborty Dasgupta

Bodo

Sri Aleendra Brahma
Sri Maneswar Basumatary
Sri Upendra Baro (U. Deury)

Dogri

Sri Darshan Darshi
Dr. Rattan Basotra
Sri Krishan Sharma

English

Dr. Pradeep Deshpande
Ms. Vanamala Vishwanath
Prof. B.M. Bhalla

Gujarati

Prof. Jayendra M. Patel (J. Shekhadiwala)
Sri Prakash N. Shah
Sri Vinesh Antani

Hindi

Prof. Gopinathan
Prof. Pawan Agarwal
Dr. Ramshankar Dwivedi

Kannada

Smt. J. N. Thejashree
Prof. Tejaswi Kattimani
Dr. K. R. Sandhya Reddy

Kashmiri

Sri Naji Munawar
Sri Rafeeq Raaz
Prof. Ratan Lal Shant

Konkani

Sri Pundalik N. Naik
Sri Shridhar Kamat Bambolkar
Dr. Prakash Vazrikar

Maithili

Sri Panchanan Mishra
Sri Vaidyanath Jha
Dr. Vijay Kumar Chaudhary

Malayalam

Dr. K.G. Paulose
Dr. M.D. Radhika
Sri P.P. Sreedharanunni

Manipuri

Smt. N.G. Sushila Devi
Dr. Elangbam Vijay Lakshmi
Sri Ratan Thiyam

Marathi

Smt. Anuradha Patil
Sri Makarand Sathe
Dr. Narendra Jadhav

Nepali

Dr. Ghanashyam Nepal
Sri Hasta Nechali
Dr. T. N. Upadhaya

Odia

Prof. Panchanan Mohanty
Prof. Sanghamitra Mishra
Dr. Krushna Chandra Bhuyan

Punjabi

Sri Tarsem
Prof. Uma Sethi
Dr. Vanita

Rajasthani

Dr. Madho Singh Inda
Sri Mahipal Singh Rao
Dr. Shri Satyanarayan

Sanskrit

Dr. Deva Narayana Jha
Dr. P.V. Ramankutty
Prof. Yugal Kishor Mishra

Santali

Sri Bhagla Soren
Sri Jagneswar Saren
Sri Krishna Prasad Hansda

Sindhi

Sri Anand Khemani
Sri Nand Chhugani
Smt. Geeta Bindrani

Tamil

Sri V. Jayadevan
Dr. K. Sivamani
Dr. Sirpi Balasubramaniam

Telugu

Sri D. Naveen (Ampasayya Naveen)
Sri Bandla Madhava Rao
Dr. J.L. Reddy

Urdu

Sri Azizullah Beg
Prof. Ibne Kanwal
Prof. Saheb Ali

Yuva Puraskar 2017

The Executive Board of the Sahitya Akademi which met on 21 June 2017 at Guwahati, under the Chairmanship of its President, Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, approved selection of 24 books for the Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar 2017. The books were selected on the basis of recommendations made by the Jury comprising three members each in the concerned language in accordance with the rules and procedure laid down for the purpose. According to the procedure, the Executive Board declared the Awards on the basis of unanimous selections made by the Jury or selection made on the basis of majority vote. The Awards relate to books published by an author of the age of 35 and below as on 1 January of the year of the award, ie. 1st January 2017.

Recipients of Yuva Puraskar 2017

Assamese	Pratim Baruah, <i>Xodhahe Nohol Tok o Bokul</i> (Poetry)
Bengali	Shamik Ghosh, <i>Elvis O Amolasundari</i> (Short Stories)
Bodo	Bijit Gwra Ramchiary, <i>Gwrbwani Aroj</i> (Poetry)
Dogri	Rajinder Ranjha, <i>Tere Hirkha Ch</i> (Poetry)
English	Manu S. Pillai, <i>The Ivory Throne: Chronicles of the House of Travancore</i> (Biography)
Gujarati	Raam Mori, <i>Mahotu</i> (Short Stories)
Hindi	Taro Sindik, <i>Aksharo Ki Vinti</i> (Poetry)
Kannada	Shanthi K. Appanna, <i>Manasu Abhisarika</i> (Short Stories)
Kashmiri	Nighat Sahiba, <i>Zard Panike Dar</i> (Poetry)
Konkani	Amey Vishram Naik, <i>Mog Dot Com</i> (Poetry)
Maithili	Chandan Kumar Jha, <i>Dhartsa Akash Dhari</i> (Poetry)
Malayalam	Aswathy Sasikumar, <i>Josephinte Manam</i> (Short Stories)
Manipuri	Kh. Krishnamohan Singha, <i>Kellaba Unagi Ishei</i> (Poetry)
Marathi	Rahul Kosambi, <i>Ubha - Aadava</i> (Essays)
Nepali	Saran Muskan, <i>Mooldharatira</i> (Poetry)
Odia	Suryasnata Tripathy, <i>E Sampark Emiti</i> (Poetry)
Punjabi	Harmanjeet Singh, <i>Rani Tatt</i> (Poetry)
Rajasthani	Ummed Dhania, <i>Label</i> (Short Stories)
Sanskrit	Hemchandra Belwal, <i>Parivartankavyam</i> (Poetry)
Santali	Maina Tudu, <i>Marsal Dahar</i> (Poetry)
Sindhi	Rekha Sachdev Pohani, <i>Usaat</i> (Poetry)
Tamil	A. Jayabharathi (Manushi), <i>Aathik Kathalin Ninaivu Kruippukal</i> (Poetry)
Telugu	Mercy Margaret, <i>Maatala Madugu</i> (Poetry)
Urdu	Rasheed Ashraf Khan, <i>Maulana Mohammad Husain Azad Aur Unka Sheeri Safar</i> (Biography)



Prstim Baruah



Shamik Ghosh



Bijit Gwra Ramchiary



Rajinder Ranjha



Manu S. Pillai



Raam Mori



Taro Sindik



Shanthi K. Appanna



Nighat Sahiba



Amey Vishram Naik



Chandan Kumar Jha



Aswathy Sasikumar



Kh. Krishna Mohan Singha



Rahul Kosambi



Saran Muskan



Suryasnata Tripathy



Harmanjeet Singh



Ummed Dhania



Hemchandra Belwal



Maina Tudu



Rekha Sachdev Pohani



A. Jayabharathi (Manushi)



Mercy Margaret



Rasheed Ashraf Khan

Jury Members of Yuva Puraskar 2017

Assamese

Sri Anis Uz - Zaman
Dr. Joyasree Goswami Mahanta
Sri Dileep Chandan

Bengali

Prof. Bimal Kumar Mukhopadhyay
Prof. Pinakesh Chandra Sarkar
Dr. Soumitra Basu

Bodo

Dr. Tulan Mochahary
Sri Kameswar Baro
Sri Sita Ram Basumatary

Dogri

Prof. Nilamber Dev Sharma
Sri Madan Gopal Padha
Sri Uttam Chand Uttam

English

Prof. Jharna Sanyal
Prof. Ganesh Devy
Sri Ranjit Hoskote

Gujarati

Sri Bhimji Khacharia
Dr. Chandrakant Topiwala
Sri Mohan Parmar

Hindi

Sri Kamal Kishore Goenka
Smt. Mridula Garg
Prof Ratan Kumar Pandey

Kannada

Sri K. Marulasiddappa
Dr. Keshava Sharma K
Ms. Lalita Siddabasavayya

Kashmiri

Prof. Mishal Sultanpuri
Sri Pran Kishore
Sri Syed Sad-ud-Din Saidi

Konkani

Sri Paresk Kamat
Sri Prasad Lodayekar
Sri Uday L. Bhembre

Maithili

Dr. Baidyanath Chaudhary
Dr. Mantreshwar Jha
Dr. Yogendra Pathak 'Viyogi'

Malayalam

Dr. Joy Vazhayil
Dr. P.K. Rajasekharan
Sri M. Rajiv Kumar

Manipuri

Sri Konjengbam Hemachandra
Sri Salam Tomba Singh
Sri Warepam Jugindro Singh

Marathi

Sri Aasaram Lomate
Sri Laxman Gaikwad
Prof. Bhalchandra Mungekar

Nepali

Sri Arjun Kumar Pradhan
Dr. Diwakar Pradhan
Dr. Jayanta Krishna Sarmah

Odia

Dr. Archana Nayak
Sri Debaprasad Dash
Dr. Abhin Chandra Sahu

Punjabi

Dr. Atamjit Singh
Dr. Kuljit Shalley
Sri Swaranjit Savi

Rajasthani

Sri Arvind Aashiya
Sri Kundan Mali
Dr. Satyanaryana

Sanskrit

Prof. D. Prahladachar
Prof. Krishna Chandra Tripathy
Ms. Nandini Ramani

Santali

Sri Ramray Majhi
Sri Sanat Hansda
Sri Purna Chandra Hembram

Sindhi

Sri Lachman Bhambhani
Sri Lachhmandas Keswani
Sri Nari Lachhwani

Tamil

Prof. B. Mathivanan
Sri B. Selvapandian
Sri Prapanchan

Telugu

Dr. Raamaa Chandramouli
Dr. Anantha Padmanabha Rao
Sri Indraganti Srikanta Sarma

Urdu

Sri Janki Prasad Sharma
Sri Nazeer Fatehpuri
Dr. Shaheena Tabassum

Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2017

The Executive Board of the Sahitya Akademi which met on 21 June 2017 at Guwahati, under the Chairmanship of its President, Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari selected 14 books and 10 writers for their total contribution for the year 2017 Bal Sahitya Puraskar on the basis of recommendations made by the Jury comprising three members each in the concerned language in accordance with the rules and procedure laid down for the purpose. According to the procedure, the Executive Board declared the Awards on the basis of unanimous/majority vote by the Jury. The Awards relate to books first published during the five years immediately preceding the year of Award (i.e. between 1 January 2011 and 31 December 2015). However, during the initial ten years i.e. from 2010 to 2019, the award may be given to an author based on his/her total contribution to Children Literature if no book is considered suitable for the Award.

Recipients of Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2017

Assamese	Horendra Nath Borthakur, <i>Total Contribution to Children's Literature</i>
Bengali	Sashthipada Chattopadhyay, <i>Total Contribution to Children's Literature</i>
Bodo	Renu Boro, <i>Total Contribution to Children's Literature</i>
Dogri	Sudesh Raj, <i>Jangal Di Sair</i> (short stories)
English	Paro Anand, <i>Wild Child and other Stories</i> (short stories)
Gujarati	Harish Naik, <i>Total Contribution to Children's Literature</i>
Hindi	Swayam Prakash, <i>Pyare Bahi Ramsahay</i> (short stories)
Kannada	N.S. Lakshminarayana Bhatta, <i>Total Contribution to Children's Literature</i>
Kashmiri	Showkat Ansari, <i>Jigar Khaunt</i> (poetry)
Konkani	Vincy Quadros, <i>Jaduchem Pettul</i> (novel)
Maithili	Amlendu Sekhar Pathak, <i>Lalgachhi</i> (novel)
Malayalam	S.R. Lal, <i>Kunjunniyude Yathra Pusthakam</i> (novel)
Manipuri	Warepam Jugindro Singh, <i>Angangi Wari Macha Niphu</i> (short stories)
Marathi	L.M. Kadu, <i>Kharicha Vata</i> (novel)
Nepali	Shanti Chettri, <i>Total Contribution to Children's Literature</i>
Odia	Subhendra Mohan Srichandan Singh, <i>Total Contribution to Children's Literature</i>
Punjabi	Satpal Bhikhi, <i>Total Contribution to Children's Literature</i>
Rajasthani	Pawan Paharia, <i>Number One Aoola</i> (poetry)
Sanskrit	Rajkumar Mishra, <i>Dayate Kathamakashe</i> (poetry)
Santali	Joba Murmu, <i>Olon Baha</i> (short stories)
Sindhi	Roshan Lakhmichand Golani, <i>Roshn Barana Bol</i> (poetry)
Tamil	Velu Saravanan, <i>Total Contribution to Children's Literature</i>
Telugu	Vasala Narasaiah, <i>Total Contribution to Children's Literature</i>
Urdu	Nazeer Fatehpuri, <i>Mera Desh Mahan</i> (short stories)



Harendra Nath Borthakur



Paro Anand



Showkat Ansari



Sasthipada Chattopadhyay



Harish Naik



Vincy Quadros



Renu Boro



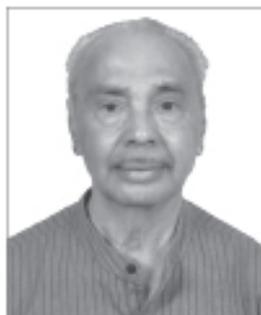
Swayam Prakash



Amlendu Shekhar Pathak



Sudesh Raj



N.S. Lakshminarayana Bhatta



S.R. Lal



Warepam Jugindro Singh



Satpal Bhikhi



Roshan Lakhmichand Golani



Laxman Mahipati Kadu



Pawan Pabaria



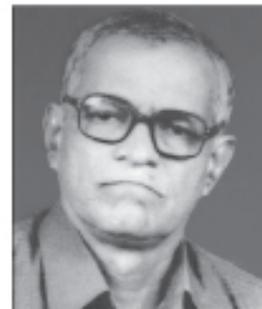
Velu Saravana



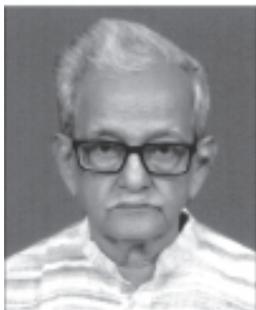
Shanti Chhetri



Rajkumar Mishra



Vasala Namsiah



Shubhendra Mohan
Srichandan Singh



Joba Murmu



Nazeer Fatehpuri

Jury Members of Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2017

Assamese

Sri Debabrata Das
Dr. Pradip Jyoti Mahanta
Hare Krishna Deka

Bengali

Sri Nrisinha Prasad Bhaduri
Prof. Samir Kumar Rakshit
Sri Subhas Bhattacharya

Bodo

Sri Bidyasagar Narzary
Dr. Indira Boro
Dr. Rita Boro

Dogri

Prof. Archana Kesar
Sri Jiten Thakur
Dr. Veena Gupta

English

Ms. Anita Nair
Sri Prasa Venkateswar Rao Jr.
MS. Mitra Phukon

Gujarati

Sri Narottam Kakubhai Palan
Ms. Varsha Das
Sri Harshad Trivedi

Hindi

Sri Asgar Vajahat
Prof. Ramesh Kuntal Megh
Prof. Satya Dev Mishra

Kannada

Sri B.A. Sanadi
Sri H.S. Venkateshamurty
Dr. Karigowda Beechanahalli

Kashmiri

Sri Ayaz Rasool Nazki
Sri Satish Vimal
Sri Bal Krishan Sanyasi

Konkani

Dr. Jayanti Naik
Dr. L. Suneetha Bai
Prof. Narayan Desai

Maithili

Dr. Indrakant Jha
Dr. Prabhas Kumar Jha
Dr. Shashi Nath Jha

Malayalam

Dr. Valsala Baby
Prof. Sarah Joseph
Ms. Sumangala Desamangala Mana

Manipuri

Sri Kh. Prakash Singh
Dr. Kojiam Shantibala Devi
Sri L. Joychandra Singh

Marathi

Smt. Madhuri Purandare
Ms. Kavita Mahajan
Smt. Vijaya Rajadhyaksha

Nepali

Dr. Ananda Chettri
Prof. Sanjay Rai
Sri Sitaram Kafley

Odia

Smt. Punyaprava Devi
Sri Nanda Kishore Singh
Prof. Maheswar Mohanty

Punjabi

Dr. Darshan Singh Aasht
Sri Gulzar Singh Sandhu
Dr. Jagbir Singh

Rajasthani

Sri Deendayal Sharma
Sri Laxmandan Kaviya
Sri Mukut Maniraj

Sanskrit

Prof. K. Rama Surya Narayana
Dr. K. Shyamala
Prof. Om Prakash Pande

Santali

Sri Aditya Kumar Mandi
Sri Krushnachandra Soren
Smt. Sharmila Soren

Sindhi

Dr. Jagdish Lachhani
Smt. Maya Rahi
Sri Ram H Daryani

Tamil

Sri. V. Annamalai (Imayam)
Dr. R. Elangovan
Dr. M. Palaniappan

Telugu

Prof. D. Chinni Krishnaiah
Smt. D. Sujathadevi
Dr. D. Madhusudana Rao

Urdu

Sri Abdul Rehman
Dr. Manazir Aashiq Harganvi
Ms. Qamar Suroor

PROGRAMMES

Festival of Letters 2018

Sahitya Akademi's annual Festival of Letters for the year 2018 kick started with a grand inauguration ceremony of Sahitya Akademi Exhibition at the Rabindra Bhavan Lawns in New Delhi on February 12, 2018. The Exhibition is designed in such a way that a viewer can have a precise and comprehensive understanding of Akademi's objectives, work and activities and other related information at one go.

The inaugural ceremony started with an invocation by Kuchipudi Bhagavathamelam from Andhra Pradesh. In his welcome address, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, provided the annual report of Sahitya Akademi in brief, highlighting important activities, achievements and milestones of the Akademi in 2017.

Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, talked about various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi to promote literature in all the 24 Indian languages recognized by it. He urged everyone present to take a tour of the Exhibition and partake of the literary history of one of the greatest literary institutions in not only India but across the globe.

Smt. Chitra Mudgal, eminent Hindi writer and scholar, inaugurated the Akademi Exhibition, and in her speech applauded Sahitya Akademi for rendering great literary service to the nation. She stated that the number of literary programmes and publications of Sahitya Akademi is not only stupendous but also showcases how the Akademi spends every minute of its existence towards serving literary community of the country.



Smt. Chitra Mudgal (centre) inaugurating the exhibition, K. Sreenivasarao (left), Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari and M.L. Srivastava (right)

Presentation of Sahitya Akademi Awards 2017



Award Winners with the Chief Guest and President, Vice President & Secretary of Sahitya Akademi

Sahitya Akademi presented annual Akademi awards to Award winners in 23 languages at a glittering ceremony at Kamani auditorium in New Delhi on February 12, 2018. Following an invocation, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the Award winners, President, Vice President, General Council Members of the Akademi, dignitaries and media personalities. He thanked and recalled the stellar service rendered by the outgoing President, Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari. He observed that though these Awards would seem, prima facie, recognition for a particular work, actually these Awards are only honoring of long and rich literary traditions from which the Award winners and their works hail. He detailed the activities of the Akademi in 2017, highlighting important milestones, achievements and activities of the Akademi. He unveiled new programmes in the Festival and hoped everyone attending the Festival would benefit from it.

In his Presidential address, Dr Chandrashekhhar Kambar, the newly elected President of Sahitya Akademi, stated that he was very happy to be a part of the Award

function. He added that his primary duty is to elevate the Akademi to greater heights and he will strive to at least match the performance of Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, former President, Sahitya Akademi in serving and protecting this national institution. Talking about the pre and post-independence literature of India he felt it was colonial rule which led to new literary trends in India. He observed that storytelling is part and parcel of India and this ability to tell stories on all the occasions and share the thoughts, emotions and feelings through stories is what sets India apart from Western civilizations. He congratulated all the Award winners and stated that the works of Award winners indicate not only excellence in literature but also serve as markers of difference between India and the West.

Dr K. Sreenivasarao read out the citations of the Award winners and Dr Chandrashekhhar Kambar presented the Awards.

Sri Kiran Nagarkar, distinguished writer and scholar, was the Chief Guest at the function. He shared the details of his childhood, adult life and the process of creative writing. He cited Louis Fisher's 'The Life of Mahatma Gandhi' as a

major literary influence on his life and expressed his great admiration for Mahatma Gandhi. He observed that we have lost the sense of humor which Gandhi and his generation possessed. He shared that all the literary works contained best memories for him. He reminisced that he wrote his first story To (He) upon the request by Dilip Chitre.

Sri Madhav Kaushik, the newly elected Vice President, delivered the concluding remarks. In his speech, he stressed on the need for unity and how unity – among the communities of the nation, institutions, etc – is bound to deliver success.

Media Interaction with Awardees

Media interaction with Award winners was organized at Rabindra Bhavan Lawns on Monday, February 12, 2018. Sri Anupam Tiwari, Editor (Hindi), Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the Award winners and introduced them to the media persons. Many media personalities such as Sri Amarnath Amar from Doordarshan, Sri Ajit Rai, famous film critic and writer, and Ms. Suma Raha, well-known writer and journalist participated in the event. All the Award winners present faced the questions fielded by the journalists which led to lively discussions.



Award winners interacting with media

Seminar on Oral and Tribal Literature and Tribal Poets' Meet



A National Seminar on Oral and Tribal Literature was organized on February 13, 2018 in New Delhi. The inaugural session began with a welcome address by Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi. He described the efforts of the Akademi to promote tribal literature throughout the country and said that no other nation is as linguistically rich as India, but over time these tribal languages have been marginalized. Here reiterated the commitment of the Akademi towards the development of tribal languages. The inaugural address was delivered by Professor Mrinal Miri. According to him, “To have a world view is to be a part of that world; meanings constitute worldview and languages are home to meaning. So the tribal language makes up the tribal world. Each language has developed a sort of autonomy which must be recognized.” The Chief Guest of the occasion was Prof. Temsula Ao, eminent English writer. She said that when we write tribal poetry, we are not competing with the poetry of other languages; rather, we are retrieving material from old singers and storytellers and putting them into other more recognizable and accessible forms. The keynote address was delivered by Prof. T.V. Kattimani, Vice-Chancellor, Indira Gandhi National Tribal University. The presidential address was delivered by Dr. B.B. Kumar, eminent linguist and Chairman, ICSSR, who chaired the session.

The first session was chaired by Professor Desmond Kharmawphlang, and the papers were presented by Dr. Zothonchhingi Khiangte, Dr. D. Kuolie and Sri Ashwini Kumar Pankaj.

The Tribal Poets' Meet, was the second session of the seminar. Arjun Singh Dhurve (Baiga), Rajkishore Nayak (Bathudi), Kulin Patel (Dhodia), Colnat B Marak (Garo), Roop Singh Khusram (Gondi), Rudra Narayan Panigrahi (Balbi), Kairasingh Bandia (Ho) and Kalachand Mahali (Mahali), Kuldeep Sigh Bampal (Bhotia), Sudarshan Bhumij (Bhumij), Rafiq Anjum (Gojri), Veera Rathod (Gormati), On Teran (Karbi) and Minimom Laloo, recited their poems in their own languages as well as the English/Hindi translations of the same.

On second day, the third session was chaired by Sri Vasant Nirgune and three eminent scholars, Dr Mahendra Kumar Mishra, Sri Om Prakash Bharti and Sri Ashutosh Bhardwaj, presented their papers. In the fourth session chaired by Dr Purushottam Bilimale, Dr P. Shayma, Dr Naga Malleswara Rao and Dr Nirmal Selvamony, presented their papers. The fifth session was devoted to Tribal Poets' Meet, thirteen noted tribal poets, M.P. Rekha (Kodava), Bikas Ray Debbarma (Kokborok), Mahabir Oraon (Kurux), Deenabandhu Kanhar (Kui), Konchok Rigzen (Ladakhi), Th. Thumbu Maram (Maram), Dipok Kumar Doley (Missing), Puni Losii (Mao), Ashrita Tuti (Mundari), Jamuna Bini Tadar (Nyishi), N. Vumsuan (Paite), Charu Mohan Rabha (Rabha) and Rajesh Rathava (Rathavi), recited their compositions. Dr Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, coordinated the programme.

Writers' Meet

A Writers' Meet was organized as part of the Festival of Letters, featuring presentations by the Sahitya Akademi Award Winners, on February

13, 2018 at Rabindra Bhavan, New Delhi. Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, in his welcome address stated that the Writers' Meet enabled the audience to understand firsthand the making of an award-winning book. Sri Madhav Kaushik, Vice President, Sahitya Akademi chaired the programme.

Sri Jayanta Madhav Bora, Award winner in Assamese, talked about his novel, *Moriahola*, which deals with lost villages and how he compared the erosion of the Brahmaputra and the erosion of life's values. Ms. Mamang Dai, Award winner in English for her novel, *The Black Hill*, said, "*The Black Hill* is essentially the story of a French Jesuit priest, Father Nicolas Michel Krick and Kaheesha, a legendary figure of the Mishmi tribe who was captured by the British authorities and hanged in Dibrugarh Jail, Assam, for the alleged murder of Father Krick and his colleague Augustine Bourry." Ramesh Kuntal Megh, Award winner in Hindi for his work of literary criticism *Vishwa Mithak Sarit Sagar*, talked about fantasy in literature and shared his views about the much talked about Proto language. Professor Udaya Narayana Singh 'Nachiketa', Award-winner in Maithili, for his collection of poetry *Jahalak Diary* (The Prison Diary), stated that his poetry shows a rare thematic congruence; the poems are written from the perspective of someone trapped in a jail cell. Sri K. P. Ramanunni, Award-winner in Malayalam, for his novel, *Daivathinte Pusthakam* (God's Own Book), said, "No novel in any language of the world has so far had Prophet Muhammad featured as the protagonist—except now in *Daivathinte Pusthakam*. Sri Nachhattar, Award-winner in Punjabi for his novel *Slow Down*, said that he has centred his writings around members from all spheres of the society, who face injustice while striving for a good life.

Sri Afsar Ahmed (Bengali), Smt. Rita Boro, (Bodo), Sri Shiv Mehta, (Dogri),

Urmi Ghanshyam Desai (Gujarati), Sri T.P. Ashoka (Kannada), Sri Autar Krishen Rahbar (Kashmiri), Sri Gajanan Jog (Konkani), Sri Rajen Toijamba, (Nepali), Smt. Gayatri Saraf, (Odia), Sri Neeraj Daiya (Rajasthani), Sri Niranjan Mishra (Sanskrit), Sri Bhujanga Tudu (Santali), Jagdish Lachhani (Sindhi), Devipriya (Telugu) and Baig Ehsas (Urdu) also shared their experiences.

Sri Madhav Kaushik, who chaired the programme thanked all the Award-winners. He concluded the programme with an Urdu couplet.

Indo-Israeli Writers' Meet

Indo-Israeli Writers' Meet was organized at Akademi auditorium on February 13, 2018. Dr.

recognized by the Akademi, media personalities and other dignitaries. In his speech he recalled the long relationship between Indian and Israeli literature, commonalities between India and Israel in reviving ancient languages and similarities between Hinduism and Judaism. Ms. Dorit Zilberman talked about various initiatives of the Israeli Writers' Association, relationship between India and Israel and later shared a story. Mr. Meir Iosef Shalom Ouziel talked about how relationships can promote bonds and reduce the divisions in a society, especially the relationships among institutions. Ms. Hava Cohen recited her poetry and shared her thoughts about a variety of cultures, diverse approaches to life and her own experiences. Ms. Adiva Kitron Geffen talked about her works



Indo-Israeli writers' meet in progress

K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the Israeli delegation comprising Mr. Meir Iosef Shalom Ouziel (leader of the delegation), Ms. Dorit Zilberman Ginzburg, Ms. Adiva Kitron Geffen, Ms. Hava Cohen, Ms. Avivit Levy and Ms. Samdar Sidi. The Indian writers represented almost all the 24 languages

and her experiences of creative writing among other things. Ms. Samdar Sidi talked about her personal experiences in life and explained the beauty of life, human relationships, etc. A lively but brief interactive session followed the presentations.

Symposium on Media and Literature



Third session in progress

A daylong symposium on Media and Literature was organized at Rabindra Bhavan Lawns on February 14, 2018. In the inaugural session, In his welcome address, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, spoke about the reciprocative role of media and literature in each other's growth, commonalities, differences and the areas of concern in the ever increasing bond between these two areas of knowledge. Dr Chandrashekhar Kambar, President, Sahitya Akademi, presided the session. Sri A. Suryaprakash, Chairman, Prasar Bharati, inaugurated the symposium and talked about the deep relationship between journalism and literature and commented that journalism is literature in a hurry. Madhav Kaushik, Vice President, Sahitya Akademi, stated that journalism and literature were considered as twin brothers in the past but with the passage of time both have been separated.

The first session of the symposium was chaired by Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi and the speakers were Sri Sudhish Pachauri, Sri Rahul Dev, Sri Rajeew Ranjan Nag, Sri Pratap Somvanshi, Sri K. Shrinivas and Sri R.V. Rama Rao. The second session of the programme was chaired by Sri Rahul Srivastava, and the speakers were Sri Nidheesh Tyagi, Sri Mukesh Bhardwaj, Smt. Shashi Prabha and Sri Amarnath Amar. In the third session Dr Baldeo Bhai Sharma, chaired the programme while five noted scholars, Sri Balendu Sharma Dadhich, Sri Dev

Prakash, Sri Ravindra Tripathi, Sri Shahid Latif and Sri Anant Vijay, presented their papers.

Face to Face

A 'Face to Face' programme was organized at New Delhi on February 14, 2018, featuring selected Award winners in conversation with eminent writers from their Award winning languages. Prof. Sandip Chatterjee interviewed Prof. Afsar Ahmed. Prof. Ahmed said that he has written about his community and geographical periphery. Ms. Mamang Dai, Award winner in English, was in conversation with Dr Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharjee. The interaction mainly focused on 'why did she abandon her first love i.e. poetry and shifted to fiction?' 'Why she shifted from journalistic prose to creative prose?' Dr Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharjee also discussed the Sahitya Akademi Award-winning novel, *The Black Hill* in the context of 19th century. Sri Prayag Shukla interviewed Sri Ramesh Kuntal Megh. Sri Ramesh Kuntal said that painting and literature have been his passion since childhood. He, basically, is a born painter. He admitted that he was deeply influenced by Pt. Rahul Sankritayan and his awarded book was the fruit of long exhausting meditation. Dr. A.J. Thomas interviewed Sri K.P. Ramanuni, who is a leading fiction writer in Malayalam and is known for his pioneering role in fiction writing and the pathbreaking novel *Charama Varshikam* (Death Anniversary). Sri Ramanuni said that the awarded novel for him was quite a challenge, and an ambitious project too as time and place were differently treated in this novel, and it was indeed an innovative struggle for him. Sri T. Devipriya in his conversation with Sri Krishna Rao said that he inherited his poetic sensibility from his mother and that poetry comes to him as a flower comes to a plant. He also said that creative writing has been his passion and he never liked to write for the screen.

National Seminar: 70 Years of Indian Independence: Literary Portrayals



L-R: Dr K Sreenivasarao, Dr Manoj Das, Dr Chandrashekhara Kambar, Sri Madhav Kaushik and Prof. Harish Trivedi

On the fourth day of the Festival of Letters, a national seminar on '70 Years of Indian Independence: Literary Portrayals' was organized at New Delhi. In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants, dignitaries, media personalities and audience. He spoke about the role of literature in Indian independence and how different emerging trends, genres and traditions over seven subsequent decades were portrayed in Indian literature. He also touched upon the question of different perceptions of freedom and unveiled the theme of the Seminar. Dr Manoj Das, eminent Odia Writer and Fellow, Sahitya Akademi, inaugurated the seminar. In his inaugural address, he recalled the day India became independent and detailed the series of events leading up to and after Independence with all colour, vigour, chaos, violence and peace. He observed that the dominant trend in Indian literature before Independence was spirit of nationalism while immediately after the freedom, it was bloodshed and struggle. Dr Chandrashekhara Kambar, President, Sahitya Akademi, expressed his concern over the way Kannada literature and traditions

are being affected by emerging trends. He said that an honest writer will always link contemporary literature to history and heritage of a community or region. In his keynote address, Prof Harish Trivedi, eminent writer and scholar, said that history is just another narrative that suffers from selectivity and subjectivity. Literature, he went on to say, is not newspaper, it is not yesterday's report; it needs time to ripen, contemplate, grow, come into focus and be appreciated. He said that people had many expectations from the Independence, but when Independence happened, they were disillusioned. Over the past 70 years, he said, literature has been institutionalized. He praised academies like Sahitya Akademi for preserving Indian literature. In his concluding remarks, Sri Madhav Kaushik, Vice President, Sahitya Akademi, remarked that India might have been a slave of the colonial rule, but literature was never a slave, in fact it liberated the country from slavery.

The first session was chaired by Professor K. Enoch in which two eminent scholars, Prof. Sharan Kumar Limbale and Prof. Sheoraj Singh Bechain, presented their papers.

In the second session devoted to 'Consolidating the Freedom: Literature as a tool for national integration' and chaired by Dr Raghuvver Chaudhari, two eminent scholars, Prof Shafey Kidwai and Sri Maalan presented their papers.

The third and second day session of the Seminar was devoted to 'State in Crisis: India in 1950s and '60s & Literature' and chaired by Prof K. Satchidanandan. Three eminent scholars, Prof. Udaya Narayana Singh, Smt. Subha Chakraborty Dasgupta and Prof Dhananjay Singh, presented their papers. In his speech Prof. K. Satchidanandan addressed the issue of aesthetic transformation of Indian literature and stated that India of the '60s was characterized by urbanization which was very well portrayed in literature and depicted in the films of that time.

In the fourth session devoted to 'War Literature in Indian Languages' and chaired by Dr Bhalchandra Nemade, three eminent scholars, Sri Bhupendra Adhikari, Prof Jatindra Kumar Nayak and Prof. Rajkumar, presented their papers. Dr Bhalchandra Nemade pointed out that the concept of war is deeply rooted in India and, for instance in Maharashtra, could be seen in the titles of literary works or names of political parties which started with the word 'Sena'.

In the fifth session devoted to 'Emergency and Writing as a Political Tool' and chaired by Prof. H.S. Shivaprakash, the two eminent scholars, Sri Ved Pratap Vaidik and Sri Alok Mehta, presented their papers.

In the sixth session chaired by Sri Sudhish Pachauri, three eminent

scholars, Dr. Sribhagwan Singh, Dr Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay and Dr C. Rajendran, presented their papers.

In the seventh session of the Seminar which was devoted to 'Seven Decades of Freedom: Feminist Perspectives' and chaired by Dr Mridula Garg, four eminent scholars, Prof. Maya Pandit, Ms. Savita Singh, Dr C. Mrunalini and Ms. Jaiwanti Dimri, presented their papers. In her speech, Prof. Maya Pandit said that even the Panchatantra has referred to women as the treasure house of everything that is bad.

The eighth session devoted to 'Evolution of Children's Literature through Seven Decades' was chaired by Smt. Deepa Agarwal. Dr Dinesh Goswami, Smt. Deepa Agarwal and Sri Era. Natarasan presented papers.

The valedictory session of the Seminar was chaired by Dr S.L. Bhyrappa, and Dr C. Radhakrishnan, Sri Damodar Mauzo and Prof Sukrita Paul Kumar presented their papers. Dr K. Sreenivasarao, briefed everyone on all the sessions of the Seminar and introduced the chairperson and the speakers. Dr C. Radhakrishnan said that unfortunately, any answer to the question 'Are we free today?' will only have political implications. Dr S. Rajmohan, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, coordinated the session and proposed a vote of thanks.



Seven Decades of Freedom : Feminist Perspectives in progress

Yuva Sahiti: The New Harvest

A 'Yuva Sahiti: The New Harvest' programme was organized at New Delhi was organized on February 15, 2018. Young writers from all over India representing 22 Indian languages participated in the daylong event. In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, in his welcome address spoke about the value of youth to any nation, the importance of contributions of young people and various schemes and initiatives of the Akademi meant exclusively for young writers. Prof. Indra Nath Choudhuri, eminent scholar, critic and former Secretary of Sahitya Akademi, inaugurated the meet. In his speech he stated that young writers promptly and with commitment voice their generation and if they attempt to know their inner being, their creative expression will become more significant. He stated that the writer is responsible to his society.

At the end of the first session, the following young poets recited their poems—Sri Himalaya Jana (Bengali), Sri Roshan Bral 'Roshan' (Dogri), Sri Chandresh Makwana (Gujarati), Sri Prem Shankar Shukla (Hindi), Sri Lone Imtiyaz (Kashmiri), Sri D. Anil Kumar (Malayalam), Sri Ravi Korde (Marathi), Sri Pali Khadim (Punjabi) and Sri Wasif Yaar (Urdu).

In the first session devoted to 'Writing: Passion or Profession?' five noted scholars, Ratnottama Das Bikram (Assamese), Achyutanand Mishra (Hindi), Anushree Rathore (Rajasthani) and Vempalli Gangadhar (Telugu), presented their papers.

In the second session devoted to short story readings and chaired by Smt. Paramaita Satpathy, five noted fiction writers, Ms Upasana (Hindi), Sri Shridhar Banvasi G.C. (Kannada), Ms Sumita Prabhu (Konkani) and Ms Debapriya Priyadarshi Chakra (Odia), read out their stories.

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In the third session devoted to poetry reading and chaired by Sri Ashtbhuja Shukla, eight noted poets, Sri Dhiraj Basumatary (Bodo), Sri K. Raja Anjana (English), Sri Umesh Paswan (Maithili), Sri Karna Biraha (Nepali), Sri Gulab Ladhani (Sindhi), Sri Yuvaraj Bhattarai (Sanskrit), Sri Birsant Hansdah (Santali) and Sri J. Tamil Selvan (Tamil), recited their compositions.

Kavi Sammelan

On the evening of February 15, 2018, Sahitya Akademi organized a Kavi Sammelan programme at the Rabindra Bhavan Lawns featuring poetry recitations by twelve noted poets. Sri Sheen Kaaf Nizam, eminent Urdu poet, chaired the Sammelan. The twelve poets who recited their compositions were: Sri Alok Shrivastava, Sri Ashok Chakradhar, Sri Buddhinath Mishra, Sri Chandra Bhan Khayal, Sri Kunwar Bechain, Sri Laxmi Shankar Vajpai, Ms Madhu Mohini Upadhyay, Sri Maheswar Tiwari, Sri Mansoor Usmani, Ms Mumtaz Munnawar, and Sri Rajesh Reddy.

Symposium on Translation as Retelling

A symposium on 'Translation as Retelling' as part of Festival of Letters was organized on February 16, 2018. In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, in his welcome address spoke about the translation traditions of India from the times of yore, practices of adaptations and the process of retelling the texts. He concluded that by nature translation is a process of retelling. The inaugural address was delivered by Sri Satyavrat Shastri, eminent Sanskrit Scholar and Fellow, Sahitya Akademi. In his speech he said that it is the responsibility of a translator to understand what the author wants to say before translating the text.



Dr Satyavrat Shastri delivering inaugural address

The first session of the programme was chaired by Dr Ranjit Saha and papers were presented by Alok Gupt, Anamika and Tarsem on the topics 'Meaning of Translation in Indian Thought', 'Meaning of Translation in Western Thought' and 'Logic of Meaning', respectively. The second session of the Symposium on 'Translation as Retelling' was chaired by Prof O.L. Nagabhushana Swamy. The paper presenters were Dr. Krishna Kumar Goswami, Sri Angshuman Kar and Prof. Vanamala Vishwanatha. Dr Angshuman Kar, in his paper on 'Translator's Responsibilities and Challenges' touched on various issues and the challenges a translator has to face while translating. Concluding the session, Dr O.L. Nagabhushana Swamy quoted the great thinker Signer, 'All cognition is translation.' In a way, all our expression or understanding is translation; therefore there is nothing to be termed as 'translation.' The programme was coordinated by Sri Anupam Tiwari, Editor, Sahitya Akademi.

Purvottari

A Purvottari programme as part of Festival of Letters was organized in New Delhi on February 16, 2018. In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, spoke about the platform, its objective and

various initiatives of the Akademi to promote literature and litterateurs of the Northeast. He observed that programmes, such as Purvottari help the Akademi in bridging varied cultural and literary traditions of the country. In his inaugural address, Sri Sonam Tshering Lepcha, eminent folk musician and Lepcha lyricist, expressed his disappointment over the fact that efforts have not been made by the Government for promotion and development of Lepcha language and culture. A part of the inaugural session was devoted to story reading and was chaired by Sri S.R. Harnot who read a very touching story. Smt. Ningombam Sanatombi Devi, Sri Gobind Prasad Sharma and Sri Tikendra Mall Basumatary also read out their stories.

The first session of the programme was a panel discussion on 'My Creation, My World', Sri Yeshe Dorje Thongchi was the moderator and Smt. Yashodhara Mishra Sri Shivmurti, Sri Hajowary participated in the discussion. Second session of Purvottari was devoted to Poetry Reading. Sri Leeladhar Jagoori, eminent Hindi poet, chaired the session while Sri Jyotirekha Hazarika (Assamese), Sri Sanjay Chakrabarty (Bengali), Ms Rashmi Choudhury (Bodo), Ms Promila Manhas (Dogri), Sri Vijay Wali (Kashmiri), Sri N.T. Lepcha (Lepcha), Sri Narayan Ji (Maithili), Sri Tongbram Amarjit Singh (Manipuri), Ms Induprava Devi (Nepali), Sri Ravinder (Punjabi), Sri Shankar Singh Rajpurohit (Rajasthani), Sri Ramshankar Awasthi (Sanskrit), Ms Yashoda Murmu (Santali) and Sri Qamar Suroor (Urdu) read out their poems.

Symposium on The Role of Publishers in Indian Literature

A Symposium on 'The Role of Publishers in Indian Literature' was organized on February 17, 2018. In the inaugural session, Dr K.

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Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, in his welcome address talked about the stellar role which Indian publishers played in disseminating Indian literature in the past seven decades and addressed the issues of impact of technological advancements and changing roles of publishers. The inaugural address was delivered by Prof Dhruba Jyoti Borah, eminent scholar and writer, who stated that the writers would not have existed without publishers and in the modern world, reaching out to the global audience is not possible without publishers. Sri Madhav Kaushik, Vice-President, Sahitya Akademi, compared the relationship between the authors and publisher to that of a jeweller and diamonds, and how the publisher helps the authors achieve their full potential.

The first session was chaired by Sri Bikas D. Niyogi and papers were presented by Arun Maheshwari, Arun Jakhade and Vaishali Mathur. The second session of the symposium on ‘The Role of Publishers in Indian Literature’ was chaired by Sri Leeladhar Mandloi, former Director, Bharatiya Jnanpith. and papers were presented by Sri Ramesh K. Mittal, Sri Ravi D.C., Sri Vijay and Sri Haqqani Al-Qasmi. Sri Anupam Tiwari, Editor, Sahitya Akademi, coordinated the programme.

Spin-a-Tale

A children’s programme, ‘Spin-a-Tale’ was organized at the Rabindra Bhavan Lawns in



Poetry and Story writing competition in progress

New Delhi on February 17, 2018 featuring poetry and story writing competitions for children. The programme commenced with a Ghoomar dance performance by child artist, Shamia Begum, Sarvodaya Kanya Vidyalaya, New Delhi and prayer to Lord Ganesha by Master Karan Gautam. Sri Rajnikant Shukla, well-known children writer and Sri Abid Surti, eminent author, cartoonist, journalist, playwright and screen writer, were the chief guests in the programme.

Sri Rajnikant Shukla introduced Ms. Nazia Khan, the National Bravery Awardee and told the children how National Bravery Awards were introduced in 1957. Nazia shared her story, how she had rescued a girl being kidnapped by two motor-bikers. The act got her recognition and awards at state level, which later encouraged her to end a drug-liquor mafia running in her neighborhood. This act of bravery won her the National Bravery Award. Kids asked many questions to Nazia, regarding the challenges she faced, her inspiration and support in life, and what message she has for the kids.

Sri Abid Surti told the kids how the journey of story started among the early men using gestures, which later became the word. He told the kids about the oral tradition of India. He gave reference to the work of Giju Bhai, who collected the stories from grandmothers and published them in pre-independent India,



L-R: Dr K. Sreenivasarao distributes prizes, Abid Surti, Rajnikant Shukla

which were later translated by Sri Abid Surti and published as Gijubahi Ka Guldasta.

About 300 students from the following Delhi schools participated in the programme: Kendriya Vidyalaya, N.F.C. Vigyan Vihar, Sardar Patel School, Lodhi Estate, Sarvodaya Kanya Vidyalaya, Daryaganj, Millennium Shriram School, Greater Noida, Sarvodaya Bal Vidyalaya, Dallu Pura, D.P.S., Vasant Vihar, D.A.V. Public School, Shreshtha Vihar, Modern School Barakhamba Road and Sarvodayaya Vidyalaya, Shakarpur. The competitions were held in two different age groups and in Hindi and English separately with three prizes in each age group and segment. The programme concluded with distribution of prizes and certificates to children.

Samvatsar Lecture



Dr Chandrashekhar Kambar welcoming Dr S.L. Bhyrappa

A Samvatsar Lecture was delivered by Dr. S. L. Bhyrappa on February 13, 2018 at Rabindra Bhavan, New Delhi. Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, introduced the speaker to the audience. Professor Chandrashekara Kambar in his welcome speech, said that Dr. Bhyrappa is one of the most towering writers of Indian fiction.

Dr. Bhyrappa discussed how writing Vamshavriksha (his first novel) turned him to be creative in writing fiction and not in explaining truth or beauty or moral values. Comparing the analyzing concept and theories of different philosophical schools, he further stressed on Indian philosophy, how the essence of the Vedas is in the Upanishads; the essence of the Upanishads is expressed in Bhagavadgita and the Brahmasutras of Badarayana. He also discussed the context of Ramayana and Mahabharata using some Sanskrit shlokas. While concluding, he revealed why he chose the title 'Ascent to Vyasa Guha' for his lecture. He said, "At Badrinath there is a cave called Vyasaguha. The Sthalapuraana says that the author of the Mahabharata lived in that cave and wrote (dictated) the greatest epic of humankind... Even though Vyasa was not an active player of the Mahabharata history, he was a participant to the extent he performed Niyoga for the birth of Dritarashtra, Pandu and Vidura. That is, he was a participant and he lived somewhere near the theatre of action and he knew each and every detail of the action. But to sit and write (or dictate) why did he go to that cold place of ten thousand feet height at the age of more than a hundred years? The meaning of the myth is; the vast material that he knew or accumulated or collected took place on the plains – i.e., the lower level and Vyasa was too near the action and the actors. He went to the height of the Himalayas from where he could see the whole story with detachment, with sympathy (Sahridayata) and understand even villainous characters, the mysterious vision of life in the process of writing unfolding..." He ended his lecture saying, "A writer who fails to understand the full meaning of this myth cannot climb even one foot towards the height of Vyasa Guha."

At the end of the function the compilation of Dr. Bhyrappa's lecture, *Accent to Vyasa Guha*, was released.

Presentation of Sahitya Akademi Prize for Translation 2016



Translation prize winners with the Chief Guest, President and Secretary of Sahitya Akademi

The Translation Prize for the year 2016 was conferred on 24 Translation Prize Winners at a glittering ceremony at Agartala Town Hall, Tripura on December 28, 2017, by the President of Sahitya Akademi, Sri Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari. Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, in his Welcome Address elucidated the genesis of translation as a literary activity. Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, in his address admitted the difficulty of translation as a literary activity. Without translation, one can't imagine a global village. He elaborated on the difficulty of translating myths, symbols, rituals of one culture into another without loss of meaning and signification.

Dr. Temsula Ao, an eminent English scholar, Chief Guest of the programme said that without translation the Oral traditions of the Northeast wouldn't be exposed to World literature. She also urged the Akademi to widen the scope of Translation by translating both western and Indian epics into Naga and other languages of the Northeast.

The Concluding Remarks of the ceremony was delivered by the Vice-President, Dr. Chandrashekhar Kambar, who stressed the necessity of translation as an interface with

regional cultures. Dr K. Sreenivasarao summed up the proceedings and read out citation while Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari presented the Award.

The Translators' Meet

December 29, 2017

The Translators' Meet was held on 29 December 2017 at Syed Bhagat Singh Yuva Abas, Khejurbagan, Agartala to enable the Prize-winning translators share their creative experiences in an open forum. Acclaimed writer and Sahitya Akademi award winner Prof. Namdev Tarachandani presided over the session. Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, while welcoming the gathering, put forward the significance of the session in enriching the creative experiences of the Translators' themselves. The Meet started with Birhas Giri Basumatary who shared his experience of translating the last novel of Dr. Mamoni Roisom Goswami, *Thengphakhri Tohsildaror Tamor Torowal* from Assamese to Bodo. Meena Kakodkar talked about her experience of translating Amitav Ghosh's *The Shadow Lines* from English to Konkani. Milind Champanerkar discussed his experience of translating Saeed Mirza's English literary work

Ammi: Letter to a Democratic Mother into Marathi. Ravi Purohit shared his experience of translating Punjabi poetry volume of Bhai Vir Singh into Rajasthani. Amarjit Kaunke talked about his love for translation and his experience of translating Pavan Karan's collection of poems into Punjabi. Rani Sadasiva Murty shared his experience of translating the original Telugu text of Dr. Rallabandi Kavitha Prasad, *Ontari Poola Butta* into Sanskrit. G. Poornachandran shared his experience of translating into Tamil language.

Krishan Sharma, O.L. Nagabhushana Swamy, Rewati Mishra, Anita Ningombam, Gyan Bahadur Chhetri, Mona Lisa Jena, Ganesh Thakur Hansda, Mohan Gehani, Ashok Tankasala and Haqqani-Al-Qasmi also shared their experiences. Prof. Namdev Tarachandani, chairing the session, offered his remarks on the presentations of the Prize winners. At the end Dr Rao proposed the vote of thanks.

Abhivyakti

December 29-30, 2017

The Abhivyakti programme was conducted on 29-30 December 2017 at Syed Bhagat Singh Yuba Abas, Khejurbagan, Agartala.

Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, while welcoming the gathering, elucidated on the significance of the title of the session, Abhivyakti. Translation is nothing but abhivyakti, an expression, articulation and release of creative energy, a re-creation. The Introductory Remarks were offered by Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, who stressed on the importance of literature in contemporary times to connect people. He highlighted several social issues, like displacement and gender discrimination, which are seriously taken up by contemporary literature. Prof. Saroj Chaudhuri in his Inaugural address compared the Abhivyakti programme to a confluence of Indian literature, a sacred occasion for discovering and knowing others, both their similarities and differences. Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, in his Presidential Address, traced a lineage of ancient Translators in Indian culture since the days of Gautama Buddha. He mentioned the efforts of Rahul Sankrityayan in recovering and translating ancient manuscripts and pointed out that the modern day translators should also focus on translating ancient Indian heritage and bring them to limelight. This Inaugural Session was followed by a Poetry Reading Session of eminent poets from six



Poetry reading session in progress

different languages. The poets included Rajib Borah from Assamese, Akbar Ahmed from Bengali, Mohan Singh from Dogri, R.S. Bhaskar from Konkani, Pravasini Mahakund from Odia and P. Sreedhar Babu from Telugu who read out selected poems from their creative oeuvre. The Poetry Reading Session ended with Concluding Remarks by Dr. K. Sreenivasarao.

The second day of Abhivyakti, 30 December 2017, was slated to have three sessions: Translation: Uniting the Culture; Short Story Reading; and Poets' Meet. The first session began with Dr. K. Sreenivasarao introducing the Chairperson of the session, Damodar Khadse, and other panel members, who included Mayuri Sharma Baruah from Assamese, Phulchand Manav from Hindi and S. Varadharaj from Tamil. Damodar Khadse introduced the topic for the session and invited writer and scholar of Assamese literature, Mayuri Sharma Baruah for her presentation on Translation of Children's Literature. Editor, writer, journalist Phulchand Manav from Punjab discussed the role of translation in the context of Punjabi literature and culture. S. Varadharaj, critic and scholar of Tamil literature pointed out that the libraries of Sahitya Akademi are symbolic of the plurality and diversity of Indianness. Chairing the session, Damodar Khadse emphasized that translation of culture, language, literature and compassion could be used as a weapon

of integration and understanding, thereby strengthening the fabric of Indianness.

Second session of the day was dedicated to Short Story Reading, chaired by Sridhar Balagar, Kannad fiction writer. Paipra Radhakrishnan (Malayalam), Sukhjit (Punjabi) and Prof. Namdev Tarachandani (Sindhi) read out their short stories titled "*Sacrifice of a son*," "*Antara*" and "*Safaiwala Uncle*" respectively. Sridhar Balagar said that, for him a short story is a travelling metaphor, while each dialect is a dialogue with the other.

The post lunch session of Poets' Meet was chaired by Dr. Chandrakanta Murasingh. The first poet Santosh Rai (Bengali), Dr. Gobinda Chandra Majhi (Santali) and Ajit Narzary (Bodo) read poetry and their translation in Hindi. Bashir Aarif (Kashmiri), Shefali Debbarma (Kokborok), Ashok Mehta (Maithili), Sukhraj Diyali (Nepali), Ashutosh Dayal Mathur (Sanskrit) and Imam Azam (Urdu) presented their poems with their Hindi/English translation. The chairperson of the session Dr. Chandrakanta Murasingh expressed his satisfaction at the great success of the reading session, while singling out poetry as an art form which only wants to offer, and not expect anything. He stressed the role of poetry reading sessions in enabling cross-cultural understanding and integration and bridging.

Presentation of Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar 2017



The Yuva Puraskar winners with dignitaries

Sahitya Akademi organized its Yuva Puraskar and Young Writers' Festival on 22-24 December 2017 at Randhawa Auditorium, Punjab Kala Bhawan, Chandigarh. The Award Presentation ceremony of Yuva Puraskar 2017 started with an invocation song. Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi in his welcome address spoke in detail about the inception of Yuva Puraskar which was started to encourage young talent in 24 languages recognized by Sahitya Akademi.

Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi said that it is always great to see young writers participating in literary events and taking literature as profession. Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari conferred the award on 24 award winners while Dr. Surjeet Patar welcomed the awardees and Secretary of Sahitya Akademi read out the citations.

Dr. Surjeet Patar in his address said that literature is the mirror of the society and writers and literary people write whatever they feel without any hesitation. He suggested young writers to come out of their comfort zone and write for the society, for the people who are

unheard. After the presentation ceremony, in a cultural performance by Kala Mandali, Delhi presented 'Vidyapati Basant'- A Kathak choreography based on the spring poems by great Maithili poet Vidyapati was presented.

Writers' Meet

23 December 2017

Sahitya Akademi organized an Awardees meet featuring Yuva Puraskar 2017 winners at the Randhawa Auditorium, Punjab Art Council, Chandigarh on 23rd December 2017. The event was presided by Dr. Rawail Singh, General Council Member, Sahitya Akademi. The award winners spoke about their experiences as writers.

Nighat Sahiba (Kashmiri) said that she believed that our environment has a power to break us or make us and she was crushed by her environment, torn into pieces and moulded into something new. Mercy Margaret (Telugu) said what we left behind while walking is our own life, our own language. Suryasnata Tripathy (Odia) said it is also important for people with the gift of words to realize that they

are not merely the representatives of their own thoughts and feelings, rather they are the voices of all those who cannot speak loud enough to be heard.

Among other award winners were Pratim Barua (Assamese), Shamik Ghosh (Bengali), Bijit Gwra Ramchiary (Bodo), Rajinder Ranjha (Dogri), Manu S. Pillai (English), Raam Mori (Gujarati), Taro Sindik (Hindi), Shanthi K. Appanna (Kannada), Amey Vishram Naik (Konkani), Chandan Kumar Jha (Maithili), Aswathy Sasikumar (Malayalam), Kh. Krishnamohan Singha (Manipuri), Rahul Kosambi (Marathi), Saran Muskan (Nepali), Harmanjeet Singh (Punjabi), Ummed Dhaniya (Rajasthani), Hemchandra Belwal (Sanskrit), Maina Tudu (Santali), Rekha Sachdev Pohani (Sindhi), Manushi (A Jaya Bharathi) (Tamil) and Rasheed Ashraf Khan (Urdu) who shared their experiences as writers with the audience.

AVISHKAR - All-India Young Writers' Festival

December 23-24, 2017, Chandigarh

Sahitya Akademi organized 'All India Young Writers' Festival' on 23 December 2017 at Randhawa Auditorium, Punjab Art Council, Chandigarh with its Yuva Puraskar presentation ceremony. At the outset, K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the dignitaries and participants. The eminent Punjabi writer, Gulzar Singh Sandhu was the guest of honour. Dr. Rawail Singh, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi in his introductory address talked about the various programmes and schemes of Sahitya Akademi to encourage young writings in India.

Addressing the writers, Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi said that literature has the power to bring the universe together. He said that the writer must be

sensitive enough to the happenings of the society and then write about it. Gulzar Singh Sandhu said that it is the need of the hour to keep on promoting the tradition of brotherhood through writings.

In the inaugural session, Kishore Manjit Bora (Assamese), Ajit Basumatary (Bodo), Monika Kumar (Hindi), Rameshor Singh (Manipuri), Ritupriya (Rajasthani), Jagdeep (Punjabi) and Adil Raza Mansoori (Urdu) read out their poems with their English/Hindi translations.

On 24 December 2017 the poetry session was chaired by Sri Adil Raza Mansoori and Promita Bhowmik (Bengali), Devendra Thakur (Dogri), Sathyamangala Mahadeva (Kannada), Dattaraj Naik (Konkani), Rashmi Rupam (Maithili) and N. Sabarinathan (Tamil) recited their poems.

In the second session 'Why do I write' where Rajeev Kumar (Hindi), Sreejith Perumthachan (Malayalam) and Gurpreet Singh Ratol (Punjabi) presented their papers. The writers shared their experiences on how and why they started writing and what changes they witnessed in society.

The third session was story reading session. It was chaired by eminent Punjabi writer Mr. Manmohan. In this session Samhita Arni (English), Pooja Tatsat (Gujarati), Manoj Pandey (Hindi), Dheeba Nazir (Kashmiri) and Agazbir (Punjabi) presented their stories in English and Hindi translations.

The concluding session, *i.e.* poetry session was chaired by renowned poet Sri Madhav Kaushik. Nitin Bharat Wagh (Marathi), Honok Thapa (Nepali), Pratiksha Jena (Odia), Kaushal Kishore Tiwari (Sanskrit) Ganesh Marandi (Santali), Jayesh Sharma (Sindhi) and Payala Murali Krishna (Telugu) recited their poems.

Presentation of Sahitya Akademi Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2017



Group Photo of Bal Sahitya Awardees, Vijayawada

Sahitya Akademi organized its Bal Sahitya Puraskar Presentation Ceremony at Chukkapalli Pichaiiah Auditorium, Vijayawada on November 14, 2017. Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, in his welcome address said that this is the first event in the capital of Nandyandhra Amaravathi which is organized by Sahitya Akademi. He emphasized on important texts published in Indian literature, i.e. Panchatantra, Hitopadesha and Kathasaritsagara which survived more than two thousand years.

Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, while delivering the Presidential address, expressed that in the contemporary scenario, less number of literature is being written by the children's writer. He further reminded the contributions made by eminent writers such as Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore, Amritlal Nagar, R.K. Narayanan, Satyajit Ray and many others for enriching children's literature. The honours of Bal Sahitya Puraskar were bestowed upon the awardees in 24 languages by Prof. Vishwanth Prasad Tiwari.

The Chief Guest Mr. Sethu Madhavan, eminent Malayalam writer, expressed his views

on child literature. He said, "It is very difficult to write for children in the present society. Even I wrote several short stories and novels in Malayalam but I am not able to write a single story for children. To write for children there should be patience, language and thought processing."

Prof. Chandrashekhar Kambar, Vice-President, Sahitya Akademi, while giving the concluding remarks said "A writer of children's literature occupies a very different position. It is quite unique as well. Like folktale, this literature when narrated overcomes the locality and gains universality." The award ceremony was followed by cultural performance (Lai-haraoba, Kabui & Mao Dance) by renowned artists of Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy, Imphal.

Writers' Meet

November 15, 2017

The Writers meet was held on 15 November, 2017, at Indian Medical Association Hall, Vijayawada. The programme was chaired by Prof. Chandrashekhar Kambar, Vice-President, Sahitya Akademi. Recipients of Bal Sahitya Puraskar expressed their views and experiences during the Writers' Meet. Bengali

writer Sasthipada Chattopadhyay said that “I got inclined and developed an urge for children literature /fictions within me which helped me to reach the milestone where I am standing today.” Maithili writer Sri Amlendu Shekhar Pathak told that “Maithili is a local language of Mithila. Seetha’s mother tongue also Maithili. We are giving importance to children literature also.” Sanskrit writer Mr. Rajkumar Misra said that children, after coming from school, are busy with their homeworks and not spend time with grandparents. Mr. Vasala Narasaiah who is from Telugu said that now-a-days children are addicted to electronic gadgets and they are denying book reading. We have to inculcate book reading in children. Horendra Nath Borthakur (Assamese), Sudhesh Raj (Dogri), Showkat Ansari (Kashmiri), Sri Vincy Quadros (Konkani), S.R. Lal (Malayalam) Sri Velu Saravanan (Tamil), Nazeer Fatehpuri (Urdu) also shared their experiences. The Writers’ Meet concluded with a vote of thanks.

Bhasha Samman

April 25, 2017, Vijayawada

Sahitya Akademi Regional Office, Bengaluru organised Bhasha Samman Presentation on April 25, 2017 at Siddhartha College of Arts and Science, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh. Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi in his welcome address, expressed his happiness in presenting Bhasha Samman to the eminent personalities who served their life to develop languages and said that the Akademi is more concerned with developing the Tribal and unrecognized languages. Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi said that there are a large number of languages in India, and we have lots of literature in those languages. The Akademi is taking more responsibility to publish valuable literature in all languages. After that he presented Bhasha

Samman to Sri Nagalla Guruprasadarao (CML), Prof. T.R Damodaran and Smt. T.S Saroja Sundararajan jointly for sourashre language.



*Bhasha Samman Awardees of 2015
with Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari and K. Sreenivasarao*

In his acceptance speech, Sri Nagalla Guruprasadarao said that among the old poets Mahakavai Tikkana is his favourite. In his writings one can see the panoramic picture of Telugu Language both in usage and expression. Prof. Damodaran briefed the gathering about the Sourashtra dialect, how it migrated from Gujarat to Tamil Nadu and how the culture of the dialect has survived thousands of years. Smt. T.S. Saroja Sundararajan talked about the evaluation of Sourashtra language and literature. Caldwellyer, who is a great scholar, said that the languages like Magadhi, Marathi, Laadi, Maithili, Kathri, Konkani, Bhojpuri came from Souraseni. Dr. Papineni Sivasankar, Member, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, coordinated the programme.

Bhasha Samman

September 14, 2017, Mangalore

Bhasha Samman was presented to Dr. Amruth Someshwara for his exemplary contribution to Tulu language and literature on 14 September 2017 in Mangalore. Dr. Chandrashekhar Kambar, Vice-President,



Amrut Someshwara received the Bhasha Samman Award 2016 from Dr Chandrashekhar Kambar

stated that he intends to contribute more to Tulu and Kannada languages. N. Vinay Flegde, Chancellor, Nitte University, M. Shantharam Shetty, its Pro-Chancellor, and S. Ramananda Shetty, its Vice-Chancellor, Smt. Narmada, Dr Someshwara's wife and Dr Na. Damodar Shetty, member, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi were among those present.

Bhasha Samman

October 4, 2017, Pune

Sahitya Akademi, RO, Mumbai organized a Bhasha Samman Presentation Ceremony in Pune at Manohar Mangal Karyalaya on Wednesday, 04 October 2017. The Bhasha Samman was ceremoniously presented to Prof. Madhukar Anant Mehendale for his seminal work in the domain of classical and medieval literature. Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, in his welcome address, said that languages are repositories of culture, and it is through a language that a given culture is expressed mainly, and thus loss of a language is loss of a life. So the languages need to be saved and nurtured. Prof. Tiwari said that it has been a tradition of Sahitya Akademi to felicitate a scholar at right time, as it contributes to the excellence of human values. He further



Madhukar Anant Mehendale received the Bhasha Samman Award 2016 from Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari

said that Prof. Mahendale has extraordinarily brilliant insights in to the Vedas, epics, Pali and Prakrit, historical linguistics and Avesta, and the scriptures of the Parsis. Prof. Tiwari presented the Bhasha Samman to Prof. Mehendale. Dr. K. Sreenivasarao read out the citation on Prof. Mehendale. Prof. Mehendale recollected a couple of his experiences which he shared with the audience on this occasion.

Bhasha Samman

31 January 2018, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi conferred its prestigious Bhasha Samman upon Dr Shesh Anand Madhukar for his exemplary contribution to Magahi language. At the outset, Dr Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the guests and audience. In his welcome address he said that Sahitya Akademi gives annual awards to books of outstanding merit in 24 languages recognized by it and Bhasha Samman to unrecognized languages. Till date Akademi has given Bhasha Samman to 96 writers/scholars of unrecognized languages. Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, presented an inscribed copper plaque, shawl, and a

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Dr Shesh Anand Madhukar received the Bhasha Samman Award 2016 from Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari

cheque for rupees one lakh to Sri Madhukar. Prof. Tiwari in his presidential speech said that all languages are worth worshipping. Quoting languages like Bhojpuri and Awadhi he said that unrecognized languages are like rivers that strengthen the sea of mainstream languages. In his acceptance speech, Dr Madhukar thanked Sahitya Akademi for giving recognition to unrecognized languages by bestowing on them the highest honour of Bhasha Samman. He presented some of his Magahi poems and said that native language of the writer is the strongest medium of expression.

Honorary Fellowship to Kim Yang-Shik

March 14, 2018, New Delhi

Honorary Fellowship was conferred on distinguished Korean indologist, poet and translator, Dr Kim Yang-shik at a glittering ceremony in New Delhi on March 14, 2018. Honorary Fellowship is the highest honor conferred by the Akademi on International literary persons of outstanding merit who are not nationals of India. Welcoming Dr Kim, dignitaries and scholars, Dr K. Sreenivasarao,



Dr Kim Yang-Shik received the Honorary Fellowship

Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, highlighted the ancient and rich cultural relationships between India and Korea and also the literary exchanges between the two countries over several centuries. He stated that the Akademi feels honoured to confer Honorary Fellowship on Dr Kim Yang-shik. Sri Madhav Kaushik, Vice-President, Sahitya Akademi, conferred the Fellowship on Dr Kim Yang-shik. In his Presidential address, Sri Madhav Kaushik stated that Dr Kim's devoted and dedicated efforts have brought the cultural and literary traditions of both the countries very close to each other and added that Dr Kim Yang-shik is the Cultural Ambassador of not only South Korea but of India too. In her acceptance speech, Dr Kim Yang-shik thanked the Akademi for the honour and talked about her early life, how she became a writer, her works, influences on her writing and the literary scenario in her country. In his felicitation speech Dr Divik Ramesh said that Dr Kim Yang-shik is one of the very few writers who assimilated the spiritual pathos of Indian tradition and she was successful in embedding that into the Korean sensibility.

Seminars, Symposia and Conferences

Seminar on Indian Literature and Social Development

April 5-7, 2017, Shimla

Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with The Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla, organized a National Seminar on Indian Literature and Social Development: Theory, Practice and Community Impact on April 5-7, 2017 at The Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla. In the inaugural session, Prof. Vijay Shankar Varma, National Fellow, IIAS, welcomed the guests. Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the welcome address, where he pointed out how literature is a reflector of reality – physical and intellectual- and acts as a bridge between the past and the present. Dr. Sudhir Kakar, eminent psycho-analyst and thinker, in his keynote address, spoke of the psychological encounters between Europe and India. Prof. Malashri Lal, Convener, English Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi proposed a vote of thanks. In the first session of the seminar, Namita Gokhale presented a paper on the topic, 'Remembering Kumaun, Recording Kumaun', while Priya Sarukkai Chabria, presented a paper on the topic, 'Evolving an Aesthetic of Rupture and Rapture.' The second session of the seminar was chaired by Prof. Chetan Singh, former Director, IIAS. In this session, Reba Som, Ragini Kapoor and Vinita Dhondhiyal Bhatnagar presented papers on the topics, 'Sister Nivedita's Web of Indian Life (1903) – a Narrative for Nation Building', 'The Indian Visual Artist and Socio-Cultural Contexts of The Indian Art' and 'Writers for Change: A History and Account of the Progressive Writers Association', respectively. In the third session of the seminar, Moon Moon Mazumdar and

Nirban Manna presented papers on 'The Politics of Representation in Select Works of Fiction from India's Northeast' and 'Interrogating Applied Theatre as a Tool for Capacity Building in Contemporary Bengal: a Case Study', respectively. In the fourth session of the seminar, Prof. Chandrakala Padia, Chairperson, IIAS-Shimla, presented her views on Indian literature and traditions. Martin Kämpchen, presented his views on the topic, 'Rabindranath Tagore's Worldview Reception – A Critical Overview'. Shail Mayaram spoke on 'A Literary Genealogy of Right-Wing Nationalism', while Jyotirmay Tripathy presented a paper on 'The Production of Literary Values in Contemporary India.' In the fifth session of the seminar, Satish Aikant, Anandita Pan and Arunabha Bose presented papers on the topics, 'India and Europe: Nirmal Verma as a Critical Insider', 'Writing the Self: Autobiographies and the Politics of Change' and 'The engendering of a subaltern historiography in the Palamau Fiction of Mahasweta Devi', respectively. The sixth session of the seminar saw Akshaya Kumar presenting a paper on the topic 'Progressive Punjabi Poetry: From Lok Yudha to Dharmayudha', Himadri Roy on 'Torn between Emotions: A Critical Analysis of Bisexuality in Rao's Lady Lolita's Lover' and Rama Shankar Singh on 'Life, Language and Politics of Nomads of Uttar Pradesh: An Empirical Study'. In the seventh session of the seminar, Simran Chadha and Rohit Phutela presented papers on the topics, 'Refracted Witnessing: Narratives from the Valley' and 'Finding Agency, Combating the Collective Trauma: Balbir Madhopuri's Against the Night', respectively. Prem Kumari Srivastava, Pandurang Kashiram Bhoje and Anita

Balakrishnan presented papers on the topics, 'Ontological Articulations of the Folk: Deshivad and the Barahmasa of North India', 'Literature on Adivasis Awakening in Maharashtra' and 'Requiem for a Tribe: Environmental Ethics and Ethnography – Rereading Rajam Krishnan's When the Kurinji Blooms', respectively, in the eighth session of the seminar. In the valedictory session of the seminar, Kaustav Chakraborty presented a paper on the topic, 'In Search of an Endogenous Eco-masculinity: A Journey through Select Tribal Tales and the Green Politics of Gulzar', while V. Deepa presented her paper on the topic, 'The Poetics and Politics of Jallikattu in C. S. Chellappa's Vaadivaasal: Arena.' The seminar was summed up by Prof. Sumanyu Satpathy, Prof. Malashri Lal and Dr. R. Umamaheshwari.

Seminar on Sir Syed Ahmad Khan

April 15, 2017, Aligarh

Sahitya Akademi organized a National Seminar on Sir Syed Ahmad Khan in association with the Sir Syed Bicentenary Committee, Aligarh Muslim University at the Arts Faculty Lounge. Allahabad University Vice Chancellor, Professor R. L. Hangloo inaugurated the programme, while Professor Farhatullah Khan (Prof Emeritus) presided over the function.

During the inaugural session, Professor Hangloo said that the notion on Sir Syed being



Prof Farhatullah Khan addressing at the Seminar

pro colonial is wrong as he never supported the British rule. He added that Sir Syed wanted to bring forth a cultural and educational revolution for which he promoted English language.

Noted critic, Professor M Shafey Kidwai during the welcome address said that it is high time to revisit Sir Syed's works for taking his mission of education forward in new directions in the contemporary world. Mr Chander Bhan Khayal, Convener, Urdu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi delivered the welcome address. He said that the Sahitya Akademi stands proud for organising this programme on Sir Syed Ahmad Khan in collaboration with AMU.

Delivering the keynote address, Professor Asghar Abbas said that Sir Syed lived at a time, when there were thinkers like Karl Marx in Europe. "Both Sir Syed and Karl Marx reformed the societies, they lived in.

During the presidential remarks, Professor Farhatullah Khan emphasised that to maintain secularism and tolerance, it is necessary to work on Sir Syed's thoughts in today's world. Professor Maula Baksh conducted the programme, while Mr Ajay Kumar Sharma, Assistant Editor, Sahitya Akademi proposed the vote of thanks.

Seminar on Trends in Santali Novel

April 23-24, 2017, Jamshedpur

Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with Jaher Than Committee, Jamshedpur organized a seminar on trends of Santali novel on April 23-24, 2017 at Tribal Cultural Centre, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand. Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience while Sri Gangadhar Hansda, Convener, Santali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi chaired the inaugural session Sri Gangadhar Hansda highlighted the journey of development of

the Santali novel in his introductory remarks, while Mr. Ravindra Nath Murmu, in his keynote address, summarized the contemporary trends of the Santali novel. In his presidential address, Sri Shobhanath Besra said that literature is a mirror of the society. At the end, Prof. Digambar Hansda, President, Jaher Than Committee gave a vote of thanks. The first session of the seminar was concluded under the chairmanship of Sri Ratan Hembram, in which Mansaram Murmu presented a paper on the 'Trends in Santali Novel', while Lakhai Baske and Laxminarayan Hansda presented papers on the topics 'History of Santali novels' and 'Impact of Santali novels on the society and culture', respectively. Sri Samay Kisku presided over the second session, in which Lakhan Murmu gave detailed information on C.M. Hansda's novel Manumatti, as well as his other novels. Vishwanath Tudu presented a paper on 'The impact of globalization on Santali novels', and Duli Hansda presented a paper based on Doman Hansda's novel Aatu Odha. Ramu Hembram presented a paper titled, 'Female characters in Santali novels'. The third session was concluded under the chairmanship of Sri Badal Hembram, in which Mohan Baske and Ganesh Tudu presented papers titled 'Displacement in Santali Novels' and 'Male Characters in Santali Novels', respectively. The fourth session of the seminar was chaired by Sri C.P. Majhi, in which Sri Panchugopal Hembram, Manik Hansda and Majho Murmu presented their articles on the current state of Santali novel writing in West Bengal, Jharkhand and Odisha, respectively. Sri C.P. Majhi, in his presidential address, expressed satisfaction over the current situation of Santali novel writing.

Seminar on Standardization of Spelling in Indian Nepali Language

April 29-30, 2017, Darjeeling

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata in collaboration with Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling organised a seminar on 'Standardization of the Spelling in Indian Nepali Language' on April 29-30, 2017 at Darjeeling, West Bengal. Sri Kamal Regmi inaugurated the seminar. Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh welcomed the audience and briefed them about the activities of the Akademi. Sri Prem Pradhan, Convener, Nepali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi presented the introductory speech. Sri Shankar Deo Dhakal, well-known Nepali writer, presented the keynote address. Sri Karna Thami, President, Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, who presided over the programme as chair, informed about the decision already taken by the NSS in this regard. Dr. Jas Yonjan 'Pyasi' chaired the first session of the seminar. Sri Loknath Upadhyaya Chapagain presented his paper on the topic 'Linguistic Geography of Indian Nepali Language' and Dr. Navin Paudyal on 'Comparative aspect of Indian Nepali Language and Nepal's Nepali Language'. Second session was presided over by Sri Asit Rai, renowned Nepali critic. Sri Arjun Pradhan (Bharatiya Nepali Bhashako Uchcharan-bhed Ra Artha-sanket), Sri Khemraj Nepal (Bharatiya Nepali Bhashama tatha Pancham Varnako Avashyakta) and Dr. Gokul Sinha (Usages of Vowels and Consonants in Indian Nepali) presented their respective papers. The third session was chaired by Sri Hasta Nechali. Sri Milan Bantawa and Dr. Sujata Rani Rai presented their papers in the session. Dr. Jiwan Namdung, distinguished Nepali critic, chaired the valedictory session of the seminar while Sri Haren Allay delivered the valedictory speech. Sri Bhaktaraj Sunuwar, General Secretary, Nepali Sahitya Sammelan proposed the vote of thanks at the end of the Seminar.

Seminar on Contemporary Manipuri Poetry and its Perspectives

May 18-19, 2017, Imphal



Participants of the Seminar on Contemporary Manipuri Poetry and its Perspectives

Sahitya Akademi organized in collaboration with The Cultural Forum, Manipur, a two-day Seminar on 'Contemporary Manipuri Poetry and its Perspectives' on 18-19 May 2017 at Dave Literature Centre, D.M. College Campus, Imphal. In the inaugural session Gautam Paul, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Regional Office, Kolkata welcomed the participants and audience. In the inaugural and introductory address, H. Behari, Convener, Manipuri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, spoke about the importance of organising a seminar on 'Contemporary Manipuri Poetry and its Perspectives' at Imphal. From the chair, Naorem Khagendra Singh, eminent Professor unveiled the theme of the seminar. In the first session chaired by Elangbam Dinamani Singh, three young scholars, Naorem Bidyasagar Singha, Th. Tarun Singh and R.J Meitei, presented their papers. In the second session chaired by Longjam Joychandra Singh, three young scholars, Laishram Koireng Singh, Konjengbam Minaketan Meitei and Moirangthem Rajesh Singh, presented their papers. The third session was chaired by Kh. Kunjo Singh, and three young scholars, Nando Ningomba, Ahanjao Meitei and T Kunjakeshor, read their papers. In

the fourth session chaired by Rajen Toijamba, four young scholars, Haobijam Chanu Prema, Phuritsabam Khelendro Singh, Budhichandra Heisnamba and T. Surajbala, read their papers, Khwairakpam Sunita Devi, General Secretary of the Cultural Forum, Manipur proposed a vote of thanks.

Dinu Bhai Pant Birth Centenary Seminar

June 17-18, 2017, Jammu

Sahitya Akademi organized a two day "Dinu Bhai Birth Centenary Seminar" in collaboration with Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages today at Abhinav Theatre, Srinagar. Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, Presided, Prof. Nilamber Dev Sharma was the Chief Guest and Dr. Manoj was Guest of Honour. Prof. Lalit Magotra, Convener, Dogri, Sahitya Akademi, Dr. Arvinder Singh Amn, Additional Secretary, Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages and Dr. Devendra Devesh, OSD, Sahitya Akademi, were also present. While delivering his presidential address, Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari said that using language as a medium, a writer writes for masses and tries to portray what a common person could not see and realize. Prof. N.D Sharma, while delivering his keynote address spoke about the contributions of Dinu Bhai Pant and said that the Dogri poetry and literature written by Dinu Bhai Pant was the turning point of that era in the history of Dogri literature. Prof. Lalit Magotra, in his introductory remarks said that Sahitya Akademi deserves all appreciation for celebrating the birth centenary of Sh. Dinu Bhai Pant in such a manner that all the aspects of his life have been covered in this two-day seminar. Dr. Manoj also spoke on the occasion and shared his experiences with Dinu Bhai Pant as his father, a poet, a progressive person and a friend.

In the first session, Prof. Veena Gupta, renowned Dogri writer presided. In this session, three papers were presented by Ved Rahi, Yash Raina and Sushil Begana. A musical evening



L-R : Neelambar Dev Sharma, Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, Manoj and Lalit Mangotra

named “Avishkar” was also organised where the singers presented the songs of Dinu Bhai Pant, composed by Sh. Brij Mohan. The singers who participated were Sonali Dogra, Vanshika Jaral, Varsha Jamwal and Vivek Mohan. The accompanists were Rakesh Anand (Flute), Sunil Sharma (Synthesizer) and Karan Malhotra (Tabla). Prof Ved Kumari Ghai, Sh. Lakshmi Shankar Vajpayee, Prof Chanchal Dogra, Prof. Kiran Bakshi, Chhattar Pal, Sh. D. C. Raina, Mrs Raj Kumar, Prakash Premi, Chaman Arora, Vijay Verma, Sh. N. D. Jamwal, Shiv Dev Susheel, Gianeshwar Sharma, Mrs Neeru Sharma, Prof. Lalit Gupta, Shiv Mehta, Raj Rahi, Sh. O.P. Sharma, Darshan Darshi, Prof. Shiv Nirmohi, Mrs Rita Jatindra, Prof. Sushma Sharma, HOD Dogri Department, Prof. Parmeshwari Sharma, Hindi Department, Krishan Sharma, Surinder Sagar, Brijmohan, Dr Baljit Raina, Dr Monojit, Sham Sajan, Sham Talib, Rajinder Ranjha, Dr Chanchal Bhasin, Vijaya Thakur, Promila Manhas, Dr Agnishekhar, Prof. P. N. Trishal, Prof Rattan Lal Shant, Surinder Goel, Maharaj Krishan Santoshi, Madan Padha, Dr Vijay Seth and Dr Joginder Singh were also present.

Second session of the seminar was presided over by Sri Narsingh Dev Jamwal, in which Sri

Rajkumar Bahrupiya, Dr. Jagdeep Dubey and Dr. Bansi Lal Sharma presented their papers. Dr. Darshan Darshi chaired the third session, while Sri Joginder Singh, Prof. Shiv Nirmohi and Dr. Sandeep Dubey presented their papers on different aspects of the poetry of Dinu Bhai Pant. Fourth and the last session of the seminar was presided over by Sri Prakash Premi. This session also focussed on the poetry of Dinu Bhai Pant. Sri Chhatrapal, Sri Surjit Hosh and Dr. Padma Sing Dev presented their papers on the social concern of Pant’s poetry.

Gajanan Madhav Muktibodh Birth Centenary Seminar

27-28 June 2017, Rajnandgaon

Sahitya Akademi organized in collaboration with Government Digvijay Swashashi Snatkottar Mahavidyalaya, Rajnandgaon, a two-day seminar on the occasion of Gajanan Madhav Muktibodh birth centenary celebration on 27-28 June 2017 at Muktibosh Smarak, Triveni Sangam, Rajnandgaon, Chattisgarh.

Dr. K. Sreenivasarao welcomed the participants, media persons and audience and noted that Muktibodh is considered to be one of the most prolific thinkers of the country. His thoughts and creative insights have a different angle altogether which has revolutionized and inspired entire generations. His writings reflect the entire gamut of human existence. Renowned thinker and freedom fighter Sri Kanaiyalal Agarwal gave the inaugural address and emphasized that Muktibodh’s concerns were on the world scenario. The chief guest of this event was Muktibodh’s son Sri Ramesh Muktibodh.

Delivering the presidential address in the inaugural session, President, Sahitya Akademi, Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, opined that a true writer and great writer is one whose writing brings about a change in the thought process. The keynote address was given by prominent

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Hindi litterateur and scholar Prof. Nandkishore Acharya. He said that Muktibodh is as big a critic as he is a writer.

The chief guest of the programme Sri Rajendra Mishra termed Muktibodh as the revolutionary writer of angst.

The Principal of Government Digvijay Swashashi Snatkottar Mahavidyalaya Dr. R.N. Singh offered a vote of thanks to all the speakers as well as the audience of the inaugural session.

The first session was chaired by eminent Hindi poet Sri Leeadhar Jagoodi and based on Muktibodh's poetry. Poets including Malay, Manglesh Dabral, Arun Kamal and Praffull Shiledar read their papers.

The second session was based on the short stories and novels of Muktibodh. Reputed linguist and critic Dr. Amaranth threw light on Muktibodh's stories which shred middle class morality into pieces and mentioned that most of his stories reflect middle class reality. His stories are more relevant in today's context. In this session Sri Chittaranjan Mishra, Sri Gorakh Thorat and Dr. Gajanan Chauhan read their papers.

The third session on 28 June 2017 was chaired by eminent poet, storywriter, critic and translator Prabhat Tripathi. Dr. Suryanarayan



Dr K. Sreenivasarao speaking during the seminar

Ransubhe and Revati Raman read out their papers in this session.

The subject of the fourth session was Muktibodh's literary criticism and historical sense. It was chaired by eminent poet, critic and Editor Sri Vijay Bahadur Singh. In this session renowned Hindi writer Madhav Hada and eminent Marathi poet, translator and painter Sri Ganesh Visputay said that Muktibodh's writing can be divided on the basis of style and form, but the frequent movement of several genres is a speciality of Muktibodh's writing.

In the closing session, Principal Dr. R.N. Singh expressed gratitude towards Sahitya Akademi. The programme ended after a vote of thanks by Sri Ashok Choudhary.

In this two-day event all the four sons of Muktibodh—Sri Ramesh Muktibodh, Sri Divakar Muktibodh, Sri Dilip Muktibodh and Sri Hirish Muktibodh—were present. The senior writers of the town, such as Dr Ganesh Khare, Ganesh Shankar Sharma, Saroj Dwivedi, Prabhat Tiwari and Mohanagrahari were also present.

The programme was conducted by Sri Anupam Tiwari.

Seminar on Folk Literature in the West and Northeast Indian Languages

July 14-15, 2017, Goa

Sahitya Akademi, RO, Mumbai, Goa Konkani Academy and Institute Menezes Braganza jointly organized a two day seminar on Folk Literature in the West and North-East Indian Languages on 14-15 July 2017 in Panaji, Goa at the Institute Menezes Braganza Auditorium. Sri Uday Bhembhre, distinguished Konkani writer and scholar inaugurated the seminar, and Sri Anil Bodo, noted folklorist, and Sri Prakash Vazrikar, President, Goa Konkani

Academy were the chief guests at the inaugural session. Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the audience and participants. Sri Tanaji Halarnakar, Convener, Konkani Advisory Board, gave the introductory remarks. Sri Bhembre thanked Sahitya Akademi for offering an opportunity for the folklorists and scholars of eight Indian languages to assemble and exchange their views and insights with one another. Sri Anil Bodo said that human values are preserved only because of folk literature and arts. Sri Sanjay Harmalkar of the Institute Menezes Braganza proposed a vote of thanks.

The first session - "Folk Literature: Genres and Ingenuity of Diction" - was chaired by Dr Balvant Jani, Member, Gujarati Advisory Board. Sri Satyakam Borthakur (Assamese), Sri Anil Bodo (Bodo), Sri Bhimjibhai Khacharia (Gujarati), Sri Vinci Quadras (Konkani) presented their papers in this session. Sri H. Behari Singh, Convener, Manipuri Advisory Board, chaired the second session - "Time and Value System in Folk Literature". Sri Parasmoni Dutta (Assamese), Pranab Jyoti Narzary (Bodo), Sri Bhagwandas Patel (Gujarati), Sri Pandurang Phaldesai (Konkani) presented their papers in this session.

Sri Avinash Sapre, Member, Marathi Advisory Board, chaired the third session - "Cultural Exchange in Folk Literature". Sri Pradip Jyoti Mahanta (Assamese), Sri Detsung Swargiyary (Bodo), Sri Balvant Jani (Gujarat) and Ms Jayanti Naik (Konkani) presented their papers in this session. The fourth session - "Folk Literature: Genres and Ingenuity of Diction" began on Saturday, 15 July 2017, and was chaired by Sri Pandurang Phaldesai. Ms Y. Nandini (Manipuri), Sri Avinash Sapre (Marathi), presented their papers. Dr Premprakash's (Sindhi) paper was read out by Sri Jetho Lalwani. The fifth session - "Time and Value

System in Folk Literature II" - was chaired by Sri Anil Bodo. Sri N. Kiran Kumar (Manipuri), Dr Tara Bhavalkar (Marathi), and Sri Jetho Lalwani (Sindhi) presented their papers in this session. The last session - "Cultural Exchange in Folk Literature II" - was chaired by Sri Jetho Lalwani. Sri H. Behari Singh (Manipuri), Sri Prakash Khandge (Marathi), Sri Kaladhar Mutwa (Sindhi) presented their papers in this session. Finally, Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Mumbai proposed a vote of thanks.

Seminar on Paths and Schools of Thoughts in Kannada Literature

July 17-18, 2017, Harugeri

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Bangalore, in collaboration with Shri Vruhabhadra Education Society's Arts and Commerce and BCA College, Harugeri had conducted a two-day Seminar on "Paths and Schools of Thoughts in Modern Kannada Literature" at Sri Ramappa Darur Auditorium, Harugeri on July 17-18, 2017. Renowned critic Dr. Narahalli Balasubramanya inaugurated the seminar and spoke about the literature. Sri Shreedhar Balagar hoped that every thoughts in literature must become paths and individual respect should be observed in society. The Chairman of Shri Vruhabhadra Education Society was the President of the inaugural function. The Director R.S. Yalashetti and the Secretary V.H. Pawas were present as the Chief Guests. Dr.V.S. Mali, the Director of B.R. Darur Research Centre gave the introductory speech and he appreciated the work of Sahitya Akademi in conducting the two-day seminar in a rural area like Harugeri. The Regional Secretary of Sahitya Akademi, Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar welcomed the delegates and Prof. Trishala Mangoje compered the function and the Principal Dr. A.D. Tonage gave delivered a

vote of thanks. Mr. Siraj Ahmad of Shimoga spoke about the theoretical basis of the paths and schools of thought of Kannada Literature. Sri Balasaheb Lokapur shared his experience as a creative writer. The second session on the “Paths and Schools of Thoughts of Kannada Literature: Kannada fiction” was chaired by Prof. Rajendra Chenni. Dr. Rajashekhara Halemane in his speech explained the history of Kannada fiction and trends and movements of Kannada literature. The third session on “Paths and Schools of Thoughts of Kannada Literature: The Kannada poetry” was chaired by eminent critic Sri S.R. Vijayshankar. Dr. Ashok Narode, the Kannada lecturer of KLE Degree College, Mahalingpur read the article of Asha Devi. The fourth session of recent discussion on “Paths and Schools of Thoughts of Modern Kannada Literature” was chaired by Dr. Raghavendra Patil, the veteran writer and novelist. Dr. Balasaheb Lokapur, K.R. Siddagangamma, Basavanneppa Kambar, the journalist Prithviraj Kovattar gave their creative responses about the modern Kannada Literature. In the valedictory session Dr. Basavaraj Kalgudi was on the chair, Dr. Gurupad Mariguddi spoke about the seminar and also the uniqueness of Kannada Literature. The Secretary of the Shri Vruhabhandra Education Society Sri V.H. Pawas proposed the vote of thanks.

Seminar on Socio-Cultural Perspective of Literary Adaptation of Malayalam Films

09- 10 August 2017, Calicut

Sahitya Akademi organized a two-day Seminar on Socio-Cultural Perspective of Literary Adaptation of Malayalam Films in association with the Department of Malayalam & Kerala Studies, University of Calicut on 9th and 10th of August, 2017 at EMS Seminar Complex, University of Calicut. The first day

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Dr. Anil Vallathol delivering the introductory address

of the seminar started with the Inaugural Session. Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the gathering. An introduction to the seminar was given by Dr. Anil Vallathol, Member of the Malayalam Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi. It was followed by the Presidential Address by Dr. K. Muhammed Basheer, Vice-Chancellor, Calicut University. Prof. Umer Theramel, HOD, Department of Malayalam & Kerala Studies, University of Calicut, presented the theme of the seminar. The Keynote Address was delivered by Sri V.K. Sreeraman, eminent Malayalam writer and actor. The session concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Aafis.

The first session of the Seminar was chaired by P. Somanathan, Faculty, Department of Malayalam & Kerala Studies. Meena T. Pillai and C.S. Venkiteswaran presented their papers.

The second session of the seminar was chaired by K.M. Anil. Dr. Umer Theramel, Madhu Irvangara, Aju K. Narayanan and Anwar Abdullah presented their papers.

On the second day of the seminar, the third session was chaired by Manju K. P. Somanadan, and I. Shanmukhadas and G. Ushakumari presented their papers. The fourth session was chaired by Manju M.P., R.V.M. Divakaran and K.P. Jayakumar presented their papers.

The fifth and the final session of the seminar was chaired by M.B. Manoj. P. Balachandran,

the eminent Director, Actor and Script Writer delivered the valedictory speech. M.A. Rahman and K. Gopinathan shared their experiences of film making.

Seminar on the Occasion of the 200th Death Anniversary of Insha Allah Khan Insha

August 18, 2017, Hyderabad

Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU), Hyderabad organized a one-day Seminar on the occasion of the 200th death anniversary of Insha Allah Khan Insha, renowned Urdu poet, writer and linguist on August 18, 2017 at CPDUMT Auditorium, MANUU, Hyderabad. Dr. Mohd. Aslam Parvaiz, Vice Chancellor, MANUU presided over the inaugural session. Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi delivered the welcome address. In his speech he said that the seminar was a tribute to Insha Allah Khan Insha, a linguistic genius, who wrote the first grammar book of Urdu called *Dariyaa-e-Lataafat*. Prof. Ashraf Rafi, eminent Urdu writer, delivered the keynote address in which she thoroughly analysed the literary works of Insha Allah Khan Insha. The session concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Waseem Begum, Associate Professor, MANUU and Member, Urdu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi. Prof. Fatima Parveen presided over the first session. In this session Prof. Sahib Ali and Dr. Waseem Begum presented their papers. In the second session Prof. Fatima Parveen and Dr. Yahiya Nasheet presented their papers. Prof. Baig Ehsas presided over this session. In the third and final session Dr. Shamsul Hoda Daryabadi, Prof. Maula Bakhsh and Prof. Habeeb Nisar presented their papers.

Seminar on Dogri Short Stories

August 25-26, 2017, Jammu

In collaboration with P.G. Department of Dogri, University of Jammu a two-day seminar on Dogri short stories was organized on August 25-26, 2017 at University of Jammu, J&K. Eminent Dogri writer Ved Ghai presided over the inaugural session in which Lalit Mangotra, Convener, Dogri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the introduction remarks. Chattrapal, a well-known Dogri short story writer delivered the keynote address. Prof. Sushma Sharma, Head, Dogri Department proposed the vote of thanks and Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the audience and participants. Prof. Keshav Sharma in his inaugural speech said that Dogri Language is taking great strides forward and he appreciated the efforts of Dogri Department, Sahitya Akademi, J&K Academy of Art, Culture & Languages and other organizations and individual writers. The inaugural session was followed by two paper reading sessions presided over by Prof. N.D. Sharma and N.D. Jamwal. The scholars and writers who presented papers on various aspects of Dogri Short Story included Dr. Padam Dev Singh, Sunita Bhadwal, Dr. Joginder Singh, Krishan Sharma, Radha Rani and Nirmal Vikram. Two more sessions were held on the second day which were presided over by Prof. Archana Kesar and Prof. Shiv Dev Singh Manhas, respectively. The writers and scholars who presented their papers were Ashok Khajuria, Chanchal Bhasin, Sunil Kumar, Raj Rahi, Rajeshwar Singh 'Raju' and Jagdeep Dubey. At the conclusion of the Seminar, Prof. Lalit Mangotra expressed his satisfaction over the quality, standard and relevance of all the twelve papers read in the Seminar.

Brajakishore Dhal Birth Centenary Seminar

27 August 2017, Dhenkanal, Odisha

A birth centenary seminar on Brajakishore Dhal was organized at Town Hall, Dehenkanal, Odisha on 27 August 2017. Gautam Paul, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi in his welcome speech dwelt on Brajakishore Dhal a renowned political activist and his valuable contribution in the field of Odia literature. In his inaugural address, eminent Odia writer Bibhuti Pattanaik narrated the real experience of Brajakishore Dhal in his famous book *Bhulibu Nahi*. Gourahari Das, Convener, Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his introductory speech said that Brajakishore Dhal has set up the foundation in his book which can be treated as a foundation for complete history of Praja Mandal Movement. Eminent author Antaryami Mishra emphasized on the life of Brajakishore Dhal and how the king of Dhenkanal banned all newspapers like 'Samaj' and periodicals like *Krushale* and *Ranaverj* and Brajakishore Dhal, with thousands of people, gheraod the king. Nrusingha Prasad Tripathy from the chair emphasized the significant role of Brajakishore Dhal in the field of 'Praja Meli', 'Praja Andolan'. As the Chief Guest of



L-R : Guru Mohanty, Bibhuti Pattanaik, Nrusingha Prasad Tripathy, Gourahari Das, Antaryami Mishra

the programme Guru Mohanty, eminent poet, narrated the life of Brajakishore Dhal in four stages.

The first paper of the session was presented by Manoranjan Nanda, the second paper was presented by Pradipta Kumar Barik and the third paper was presented by Prakash Kumar Pattanaik. The session was chaired by Saroj Samal who described Brajakishore Dhal as a friend, philosopher and guide of general public.

Banoj Tripathy, Member, Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi proposed the vote of thanks.

Seminar on Contribution of AIR (Akashvani) to Telugu Language and Literature

28 and 29 August 2017, Hyderabad

A two-day "Seminar on Contribution of All India Radio (Akashvani) to Telugu Language and Literature" in collaboration with AIR, Hyderabad and Dept. of Language and Culture, Govt. of Telangana, Hyderabad was organized on 28 & 29 August 2017 at Conference Hall, Ravindra Bharathi Auditorium, Hyderabad.

The Akademi organised the seminar for the first time to focus on the contribution of a broadcast medium for the development of language and literature. Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the audience.

Dr. N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory Board of Sahitya Akademi, chaired the inaugural session and narrated the various aspects of the seminar in detail.

Smt. Sarada Srinivasan, veteran drama voice and retired staff artist of All India Radio, Hyderabad lighted the lamp and presented keynote address.

Sri Mamidi Harikrishna, Director, Dept. of Language and Culture, Govt. of Telangana and Guest of Honour spoke about the inspiration boosted by All India Radio to make him a multi-dimensional, perspective thinker.

Dr. R.A.P. Rao chaired the session that detailed the changes on broadcast in the last six decades due to technical advancement and setup of staff hierarchy. Dr. P.S. Gopalakrishna explained how first Telugu address by the minister K.V.Naidu in 1938 from Chennai A.I.R. went on air with Mallampalli Umamaheswara Rao's announcement.

Sri I. Srikantha Sarma spoke about the great writers of Telugu language who worked as staff. Sri S.B. Srirama Murthy explained the techniques of using language formats in production of innovative programmes with examples from his award winning programmes. Actor, writer, theatre man Sri Gollapudi Maruthi Rao chaired the next session. Sri Voleti Parvatheesam spoke on poetry of air and read out best poems of Manapragada, Sri Sri and other poets. Dr. Nagasuri Venugopal presented a paper on short story format of All India Radio.

Second day of the seminar started with Smt. P. Vedavathi's paper on women programmes in radio. She also chaired the session. Sri P.S. Bhatt presented paper on humour in radio. Sri Malladi Suribabau demonstrated the devotional literature popularised by radio in bhakthi ranjani programmes. Sri V. Gopichand presented paper on agriculture broadcasts. Sri Kalaga Krishna Mohan presented paper on light music in radio.

The afternoon session, was chaired by Dr. K.B. Gopalam, and Smt. Munjuluri Krishna Kumari and Sri Sammeta Naga Malleswara Rao presented their papers. The seminar came to an end with closing remarks by chief guest, Sri. K.V. Ramanachari, Advisor to Telangana Govt. Dr. Gopi expressed his pleasure over the success

of the seminar. Sri V. Uday Sankar in his closing remarks thanked Sahitya Akademi and Dept. of Language and Culture, Govt. of Telangana. The two-day seminar followed by Kavisandhi was well appreciated by the public.

Seminar on Adhunik Maithili Sahityik Shilpi

September 2-3, 2017, Saharsa

In association with the Ramesh Jha Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Saharsa, a two-day Seminar on "Aadhunik Maithili Sahityik Shilpi" was organized on September 2-3, 2017 in Saharsa. Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh welcomed the participants and audience. The Convener of the Advisory Board of Maithili, Dr. Bina Thakur said that in literature art is a creative process and artists are both inventor and creator of matter. In his keynote address, Dr. Ramnaresh Singh explained the topic "Aadhunik Maithili Sahityik Shilpi". Chairing the first session Dr. Mahendra said that there have been a lot of genius writers who established themselves through the art of writing poems, plays, etc. The principal of Ramesh Jha Mahavidyalaya, Dr. Renu Sing thanked the guests and the audience. In the second session on Sri Vikash Jha spoke on the grand literary world of Harimohan Jha. After him Sri Panchanan Mishra threw light on the literary journey of Mahamahopadhyay. Dr. Keshkar Jha introduced the next session. In her presidential address Ms. Madhuri Jha said, "Harimohan Jha was like a gust of wind who organized the Mithila community which was abused." On the second day Sri Taranand Sada chaired the session and Sri Vishwanath Jha and Sri Amlendu Shekhar read their papers. Dr. Narendra Jha presented his paper on "Manipadm lok katha ke malakar". Sri Taranand Sada also said that seminars and programs like this can strengthen the social and cultural heritage. In the third session chaired by

Sri KP Yadav, three noted scholars, Sri Ashok, Sri Krishna Mohan Thakur and Sri Narayan presented their papers.

Gopal Chhotray Birth Centenary Seminar

17 September 2017, Bhubaneswar

A birth centenary seminar was organized on Gopal Chhotray on 17 September 2017 at Bhubaneswar. Sri Manoj Mitra paid his tribute to Chhotray while inaugurating the birth centenary celebration of the renowned Odia playwright, fiction writer, poet, Padmashri awardee and legendary cultural icon. In the inaugural session, Secretary of Sahitya Akademi, Dr. K. Sreenivasrao welcomed the guests and Gaurahari Das, the Convener of Odia Advisory Board introduced the basic theme of the seminar to the audience. In the Keynote address, Sumanyu Satpathy, eminent scholar and critic, outlined the varieties and vitalities of Gopal Chhotray's works. Veteran theatre personality Ananta Mohapatra presided over the inaugural session. In his presidential address Mahapatra described Gopal Chhotray as the biggest iconoclast of his time. Gautam Paul proposed the official vote of thanks.

The first session of the seminar began with the display of a documentary film on Chhotray's life and works. Talking about Gopal



L-R : Sumanyu Satapathy, K. Sreenivasarao, Manoj Mitra, Ananta Mahapatra, Gourahari Das

Chhotray's life as a writer and cultural activist, Biyotprajna Tripathy, fiction writer and film maker presented panoramic snapshots of the maestro's life. Veteran film maker, actor and political figure, Prashanta Nanda spoke about his personal intimacy with the great playwright. Scholar and the former head of the Odia Department of Utkal University, Sanghamitra Mishra presented her paper on the thematic varieties and multi-folded styles of Chhotray's play. Presiding on the session veteran playwright and film personality Bijay Mishra reminded the audience that there will be no second Gopal Chhotray in any part of the world.

In the post lunch session, playwright and scholar Prof. Bijay Kumar Satpathy spoke about the autobiography of Chhotray. Veteran journalist Prashanta Patnaik added that Chhotray was a classic blend of intellectual intensity and general sensibilities. Presenting the concluding remarks on the seminar renowned poet, fiction writer and celebrity lyricist, also the son of Gopal Chhotray, Sri Devdas Chhotray presented an outstanding personal narrative on his father's life and literature. The concluding session was chaired by Prafulla Kumar Mohanty. In his presidential address Mohanty analyzed the unique dramatic language of Chhotray. Vote of thanks was proposed by Banoj Tripathy.

Former president of Sahitya Akademi Ramakant Rath, fictionist Bibhuti Patnaik, Dhira Biswal, Adhyapak Biswaranjan, Rajendra Kishore Panda and many more writers were present in the event.

Seminar on Goutama Buddha

20 and 21 September 2017, Guntur

In collaboration with J.K.C. College, Guntur, a two-day Seminar on Goutama Buddha was organized — Reflections on Telugu Literature and Culture on 20 and 21 September 2017 at

J.K.C. College auditorium, Ring Road, Guntur.

In the inaugural session Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the guests and participants of the programme. Dr. N. Gopi, Convener of Sahitya Akademi's Telugu Advisory Board, presided over the function and delivered the introductory address.

Sri Mandali Buddha Prasad, Deputy Speaker of Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly was the Chief Guest of the function.

Dr. Papineni Sivasankar, member of Telugu Advisory Board of Sahitya Akademi and Sahitya Akademi Awardee, delivered the keynote address.

The first session was chaired by Sri Kurra Jitendra Babu, and Sri Borra Govardhan and Rayadurgam Vijayalakshmi presented papers.

Dr. Rachapalem Chandrasekhara Reddy presided over the second session, and Smt. Y. Prasanthi and Sri Emani Sivanagireddy presented papers in this session.

In the evening, in the Kavisandhi programme, Sri Bandla Madhava Rao recited his poems.

On the second day – the third session was chaired by Dr. Vavilala Subbarao, and Prof. Challapalli Swaruparani and Sri G.V. Subrahmanyam presented their papers.

Dr. Y. Mallikarjunarao presided over the fourth session, and Dr. Nallapaneni Vijayalakshmi and Dr. Vaddepalli Srinivas presented papers.

The fifth session was chaired by Dr. Vijay Koganti, and Dr. Pingali Venkata Krishnarao, Dr. Nutakki Satish and Sri Liyakhat Ali Bodhi presented papers.

Prof. Kolakaluri Enoch was the Chief Guest of the valedictory session. He explained the reason behind the great journey from

Siddhartha to Buddha. Sri Penugonda Lakshminarayana, in his retrospection, showcased the best paper presentations of the seminar. Dr. Papineni Sivasankar chaired the session and concluded in his remarks that the two-day seminar was a great success.

Seminar on Tamil Poetics & Prosody

October 4-5, 2017, Puducherry

In collaboration with Puducherry Tamil Sangam, a two-day seminar on 'Tamil Poetics & Prosody' was organized on 4 – 5 October 2017 at the Tamil Sangam, Puducherry. Sri A.S. Ilangovan, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, Chennai, delivered the welcome address. Prof. K. Nachimuthu, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the presidential address mentioning the salient features of prosody and poetics.

Dr. R. Sambath, General Council Member, Sahitya Akademi, mentioned that poetry is the finest genre of literature. Sri V. Muthu, President, Puducherry Tamil Sangam, delivered the inaugural address. Dr. Porko, Former Vice-Chancellor, University of Madras, delivered an erudite keynote address.

The first session was chaired by Prof. Y. Manikandan who presented a paper on the contribution of foreigners to Tamil prosody. Sri Gnanasundaram said that Ullurai (the



Dr. R. Sambath delivering introductory remarks in the seminar on Tamil Poetics and Prosody

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inset simile) and Iraichi (underlying motif) are poetic beauties that enrich Tamil poetry. Dr. Carlos Thamizhavan chaired the second session. Sri Jawahar, Jayalalitha and Sri Rajarathinam presented their papers. The third session was chaired by Sri Vijayavenugopal. Sri N. Manoharan, Ms. A. Mohana and Sri Kandasamy presented their papers.

The fourth session was chaired by Prof. Indra Manuel. She presented a paper on 'Meyppaadu' in Tamil poetics. Sri Thirugnanasambandam and Sri R. Jayaraman presented papers.

The fifth session was chaired by Sri K. Panjangam who presented a paper on women poetesses and poetics. Dr. R. Kamarasu presented a paper on oral tradition of singing and poetics. Sri Sundara Murugan, Member, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the welcome address in valedictory session. Sri Seenu Mohandas chaired this session. Sri M.L. Thangappa, eminent children's writer and a noted poet, delivered the valedictory address. Sri Pa. Thirunavukkarasu, Vice-President, Puducherry Tamil Sangam, proposed a vote of thanks.

Seminar On Yug Ka Sahityashastra

October 13-14, 2017, Ahmedabad

Sahitya Akademi and Gujarati Sahitya Parishad jointly organized a two-day seminar on Yug ka Sahityashastra (Poetics Era-wise) at the Parishad in Ahmedabad on 13-14 October 2017. Sri Sitanshu Yashaschandra, Convener, Gujarati Advisory Board, and Prof. Chandrakant Topiwala, eminent Gujarati poet and critic, in their introductory remarks said that discussing poetics of Gujarati literature era-wise would certainly be helpful to understand the tradition of Gujarati literature and criticism. In the first session, Sri Abhay Doshi and Sri Hasu Yagnik presented their papers. Second session included three papers - on Modern age, Ms Urvi Tewar

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on Sudharakyug, and on Pandityug. Papers in the third session were focused on the Gandhian era, Ms Sejal Shah presented her paper on Gandhian era and modern age. Sri Paresh Nayak on Adhunikata-Aadiyug, and Ms Usha Upadhyay on Anuadhunikata presented their papers in the last session. Sri Hemant Dave made concluding remarks. Sri Prafull Rawal, Secretary, Gujarati Sahitya Parishad, proposed a vote of thanks.

Seminar on Post Modern Trends in Bodo Literature

5 November 2017, Assam

In collaboration with Bodo Department Teachers' Association, Basugaon College, a one-day seminar on "Post Modern Trends in Bodo Literature" was organized on 5 November 2017 at Basugaon College, Assam.

The Inaugural session of the seminar was chaired by eminent Bodo writer and President of the Bodo Department Teachers' Association, Tulan Mochahary. The Convener of Bodo Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, Premananda Muchhahary delivered the welcome as well as the introductory Speech. Renowned Bodo poet and Sahitya Akademi awardee Anil Boro attended the session as Chief Guest. Bhupen Narzaree, Head, Department of Bodo, Gauhati



L-R : Premananda Machahary, Anil Boro, Ranen Ch. Mochahary, Bhupen Narzaree

University, also attended the programme as the Guest of Honour.

The Keynote address was delivered by Anjali Daimari. Ranen Ch. Muchahary, Principal, Basugaon College, proposed the vote of thanks.

The first technical session of the seminar was chaired by Anil Boro. In the session, papers were presented by Adaram Basumatary, Nareswar Narzary, Rita Boro and Sunil Phukan Basumatary.

The second session of the seminar was chaired by Nareswar Narzary. Papers were presented by Indira Boro, Nijwm Narzary, Pramatesh Basumatary and Ranen Ch. Mochahary.

Samar Sen Birth Centenary Seminar

6-7 November 2017, Kolkata

A birth centenary seminar on Samar Sen, an eminent poet and journalist was organized on 6-7 November 2017, at Kolkata. In the inaugural session, Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, Convener of Bengali Advisory Board, delivered the introductory address. The keynote address was delivered by Professor Swapan Chakravorty with Professor Amiya Dev in the chair. Sri Gautam Paul, while delivering the welcome address, spoke briefly on the life and activities



L-R : Swapan Chakravorty, Amiya Dev and Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay

of Samar Sen, the iconic editor of *The Frontier*.

Samar Sen, along with Subhas Mukhopadhyay, belonged to the second generation of modern Bengali poets. He gave up poetry fairly early, however, and devoted the better part of his later life to Marxist politics and journalism. He was the Editor of the leftist newspaper *The Frontier*, published from Kolkata, which was banned during the Emergency.

The first two sessions mainly focused on the poetry of Samar Sen. The speakers of the first session was Debabrata Panda and Joya Mitra with Sourin Bhattacharya in the chair.

In the second session, Himabanta Bandyopadhyay and Sutapa Sengupta spoke on post modernism of the poetry of Samar Sen, with Sabyasachi Deb in the chair.

The speakers of the third session were Asish Kumar Lahiri and Tarun Ganguli with Timir Basu, Editor of *The Frontier* in the chair.

In the fourth session papers were presented by Kaushik Guha, Arun Som and Pulak Chanda with Kaushik Guha in the chair.

In the fifth session, papers were presented by Anil Acharya and Ratan Khasnabis with Dipendu Chakravorty in the chair.

Ismail Meeruthi birth Centenary Seminar

November 11, 2017, New Delhi

On November 11, 2017, a one-day seminar was organized on 100th anniversary year of the Ismail Meeruthi, a prominent Urdu poet of Urdu, Akademi Sabha, New Delhi. Presiding over the inaugural session of the seminar, prominent commentator of Urdu, Prof. Gopi Chand Narang said that Ismail Meeruthi is compiled by the founders of Urdu. Secretary, Dr. K. Sreenivasarao welcomed the guests and

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scholars and presented a short biography of Ismail Maerathi. Sri Chandrabhan Khayal, Convener of Akademi's Urdu Advisory Board, introduced the guests and highlighted the poetry of Ismail Meeruthi.

Urdu's renowned commentator and scholar, Mr. Hakkani al-Qasmi highlighted various aspects of Ismail Meeruthi's poetry and various aspects of his personality.

The first session of the seminar was chaired by Prof. Shafay Qidawai, and Nand Kishore Vikram, Faseen Azaz and Riaz Ahmed presented their articles. Second and final session was presided by Prof. Shezad Anjum, and Farku Arghli, Jameel Akhtar and Danish Elahabadi presented their articles.

Upendra Nath Jha Vyas Birth Centenary Seminar

November 12-13, 2017, Patna

In collaboration with Chetna Samiti, Patna, a two-day seminar on Upendra Nath Jha Vyas was organized on 12-13 November, 2017 at the Vidyapati Bhawan in Patna to commemorate the birth centenary of Upendra Nath Jha Vyas, eminent Maithili writer. In the welcome speech, Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh highlighted the recent activities of the Akademi. The seminar was inaugurated by Sri. Govind Jha, noted writer and linguist. Delivering his inaugural speech, Sri. Govind Jha said that Upendra Nath Jha's contribution to the field of Maithili literature is commendable. Prof. Bina Thakur, Convener, Maithili Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi delivered the introductory speech. She spoke on the personality and works of Vyas. Devendra Jha presented the keynote speech. Extolling Vyas Ji as a great writer he presented his remarks on the writings and translations by him. Shailendra Kumar Jha, famous Maithili writer and son of Upendra Jha Vyas was the guest

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L-R : Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, Bina Thakur
and Shailendra Kumar Jha

of honour. Chairing the inaugural session, Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi said, 'I haven't read Vysa Ji directly but whatever I could read on him, I found him in the ranks of timeless personalities.' Vivekanad Jha, President Chetna Samiti, proposed the vote of thanks.

First Session of the seminar was chaired by Dr Vasuki Nath Jha. Satyandra Kumar Jha, Shiv Prasad Yadav and Pankaj Parashar presented papers. Second session of the seminar was chaired by Veena karna, while Muralidhar Jha and Ashok Avichal presented their papers. Third session of the seminar was chaired by Vivekanad Thakur, while Ajit Mishra, Manjar Suleman and Ajit Azad presented their papers. Fourth, and the last session of the seminar, was chaired by Premlata Prem. Prof. Naresh Mohan Jha and Indira Jha read their papers.

Seminar-Cum-Reading Session on "The Evolution of Children's Literature"

November 15-16, 2017

On the second day of the Bal Sahitya Puraskar Presentation ceremony, Sahitya Akademi organized a seminar-cum-reading on "The Evolution of Children's Literature"

at Indian Medical Association Hall, Eluru Road, Governepet, Opposite Swarna Palace, Vijayawada. Welcoming the dignitaries and participants of the Seminar, Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi said “Children’s Literature has always been part and parcel of every civilization on the earth.” He expressed that children’s literature has been considered as a great tool for the enrichment of knowledge.

Prof. N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, while giving his introductory remarks, emphasized that present day children’s writers should update their knowledge in terms of scientific and technological changes. He said that children’s literature was culturally enriched and one must try all possible ways to inculcate the habit of reading among children. Guest of Honour, Jonnalagadda Rajagopala Rao, eminent Telugu writer was not able to attend the programme due to unavoidable circumstances and his message was read by Ms. Renu Mohan Bhan, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi. President of Sahitya Akademi. Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, in his presidential address, said that children’s literature was developed in the literary heritage of the world through oral tradition. He emphasized that current smart phone addicted generation posed a major challenge to writers, especially children’s writers, as they demanded a different fare, making it mandatory for writers to keep pace with their changing tastes. This session ended with the concluding remarks by Prof. Chandrashekhar Kambar, Vice-president, Sahitya Akademi. The inaugural ceremony was followed by Poetry Reading Session, where Mr. P. Mohan (Telugu), Mr. M. Murugesh (Tamil), Ano Bramha (Bodo), Kaushalendra Panday (Hindi), Uday Kumar Sarma (Assamese), Aba Govind Mahajan (Marathi), Phool Chand Jha Praveen (Maithili) recited poetry in their respective languages as well in English and

Hindi translations. The session was chaired by Prof. N. Gopi. He appreciated the efforts undertaken by the concerned poets in their respective languages. The session ended with a vote of thanks by Ms. Renu Mohan Bhan. On November 16, 2017, the second day of the seminar, Ms. Renu Mohan Bhan welcomed the audience and participants and invited the chair and paper readers of the first session. The session was chaired by Mrs. M. Krishnakumari, renowned children writer in Telugu and Retd. Director, All India Radio, Vijayawada. Mr. Tapan Bandhopadyay (Bengali), D. Ramakrishna (Sanskrit), Sri Datta Naik (Konkani), and Dr. Jodhachandra Sanasam (Manipuri) expressed their views and experiences in their writings. Mrs. M. Krishnakumari said “The journey of Telugu children literature from punditry to populism was not as smooth as a cakewalk.” Sri Tapan Bandyopadhyay said that today’s writers and poets are trying to create innovative writings so that youngsters are attracted to literature. Konkani writer Sri Dutta Naik said that children’s literature in Konkani has a long tradition starting from the folklore. Prof. Jodhachandra Sanasam said that children’s literature should be designed to convey the values, attitudes and information necessary for children within their cultures. D. Ramakrishna highlighted the efforts made by the Sanskrit writers for enriching children literature. The second session was chaired by Mr. K. Sreekumar. Eminent scholars like Sri Paidimarri Ramakrishna (Telugu), Aravind Chokkadi (Kannada), Bulaki Sharma (Rajasthani) and Shalu Kaur (Punjabi) presented their views on the evolution of Children’s Literature in the respective languages. Telugu scholar, Sri Paidimiri Ramakrishna presented valuable information related to evolution of children’s literature in Telugu. Kannada writer, Sri Aravinda Chokkadi said that this was a challenging condition for the writers of children literature and that we should go for a new

innovative approach to reach children. Punjabi writer, Ms. Shalu Kaur discussed the challenges faced by children and the possible means to be adopted for the overall development of children. The third session focusing on story reading was chaired by Mini Srinivasan. Mr. M. Harikishan (Telugu), M. Kalaivanan (Tamil), Ishvar Parmar (Gujarti) and Priyesh Dixit (Hindi) presented beautiful stories related to children in their respective languages. The last session Poet's Meet was chaired by K. Sivareddy, eminent Telugu poet. Mr. Belagam Bheemeswararao (Telugu), H.S. Baykod (Kannada), Sreedharan Unni (Malayalam), Hundaraj Balwani (Sindhi), Asad Raza (Urdu), Sandeep Sufi (Dogri), Bhupendra Adhikari (Nepali), Subodh Hansda (Santali), Sunamani Rout (Odia) recited their poems in their respective languages followed by Hindi/English translations.

Seminar on Tribal Literature of India

November 25-26, 2017, Mumbai

A two-day national seminar on Tribal Literature of India: Nature and Traditions was organized at the Akademi premises in Mumbai on 25-26 November 2017. In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao welcomed the participants and the audience. Dr Kapil Tiwari, scholar in Indian folklore and tribal literature, in his inaugural address proclaimed that the tribal literature is diminishing gradually by losing its script and thus losing its identity. The keynote address was delivered by Dr Pramod Munghate who talked about various challenges of tribal communities.

The first session of the seminar was chaired by Prof. H.C. Borlingaiah, noted scholar from Karnataka. The paper readers in this session were scholars Ujjal Paogam, Sukhvilas Barma and Bishweswar Basumatary. The second session was chaired by Dr Kesharilal Verma. Dr Vinayak Tumram, Member, Marathi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, presented his paper.

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Ashok Kumar, noted scholar from Jharkhand, claimed that tribal tradition is a trajectory path. The third session was chaired by Vinayak Tumramand and it focussed on poetry of tribal literature. The participants in this session included Narendra Debarma (Kokborok), Streamlet Dkhar (Khasi), Ushakiran Aatram (Gondi), Pushpa Gavit (Bhilli), Veera Rathod (Gormati) and Vasant Kanake (Kolami). The fourth session on the second day of the seminar was chaired by Chandrakanta Murasingh, and Dr Suresh Salvi and Dr Mahendra Mishra presented their papers. Dr Mahendra Mishra chaired the fifth session in which Kesharilal Verma, Shakti Sivaramkrishna and A. Chellaperumal presented their papers. The sixth session was chaired by Sakti Sivaramakrihna, and Sri H.C. Borlingaiah presented his paper. In the seventh and last session of the seminar, poems were recited by Sri Hira Moy (Chakma), Sri Santosh Picha (Pawra) and Sri Ramgopal Bhilawekar (Korku).

Seminar on Sagar Sahitya

December 2-3, 2017, Bhuj

In collaboration with Vivekanand Research and Training Institute of Mandvi, Balvant Parekh Centre of Vadodara, Sarojabhen J. Vaishnav Smarak Trust of Anjar, Dr Jayant Khatri Smarak Sahita Sabha and Sansmruti of Bhuj, and Bhojay Sarvodaya Trust, a two-day seminar on Sagar Sahitya: from Kachchh to Konkan was organized at Bhuj on 2-3 December 2017. Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari chaired the inaugural session of the seminar, and Prof. Radhavallabh Tripathi, Convener, Sanskrit Advisory Board, delivered the keynote address.

Prof. Sitanshu Yashaschandra, Convener, Gujarati Advisory Board, made the introductory remarks. Prof. Radhavallabh Tripathi spoke of the sea as depicted in Sanskrit literature. Finally, Sri Gordhan Patel "Kavi" proposed a vote of thanks.

Sri Mohan Gehani, renowned Sindhi writer, chaired the first session, and Dr Adya Saxena, Ms Celsa Pinto (Konkani) and Sri Hemant Samant (Marathi) presented their papers. Prof. Shirish Panchal chaired the second session, and Sri Dhirendra Mehta (Gujarati) and Sri Vilas Naik (Marathi) shared their views. The third session was chaired by Dr Adya Saxena, and Sri Pandurang Phaladesai (Konkani), Sri Chandrakant Meher (Marathi) and Dr Jetho Lalwani (Sindhi) presented their papers. Sri Kirti Khatri, Editor, *Kachchh Mitra*, chaired the next session, and Sri Ramanik Someshwar, Member Gujarati Advisory Board, shared his views. Sri Vinesh Antani, eminent Gujarati writer, chaired the last session which was a sequel of the previous one. Dr Adya Saxena and Dr Darshana Dholakia shared their views in this session. Prof. Shirish Panchal delivered the valedictory address.

Soren was organized on 03 December 2017 at Conference Hall, M.P.C (Autonomous) College, Baripada. Sri Thakur Das Soren, younger brother of Sunaram Soren, inaugurated the seminar. Sri Devendra Kumar Devesh, welcomed the participants and audience. In his inaugural address Sri Thakur Das Soren said that Sunaram Soren has made an immense contribution towards the development of tribal people of Mayurbhanj, as well as of Odisha. The inaugural session was chaired by Sri Kritibas Sahu, Principal, M.P.C. College, Baripada. Sri Gangadhar Hansdah, Convener, Santali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the keynote address and said that Sunaram Soren's endeavors towards the development of tribal people extended to the whole of Odisha. Sri Sangel Singh Soren, son of Sunaram Soren, was the guest of honour on the occasion. Sri Kritibas Sahu, spoke about Sunaram Soren's political and social activities in brief. Smt.



L-R : Hemant Samant, Pandurang Phaldessai, Mohan Gehani and Adya Saxena



L-R: Gangadhar Hansdah, Thakur Das Soren, Kritibas Sahu and Sangel Singh Soren

Sunaram Soren Birth Centenary Seminar

December 3, 2017, Baripada

In collaboration with M.P.C. (Autonomous) College, Baripada, a one-day seminar to commemorate the Birth Centenary of Sunaram

Raimani Marandi, Associate Professor of History, M.P.C College, Baripada proposed a vote of thanks. First Session of the seminar was chaired by Sri Hansda, renowned Santali poet and writer, and three scholars, Sri Purna Charan Hembram, Sri Laxman Marandi and Sri Dasharathi Soren presented their papers. Sri Chaitanya Prasad Majhi in his presidential

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address thanked Sahitya Akademi for organizing such a seminar. The second session of the seminar was chaired by, Sri Chaitanya Prasad Majhi, renowned Santali fiction writer and novelist. Three scholars, Sri Sobhanath Beshra, Sri Ramdas Murmu and Sri Budhram Marandi presented their papers.

Seminar on Folklore

December 4-5, 2017, Jammu

In collaboration with the J & K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages, a two-day Seminar on Folklore was organized at the K.L. Saigal Hall in Jammu on December 4-5, 2017. In the inaugural session, Dr S. Rajmohan, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience. Dr Aziz Hajini, Secretary, J & K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages, who was the Guest of Honour, thanked the Akademi and unveiled the theme of the Seminar.

In his speech he stated that folklore is the reservoir of timeless wisdom and opined that onslaught on native traditions unleashed by the rampant and senseless globalizations has ensured that people pay very little attention and time to indigenous systems of knowledge. In his keynote address, Sri Mohan Singh, eminent Dogri poet and playwright, stated that folklore is the expression of earth and people. These expressions get captured and portrayed in folktales, folksongs and folk art forms. He said that we should remember that loss of folklore of a community is loss of history and cultural roots. In his Presidential address, Dr Mohd Zaman Azurdah, Convener, Northern Regional Board, Sahitya Akademi, stated that India is a treasure trove of practical wisdom contained in folk traditions and thanked Sahitya Akademi and J & K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages for organizing the Seminar. In the first session devoted to 'The Role of Folksongs in Preserving

Culture' and chaired by Prof Surya Prasad Dixit, two noted scholars, Dr Meenakshi Faith Paul and Dr Vidya Vindu Singh, presented their papers. Prof Surya Prasad Dixit stated that folksongs are not something which exist only in villages or tribal areas but they exist in our daily lives through birth and death rituals, marriage and other important social gatherings. He further added that folksongs keep alive sixteen samskaras, social rights and all aspects of social life. Dr Meenakshi stated that folksongs are part and parcel of all cultures of India irrespective of other marks of identity. She added that folksongs are not relics to be recalled but are lived experiences spread over centuries. Dr Vidya Vindu Singh stated that folksongs and Indian cultural traditions are wedded together and folksongs by nature are energetic and they spread dynamism according to each occasion. In the second session devoted to 'Folktales and Modern Adaptations' and chaired by Prof Lalit Mangotra, three noted scholars Dr Joginder Singh Kairon, Dr Gajadan Charan and Sri Rahman Abbas, presented their papers. In his speech, Prof Lalit Mangotra stated that folktales emerge from real life experiences and are not imaginative and they are not fixed or stationary but are rivers of continuity. They exist in the sub-consciousness of people and adaptations of folktales of yore are nothing but retelling them in the current setting. Dr Joginder Singh Kairon in his paper stated that folklore is eternal and never dies. He recalled how folktales narrated in ancient texts of the world including Bible are being retold over centuries and will be retold according to demands of each community and occasion. Dr Gajadan Charan in his paper stated that much of folk literature of Rajasthan remain unwritten, hidden from public view and yet is part of everyday life unlike folk literature and folktales of other communities. Sri Rahman Abbas posed a question in the light of papers presented through the day - Are stories

different from folktales? He stated that folktales change constantly and are adapted constantly. They cannot have single author since they are carried collectively and each generation add something to the existing ones through real life experiences. In the third session devoted to 'Folksongs and Creation Myths' and chaired by Prof Mohd. Zaman Azurdah, two noted scholars, Khalid Hussain and Shaad presented their papers. In the fourth session devoted to 'Folklore as a Source of History and Storytelling' and chaired by Prof Haridutt Sharma, four noted scholars, Sri Dhian Singh, Prof Mahesh Sharma, Sri Jagdish Piyush and Sri Farooq Fayaz, presented their papers.

Prabhakar Machave Birth Centenary Seminar

December 6, 2017, New Delhi

A one-day seminar on 6 December 2017 at Akademi Auditorium, New Delhi was organized to commemorate the birth centenary of Prabhakar Machave, eminent Hindi writer. Welcoming the guest, Dr K. Sreenivasarao informed that Prabhakar Machave was not an individual but an institution. In his introductory speech Dr Surya Prasad Dixit, Convener, Hindi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi said that Machave Ji was a multi-dimensional personality. The chief guest of the event was Dr Ramdarash Mishra, famous Hindi poet and writer. He said that Machaveji was an experimental writer. Ms Chetna Kohli, daughter of Machave Ji was the guest of honour. Prof Indranath Chaudhry, Hindi critic, said that Machave was outspoken. Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi also pointed out that Machave Ji wrote continuously. The first session, which had its focus on "Poetic personality of Prabhakar Machave" was chaired by Vishnu Khare, poet, translator and journalist. In this session, Sri Prayag Shukla and

Prof Chandrakant Patil presented their papers. The second session was focused on Prabhakar Machave as a prose writer. Sri Rajendra Upadhyay, Sri Aarsu and Sri Bharat Bharadwaj read out their papers in the session. Charing the session, Prof. Gangaprasad Vimal said that Machave Ji was a storehouse of knowledge and creativity. Sri Anupam, Editor (Hindi), Sahitya Akademi proposed the vote of thanks.

Seminar on Cultural Sensibility and Creativity: Emerging Trends in Indian Literature

December 7-9, 2017, Wardha

In collaboration with Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, Wardha a three-day seminar on "Cultural Sensibility and Creativity: Emerging Trends in Indian Literature" was organized on 7-9 December 2017 at Wardha. The seminar was inaugurated by Prof. G. Gopinathan, former VC M.G. Antarrashtriya Vishwavidyalaya. The inaugural session was chaired by Prof. Girishwar Mishra, Vice Chancellor, M.G.A.H.V. Sri Ajay Kumar Sharma, Assistant Editor, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the guests, participants and audience, while Prof. Anand Vardhan Sharma, Pro-VC M.G.A.H.V welcomed on behalf of the University. Dr. Preeti Sagar, Dean, School of Literature, M.G.A.H.V proposed a vote of thanks. The session was conducted by Dr. K. K. Singh. Chairing the session Prof. Girishwar Mishra said that Literature carves the culture and culture creates the literature. Prof. Ramji Tiwari in his inaugural address said that sensibility of a writer and a common man is different. Prof. G. Gopinath in his speech said that literature has in essence the details of unity and diversity. The second session on the third day was chaired by Prof. Devraj. Dr. Rajendra Prasad Mishra, Dr. C. Kameshwari and Prof Kripashankar Chaubey presented

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L-R: Girishwar Mishra, Ashok Kumar Tripathi, Harmeet Singh Bedi, Ramji Tiwari and K. K. Singh

their papers. Dr. Ramanuj Asthana conducted the session. The valedictory session on the third day was chaired by Prof Girishwar Mishra, VC MGAV. He said that various literatures written in different languages is an identity of our academics, culture and creativity. Dr. Har Mahendra Singh and Prof. Ramji Tiwari spoke on the development of Hindi and the role of Wardha in this regard. Dr. Ashok Nath Tripathi, Assistant Prof., conducted the concluding session. A vote of thanks was proposed by Prof. K.K Singh.

Birth Centenary Seminar on M. Gopalakrishna Adiga

06-07 January 2018, Bangalore

Mogeri Gopalakrishna Adiga or better known as Adiga in the Kannada Literary world is one among the great Kannada poets of the 20th Century. He brought in a new vigour and revolution in the field of Kannada poetry. A two-day seminar was organized to pay tribute to the poet.

The seminar began with a welcome address by the Secretary of Sahitya Akademi, Dr. K. Sreenivasarao. While welcoming the gathering he said that Adiga was a poet for whom, his

poetry and life were not separate.

Prof S. Japhet, the Vice-Chancellor of Bengaluru Central University, said that the university is happy to collaborate with the Akademi in organizing the seminar on Adiga.

Dr. Sirpi Balasubramanyam, eminent Tamil Poet, who inaugurated the seminar said that Adiga was neither a leftist nor a rightist. Dr. Narahalli Balasubramanya, Kannada critic, in his keynote address, said that Adiga's poetry is more relevant today than ever before. Dr. Chandrashekhara Kambar, Jnanpith awardee and eminent Kannada writer, in his presidential address called Adiga a saint poet. Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, R.O., Bengaluru, proposed a Vote of Thanks.

The first session began with Dr H.S. Shivaprakash, eminent poet and dramatist in the chair. Dr. Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay. Dr. Govinda Kajarekar, the noted Marathi poet and Prof. K.G. Sankara Pillai, noted Malayalam poet presented their papers.

Second session began with Dr. Siddhaling Pattanshetti in the chair. Prof. O.L. Nagabhushana Swamy and Sri S. Diwakar, presented their papers.



L-R: Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Prof. S. Japhet, Dr. Chandrasekhara Kambara, Sirpi Balasubramaniam, Dr. Narahalli Balasubramanya and Dr. K. Sreenivasarao

Third session began with Dr. H.S. Raghavendra Rao in the chair. Prof. U.H. Ganesh, Kannada critic, Prof. C. Naganna and Ms. Krishna Manavalli presented papers in this session.

Fourth session had Dr. G.S. Siddhalingaiah in the chair. Noted critic Sri S.R. Vijayashankar and Smt. Tarini Subhadayini presented their papers. Fifth session began with eminent poet and critic, Dr. H.S. Venkateshamurthy, in the chair. Dr. Basavaraja Donur presented his paper.

Sixth session began with Dr. T.P.Ashoka, Sahitya Akademi award winning Kannada writer in the chair. Dr. M.S. Ashadevi and Prof. H. Dandappa presented their papers. The valedictory session began with eminent dramatist, Jnanpith awardee Sri Girish Karnad in the chair. Dr. Giraddi Govindaraj, in his valedictory address, said that Adiga's poetry is very significant because it has got the smell of the earth. After this, the documentary on Adiga produced by Sahitya Akademi and directed by Girish Karnad was screened.

Seminar on Artistic Expressions in Sindhi Literature

January 24-25, 2018, Mumbai

Regional Office, Mumbai, organized a two-day Sindhi seminar on Artistic Expressions

in Sindhi Literature, at its auditorium, on 24-25, January 2018. At the outset, Krishna Kimbahune welcomed the guest, participants and the audience. Vasdev Mohi in his inaugural address emphasized upon Ghazals in Sindhi literature. Laxman Dubey, Arjan Hasid, Dholan Rahi depicted romantism in their Ghazals while contemporaries like Prem Prakash, Namdev Tarachandani, Nand Zaveri gave life to the poetry in Sindhi literature. Prem Prakash delivered the presidential address in the inaugural session.

The first session of the seminar was chaired by Namdev Tarachandani while Govardhan Sharma 'Ghayal', Hundraj Balwani and Mohan Gehani reviewed the artistic expressions in the writings of Arjan Hasid, Tara Mirchandani and Kala Prakash respectively.

Mohan Gehani chaired the second session. Kaladhar Mutwa reviewed the writings of Lakhmi Khilani. Jaya Jadwani reviewed Vasdev Mohi's writings which are futuristic but still holds the human values. The literature of Prem Prakash was assessed by Rashmi Ramani.

The third session of the seminar was chaired by Jetho Lalwani and papers were presented by Rashmi Ramani and Vinod Asudani.

The fourth session on the second day of the seminar involved the papers by Harish Karamchandani, Namdev Tarachandani and Kamla Goklani while Govardhan Sharma



A session of the seminar in progress

'Ghayal' chaired the session.

The fifth session of the seminar was chaired by Kamla Goklani. Namdev Tarachandani presented his paper on the writings of Hero Shewkani. Laxman Dubey's poetic aspects were revealed by Khiman Mulani.

The sixth and concluding session of the seminar was chaired by Hundraj Balwani. Sandhya Kundnani reviewed Gope Kamal's Ghazals. Vimmi Sadarangani expressed her analysis on the artistic expressions in the writings of Namdev Tarachandani while Laxman Dubey gave his insight on the writings of Nand Jhaveri. The concluding remarks were delivered by Prem Prakash who expressed his gratitude to all the participating scholars and thanked them for covering all the genres of artistic expression in their respective papers. Krishna Kimbahune delivered a vote of thanks.

National Seminar on Science, Language and Renaissance

02 February 2018, Tirur

A one-day seminar was organized jointly by Sahitya Akademi and Thunchan Memorial Trust, Tirur on February 2, 2018. The theme of the seminar was Science, Language, and Renaissance.

Sri. S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru welcomed the gathering.

Sri. C. Radhakrishnan, well known Malayalam writer and Akademi Award Winner chaired the inaugural session.

Sri. Babu Joseph, former Vice-Chancellor, Kochi University, inaugurated the session.

In the session on Science and Language, Sri. K.P Ramanunni welcomed the gathering. Presenting his paper Sri. Sethuraman, IPS said that the students studying in mother tongue are

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performing well than English medium students.

Sri. Sashikumar from Kannada explained in detail the various problems in scientific field, especially in communication.

The second session was Science and Renaissance. Dr. K.Muralidharan, Trust member welcomed the speakers and gathering. Sri. Jatindra Kumar Naik, from Odisha explained how science came into literature. Dr. M.R. Raghava Warrior explained how knowledge gets distorted while passing through one generation to other.

In the session Science, Intellectual Discourses, Renaissance: harmony Sri. K.S. Venkitachalam welcomed the gathering. Sri. G.Umamaheswar Rao and Dr M.V. Narayan presented their papers.

Symposium on Govinda Pai

19 May 2017, Kasargod

The regional office at Bengaluru, in association with the Rashtrakavi Govinda Pai Memorial Trust, organized a daylong symposium on Universalism in Govinda Pai's literature at Kasargod on May 19, 2017. In the inaugural session, Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar welcomed the participants and audience. Sri M. Veerappa Moily, eminent author and Chairman of the Trust inaugurated the symposium and talked about the vision of Govinda Pai. In his Keynote address, Dr Vivek Rai, eminent



Dr. Veerappa Moily delivering the inaugural address

scholar, talked about the universalism as well as creative aspects of Govinda Pai's works. In his Presidential address, Sri Giraddi Govinda Raja, eminent Kannada critic, talked about the importance and relevance of Sri Govinda Pai's works. Sri D. K. Chowta, eminent writer, was the Guest of Honour. At the end of the session, Sri Chandrashekhar Kedlaya recited some of Govinda Pai's poems. In the first session, two noted scholars, Dr Sathya Narayana Mallipatna and Dr Shivaji Jois presented their papers. In the second session, two noted scholars, Dr N. Damodara Shetty and Dr B. Rajashekharappa presented papers. Sri Ramananda Banari, eminent Kannada poet, delivered the valedictory address. Dr Kamalaksha of the Trust proposed a vote of thanks.

Symposium on Patriotism in Contemporary Manipuri Literature

9 June 2017, Imphal

In collaboration with Patriotic Writers Forum Imphal, Manipur, a Symposium on 'Patriotism in Contemporary Manipuri Literature' was organized at the Manipur Press club, Imphal on June 9, 2017. In the inaugural session, Sri Gautam Paul, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, Regional Office, Kolkata welcomed the participants and audience. H. Behari Singh, Convener,



Raghu Leishangthem delivering introductory remarks

Manipuri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi talked about the importance of organizing a symposium on Patriotism in Contemporary Manipuri Literature. Raghu Leishangthem, President, Patriotic Writers Forum, Manipur expressed his thanks to Sahitya Akademi for allowing them to organize such a symposium as a mark of recognition of Patriotic Writers Forum. Rakesh Naorem, General Secretary, Patriotic Writers Forum proposed the vote of thanks. The first session was chaired by Ph. Iboyaima Sharma, where three young scholars, Athokpam Umabati, Soibam Premila Devi and Haobijam Nirmala Devi, presented their papers. The second session was chaired by Aribam Kumar Sharma. Three young scholars, L. Okendro Singh, Kh. Geetarani Devi and Kumari Tongbram Narmada Devi presented their papers.

Symposium on 20th century Assamese Novel with special Reference to Sadhana of Dandinath Kalita

June 10, 2017, Tezpur

In collaboration with Dandinath Kalita Memorial Trust, a Symposium on 20th century Assamese Novel with Special Reference to Sadhana of Dandinath Kalita was organized on June 10, 2017 at Tezpur, Assam. Dr Mihir Kumar Sahoo, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata welcomed the participants and the audience. Madan Sarma, (Acting) Vice-Chancellor, Tezpur University, the chief guest, while delivering the keynote address maintained that though ancient Indian literature abounds in novel-type episodes, the minute analysis of human mind that forms the nucleus of novel came to our literature from the West. Karabi Deka Hazarika, Convener, Assamese Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi chaired the inaugural session and in her speech briefly narrated the

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initiatives taken by the Akademi towards the all-round development of the languages and literatures of North East India. Madhuri Kalita Choudhury proposed the vote of thanks in the inaugural session. The first session was chaired by Sunil Dutta, noted writer and academician. Participants of this session included Jamuna Sarma Choudhury, Namita Deka, and Arindam Barkataki. Valedictory address was delivered by Parag Kumar Bhattacharyya. Satish Chandra Bhattacharyya, coordinated the programme. Sunil Dutta, before presenting his discourse as chairperson, called upon Geeta Upadhyaya and Mausumi Kandali to express their views on the deliberations which they did to the satisfaction of all present in the auditorium.

Symposium on Nature and Culture in Bodo Poetry

12 June 2017, Udalguri

In collaboration with Bodo Department of Udalguri College, a symposium on Nature and Culture in Bodo poetry was organized at Udalguri college on 12 June 2017. The symposium was graced by the graceful presence of several eminent people from different places of Assam including Sahitya Akademi awardee, Nabin Malla Boro. Luke Daimari, Principal of Udalguri College chaired the session. Mihir Kumar Sahoo, Programme officer, Sahitya Akademi Eastern Region, delivered the welcome address. Keynote Address was delivered by Deb Kanta Ramchary. The inaugural session was soon followed by the first technical session in which Nailo Zalo Uzir, Niron Brahma and Mrs Rwirop Brahma presented their papers. This session was chaired by Tulan Mochahary, Sr Professor of LOKD College. Nareswar Narzary of Udalguri College chaired the second session and two readers presented their papers in this session namely - Chittoranjan Mochahary and Maneswar Goyari.

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Symposium on Nature in Gujarati Poetry

July 22, 2017, Vallabh Vidyanagar

Regional Office, Mumbai, in collaboration with the Dept of Gujarati, Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar, Gujarat organized a symposium on Nature in Gujarati Poetry: Romantic, Modern and Environmental on 22 July 2017 at the university. The symposium was divided into five sessions and had paper presentations, lectures, poetry recitation and poetry singing with melodious music. The symposium covered various topics such as Nature and Poetry: In context of Indian and world poetry, medieval Gujarati poetry, modern and post modern poetry, romantic poetry, poetry of Gandhi an era and post Gandhi an era, environmental poetry in Gujarati folk literature, etc. Keynote address was delivered by Sri Yagnesh Dave, distinguished Gujarati poet. Sri Sitanshu Yashaschandra, Convener, Gujarati Advisory Board, recited some western poems of nature, and a nature related song was sung by Sri Nikhil Kharod. The First session was chaired by Sri Yogesh Joshi, and Sri Abhay Doshi and Sri Rajesh Pandya presented their papers. The session ended with a song of Dayarm rendered by Ajay Talpada. Sri Rajesh Pandya chaired the second session. In the session, Sri Samir Bhatt and Sri Yogesh Joshi presented their papers. Parul Desai, Paresh Nayak and Vikram Chaudhari delivered lectures on nature related to Gandhi era, Post Modern era and Folk Gujarati poetry in last session.

Symposium on Haricharan Bandyopadhyay

26 July 2017, Kolkata

A Symposium on Haricharan Bandyopadhyay at Sahitya Akademi auditorium, Kolkata was organized on 26 July 2017. In the inaugural session, Sri Gautam



L-R: Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay and Pabitra Sarkar

Paul delivered the welcome address with Dr Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, noted Bengali writer and the Convener of Bengali Advisory Board, in the chair. The inaugural session was graced by eminent scholar Professor Pabitra Sarkar as well. In the first academic session, eminent linguists, scholars and grammarians participated. Sri Amal Pal and Sri Subhash Bhattacharya spoke on the literary achievements of Haricharan Bandyopadhyay with Professor Pabitra Sarkar in the chair. In the second academic session, Sri Debangan Basu and Professor Jyotsna Chattopadhyay presented papers on the life and activities of Haricharan Bandyopadhyay, with Smt Alpana Ray in the chair.

Symposium on Urdu Novel

July 29, 2017, Bengaluru

In collaboration with Mehfil-e-Nisa, Bengaluru, a symposium on the 'Asre Hazir main Urdu Novel ka Badalta Manzarnama' was organized on July 29, 2017 at Government Science College, Nurupathunga Road, Bengaluru. Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar welcomed the guests. Smt. Shaista Yousuf, President, Mehfil-e-Nisa, presided over the inaugural session, who also delivered the presidential address. Prof. Shafay Qidawai, Urdu scholar, delivered the keynote address. Sri Szizullah Baig was the chief guest. After the inaugural

session, the first session was chaired by Prof. Abdussamad, Urdu novelist, while the papers were presented by Syed Khalid Qadri, Dr. Zubaida Begum and Dr. Iqbalunnisa. The second session was chaired by Milansar Azhar Ahmad, Former Director, All India Radio, Bangalore. The papers were presented by Afsana Khatoon and Dr. N. M. Saeed. Dr Meh Noor Zamani conducted the programme while Dr. Fazeeh Sultana proposed the formal vote of thanks.

Symposium on Reflection of Women Empowerment in Assamese Literature

August 6, 2017, Guwahati

In collaboration with Jonaki Baat, a symposium on 'Reflection of Women Empowerment in Assamese Literature with Special Reference to Women Writings' was organized on August 6, 2017 at the Guwahati Press Club. In the programme, experts and activists from the fields of Women's Studies and Assamese Literature discussed and deliberated upon the aspect of women empowerment and its various manifestations with reference to Assamese Literature. At the outset, Junu Bora, Editor, Jonaki Baat, welcomed the assembled audience and Madhuri Kalita Choudhury recited a poem. The inaugural session, under the chairmanship of Arupa Barua, General Council Member, Sahitya Akademi, began with the welcoming of the delegates and guests by Gautam Paul. The symposium was formally inaugurated by Gobinda Prasad Sarma, eminent Assamese writer and critic. The keynote address was delivered by Prof Tilottama Mishra, eminent Assamese writer. As the Guest of Honour, Anjali Sarma referred to the pre-modern and early modern women writers in Assamese who were motivated by the male members of the society. Arupa Barua from the chair introduced

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the sessions of the symposium, and also thanked the distinguished guests and resource persons of the seminar. Junu Bora proposed the formal vote of thanks. The first session of the symposium was chaired by Tilottama Mishra, and it featured three papers, by Anuradha Sarma, Anju Barkatakya and Arupa Patangia Kalita (whose paper was read out in absentia by Joyjyoti Goswami). The second session of the symposium was chaired by Dilip Borah, Professor and writer, and it featured three papers, by Birinchi Das, Junu Bora and Dilip Borah.

Sa. Viswanathan (Saavi) Centenary Symposium

August 11, 2017 Chennai

The sub-regional office at Chennai, in collaboration with Dharmamurthi Rao Bahadur Calavala Cunnan Chetty Hindu College, Pattabiram, organized a symposium on Sa. Viswanathan (Saavi), to commemorate his birth centenary, on 11 August 2017 at the college premises. Sri A.S. Ilangovan, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, Chennai, welcomed the professors, young scholars and litterateurs who graced the important symposium.

Prof. K. Nachimuthu, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the inaugural session and pointed out that though Saavi is known as a writer of humor, he penned many novels and travelogues also. Sri K. Vaidyanathan, Editor, Dinamani, delivered the keynote address.

Sri M. Venkatesaperumal, Ms. V. Lakshmi and Sri N. Rajendra Naidu of DRBCCC Hindu College offered glowing felicitations and thanked Sahitya Akademi for selecting their college for the symposium on Saavi. Saavi's daughter Smt. Jayanthi Viswanathan participated as the guest of honour in the

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inaugural session and she presented a picture of Saavi as a father and 'Guru' who guided their family, in spite of various difficulties. Ms. S.M. Sangavai, Professor & Head, Department of Tamil, DRBCCC Hindu College proposed the vote of thanks.

The first session was chaired by Smt. S. Sivasankari, noted fiction writer and presented a paper on Saavi's creative genius. Dr. C. Sethupathi, Member, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, presented a paper on Saavi's works and his views. Sri N. Ravi Prakash chaired the second session and presented a paper on 'Saavi's humour'. Sri Rani Mainthan spoke on Saavi's crowning personality.

During the valedictory session, some students at random were invited to present their views about what they learnt from the symposium and about Sahitya Akademi. Sri Maalan, renowned journalist and Member, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, Sri Nellai Su. Muthu, scientist and writer, Sri B. Veeramani, writer and many other important personalities participated in the symposium.

Symposium on Ishvar Petlikar

August 12, 2017, Anand

On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Ishvar Petlikar, eminent Gujarati litterateur and journalist, Sahitya Akademi, RO, Mumbai, and N. S. Patel Arts College, Anand, Gujarat jointly organized a symposium on "Ishvar Petlikar: Samaj Sanlagn Sahityakar-Patrarakar" on 12 August 2017 at Shree Ravishankar Maharaj Auditorium, N. S. Patel College, Anand.

The inaugural session was presided over by a well-known Gujarati critic Dr Shirish Panchal. Sri Prashant Patel, Head, Dept of Gujarati, N S College, made introductory remarks. Dr Mohan Patel, Principal of the college, introduced and welcomed the guests by presenting books, and

Dr Sitanshu Yashaschandra, Convener, Gujarati Advisory Board, welcomed the dignitaries. Sri Prakash N. Shah, senior journalist of Gujarat, delivered the keynote address. He evaluated Petlikar's literature and journalism in terms of the past and present. He informed that Petlikar was a keen observer of rural life, and left his deep impact on his times through his writings.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Mansinh Chaudhari. Sri Raman Soni, eminent Gujarati writer and critic, chaired the first session, and Sri Hasit Mehta and Sri Chandubhai Meheria presented their papers.

Sri Prakash Shah chaired the second session, and papers were presented by Sri Raman Soni and Sri Sameer Bhatt. Sri Shirish Panchal concluded that every great writer is immortal in the thoughts of the readers but they are the creation of God and they have to die as mortals, and hence we fondly remember our dear Ishwar Petlikar.

Symposium on Dalit Writings in Rajasthani

12 August 2017, Udaipur

A one-day Symposium on 'Rajasthani Dalit Writings' was organised on Saturday, 12 August 2017 at Golden Jubilee Auditorium, Sukhadia University. Editor (Hindi), Sahitya Akademi Sri Anupam Tiwari welcomed the participants and guests and highlighted the concept of the programme. Inaugural session was chaired by Convener, Rajasthani Advisory Board, Prof. Arjun Dev Charan. In his presidential address, Prof. Charan said that whenever any class of exploitation takes place in society, it should be brought to the society's notice through pen and compositions. Chief Guest of the session, Prof. Kishori Lal Ragar spoke extensively on Dalit literature since ancient times. The session was conducted by the founder of Yugadhara Institute and Sahitya Akademi awardee Dr.

Jyotipunj. In the first session, Dr. Suresh Salvi presented his views on 'Rajasthani Dalit stories'. The second paper was presented by Shiva Bodhi on the subject of "Vichar Re Bhoom Mathai Dalit Kahani".

The second session was Presided by the Chairman, Dept. of Rajasthani, Mohanlal Sukhdia University Dr. Suresh Salvi. Another paper on 'Rajasthani Kavya Mahe Dalit Chetana' was presented by B. L. Paras.

The chief guest of the concluding session was senior litterateur Hardan Harsha. He said that today we have to make Dalit thinking and writing more relevant. The session was Presided by Ramdyal Mehra, and conducted by Dr. Kunjan Acharya.

Symposium on Women Writings in Rajasthani

13 August 2017, Udaipur

A one-day Symposium on 'Women Writings of Rajasthani' was organized on 13th August, 2017 at Golden Jubilee Auditorium, Sukhadia University. Prakash Amarawat was invited as the Chief guest of the inauguration session.

Presiding over the inaugural session, Prof. Arjun Dev Charan said that woman is a guide. Reena Menaria and Dr. Anushree Rathod presented their papers.

Dr. Meeta Sharma, in her Presidential address said that writing of Rajasthani women is not limited to women only, male writers are also expressing problems in their compositions very sensitively. Monica Gaur said that while talking about female writing, the name of Meerabai is taken with great respect in the entire Indian literature, but after that, a question mark is placed on this topic.

Dr. Dhananjaya Amrawat, presiding over the next session, said that after Independence,

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Rajasthani women writings have filled the bright 'pawande' and there has been a meaningful change in their literature. Dr. Shakuntala Saruparia said that the Rajasthani woman is full of writing anomalies.

Senior writer Dr. Sharda Krishna also expressed her views on the capabilities of writing Rajasthani women and its boundaries. Sri Anupam Tiwari thanked the guests.

Symposium on Dogri Ghazal

August 27, 2017, Jammu

In collaboration with Dogri Sanstha, Jammu, a one-day symposium on Dogri Ghazal was organized at Dogri Bhawan on August 27, 2017. Addressing the poets, critics, scholars and lovers of Dogri, Prof. Lalit Mangotra, Convener, Dogri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi said that the Ghazal not only has a specific form but traditionally also deals with variety of subjects. In her keynote address Dr Veena Gupta, the noted critic, said that ghazal is one of the most successful genres in Indian literature. Dr Devendra Kumar Devesh welcomed the gathering. Chhatrapal, President, Dogri Sanstha presided over the inaugural session which was conducted by Susheel Baigana. Papers were



L-R: Lalit Mangotra, D. K. Devesh, Veena Gupta and Chhatrapal

read out by Dr Sandeep Dubey, Susheel Baigana and Col Raaz Manawari. The paper-reading session was presided over by prominent poet Gyaneshwar. Dr Chanchal Bhasin presented the vote of thanks.

Symposium on Indian Folk Narratives: Themes and Genres

30 August 2017, Malappuram

The symposium started with the Inaugural Session. L. Suresh Kumar, Representative of the Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru, welcomed the gathering. An introduction to the symposium was given by Dr. Anil Vallathol, Member of the Malayalam Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi. It was followed by the Presidential Address by K.Muhammed Basheer, Vice-Chancellor, Calicut University. The symposium was inaugurated by K.P. Ramanunni, Member of the Malayalam Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi. K.M. Anil, HOD, I/C, School of Folklore Studies, University of Calicut, presented the theme of the seminar. The Keynote Address was delivered by Raghavan Payyanad, Former HOD, School of Folklore Studies, University of Calicut. The session concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Shamseena V.T., Research Scholar, School of Folklore Studies, University



Inaugural session of the Symposium in progress

of Calicut. The first session of the Seminar was chaired by Shinimol K.V. Ummar Tharammal, Faculty, Department of Malayalam and Kerala Studies, and presented the paper 'Other Paradigm in the Stories on Seethi Haji'. The second paper of the session was presented by Jisha C.K. The second session of the symposium was chaired by Sineesh Velikuni, Sunil Njalyath, N. Manoharan and B.S. Sivakumar presented their papers. In the third session, R.V.M. Divakaran and H.K. Santhosh presented their papers. The symposium concluded with paper presentations of students followed by a vote of thanks.

Symposium on The Reflections of Manipuri Culture in Contemporary Manipuri Literature

2 September 2017, Imphal, Manipur

In collaboration with Manipur University of Culture, Palace Compound, Imphal a one-day Symposium on "The Reflections of Manipuri culture on Contemporary Manipuri literature" was organized on 2 September 2017 at Government Dance College Hall, Palace Compound, Imphal. Goutam Pal welcomed the participants and their gathering. H. Behari Singh, Convener, Manipuri Language Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, gave the introductory speech of the symposium. Longjam Joychandra Singh, Registrar of Manipur University of Culture, talked briefly on various impulses of Manipuri culture on our contemporary Manipuri literature.

The first session of the symposium was chaired by Longjam Joychandra and three speakers namely W. Angela Devi, Dr. P. James, Dr. Th. Ruhichand presented papers pertinent to the theme of the symposium.

The second session of the symposium was

chaired by K. Radhakumar, IAS, and three scholars namely A. Rishikesh, Surekha Longjam and Th. Bimola Devi. Th. Ruhichand, faculty member of Manipur University of Culture, proposed the vote of thanks.

Symposium on Folk Literature of East & North East Regions: Continuity, Divergences & Merger

September 4, 2017, Deoghar

In association with Rama Devi Bajla Women's College, Deoghar, a daylong symposium on "Folk Literature of East & North East Regions: Continuity, Divergences & Merger" was organized on September 04, 2017 at Rama Devi Bajla Women's College premises. The symposium was inaugurated by Prof. Manoranjan Prasad Sinha, Vice-Chancellor, Sido Kanhu Murmu University, Dumka by lighting the lamp, and after that he delivered his inaugural address. Dr. Rita Roy, Coordinator and Member of English Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, delivered an introductory note on folk literature in brief. Prof. Sivasish Biswas, Pro- Vice-Chancellor & Head of the Dept. of English delivered his keynote address in which he elaborately discussed the shifting power equations in literature. The first session of the symposium was chaired by Prof. Goutam Buddha Sural from Bankura University, West Bengal and two noted scholars, Dr. Chhandam



Session of the Symposium in progress

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Deb and Dr. Shravani Biswas presented their papers. The second session of the symposium was chaired by Prof. Sivasish Biswas and three noted scholars, Mr. Arnab Bhattacharya, Dr. Sandip Mondol and Prof. Goutam Buddha Sural presented their papers. Dr. Rajiv Kumar, P.G. Department of English, Sido Kanhu Murmu University, proposed a vote of thanks

Symposium on Maithili Literature

September 10, 2017, Ranchi

In collaboration with Jharkhand Mithila Manch, a symposium was organized on 10 September in the Chintan Auditorium at Ashok Nagar, Ranchi. It was inaugurated by the VC of Ranchi University Prof. Ramesh Kumar Pandey. In his speech he said that Literature plays an important role in solving the difficulties of life. Devendra Kumar Devesh welcomed the guests and discussed the efforts of the Akademi in upgrading Maithili. The session was chaired by the ex-VC of Kameshwar Singh Darbhanga Vishwavidyalaya, Prof. Chandrakant Shukla. Keynote speaker was Dr. Ashok Awichal. Vote of Thanks was given by Sri Santosh Jha, the Secretary of Jharkhand Mithila Manch. The symposium was chaired by eminent Maithili writer Prof Vidyanath Jha 'Vidit'. Dr. Daman Kumar Jha read a paper on 'Samkaleen Maithili Upanyas Mein Stree Vimarsh', Sri Raushan Yadav presented on "Maithili Upanyason Mein Samsamyik Prashn" and Sri Siyaram Jha 'Saras' read on the topic "Samkaleen Maithili Upanyas Mein Chitrit Aaj Ka Samaj"

Symposium on Contemporary Literature of Sindhi Women Writers

September 10, 2017, Ahmedabad

In collaboration with Rangkaram Theatre, a Symposium on Contemporary Literature of Women Writers in Sindhi (Ahmedabad) was

organized on 10 September 2017 at Swami Leela Shah Seva Trust, Kuber Nagar, Ahmedabad. At the outset, Sri Jagdish Shahdadpuri of Rang Karam Theatre welcomed the audience and guest writers and requested Dr Prem Prakash, Convener, Sindhi Advisory Board of Sahitya Akademi to deliver key note address.

The first session of the symposium was chaired by Ms Sunita Mohanani and papers were presented by Ms Roshni Rohra, Ms Deepa Wadhvani, Ms Dhanlaxmi Vatnani and Ms Pushpa Sagar. In this session Ms Meena Shahdadpuri shared her views on *Pahinji Galha Mein*, a book by Ms Jaya Jadwani while Ms Heena Agnani reviewed the writings of Popati Hiranandani. Ms Daya Lalchandani, the third essayist of the session updated on the book *Kadahi-Kadahi* by Rashmi Ramani while Ms Asha Jagesha shared her critical remarks on various genres of literature by women. In the second session, all the participating women writers presented different forms of their writings. The session was chaired by Dr Prem Prakash.

Symposium on Manishankar Ratnaji Bhatt 'Kant'

September 16, 2017, Ahmedabad

In collaboration with the Gujarati Sahitya Parishad, a symposium on Manishankar Ratnaji Bhatt 'Kant' was organized at the Parishad on 16 September 2017 in Ahmedabad on the occasion of the Birth Centenary year of 'Kant'.

In the inaugural session, Ms Usha Upadhyaya of Parishad said that though 'Kant' studied more literature of the West, his writing was more influenced by Sanskrit. In that context, President of the Parishad, Chandrakant Topiwala commented that Khandkavya was a result of research of 'Kant'.

Sitanshu Yashaschandra, Convener of Gujarat Advisory Board, said that 'Kant' had a different style which distinguished him from other poets.

After the inaugural session, Prafulla Rawal of Parishad said that he was inspired by books of Swedenborg, which lead him to to adopt Christianity as a religion by his own choice. The other scholar participants – Rajesh Pandya, Jaydev Shukla, Vijay Pandya, Shirish Panchal elaborated Khandkavya of Kant. In the second session, Satish Vyas, Ramesh Shah, Mansukh Salla, Nivya Patel discussed the specific plays and examined the influence of Greek plays.

The symposium concluded with Yogesh Joshi's insights on each speaker's presentation. It ended with vote of thanks by Prafulla Rawal.

Symposium on Current Situation of Urdu Literature in Maharashtra

16 September 2017, Pune

A Symposium on 'Current Situation of Urdu Literature in Maharashtra' was organised on 16 September 2017 at High-tech Hall, Azam Campus, Pune in collaboration with Deccan Muslim Institute.

The programme was chaired by Mrs. Abida Inamdar, President of Deccan Muslim Institute, Pune, and eminent Urdu writer Sri Shamim Tariq was the Chief Guest of the programme. Sri Shamim Tariq said that we have to take forward the research works done by great Urdu writers.

Regional Secretary Sri Krishna Kimbahune welcomed the guests and participants. Mrs. Abida Inamdar in her presidential speech highlighted the importance of promotion of Urdu language and literature through digitalisation.

Dr. Syed Yahya Nasheet presented the

keynote address. First session of the Symposium was chaired by Sri Saleem Shahzad. Khwaja Ghulamussayyedain presented his paper in this session. Second session was chaired by Sri Shamim Tariq and Sri Shalim Shahzad, Nazeer Fatehpuri, Abdullah Imtiaz and Majid Qazi presented their papers. The programme was attended by a large number of Urdu loving people of Pune.

Symposium on Maharshi Debendranath Tagore

20 September 2017, Kolkata

A symposium on Maharshi Debendranath Tagore was organized on 20 September 2017 at Sahitya Akademi auditorium, Kolkata. The welcome address was delivered by Sri Gautam Paul, and it was inaugurated by Professor Sabyasachi Bhattacharya, eminent scholar. Debendranath Tagore (15 May 1817 – 19 January 1905) was a Hindu philosopher and religious reformer, active in the Brahmo Samaj which aimed to reform the Hindu religion and way of life.

The Keynote Address was delivered by eminent scholar Sri Swapan Basu with Dr Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, Convener, Bengali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi in the chair.

In the first academic session, papers were presented by Sri Aniruddha Rakshit and Ramanuj Mukhopadhyay with Goutam Neogi in the chair. The focus of the session was on the religion and philosophy as practised by Maharshi Debendranath Tagore.

In the second academic session, Sri Debasis Roy presented songs of Maharshi with lecture demonstration on the creations of Debendranath Tagore in the field of music and literature, with Sri Amitava Khastagir in the chair.

Symposium on Contributions of Rahul Sankrityayan

September 21, 2017, New Delhi

A Symposium on 'Contributions of Rahul Sankrityayan' on the occasion of the 125th Birth Anniversary was organized on September 21, 2017 in New Delhi. Dr K. Sreenivasarao, welcomed the participants and audience and talked about multi-faceted personality of Rahul Sankrityayan. Dr Purushottam Agrawal, eminent critic and writer was the chief guest of the programme and said that the complete works of Rahul Sankrityayan and his life journey is the discovery of a new India. Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the presidential address, wherein he discussed a wide range of Rahul Sankrityayan's language related concepts and attachment to folk languages. The papers were presented by Garima Srivastava, Avnijesh Awasthi and Raman Sinha. Sri Anupam Tiwari coordinated the programme.

Symposium on Modern Trends in Bodo Short Story and Drama

25 September 2017, Langhin, Assam

In collaboration with Karbi Anlong District Bodo Sahitya Sabha, a Symposium on "Modern Trends in Bodo Short Story and Drama" was



Session of the Symposium in progress

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organized at Langhin College, Assam on 25 September 2017. The programme was successfully conducted with intellectuals and eminent writers of the Bodo community.

In the inaugural session, the introductory speech was given by Premananda Mwchahary, Convener, Bodo Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi. He emphasized the importance of criticism of literature in our own language. The session was chaired by Santiram Basumatary, President, Karbi Anglong District Bodo Sahitya Sabha.

The session was inaugurated by Dalsing Basumatary, Principal-in-charge Langhin College. The first session was chaired by Aurobinda Uzir, Sahitya Akademi Awardee and popular Bodo poet. Longkeswar Hainary, Promotes Basumatary and Rituraj Basumatary presented their papers. The second session of the symposium was chaired by Bisweswar Basumatary, former Vice President of Bodo Sahitya Sabha. Ajit Basumatary and Mogesh Narza Boro presented their papers. Khagen Goyary, Secretary of Karbi Anglong Districts Bodo Sahitya Sabha proposed the vote of thanks.

Symposium on Hindi Navjagran and Shivpoojan Sahay

September 26, 2017, New Delhi

A symposium on "Hindi Navjagran and Shivpoojan Sahay" on the occasion of the 125th Birth Anniversary of Shivpoojan Sahay was organized at New Delhi on September 26, 2017. Dr. K. Sreenivasarao welcomed the participants and audience and talked about the life and works of Shivpoojan Sahay in brief. The programme was chaired by Mangalmurthi, eminent writer, who said that to remember Shivpoojan Sahay is to remember all those important Hindi writers who brought about Hindi Navjagran.

Achyutanand Mishra, former Vice-Chancellor, Makhanlal Chaturvedi National University of Journalism and Communication, was the chief guest of the seminar. The papers were presented by Rajiv Ranjan Giri, Kumud Sharma and Bharat Bhardwaj. Sri Anupam Tiwari, Editor, Sahitya Akademi, coordinated the programme.

Symposium on Marathi Novel

September 28, 2017, Kalamb

In collaboration with Dnyandev Mohekar College, Kalamb, a symposium on Marathi Novel Today was organized on 28 September 2017 at Atthe College, Kalamb. At the outset, Krishna Kimbahune, welcomed the audience and guest writers. The symposium was inaugurated by Dr Ashok Mohekar, Principal of the Dnyandev Mohekar College. The keynote address was delivered by Dr Eknath Pagar, eminent Marathi critic. Dr Ashok Chausalkar, eminent Marathi writer and critic, chaired the inaugural session.

The first session of the symposium - "Marathi Novel Today : Source and Impact" - was chaired by Dr Randhir Shinde, and papers were presented by Dr Keshav Deshmukh, Sri Raja Holkunde and Sri Prashant Dhande. The second session was chaired by Dr Rajshekhar Shinde and subject in discussion was "The literary culture in Marathi novel Today". Dr. Dattatray Gholap, Dr Mahesh Kharat and Sri Balaji Sutar shared their views in this session. Sri Kedar Kalawane of the college proposed a vote of thanks.

Symposium on Humorous Literature in Konkani

September 28, 2017, Goa

Sahitya Akademi and the Department of Konkani, Goa University, jointly organized

a symposium on Evaluation of Humorous Literature in Konkani at the University in Panaji, Goa on Thursday, 28 September 2017. Sri Varun Sahani, Vice Chancellor, Goa University, inaugurated the symposium. Sri Ulhas Pai Raikar, noted Konkani critic, delivered the keynote address. Dr Tanaji Halarnkar, Convener, Konkani Advisory Board, gave the introductory remarks. First session - The non-humorous in the humorous literature in Konkani - was chaired by Sri Pundalik Naik, eminent Konkani poet and playwright. Sri Gajanan Jog and Sri Sakharam Borkar presented their papers. Second session on Contribution of humour to Konkani literature was chaired by Sri K.M. Sukhtankar and Ms Zilu Gaonkar and Ms Guadalup Dias presented their papers. Sri Pundalik Naik chaired the last session on the non-humorous in the humorous plays in Konkani, while Ms Rajashri Sail and Ms Cojma Fernandes presented their papers. Finally, Sri Prakash Paryenkar, Member, Konkani Advisory Board, proposed a vote of thanks.

Symposium on Translating Contemporary Indian Drama

September 30, 2017, Shillong

In association with the Department of English, North Eastern Hill University, Shillong, a symposium on "Translating Contemporary Indian Drama" was organized at the University premises in Shillong on September 30, 2017. In the inaugural session, Prof Esther Syiem, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience. In her introductory remarks, Prof Mala Renganathan of the department, talked about the translational practices across cultures in the sub-continent and also the efforts in that direction to translate drama. In his Presidential address, Sri Debasis Majumdar, eminent scholar, talked about

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translation of drama in the regional languages and stated that drama as a literary genre has not received the kind of attention it richly deserves. In his keynote address, Prof H.S. Shivaprakash, eminent Kannada playwright and scholar, stated that the symposium is first of its kind in India and entire theatre community should be thankful to Sahitya Akademi for organizing the event. Dr S. Rajmohan, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks. In the first session devoted to 'Translating Contemporary Drama into English' and chaired by Sri Dilip Kumar Basu, four noted scholars, Dr Swarajbir, Dr Mangai, Dr Jyotirmoy Prodhani and Sri Chandradasan presented their papers. In the second session devoted to 'Translating Contemporary Drama among Indian languages' and chaired by Prof H.S. Shivaprakash, three noted scholars, Sri Chandrakant Patil, Sri D. Srinivas and Ms. Maithreyi Karnoor, presented their papers. In the Panel Discussion moderated by Dr Atamjit, seven scholars, Sri Chandrakant Patil, Prof Esther Syiem, Sri Y. Sadanand Singh, Sri Chandradasan, Ms. Maithreyi Karnoor, Prof Mala Renganathan and Dr Jyotirmoy Prodhoni, discussed various aspects related to 'Translating and Publishing Contemporary Indian Drama: Challenges and Opportunities.' Dr S. Rajmohan proposed a vote of thanks.

Symposium on Influence of Bhakti traditions on Marathi Literature

October 11, 2017, Buldhana

In collaboration with Model Degree College, Buldhana a Symposium on Influence of the Bhakti Sampradaya on Marathi Literature was organized on 11 October 2017 at the College at Buldhana, Maharashtra. Sri Vasant Abaji Dahake, distinguished Marathi litterateur, inaugurated the symposium, and Sri Sadanand Deshmukh, renowned Marathi fiction writer,

delivered the keynote address. Sri Satish Badave, noted Marathi critic, chaired the first session, and Sri Ravindra Ingle Chawrekar presented his paper. Sri Manoj Tayade chaired the second session and Sri Vidyasagar Patangankar presented his paper. Sri Govind Gayki, the Principal, Model Degree College, proposed vote of thanks.

Symposium on Prapanchikarana Nephathyam - Varthamana Kavithvam

29 October 2017, Guntur

In collaboration with Gunturu Zilla Rachayithala Sangha (Guntur District Writers Association) a Symposium on Prapanchikarana Nephathyam - Varthamana Kavithvam was organized on 29 October 2017 at Zilla Parishath Meeting Hall, Guntur.

While welcoming the dignitaries and guests of the Symposium, Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar mentioned that Sahitya Akademi, since its inception has been striving hard to enrich the Indian literature. Dr. N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory Board, said that globalisation has been creating inequalities all over the world though the world was fast becoming a global village due to technical growth. Sri Somepalli Venkata Subbaiah, President of GDWA, said that their association was conducting a number of such programmes in the whole district, which deserved to be mentioned in the annal of Indian literature. Chief guest of the occasion, Sri Bommidala Krishna Murthy, an industrialist and a patron of Telugu literature, urged the writers Associations to conduct literary programmes now and then to evaluate the impact of globalisation on our lives. Sri Penugonda Lakshmi Narayana, the keynote speaker, who is National Secretary of Indian Progressive Writers Association and Telugu critic in his address called globalisation was

a ploy to prevent common responses on a common cause. He in detail gave instances of merits and demerits of globalisation.

In the first session, which was chaired by Sri Kondreddy Venkateswara Reddy, two papers were presented by Sri B. Lalithanand and Sri V.Nagarajya Lakshmi. The second session was chaired by poet C. Bhavani Devi while Putla Hemalatha and Chalapaka Prakash presented their papers.

The Valedictory session was chaired by Dr. N. Gopi, Akademi award winning poet Papineni Shivashankar delivered the valedictory address. It was followed by Kathasandhi programme featuring Smt. Vadrevu Veeralakshmi Devi. Dr. N. Gopi, Papineni Shivashankar and other writers interacted with her.

Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar at the outset welcomed the story writer and introduced her to the audience and at the end thanked the author and all other important writers of Guntur and audience for their cooperation.

Symposium on contribution of Women Dramatists in Indian Nepali Literature

November 4, 2017, Kalimpong

A one-day symposium on the contribution of Women Dramatist in Indian Nepali Literature was organized on 4 November 2017 at Kalimpong in collaboration with Nepali Sahitya Adhyayan Samiti, Kalimpong. The symposium was inaugurated by Sri Man Bahadur Pradhan, famous Nepali writer. Inaugural session was chaired by Sri Gyan Sutar, President, Nepali Sahitya Adhyayan Samiti. At the outset, Dr Devendra Kumar Devesh, welcomed the participants and gathering. Sri Prem Pradhan, Convener, Nepali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his introductory speech, gave

an account about the contribution of women dramatists in Indian Nepali literature. The first session was chaired by Sri Lakshaman Shrimal, eminent Nepali playwright. In this session, Sri Gyan Bahadur, Dr. Manika Mukhiya presented their papers. Sri Nand Handikham presided over the second session. In this session Dr Mamta Lama and Dr Meharbaan Subaa presented their papers. Dr B. B. Sharma, General Secretary, Nepali Sahitya Adhyayan Samiti proposed the vote of thanks at the end.

Symposium on Manipuri Oral Poetry: Performance and Aesthetics

4 November 2017, Kabuganj, Assam

In collaboration with Department of Manipuri, Janata College, Kabuganj, Assam, a Symposium on “Manipuri Oral Poetry: Performance and Aesthetics” was organized on 4 November 2017 at Janata College, Kabuganj, Assam. In the Inaugural session, Gautam Paul delivered the welcome address. H. Behari Singh, Convener, Manipuri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi delivered the introductory address and highlighted the need for conducting such a symposium. Retired Professor of the College, Prof. M. Babaton Singha, who was the Chief Guest, shared his views on Manipuri oral poetry and its importance in the Modern Manipuri literature. Subhas Chandra Nath, Principal (in-charge) of Janata College, delivered the presidential address. Usha Rani Sharma, Head, Department of Manipuri, proposed the vote of thanks.

The first academic session was chaired by H. Behari Singh, Convener, Manipuri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, with three noted scholars and poets, N. Bidyasagar Singh, L. Nipamacha Singh and H. Anita Singha. After the session, there was an interactive session where L. Manglemba Singha, Retired College

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Librarian, raised questions on the topic and the scholars responded well.

The second academic session was chaired by M. Babaton Singha with three noted scholars and poets, Usha Rani Sharma, Ch. Manikumar Singha and O. Loyangamba Singha.

Symposium on Myths in Indian Nepali Literature

November 5, 2017, Kurseong

A symposium on Myths in Indian Nepali Literature was organized on 5 November 2017 at Kurseong in collaboration with Gorkha Jana Pustakalaya. The symposium was inaugurated by Sri Rudra Podyaal, President, Nepali Sahitya Parishad, Gaantok. Sri Rabeen Kumar Pradhan, President, Gorkha Jana Pustakalaya, chaired the inaugural session. Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh spoke briefly about the various activities of Sahitya Akademi. Sri Prem Pradhan, Convener, Nepali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi delivered the introductory speech. In his Presidential Address Sri. Rabin Kumar Pradhana thanked the Akademi for giving an opportunity to organise such programmes. The first session of the symposium was presided over by Dr Jash Yojan 'Pyaasi', well-known Nepali critic. Three scholars, Dr Kavita Lama, Dr Uday Thulung and Dr. Jaikumar Gurung presented their papers. Dr. Pyaasi delivered the presidential address. The programme was conducted by Sri Binod Rasaily. The formal vote of thanks was proposed by Sri Prakash Pradhan, the General Secretary, Pustakalaya.

Symposium on Kuttipuzha Krishna Pillai

07 November 2017, Aluva

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Bengaluru organized a Symposium on Kuttipuzha Krishnapilla at Aluva on November
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7, 2018. A Symposium on Kuttipuzha Krishnapilla began with the inaugural speech delivered by Sri. C. Radhakrishnan, Convener, Malayalam Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, Dr. Sunil. P. Ilayidam began his speech on Kuttipuzha by quoting K.P. Appan's opinion on Kuttipuzha's glowing eyes. Dr. Sunil summarized Kuttipuzha's thoughts on three points.

The afternoon session was presided over by Captain K.S Narayan and was further lead by Ms. Sonia. The next session led by Sri M.S Paul with 'Kuttipuzhayude Vimarshanangal : Oru Vayana' focussed on the limitations and shortcomings of the writers role as a critic.

The next session led by Dr. V.P. Markose was titled as 'Kuttipuzhayilae Yukthivadhi'. The valedictory session was led by the HOD of Malayalam department, Dr. Muse Mary George and further Dr. Mini Alice welcomed the chief guest Sri. M.K. Sanoo with a haiku poem. The symposium ended with the thanking notes of Rev. Fr. Thomas John, Sri. Ponoose and Dr. Shimi Paul Baby.

Jagdish Chandra Mathur Birth Centenary Symposium

November 17, 2017, New Delhi

To commemorate the birth centenary of Jagdish Chandra Mathur, eminent Hindi writer a one-day symposium was organized in collaboration with Abhirang, Hindu College, in the Seminar Hall, Hindu College D.U. Dr Anju Srivastav, Principal, Hindu College delivered the welcome address. Sri Anupam Tiwari introduced the participants. Sri Daya Prakash Sinha was the chief guest on the occasion. Jagdish Chandra Mathur's work is seminal in the sense that it not only adds to the list of great literatures but also works perfectly on stage. Delivering the keynote, Dr. Narendra

Mohan said, “Jagdish Chandra Mathur was not only one of the greatest playwrights after Independence but also a great artist who wrote remarkable plays in Hindi.” Sri Pratap Sehgal, Hindi writer and playwright, said that along with the dramatic traditions of India and Greek, Jagdish Chandra Mathur also drew upon folk traditions of India in his plays. Mathur’s son Lalit informed that he co-authored a book titled “Pracheen Bhasha Natak” with the principal of



Session of the Symposium in progress

the Hindu College Dashrath Ojha. Sri Sharad Dutt noted writer and National film award winner shared his views. Dr. Pallav, Advisor of Abhirang delivered the vote of thanks.

Symposium on Echoes of Folk literature in Dogri Literature

November 26, 2017, Jammu

A symposium on ‘Echoes of Folk literature in Dogri Literature’ was organized on 26 November 2017 at K.L. Sehgal Hall, Jammu. The symposium, first of its kind, was inaugurated by veteran writer and scholar, Padmeshri Prof. Ved Kumari Ghai. Darshan Darshi, who presented the key note address, traced the evolution of Dogri literature from the rich Dogri folk tales and folk songs. Prof. Lalit Mangotra, Convener, Dogri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his introductory remarks said that folk literature,

to which everybody is exposed in his childhood and formative years, influences the psyche and morality of all individuals. In the paper reading session, which was chaired by eminent Dogri writer, Prof. Veena Gupta, three papers were presented by Abhishek Bharati, Dr. Bansi Lal and Sheetal Sharma.

Symposium on ‘Santali Once-act Plays’

December 2, 2017, Rairangpur

A one symposium on ‘Santali Once-act Plays’ was organized at Rairangpur (Odisha) on 2 December 2017. The symposium was inaugurated by Sri Bhogla Soren, distinguished Santali dramatist and Sahitya Akademi Award winner. Sri Gangadhar Hansda, Convener, Santali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi delivered the introductory speech. Dr Devendra Kumar Devesh welcomed the audience. Sri Bhogla Soren in his inaugural address spoke on the history of Santali play and one-act play. Sri Jeetray Hansda, renowned Santali dramatist, playwright and stage performer delivered his keynote address on the occasion. The session was chaired by Sri Kuber Kumar Mohanta, Principal, Rairangapur Autonomous College, Rairangapur. The distinguished Santali playwright Sri Kherwal Soren was the guest of honour on the occasion. Sri Sunil Kumar Jena, Lecturer in English, Rairangapur autonomous College, Rairangapur conveyed the vote of thanks to the distinguished guests and audience.

The business session of the symposium was chaired by Sri Jamadar Kisku, renowned Santali playwright and Sahitya Akademi Award Winner. The scholars who presented their papers were Sri Durga Prasad Hembram, Saroj Kumar Soren and Raghunath Marandi.

Symposium on Travelogues in Konkani

December 15, 2017, Goa

In collaboration with Fr Agnel College of Arts and Commerce, a symposium on Travelogues in Konkani was organized in at the Retreat Hall, Panji, Goa, on Friday, 15 December 2017. Dr Tanaji Halarnakar, Convener, Konkani Advisory Board, chaired the inaugural session of the symposium. Sri Krishna Kimbahune, welcomed the writer-participants and audience. Dr Rajashri Sail, Head, Dept of Konkani, Fr Agnel College of Arts and Commerce, gave the introductory remarks. Dr Halarnakar chronicled the programmes held and books in Konkani brought out so far by Sahitya Akademi,

Dr Kiran Budkuley chaired the first session – “Travelogues in Konkani”. Dr Sangita Desai and Sri Hanumant Chopdekar presented their papers. In the next two sessions, Ms Yuga Adarkar, Ms Harsha Shetye, Sri Prasad Pagi and Ms Maya Kharangate shared their experiences in travelling and creative writing. Dr Prakash Parienkar, Member, Konkani Advisory Board, chaired the second session and Sri Dilip Borkar chaired the third.

Symposium on Tribal Language and Literature of Odisha

5 January 2018, Sambalpur, Odisha

In collaboration with District Council of Culture, Sambalpur a symposium on Tribal Language and Literature of Odisha was organized on 5 January 2018 at Sambalpur on the occasion of 22nd Folk festival or Lok Mahotsav 2018 of Sambalpur. In inaugural session Gautam Paul welcomed the gathering. Rajendra Padhee, eminent scholar, elaborated that Odisha’s tribal literature is just like an ocean. Presiding over the

inaugural session Krushna Chandra Pradhan, Professor of Odia department, Sambalpur University, said that there was no meaning to underestimate those languages which do not



R-L: Gautam Paul, Krushna Chandra Pradhan, Dhruvraj Naik, Rajendra Padhee and Bibhuti Bhusan Misra

have their own script. Dhruvaraj Naik, former Vice Chancellor of Sambalpur University and eminent environmentalist mentioned that tribal literature started in Oral form like the Vedas Dwarikanath Nayak, Co-ordinator of folk festival and eminent folklorist proposed the vote of thanks. In the first session Kumud Ranjan Panigrahi, Retired Professor Sambalpur University and folklorist, presided over the meeting and Paramananda Patel, Raghunath Rath, Parmeswar Mund presented papers on tribal literature and language.

Symposium on Influence of Folk Literature on Modern Marathi Literature

January 22, 2018, Amravati

A symposium on Influence of Folk Literature on Modern Marathi Literature was organized at Amravati in collaboration with Sant Gadgebaba Amravati University on 22 January 2018. Prof. Dr Murlidhar Chandekar, Vice Chancellor, Sant Gadgebaba Amravati University, inaugurated the symposium, and Prof. Dr Vishwanath

Shinde, noted scholar and critic, chaired the inaugural session.

At the outset, Sri Krishna Kimbahune welcomed the guests and audience. Dr Manoj Tayade, Head, Dept of Marathi, Sant Gadgebaba Amravati University, gave the introductory remarks. Prof. Chandekar said that folk literature was our cultural heritage, and it kept reminding human values to our society. Prof. Shinde said that Folk literature basically was a performance, a lively dialogue between the one who tells and the one who listens to him/her. The next two sessions, chaired by Prof. Madhukar Wakode, eminent scholar, and Dr Shashikant Sawant respectively, included presentations by Sri D.G. Kale, Dr Ranadhir Shinde, Prof. Prakash Khandge, Sri Rafique Suraj and Sri Ganesh Chandanshive.

Symposium on Mutual Relations between Maithili and Bengali

23 March 2018, Kolkata

A symposium on “Mutual Relations between Maithili and Bengali” was organized at Regional Office, Kolkata on 23 March 2018. At beginning Sri Mihir Kumar Sahu welcomed the gathering and stressed upon the mutual bond between Maithili and Bengali.

The inaugural session of the symposium was chaired by Sri Rajnandan Lal Das, distinguished Maithili writer and Editor Karnamrit. The introductory speech was given by Prof. Prem Mohan Mishra, Convener, Maithili Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi. Sri Tarakant Jha, former Editor, *Mithila Samad*, referred to many facts and events from ancient to modern period showing the brotherhood between the two languages. The business session of the symposium was chaired by Dr Mahendra Hazari, while Sri Ramlochan Thakur, Sri Naveen Chaudhary and Sri Chandan Kumar Jha presented their papers. Sri Gautam Paul,

Assistant Editor, Sahitya Akademi proposed the vote of thanks at the end.

All India Ho Writers' Meet

April 22, 2017, Keonjhar

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with All India Ho writers' Association, Bhubaneswar organised an Adivasi (Ho) Writers' Meet on April 22, 2017 at the Town Hall, Keonjhar, Odisha. While inaugurating the meet, Dr. Bimbadhar Behera, well-known scholar, talked about the similarities of tribal culture with other cultures. He said that all cultures believe that nature is God. He quoted a poem by Rabindra Nath Tagore. At the beginning Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the guests and informed them about the activities of the Akademi focusing on tribal people, language and literature. Sri Gangadhar Hansda, Convener, Santali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi delivered the keynote address. He talked about the Ho society & people, its population, literacy, language, culture and literature. Dr. Binod Kumar Nayak, distinguished writer and Bhasha Samman Awardee of Akademi began his speech with a beautiful HO welcome song. He expressed his pleasure for the initiatives taken by the Akademi. Sri Jeevan Singh proposed the vote of thanks, at the end. First session was dedicated to short story reading, which was chaired by Sri Jeevan Sing Munduiya. Sri Dibakar Soy, Sri Taranisen Bari, Mrs. Jagmohini Kalundia and Sri Paikray Champia read out their short stories in Ho language. All short stories were based on the difficulties faced by tribal people to prove themselves to the so-called cultured people and society. Second session was a paper reading session, chaired by Sri Rabindra Nath Kalundia. The session was based on the various challenges on Ho society. Sri Budhan Singh Hessa, Sri Jaypal Singh Naik and Sri

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Ramrai Munduiya talked about the challenges in the field of Literature, Society and Religion respectively. The third session was poetry reading, chaired by Sri Prafull Chandra Singh 'Tiyu'. Sri Madhusudan Birua, Sri Kanderam Sing 'Melagandhi', Sri Jaminikant Tiriya, Sri Nanduram Buliyuli and Mrs. Dulimani Sidu recited their poems.

Kui Writers' Meet

10 June 2017, Phulbani

A Tribal Writers Meet with writers of Kui tribal from Odisha was organized on 10 June 2017 at Phulbani, Kandhamal, Odisha. The Meet was inaugurated by Prof. Tirth Jani, who narrated the past and future of Kui literature. He said that the British writers wrote the important Kui grammar books for instance Rev. W.W. Winfield wrote a book 'A Grammar of the Kui Language' in 1924 which was printed in Calcutta and published by the Asiatic Society of Bengal. Alfred James Olenbatch has also wrote a book on Kui Grammar. At beginning Sri Jyoti Krishna Verma, Asst. Editor, Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi welcomed the gathering and explained in detail the aims and objectives of Kui Writers' meet. In his keynote address Dr. Nirada Chandra Kanhar, General Secretary of 'Kui Bhasa Sahitya Samiti, Odisha said, "We have already published Kui Dictionary, grammar books, translation books, Kui pictorial books, Easy Kui learning books etc. Sri Gangadhar Hansda, Convener, Santali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi chaired the inaugural function. He said that the population of Kandha tribes is largest in Odisha, next is Santali. But in language and literature, Santalis are ahead. Kandha/Kui people are lagging behind.

First Session on 'Various Challenges on Kui Society' was chaired by Sri Dinabandhu Kanhar who is from Phiringia block of Kandhamal District. Sri Krushna Chandra

Kanhar delivered his speech on the topic - Kui Script. Sri Govinda Chandra Ghatal, President of a Social Organisation "Kui Samaj Seva Samiti, Phulbani" spoke on the topic- Social challenges on Kui Society. Sri Narrottam Pradhan said that Tribal religion has its own belief system, customs, traditions. At last, Sri Dinabandhu Kanhar, the inventor of Kui script and a prominent Kui writer explained in detail about the Kui scripts. Second session was Short Story reading session, which was chaired by Sri Ganapati Mallick and stories were presented by Sri Mansingh Mallick, Sri Iswar Manyaka and Sri Danara Pradhan. Sri Ganapati Mallick also read a short story. Third session of poetry reading was chaired by Sri Bhimsen Pradhan. Seven poets Trinath Pradhan, Kambu Majhi, Prodeep Kanhar, Krushna Chandra Pradhan, Biswambhar Pradhan, Dayanidhi Mallick and Sri Bhimsen Pradhan recited their poems in the session. The meet ended with vote of thanks.

Bodo Writers' Festival

5-6 August 2017, Rangia, Assam

In collaboration with Bodo Sahitya Sabha 2nd Bodo Writers Festival was organized at Rangia College Auditorium on August 5-6, 2017. The inaugural session was chaired by Taren Boro, President, Bodo Sahitya Sabha while Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi delivered welcome address. Thaneswar Boro, Ex-Minister, Assam inaugurated the programme and Premananda Machahary, Convener, Bodo Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi delivered the introductory speech. In the inaugural session three books, two translated from Bengali and one from Malayalam to Bodo language, were released. K. Sreenivasarao, in his welcome address appreciated Bodo writers for trying to improve their literature and reminded that Gurudev Kalicharan Brahma, the founder of Brahma Religion, endeavored to develop the

Bodo Culture and Literature. Premananda Muchahury, Convener, Bodo Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi delivered the introductory speech. Prasanta Boro, General Secretary, Bodo Sahitya Sabha delivered the keynote address. Thaneswar Boro, in his introductory speech elaborated on the status of education of Bodo language in various educational institutions including universities. Gautam Paul, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata proposed the vote of thanks.

Dipak Kr. Basumatary, Vice-President, Bodo Sahitya Sabha chaired the first session. Rama Kt. Basumatary, Sarat Boro, Budheswar Boro, Swmkhwr Sheela Basumatary and Jaharlal Basumatary read out their poems in the session. Janil Kr. Brahma, chaired the second session. Tiren Boro, Uttara Bwiswmuthiary and Ranish Sangrang Ramchiary read out their compositions in this session. Subung Basumatary, Principal, Janata College, Serfanguri, Kokrajhar chaired the third session. Rupali Swargiary, Anjali Prabha Daimari, Bhoumik Ch. Boro and Rahel Mochary participated as resource persons in this session. Fourth session was held under chairmanship of Anil Boro, Professor, Gauhati University. He delivered short introductory speech regarding documentation and preservation of folk literature of the Bodos. Phukan Ch. Basumatary, Aleendra Brahma and Daimalu Brahma participated as resource persons in the programme. The valedictory session was held under the chairmanship of Daksheswar Deka while Thaneswar Boro, Ex-Minister Assam participated as Chief Guest. Valedictory speech was delivered by Toren Boro, President, Bodo Sahitya Sabha. Phukan Basumatary proposed a vote of thanks to all on behalf of Bodo Sahitya Sabha, Sahitya Akademi and Rangia College.

All India Tribal Women Writers' Meet

September 7-8, 2017, Ranchi

In collaboration with the Jharkhandi Bhasha Sahitya Sanskriti Akhara, Ranchi an All India Tribal Women Writers' Meet was organized on the birth centenary of the first female tribal writer Elis Ekka.

Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh in his welcome speech said that Sahitya Akademi has published five dozen books on Tribal languages and literatures. Vandana Tete from Jharkhandi Bhasha Sahitya Sanskriti Akhara talked about the life and works of Elis Ekka in the inaugural session.

The keynote address was made by eminent Tribal writer, playwright and critic Streamlet Dakhar. Rose Kerketta in her inaugural speech explained the literary endeavours of Elis Ekka in detail. Thanking speech was given by one of the members of Ekka's family Elis Poorti.

In the first session Alma Grace Barla, Jyoti Lakra, along with senior critic Dr. Damyanti Besra gave their valuable opinions. It was conducted by activist and writer Deepa Minj. Second session was on "Vachikta aur aadiwasi mahila srijan parampara", "Aadiwasi stree kavitaon mein indeginty". It was addressed by K. Vasamalli from South, Milan Rani Jamatiya from Tripura and Kusum Madhuri Toppo



L-R: Devendra Kumar Devesh, Rose Kerketta, Streamlet Dakhar, Vandana Tete

from Chhatisgarh. The session was chaired by Vandana Tete. In her speech she addressed the question of the role of Oral literature. Vasamalli presented the life struggle of the women in Toda community by narrating her own experiences. Milan Rani Jamatiya said that women are the inventors of maxims. They have preserved the folktales and folksongs through generations.

Third session concentrated on “Aadiwasi stree kavitaon mein indeginity”. Krairi Mog Chaudhry from Tripura, S. Ratnamma from Karnataka and Ivy Emogen Hansda from Delhi gave presented their views on Tribal female poetry. Young critic Mary Hansda from Kolkata chaired the session.

Fouth session focused on “Kavita Path”. Indumati Lamani from Karnataka, Sonal ranthawa from Gujarat, Saroj Kerketta, Sushma Asur, Pyari Tuti and Damyanti Sinku from Jharkhand, Kairi Mog Chaudhry from Tripura, Vishwasi Ekka from Chhatisgarh and Ujjwala Jyoti Tigga from Delhi read their poems in their mother tongues as well as in Hindi. The fifth session was about “Aadiwasi mahila kathakaaron ki duniya”. It was conducted by Jyoti Lakra. Savitri Baraik from Jharkhand and Joram Yaalaam Nabam gave their speech on the topic. Sixth session was centered on “Samkaleen aadiwasi mahila lekhan aur iski chunautiyan” It was addressed by Sobha limbo from Klimpong and Heera Meena from Delhi and chaired by the Tribal writer Shanti Khalkho from Ranchi.

The last session was chaired by senior Santali writer and ex VC of Sindo Kanhu Vishwadyalaya, Pramodini Hansda. The session was conducted by Shanti Saweyan and vote of thanks was given by Aswini Kumar Pankaj, editor of *Johar Disum Khabar*.

Young Sindhi Writers’ Meet

November 5-6, 2017, Adipur

Sahitya Akademi, R.O. Mumbai, in
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collaboration with the Indian Institute of Sindhology, organized a two – day Yuva Sindhi Writers’ Meet on 5-6 November 2017 at Adipur, Gujarat at the Ishwarijevat Buxani Hall of the Institute. Sri Lakhmi Khilani, renowned Sindhi writer, inaugurated the Meet.

At the outset Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Mumbai, welcomed the audience and writer – participants. Sri Khilani said that Sahitya Akademi organized a very good number of programmes in Sindhi in the last five years which should be appreciated. He appealed that young writers should attempt to understand pace and issues of the times they are living in, and shoulder the challenges posed by time. The happiness and satisfaction that come from creative writing is always greater than that of material affluence, he added further.

Dr. Hundraj Balwani, Member, Sindhi Advisory Board, delivered keynote address. He emphasized that youngsters should not neglect the significance and seriousness of literature, although living in the times of technological upswing, as it is literature and art that produces culture, and literature is not reflection of culture but it produces culture, he professed.

Sri Satish Rohra was the chief guest at the Meet. He heartily congratulated Sahitya Akademi for holding so many programmes at regular intervals.

Dr. Prem Prakash, Convener, Sindhi Advisory Board, chaired the inaugural session. He emphatically said that youngsters should never cease to read literature in their mother tongue as well as in other languages in translation. In creative writing, experience, imagination, style, experiments are equally important, he added. Sri Sahib Bijani of the Institute proposed a vote of thanks.

Ms. Champa Chetanani chaired that first

session. The session was meant for short story reading. Ms. Sangeeta Khilwani read out her short story “Ishtihar”, Ms Komal Dayalani read out “Khaunf”, Ms. Geeta Goklani read out “Sone Jo Pinjro”. Sri Manoj Chawla on Arjan Hasid’s “Mat Ji Murque”, and Sri Jayesh Sharma on Kailash Shadab’s “Akela Yun”, shared their views as their favourite Sindhi books.

Sri Jayesh Sharma chaired the second session. Ms Sunita Mohinani read out her short story-“Charitrahin”, Ms Roshni Rohra read out “Nirbhay”, Ms Nisha Chawala read out “Nai Soch” in this session, besides Ms. Sangeeta Khilwani on Sri Laxman Dubey’s, “Ghar Sikki Rahyowa”, and Ms Komal Chandanani on Hari Himrtani’s “Rat Jo Bo Paher” sharing their views as their favourite books.

Sri Mukesh Tilokani chaired the third session. In this session Ms. Nayana Rawlani read out her short story – “Pahenjo Waqt”, and Sri Mahesh Khilawani read out his one act- “Natak Mein Natak”, Ms. Geeta Goklani, Ms Komal Dayalani and Ms. Sunita Mohinani shared their views on their favourite Sindhi books.- Hari Himthani’s “Yaad,” Jaya Jadwani’s “Barf Ja Ful” and Guno Samtani’s “Abhiman” respectively. Fourth session was chaired by Ms. Komal Chandanani. Sri Manoj Chawala, Ms. Bharati Sadarangani, Sri Mukesh Tilokani recited their poems in this session, and Ms. Harsha Mulchandani, Ms. Seema Bhambhani, Sri Rajesh Mulchandani shared their views on their favourite books in the languages other than Sindhi.

Ms. Geeta Goklani chaired the fifth session, Sri Jayesh Sharma, Ms Bhavisha Sadarangani, Ms Harsha Mulchandani recited their poems, and Sri Mukesh Tilokani, Ms Roshni Rohra, Ms Nisha Chawala spoke of their favourite books in the languages other than Sindhi. Ms Komal Dayalani chaired the last session. Ms Seema Bhabhani, Sri Rajesh Mulchandani,

Ms Komal Chandani recited their poems, and Ms Nayana Rawlani, Sri Mahesh Khiwani and Ms Champa Chetnani spoke of their favourite literature in the language other than Sindhi.

Poets’ Meet

November 9, 2017, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with the Embassy of Chile in India organised a Poets Meet on 9th November 2017 featuring Mr Raul Zurita, renowned Chilean poets and five distinguished poets of India. Ms. Renu Mohan Bhan welcomed the guest poets and audience and spoke briefly about the initiatives of Sahitya Akademi to promote poetry. She welcomed Mr. Zurita and the Chilean ambassador H.E. Mr. Andres with bouquet and books. He read his verses from the much acclaimed *The Sea* in Spanish and Keki. N. Daruwalla, the celebrated internationally known Indian poet, read the translation in English. The recipient of numerous awards, Zurita, who had said, “If poetry ends, the dream is dead’ applauded, appreciated as several Indian poets read from their outstanding works: Kedarnath Singh, K. Satchidanandan, Keki N Daruwalla, Anamika and Subodh Sarkar read their poems. His voice echoed through the auditorium as he read excerpts from *The Sea*. Mr Andrés Barbé González, Chilean Ambassador to India addressed the august audience and introduced the poet as one of the outstanding living poets. Keki N Daruwalla read the poems *Lorca, Guide* and his well-known poem *Jerusalem*. His mentioning of Jerusalem ‘You burn like an eternal candle’ and ‘You are eternity’ were much appreciated. Through his poems, he called for peace too when there are flames in the sky. Kedarnath Singh, one of the most prominent poets in Hindi, began the reading session. His choice of the poem *Banaras* one the oldest city

of the world was very appropriate. According to the poet, the city of Banaras is half awake half dead and that spring suddenly comes in the holy city. The poet moved through space and time and got the pulse of the city as the city stands on one feet and unaware of the other. Prof K. Satchidanandan, who has 24 collections of poetry in Malayalam, and represented India in several International literary events, was the next poet who read *The Barbarians*. The poem depicts what is happening in the present society. On the Environment degradation, he read out *The Way to Heaven*. According to the poet heaven is nothing but a life we now live but still scared of living. *An Old Poet's Suicide Note* is a very sensitive poem where the poet says, "Call me when the world changes". Indeed, a very touching poem. Anamika, the well-known poet in Hindi, read out the poem *Selfie* translated by Malashri Lal much to the delight of the audience considering modern India's obsession with Selfies. She also read a very sensitive poem titled *Rabia Fakir Kholi No.6*. Her poem *Salt* translated by Sudeep Sen is very meaningful. Subodh Sarkar, an eminent Bengali poet, the president of West Bengal Kobita Academy, read *Exile, Mothers of Manipur, After Mallika died* and *In my Bastard English. Mothers of Manipur* is a powerful poem in protest against the Assam Rifles or may be any assault or brutality by men. The poet gives shocking revelations through the medium of poetry. Apart from the fact that verses by Raul Zurita and Indian poets stirred the audience, it also broke the language barrier. All poets write in different languages but poetry transcend all barriers. It was indeed heartening to watch that in spite of Raul Zurita's ill health, he travelled and read his soul stirring verses to an august audience who were delighted by his very presence and his outstanding verses. Ms. Renu Mohan Bhan proposed a vote of thanks.

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Northeast and Southern Women Writers' Meet

16 & 17 March 2018, Bangalore

Sahitya Akademi organized a Northeast and Southern Women Writers' Meet at Bengaluru, on March 16-17, 2018.

The meet began with Dr. K. Sreenivasarao welcoming the gathering. He said that the Akademi promotes all the literatures of India, including tribal and folk literatures, and this meet is a unique one as the women writers of two extreme regions had assembled for the mutual exchange of their literary creations.

Dr. Siddalingaiah, the Convener of the Kannada Advisory Board, in his introductory remarks said that a lot has to be learnt from each other among the Indian languages.

Mrs. Anita Nair, eminent English writer, in her keynote address, said that in the literatures of women, cow, river, mind are referred to again and again.

Dr. Chandrashekhhar Kambar, the President of the Akademi, in his presidential address said that feminism is not confined to women only, a man can be a feminist too.

The inaugural session was followed by a multilingual poetry recitation. Nine poets read out their poems along with their English translations, and they were Nilima Thakuria Haque (Assamese), Anjali Basumatary (Bodo), H.L. Pushpa (Kannada), Vijayalakshmi (Malayalam), Konjenbam Sarita Sinha (Manipuri), Riju Devi (Nepali), Manjula Devi (Tamil), Sujatha Patwari (Telugu) and Revathi Poovaiah (Kodava).

The inaugural session concluded with a Vote of Thanks proposed by Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar.

The first session devoted to paper presentation was on 'Women's Poetry; Present Indian Context', with Dr. Prameela Madhav of

Kannada in the chair. Mrs. Maini Mahanta (Assamese), Dr. Pramila Madhav (Kannada), Smt. Wahengbam Kumari Chanu (Manipuri) and Prof. K. Suneetha Rani (Telugu) presented their papers.

The second session was a Multilingual Poet's Meet with Dr. Vasundhara Bhupathi, Kannada writer, in the chair. Mrs. Tulika Chetia Yein (Assamese), Mrs. Rashmi Choudhuri (Bodo), Mrs. Sarita Mohan Verma (Malayalam), Ms. Ningthoujam Somola Devi (Manipuri), Mrs. Binashree Kharel (Nepali), Ms. Kanimozhi G (Tamil), Ms. Himaja (Telugu) read out their poems.

In the evening, there was a presentation of women folk songs in Kannada rendered by Dr. Appagere Thimmaraju and his troupe.

The third session held on 17th March, 2018, devoted to short story reading was chaired by Mrs. Manikuntala Bhattacharya. Writers Mrs. Jwishiri Boro (Bodo), Mrs. Nemichandra (Kannada), Mrs. S. Sitara (Malayalam), Mrs. Niru Sarma Parajuli (Nepali), Mrs. Kalai Selvi (Tamil), and Mrs. P. Satyavathi (Telugu) read out their short stories.

The fourth session was a Multilingual Poet's Meet, with Mrs. Savithri Rajeevan (Malayalam) in the chair. Writers Mrs. Anupama Basumatary (Assamese), Ms. Dhanshri Swargiary (Bodo), Dr. Anasuya Kamble (Kannada), Ms. Birala Singha (Manipuri), Ms. Kutti Revathi (Tamil), Mrs. Renuka Ayola (Telugu) and Mrs. Mallika Shetty (Tulu) read out their poems.

Dr. Siddalingaiah, Kannada poet and Convener of the Kannada Advisory Board, felt that it was a wonderful meet and every poem was like an oracle and reflected the plurality of Indian Culture.

Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar in his Vote of Thanks, thanked all the participating writers

and the President, Secretary and other staff of the Akademi.

Northeast and Southern Writers' Meet

30 & 31 March 2018, Visakhapatnam

A Northeast and Southern Writers' Meet was organized on 30 and 31 March, 2018 at Visakhapatnam. Dr. Kalipatnam Rama Rao, eminent Telugu fiction writer, in his Inaugural address began with the remarks that the very aim of writing is sharing of ideas.

Dr. Lakshmi Nandan Bora, eminent Assamese writer who presided over the session dealt with Indian writing in English, and said that Indian writers have a natural talent to write in different languages.

Prof P. Adeshwara Rao, the Guest of Honor shared his academic and translation activities of Aluri Bairagi's works *The broken Mirror* and *Voices from the Empty Well*, into English, and *Prema Kavithalu* into Telugu.

The Inaugural session was followed by a multilingual poetry reading session, chaired by Sri K. Siva Reddy, and Bipul Jyothi Saikia (Assamese), Rituraj Basumatary (Bodo) B.R. Lakshmana Rao (Kannada), V. Madhusudanan Nair (Malayalam), Thoudam Netrajit Singh (Manipuri), Abir Khaling (Nepali), Azhagiriya



L-R: K. Sreenivasarao, Prof. P. Adeshwara Rao, Dr. Kalipatnam Rama Rao, Dr. Lakshmi Nandan Bora, Sri K. Siva Reddy

Periyvan (Tamil), Aslam Hassan (Urdu) and K. Sanjeeva Rao (Telugu) read out their poems.

After lunch, the First Session started with the papers presentation on “My World My Writing”. Chaired by Prof. S. M. Iqbal. In this session Arindam Barkatakya (Assamese), G. Bijoykumar Shamra (Manipuri) Su. Venugopal (Tamil) and Rama Teertha (Telugu) presented their papers.

The second session of the first day was a poetry session chaired by Sri L.R. Swami, noted Telugu writer and Akademi award winning translator. Jiban Narah (Assamese), Uthirsar Khungar Basumatary (Bodo), C.Ravunny (Malayalam), Lenin Khumancha (Manipuri), Subhash Sotang (Nepali), B. Meenakshi Sundaram (Tamil), Perugu Ramakrishna and Siriki Swaminaidu (Telugu) presented their poems. Swaminayudu’s poem in English was presented by poet and translator Jagaddhatri.

On second day Sri K.P. Radhakrishnan, Programme Officer, welcomed the writers and Sri Vasireddi Naveen to chair the third session on Short Story Reading. Sri Naveen opined that present short story, though a genre practised by many, needs to be honed with more care and creative depth. Bonti Senchowa (Assamese), S.Diwakar (Kannada), Payipra Radhakrishnan (Malayalam) Heisam Budichandra Singh (Manipuri) Harish Moktan (Nepali), Subra Bharath Manian (Tamil) and Chintakindi Srinivasa Rao (Telugu) rendered English translation of their stories. Concluding remarks were delivered by Sri Naveen. Translator Kalluri Syamala said a translators’ list should be prepared and we should focus on translation into Indian languages.

The Fourth and last session of the two-day meet was on Poetry Reading. It was chaired by Prof. Siddalingaiah, Convener, Kannada Advisory Board. Poets Kushal Dutta (Assamese), Sopna Baglaru (Bodo), H.N. Arathi (Kannada),

L.R.Swami and R.Sreelatha Varma (Malayalam) Imojet Ningonbam (Manipuri) Jogendra Darnal (Nepali) Thenmozhi Das (Tamil) and Balasudhakar Mouli (Telugu) presented their poems.

Purvottari: Festival of Letters

April 21-23, 2017, Guwahati

Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with Assam Sahitya Sabha and The North-East Foundation, Guwahati organized a North-Eastern Literary Festival on April 21-23, 2017 at NEDFI Convention Hall, Dispur, Guwahati, Assam. Abani Mohan Saharia, Chandan Sarma, Mema and Purnima Bongjung, welcomed the guests on behalf of Assam Sahitya Sabha and North East Foundation. Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi chaired the inaugural session. Ratan Thiyam, in his speech, said that he was deeply honored to be associated with Sahitya Akademi and the Literary Festival which helped to establish communication and understanding among the people from different parts of this country. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi talked about using the word ‘festival’ in the context of literature and also said that we must be careful while dealing with different languages and cultures of our country. He also expressed his happiness that the festival is organised in the Northeast and felt that Sahitya Akademi should give importance to each and every problem associated with writers, producing books or publishes. Dr. Dhrubajyoti Borah chose the topic ‘Future of Literature in Today’s Globalised World’ for his speech and saluted all the prominent writers and expressed his gratitude for making him a part of the event. Bhalchandra Nemade, the eminent Marathi writer, talked about the importance of the pluralistic approach to deal with diversities in India. After that, the vote of thanks was conferred by Dr. Paramananda

Rajbongshi, General Secretary, Assam Sahitya Sabha. The first session was titled 'Necessity of Mother Tongue' and was chaired by Bhalchandra Nemade. Dr. Dhrubajyoti Borah, Mogalli Ganesh, Shafi Shauq and Malchand Tiwari were the participants in this session. The topic of the second session was 'Future of Novels Now' and was chaired by Yeshe Dorjee Thongchi. Sangeeta Bahadur, Mohan Kumar, Visharam Gupte and Santosh K. Tripathy were the speakers for this session. The third session of Purvattari was a short story reading and was chaired by P. Sivakami, eminent Tamil writer and activist. Jhumur Panday read out her Bengali short story 'Cheleta Amar Rupantar' and also read its translated version in Hindi 'Dibyank'. The second reader was Dayanad Pandey, an eminent Hindi writer, who recited his short story in Hindi titled 'Swapnoka Cinema'. The third reader Mogalli Ganesh, an eminent Kannada writer read the translated version of his short story in English 'One Day at the Lodge'. Fourth reader, Naresh Chandra Naik, a Konkani writer read out the translated version of his short story titled 'Garden of Aura' and lastly, H. Budhichandra, a Manipuri writer, read out the English translation of his short story titled 'Beyond the Bottom'. The fourth session of Purvottari was Kavi Anuvadak and Arun Kamal, eminent Hindi writer, presented his poems written in Hindi which were then translated and read out by Karabi Deka Hazarika and Anupam Kumar. The fifth session was Poets' Meet where ten poets from different parts of India were invited to present their poems. This session was chaired by Subodh Sarkar, an eminent Bengali writer and poet. The poets who recited their poems were Karabi Deka Hazarika (Assamese), Dilip Das (Bengali), Shanti Basumatary (Bodo), Vijaya Thakur (Dogri), Anant Mishra (Hindi), Tika Bhai (Nepali), Bharti Sadarangani (Sindhi), Salma (Tamil), Yakoob (Telugu) and Ajay Pandey 'Sahaab'

(Urdu). They read out their poems in their own languages as well as the translated versions. The sixth session was a discussion on the topic 'Translation: Uniting the Culture' and was chaired by H. S. Shivaprakash. The participants were Pradip Acharya, Subhro Bandopadhyay, Santosh Alex, Vinit Shukla and Malchand Tiwari. The topic of the seventh session was 'Writing: Passion or Profession' and was chaired by Esther David. The speakers for this session were N. Kirankumar, Hari Bhatnagar, Chhaya Mahajan, Devipriya and Vikram Sampath. The eighth session was a short story reading and was chaired by Dr. Nagen Saikia. The participants were Manika Deves (Assamese), Panna Trivedi (Gujarati), Simran Dhaliwal (Punjabi) and Kuppili Padma (Telugu). The ninth and last session was Poets' Meet and was chaired by Shafi Shauq. The participants were Bijoy Sankar Barman (Assamese), Ratneswar Basumatary (Bodo), Agnishekhar (Hindi), Haris Rashid (Kashmiri), Arunabh Saurabh (Maithili), N. Bidyasagar Singha (Manipuri), Chandra Bhushan Jha (Sanskrit), Mansingh Manjhi (Santali), Azhagiyasingar (Tamil) and Wasif Yaar (Urdu).

Namdev Festival

May 9-10, 2017, Mumbai

Saint Namdev Festival was celebrated on 9-10 May 2017 in Mumbai. The festival was arranged in Surendra Gavaskar Hall of Mumbai Marathi Granth Sangrahalaya, Dadar, Mumbai, in which the scholars and thinkers from various parts of India were invited to present their views on the religious movement of Saint Namdev. At the outset, Krishna Kimbahune, welcomed the dignitaries and guest writers. Dr K. Sreenivasarao in his welcome address explicated the essentiality of celebrating the Saint festivals all over India. He described that Saint Namdev and Saint Dnyaneshwar were

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the pioneers to form and develop the Bhakti movement in Maharashtra.

The inaugural address was delivered by Prof. Bhalchandra Nemade, Convener, Marathi Advisory Board. He described that Namdev was preceded by Saint Poets in Modern India. He carried the tradition of Nath sect to modern age, thus keeping the culture and its values alive. Manjeet Singh, a renowned Punjabi litterateur delivered the key-note address. He considered Saint Namdev's teaching a landmark in national integration. The First session on Social Reality in Sant Namdev's Era and Bhakti Tradition was chaired by Tribhuvannath Rai. The papers were presented by Rohini Mokashi-Punekar and Eknath Pagar.

The second session on Sant Namdev and his contemporary Saint Poets was chaired by Bhalchandra Nemade while Govind Bhalerao from Marathi, Ranju Bala (Punjabi), Rajesh Pandya (Gujarati) and Tribhuvannath Rai (Hindi) presented their papers.

The third session, in which scholars from Punjab were invited, was chaired by Rawail Singh. The session was devoted to Shri Guru Grantha Sahib and Sant Namdev.

The festival continued on 10 May 2017 with the fourth session dedicated to Sant Namdev in Hindi Poetry. Ramji Tiwari chaired the session while Udaypratap Singh and Karunashankar Upadhyay presented their papers.

The fifth session chaired by Rohini Mokashi-Punekar was devoted to 'Sant Namdev's Poetry: Spiritual, Devotional and Philosophy'. Vilas Khole and Vidyasagar Patangankar presented their papers.

Vasant Patankar chaired the sixth and final session of the festival and Aruna Dhare delivered her thoughts on 'The importance of Sant Namdev's different forms of poems'. The last session of the festival can be considered a

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sincere tribute to Sant Namdev in which H.B.P. Bharatbuva Maharaj Naseerabadkar and his group of kirtankars rendered the Kirtans with a very devotional attitude. Dr Bhalchandra Nemade proposed a vote of thanks and concluded the festival.

Avishkar: The Golden Voyage of Assamese Lyrical Literature

9 June 2017, Nagaon, Assam

Sahitya Akademi organized an Avishkar programme on The Golden Voyage of Assamese Lyrical Literature in collaboration with Sanskritik Gosthi Kallol on 9 June 2017 at Nagaon. Dr Mihir Kumar Sahoo welcomed the gathering on behalf of the Sahitya Akademi. Prof. Karabi Deba Hazarika conducted the programme. She talked about Bhakti in Sangeet and about the impact of musical numbers on human life. Moving on to Sankardeva, she spoke of how he composed geet and drama in Brajawali, a hybrid language which is easily understood in North India. Speaking on Madhavdeva, she mentioned that he was more of a 'Kavi'(poet) than a Guru and not only his Borgeets but also his Naam Ghosha can be sung as songs. Talking about Anirudhdeva, she clearly mentioned that there was no class difference in the religion he preached and the artists presented a musical citation from Anirudhdeva. With the coming of Lakshminath Bezbaruah a lot of songs were written, which can be divided into a number of groups like the "Baijee geet" and "Dakuwal geet". From Ambikagiri Rai Chowdhury's "Aji banduki chonde" to "Chira senehi mor bhaxa janani" of Mitraddev Mahanta, a whole journey was completed. After that there was a traversal from Kamalananda Bhattacharya to Jyoti Prasad Agarwalla to Parbati Prasad Baruah, Rudra Baruah, Keshav Mahanta, Nirmal Prabha Bordoloi, Navakanta Barua, finally reaching Dr. Bhupen Hazarika.

A Tribute to Ashokamitran – The Master Storyteller

June 23, 2017, Chennai

'A Tribute to Ashokamitran – The Master Storyteller' was organized on 23 June 2017 at Sahitya Akademi Chennai office. Sri A.S. Ilangovan, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, paid tributes to the doyen of Tamil literature and mentioned that Ashokamitran was a friend, philosopher and guide to Sahitya Akademi, Sri Sa. Kandasamy, Sahitya Akademi Awardee, chaired the programme. He presented an erudite write-up that narrated the great qualities of Ashokamitran as a man and an artist. Sri Amshan Kumar paid glowing tributes to the person who radiated humanism in his approach and raised Tamil fiction to the international level. Sri Amshan Kumar said that Ashokamitran was very helpful when the documentary film was made on him and wished that the film would project his fellow writer, friends and his near and dear ones as well. Sri Azhagiya Singar recounted his conversations, meetings, friendship with and admiration for his short stories like *Rickshaw*, *Vimochanam* and *Athai*. The documentary film on Ashokamitran directed by Sri Amshan Kumar was screened in the function. Mrs. Ashokamitran, his sons Sri Ramakrishnan and Sri Ravi Muthukumaran, also graced the programme and shared their memories of an endearing husband and fostering father.

Gramalok

28 June 2017, Sirivara Village

In association with Jnana Gangothi Shikshanan Samsthe, a Gramalok programme on 'Children's Literature in Kannada' was organized in Sirivara village on June 28, 2017. Smt. Shashikala, Head Mistress of Montessori

School, Manvi welcomed the participants and audience. Sri Chandrakant Karadalli, noted children's writer, inaugurated the programme and talked about inculcating the values in children at a very young age. Sri Neelkantappa Goud, eminent educationist, was the chief guest and talked about the ways of improving the standard of education in villages. Sri Gurunath Reddy chaired the session. Sri Sarjashakara Haralinatha and Sri K. Shivalingappa Handihalu talked about 'Children's Literature in modern times' and 'Translation of Children's Literature', respectively. Students of the village shared their experiences. In the valedictory session, Sri Chidanand Sali, eminent writer, delivered the valedictory address, Sri Venkoba Kotnekal was the chief guest and Smt. Vijayalaxmi of the Trust chaired the session. Sri Sali urged the parents to ensure children have multitude of experiences. Media persons, literature lovers and students from different schools participated in the programme.

Tribute to C. Narayana Reddy

12 July 2017, Hyderabad

A Tribute to Dr. C. Narayana Reddy, eminent Telugu poet was organized. In his opening remarks S. P. Mahalingeshwar expressed his grief over the demise of the eminent litterateur and threw light on his great achievements in the field of Telugu literature. Dr. N. Gopi, Convener of Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, described Cinare as a poet of exceptional qualities. Then followed the tributes of prominent poet-writers Nandini Sidha Reddy, S. V. Sathyanarayana, C. Mrinalini, Ammani Venugopal, Seela Veerraju, Devipriya, Mamidi Harikrishna, Deshapathi Sreenivas, Tirumala Sreenivasacharya, R. Vasunandan and Pathipaka Mohan. While many of the speakers recalled their fond memories pertaining to their personal relationship with Cinare,

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others harped upon the versatile nature of the deceased poet's merits, both as a man of literature and a human being. The perseverance with which Cinare held top positions and how he had excelled in running them was explained by others. The fact that Cinare had always egged on many a budding poet to keep penning poems was made known by some speakers. S. P. Mahalingeshwar and Dr. N. Gopi gave their concluding remarks

All India Santali Poetry Festival

August 11-12, 2017, Andhra Pradesh

An All-India Santali Poetry Festival was organized on August 11-12, 2017 at Visakhapatnam, Oyanjan, Andhra Pradesh. Dr. K. Sreenivasarao formally welcomed the gathering and talked about the efforts being made by the Akademi for the promotion of Santali and other tribal languages. Sri Arjun Charan Hembram, who was the Chief Guest of the programme, highlighted the journey of Santali poetry. Sri Madan Mohan Soren delivered the keynote address, while the presidential address was delivered by Sri Gangadhar Hansada, Convener, Santali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi. In the inaugural session, Sri Raghunath Hembram, Smt. Joba Murmu, Sri Aditya Mandi and Sri Ramchandra Tudu recited their respective poems. Dr Devendra Kumar Devesh conducted the programme and gave a formal vote of thanks. There were also two poetry sessions in which women and young poets were invited for poetry recitation. Under the chairmanship of Dr. Damyanti Besra, distinguished Santali poet and critic, Smt. Shobha Hansda, Smt. Maina Tudu, Smt. Sumitra Marandi, Smt. Yashoda Murmu, Ms. Sonali Hansda and Smt. Sushila Mardi recited their poems. The young poets' poetry session was chaired by Sri Parimal Hansda, in which Sri Durgacharan Murmu, Hajam Baske,

Mithun Tudu and Anil Majhi recited their poems.

Rajbhasha Week

September 14-21, 2017, New Delhi

Eminent writer and linguist Sri Premalal Sharma was invited to inaugural Rajbhasha Week from 14 to 21 September at Sahitya Akademi, Delhi. Expressing his deep resentments towards Indian languages in his speech, he said that Indian languages are failing to give employment. He advocated the students suffering from the neglect of Indian languages in Staff Selection Commission and Public Service Commission Exams. Prempal Ji believes that we can't just rely on Article 343. We need to bring Hindi and other Indian Languages ahead through united efforts. He also praised the role of Akademi in upgrading the Indian Languages. Secretary Dr. Sreenivasarao welcomed Prempal Ji by gifting him a book. He said that government officials should use Hindi as much they can.

The programme was coordinated by Devendra Kumar Devesh. In the end Deputy Secretary, Renu Mohan Bhan thanked the chief guests and the members of the Akademi.

On 15 December 2017 students of the fourth class of Bal Bharti school, Noida, visited the Akademi Library and also participated in the workshop on Hindi language and literature. Dr Devendra Kr. Devesh and Sri Kumar Anupam addressed the children. They informed the children about the development of Hindi and various writers in the Language and also answered the queries of the children. A film on the famous Hindi poet Ramdhari Singh Dinkar was also shown to the children.

Five competitions were organized during the Rajbhasha Week viz. Unicode typing, dictation, extempore speech, translation, and essay writing. The judge for the extempore speech was Director of the Ministry of culture

Sri Ved Prakash Gaur.

On 20 September 2017 a Hindi workshop was organized in which 30 staffs participated. Retired Deputy General Manager Dr. R. P. Joshi was present as a specialist. Air India was also invited.

Concluding session was organized on 21 September 2017. On the occasion, President, Sahitya Akademi, Prof. Vishwanath Tiwari and famous poetess of Dogri, Smt. Padma Sachdeva were invited. Bengali poet Subodh Sarkar was also present in the event. Smt Padma Sachdeva presented cash prize to the winners. In the beginning of the event "Alok" a rajbhasha magazine by the Sahitya Akademi was launched by the Secretary. In the welcome speech, the Secretary said that one day the country will have to accept Hindi as the National language. Each of our employees needs to be adept in Hindi. President Prof. Tiwari said that, "English flourished in India as a language of occupation. Now when it's our rule we should accept Hindi as our official language".

Sri Anupam Tiwari proposed a vote of thanks.

Rajbhasha Manch

September 15, 2017, New Delhi

Dr. B. B. Kumar, eminent Linguist, sociologist, thinker and the chairman of ICSSR launched the book titled, "Devnagari Lipi Andolan ka Itihas" by Ramnirajan Parimalendu on the occasion of Hindi Week (15-21 September, 2017) published by the Sahitya Akademi. Dr. Parimalendu introduced his books in the beginning of the session. He said that, "This book is an achievement of my life. I wrote this book after the hard work of 30-35 years." In his brief speech he presented a lot of information regarding Devnagari Lipi Andolan. Chief guest Dr. B. B. Kumar said

that he has a deep connection with Devnagari script. Being away from any script means being away from its rich literature. Devnagari is one of the most scientific scripts. He further said that Devnagari script is related to Brahmi script. Ancient literatures of China and Japan are in Brahmi. In the end Dr. Sreenivasarao gave his vote of thanks and said that Devnagari can be helpful in understanding the literature from Kashmir to Kanyakumari. The programme was coordinated by Devendra Kumar Devesh.

Festival of India in Israel

November 5-10, 2017, Tel Aviv and Jerusalem

A delegation of India writers was sent to Israel to participate in the Festival of India in Israel to commemorate the 70th anniversary of India's Independence and the 25th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Israel. The delegation comprised Smt. Esther David, Prof. Jatindra Nayak, Smt. Sheela Rohekar, Sri Paul Zacharia, Prof. Margaret Zama and Dr. K. Sreenivasarao.

The members of the literary delegation were received on 5 November 2017 at the Tel Aviv airport by Mr. Meir Ouziel, Director, Hebrew Writers Association, which was the local host of the writers' delegation and an official from Indian Embassy. At a dinner held on 5 November, eminent Israeli writers interacted with Indian writers. The next day the members of the Indian delegation visited the house of Hayim Nahman Bialik, the national poet of Israel, who had played a key role in reviving Hebrew as a spoken and written language used for daily life in Israel. Here they had an opportunity of meeting A. B. Yehoshua, one of Israel's greatest living novelists. At a meeting held in the premises of Hebrew Writers Association, India's Ambassador to Israel, Mr. Pavan Kapoor warmly welcomed the delegates to Israel and expressed his sincere hope that

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the bonds between Israel and India would be strengthened. In their presentations, Indian writers focused on the close historical association of the Jews with India and how they were always treated with deep affection and respect by the host country. Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, thanked the Israeli hosts and the officials of the Indian Embassy in Israel for bringing the writers of the two countries together. On the following day, Indian delegates went to Jerusalem, where they visited the Holocaust Museum. Later during the day, they interacted with Israeli authors and Mr. Yaron Meir, Head of South-East Asia and Mr. Yossef Levi, Head of International Cultural Relations, both from Ministry of Israeli Foreign Office at the Jerusalem Museum. On 8 November, at the office of the Hebrew Writers Association, members of the Indian delegation were invited to talk about their own work and their current literary preoccupations. Israeli authors present at the meeting shared their experiences. The event was coordinated by Ms. Hava Pinhas-Cohen, poet, editor and literature lecturer. In the evening of the same day, several eminent Israeli writers were invited to the office of the Hebrew Writers' Association. On the fifth day of the visit, the Indian delegates met a few Israeli scholars, writers and Dr. Anju Kumar, Deputy Chief of Mission, at the dinner hosted by India's Ambassador to Israel. The office-bearers of the Hebrew Writers Association bade the Indian writers' delegation a warm farewell on 10 November.

Workshop for Young Writers

December 5-6, 2017 at Chennai

In collaboration with Tamil Nadu Open University, Chennai, a two-day workshop for young writers was organized on December 5-6, 2017 at the university premises. Dr. R.

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Kamarasu, veteran writer and scholar, along with Prof. Bharathi Balan, coordinated the workshop. Sri A.S. Ilangovan, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, Chennai, explained the theories of poetic justice and poetic license and advised the writers to take up cardinal truths and change them with their artistic ability into valuable literary pieces. Dr. M. Bhaskaran, Vice-Chancellor, TNOU, mentioned that the workshop will mould the short story writers to become successful fictionists. Dr. V. Iraiyanbu, I.A.S., delivered the special address.

Prof. Vijayan, Registrar, TNOU, quoted Jayakanthan regarding the aim of fiction. Sahitya Akademi Award winner Sa. Kandasamy, veteran writer S. Ramakrishnan, short story expert and media personality, Sri Maalan, journalist and editorial expert, Sri Venkatesh and noted scholar Prof. K. Nachimuthu delivered lectures.

Many young writers such as Veerapandiyan, Adhiraman, Jayaprakash, Kannikovil Raja, Manushi, Gunasundari, Maria Leema, C.R. Manjula, Tamizhmathi, Giritha, Anitha Paramasivam actively participated in the workshop. Prof. Vaiyapuri proposed the vote of thanks.

Seminar and Workshop

March 27-28, 2018

In collaboration with AMITY University, Haryana, a National Seminar-Cum-Workshop was organized on Revitalization of Heritage Languages and Culture with Special Reference to the NER on 27-28 March 2018 at AMITY University campus, Haryana. The scholars who presented papers in the Seminar were Prof. K.V. Subbarao, Sri Meiraba Takhellambam, Prof. Madhumita Borbora, Prof. Sabaree Mitra, Dr Tariq Khan, Dr Sriparna Das, Dr Varoon Bakshi, Dr Sujoy Sarkar, Mr Ladly Mukhopadhyay, Ms Swati Chakraborty, Dr Esha Jainti, Prof. Udaya Narayana Singh, Dr Kakoli Dey, Dr Rajarshi

Singh, Dr Sunil Kr Mishra, Lepcha. The chairs of the session comprised of Prof. Shailendra Kr Singh, Dr H. K. Jha, Prof. Rajeev Mishra, Prof. Kiran Devendra and Prof. Esha Jainti. Dr Suvro Parui from Amity School of Languages delivered the vote of thanks. Prof. P.B. Sharma, Vice-Chancellor, Amity University Haryana, and Prof. Sanjay K. Jha, Director, ASLA, Amity University Haryana, were also part of the Seminar.

International Women's Day Celebrations

March 8, 2018

A symposium on The Challenges to Women's Freedom Today & Poets' Meet was organized on 8 March 2018 in Delhi on the occasion of International Women's Day. In the inaugural session, Dr. K. Sreenivasarao welcomed the participants and gathered audience. He informed that Sahitya Akademi has specially designed literary programmes for women writers like Nari Chetna, Asmita, Women Writers' Meet, etc.

Dr. Nasera Sharma, eminent Hindi writer in her inaugural address emphasised on the contribution of women during the ancient period.

Prof. Krishna Manavalli, noted Kannada scholar while presenting her keynote address highlighted the global perspectives of women's freedom.

The inaugural session was followed by two discussion sessions on the topic of the symposium, which were chaired by Varsha Adalja (Gujarati) and K.R. Meera (Malayalam) respectively. Arupa Patangia Kalita (Assamese), Samragnee Bandopadhyay (Bengali), Kumud Sharma (Hindi), Hema Naik (Konkani), Gayatribala Panda (Odia), Sindhu Mishra (Sindhi) and Pratibha (Punjabi) presented their

views on the subject.

The last session of the programme was a poetry reading session, which was chaired by Mamta Kalia, eminent Hindi writer. Dhirjyu Jyoti Basumatari (Bodo), Usha Kiran 'Kiran' (Dogri), Nitu (English/Hindi), Rukhsana Jabeen (Kashmiri), Rani Jha (Maithili), Linthoi Ningthoujam (Manipuri), Sumati Lande (Marathi), Subhadra Bomzon (Nepali), Sharda Krishna (Rajasthani), Rita Trivedi (Sanskrit), Sumitra Soren (Santali), Sakthi Jothi (Tamil), Mandarapu Hymavathi (Telugu) and Shahnaz Nabi (Urdu) read their poems in original followed by translations in Hindi/English.

Mrs. Renu Mohan Bhan, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi conducted the programme and in the end thanked all the participants and the august gathering for making the women's day programme a success.

Foundation Day

March 12, 2018

The 64th Foundation Day of the Akademi was celebrated on 12 March 2018 in Delhi and the Foundation Day Lecture was organized, 6th in the series. Dr. Karan Singh, eminent writer and scholar delivered the lecture on The Four Pillars of Learning. Welcoming the distinguished guest, Dr. K. Sreenivasarao said the series was inaugurated by Prof. Kapila Vatsyayan followed by Hon'ble Justice Sri M.N. Venkatachaliah, Prof. S.L. Bhyrappa, Dr. Shashi Tharoor and Dr. Sitakant Mahapatra. He also talked about the evolution and growth of the Akademi over six and a half decades. He said that Sahitya Akademi is the home for writers and because of their continuous and strong support, the Akademi is on the way of progression.

Dr. Karan Singh's lecture was on "The four pillars of learning". He said that, Learning to

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Dr Karan Singh delivering Foundation Day Lecture

Know, Learning to do, Learning to be and Learning to live together at the four strong pillars of the society. He observed that he chose the topic since all literature is learning. On Learning to Know – he said that unless we ask questions, we would not learn. On Learning to Do, he stated that education without the capacity to do something is meaningless. Efficient and clear learning is necessary to obtain skills and one should do things with such obtained skills, dedication and enthusiasm to complete meaningful learning. On Learning to Be, he said that human life should not be a meaningless journey, it is an exciting gift and an unique opportunity. On Learning to Live Together, he specified that realisation of full potential at the individual and social level is possible only

with the emergence and establishment of the value based system. He urged people to raise their consciousness to a higher level, move towards learning to be and identify yourself. He concluded his speech by stating that the earth had nurtured us and we should not destroy it but nurture it back. Dr. Karan Singh's lecture was followed by an interactive session with the gathered audience. The Secretary concluded the session and thanked Dr. Karan Singh for such a stimulating lecture. He requested Dr. Karan Singh to send the Akademi this lecture, which could be published for the benefit of wider readership.

Symposium on What Freedom Means to Me

August 15, 2017, New Delhi

To commemorate the 70th anniversary of Indian Independence Sahitya Akademi organized a literary event “What Freedom Means to Me” featuring eminent scholars from various fields at the Akademi premise in New Delhi on August, 15, 2017. Eminent scholars, Chitra Mudgal, Abhay Kumar Dubey, Anant Vijay, Asghar Wajahat, Geetanjali Shree, Keki N. Daruwala, Leeladhar Mandoli, Maalan V. Narayanan, Nalini, Prayag Shukla, Sharan



L-R: Asghar Wajahat, K. Sreenivasarao, Chitra Mudgal, Geetanjali Shree, Keki N. Daruwala

Kumar Limbale and Sheroj Singh Bechain participated in the forum and shared their valuable ideas.

All the participants observed a minute's silence as a mark of honour to Dr. Chandrakant Devtale, distinguished Hindi Poet, who passed away on 14 August, 2017. Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary Sahitya Akademi welcomed the participants and audience. He stated that the idea of freedom has been in existence for a very long time. Abhay Kumar Dubey stated that freedom means freedom of thought and one should think independently. Anant Vijay presented his views on issues related to Independence to freedom of expression and the problems related to freedom of expression have not been thoroughly studied in our political scenario. Asghar Wajahat emphasized that writers and authors should be given independence to express their ideas that they wish to express and share. Geetanjali Shree stated that the breath is the freedom and observed that freedom is our ancestral right and it can manifest in our life integrally. Changing dynamics in the contemporary scenario has created a critical situation for us to think about freedom. Keki N. Daruwala stated that according to him freedom is being born in a rational place, in a rational society. We need some sanctity and we need to be very tolerant people. There should be some rationality around us. This is very free country and a fine country. Leeladhar Mandoli emphasized on the process of learning freedom through the indigenous methods. He further expressed that there should be freedom from hunger, poverty, illiteracy and inequality. Maalan V. Narayanan observed that freedom has many faces and it means different things to different persons. According to him freedom means not forcing one to do what one does not want to do. Ms. Nalini stated that we live in the breath of freedom and we have to fight

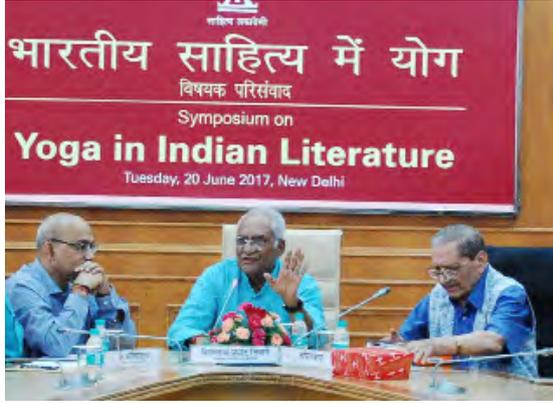
to keep the independence intact. According to Prayag Shukla, nature itself teaches the real essence of freedom and it also teaches how to be independent and threats to freedom arise due to the persons who have the power with them. Sharan Kumar Limbale stated that to live the life with an equal status is freedom. He observed that brotherhood is also another form of freedom. Sheroj Singh Bechain felt that universal freedom for all the communities is important. He observed that social condition of the marginalized groups and talked about the contribution of Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar to create a developed India. Ms. Chitra Mudgal summed up the views on freedom expressed by different speakers and presented her view that dissatisfaction about freedom has arisen in the contemporary scenario and freedom means to live in a continuous developed form of consciousness as well as to respect the thought of others. A brief interactive session followed the presentations.

International Yoga Day Celebrations

June 20-21, 2017, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi celebrated International Yoga Day on June 20-21, 2017 at the Akademi premises in New Delhi.

Sahitya Akademi organized a daylong symposium on 'Yoga in Indian Literature' on June 20, 2017. The symposium was inaugurated by eminent writer and scholar, Prof. Kapil Kapoor. Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, presided over the session while Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the welcome address and unveiled the theme of the symposium. In the first session chaired by Dr Vishnu Dutt Rakesh, eminent scholar and writer, three eminent scholars, Dr J. Sreenivasamurthy, Dr Veer Sagar Jain and Sri Vijaypal Shastri, presented their



L-R: K. Sreenivasarao, Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari and Kapil Kapoor

papers on 'Yoga in Sanskrit Poetry and Poetics,' 'Yoga in Samanic Literature' and 'Yoga in Goraknath Literature' respectively. Dr Vishnu Dutt Rakesh talked about 'Yoga in Vaishnava Literary Works.' In the second session chaired by Prof H.S. Shivaprakash, distinguished poet, playwright and scholar, three eminent scholars, Dr Jawahar Baxi, Dr G.B. Harish and Dr Jagannath Dash, presented their papers, 'Impact of Yoga on Western Indian Literature,' 'Yoga in Tantric Literature' and 'Yoga in Eastern Indian Literature' respectively. Prof H.S. Shivaprakash talked about 'Yoga in South Indian Literature.'

On 21 June 2017, Sahitya Akademi organized a dem-lec by Yoga experts in the Akademi offices in New Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Bengaluru and Mumbai. All the staff of the Akademi participated and performed various asanas such as Padmasana, Chakrasana, Surya Namaskar, Vajrasana and also practiced various types of pranayama. The experts imparted various concentration techniques to the staffs in all the offices. The Secretary in New Delhi, Regional Secretaries and Officers-in-Charge at

other offices of the Akademi delivered lectures on the importance of Yoga in day to day living, in personal and professional lives. The staff participated enthusiastically. On both the days, Akademi Book Exhibition was organised.

Symposium on Interrelation between Nature and Literature

September 19, 2017, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a Symposium on "Interrelation between Nature and Literature" on September 19, 2017 at New Delhi. At the beginning of the programme, Mrs. Renu Mohan Bhan, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the participants and audience. The key-note address was delivered by Sudhanshu Chaturvedi, renowned Hindi-Malayalam-Sanskrit scholar. Vidyabindhu Singh, eminent folk-art specialist and scholar, delivered the presidential address, where he said that Indian folklore is incomplete without nature. He presented many examples from Awadhi which supported the relationship between nature and literature. The speakers were Puran Chand Tandon, Dipti Tripathi, Sadique and Ashok Kumar Jyoti. Puran Chand Tandon talked about the various aspects of nature in Hindi literature while Dipti Tripathi talked about Sanskrit literature, Sadique about Urdu and Ashok Kumar Jyoti spoke about the portrayal of nature in relation to societal concerns. Ramakant Shukla, eminent Sanskrit writer and scholar, was the chief guest of the programme and he spoke about the relation between nature and health. Sri Anupam Tiwari, Editor, Sahitya Akademi, coordinated the programme.

List of Programmes organized by Sahitya Akademi in 2017-2018

Asmita

Bengali women writers

24 April 2017, Kolkata

Manipuri women writers

27 April 2017, Imphal

Bodo women writers

29 April 2017, Guwahati

Odia women writers

14 May 2017, Paradip, Odisha

Assamese women writers

07 August 2017, Dibrugarh, Assam

Kashmiri women writers

16 October 2017, Anantnag, J&K

Kashmiri women writers

02 November 2017, Gul, J&K

Urdu women writers

17 November 2017, Delhi

Women writers from different Indian languages

10 January 2018, Delhi

Avishkar

Banamali Maharana and his troupe

14 May 2017, Paradip, Odisha

Sanskritik Goshti Kallol

09 June 2017, Nagaon, Assam

Songs of Dinu Bhai Pant by Brijmohan and his troupe

18 June 2017, Jammu

On Galpo Nat with Bhupen Hazarika Centre

08 August 2017, Dibrugarh, Assam

Poetry reading programme in All India Writers' Festival

23-24 December 2017, Chandigarh

Awards

Bhasha Samman

25 April 2017, Vijayawada

14 September 2017, Mangalore

4 October 2017, Pune

31 January 2018, Delhi

Bal Sahitya Puraskar

14 November 2017, Vijayawada

Yuva Puraskar

22 December 2017, Chandigarh

Translation Prize

28 December 2017, Agartala

Sahitya Akademi Award

12 February 2018, Delhi

Bal Sahiti

Contemporary Children Literature with eminent children writers

21 November 2017, Delhi

Present challenges of Children Literature

13 January 2018, Delhi

Bhashantara Anubhav

A multilingual poetry reading programme in original followed by recitation of translation of the same poetry in different languages

11-12 May 2017, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

Book Discussion

K.A. Satchidanandan on Monograph on Chudamani

26 April 2017, Chennai

Malashri Lal, Kavita Sharma, Samit Basu and Deepa Agarwal on An Anthology of Indian Fantasy Writing

01 May 2017, Delhi

Dr M.R Arasu on monograph on Konguvelir
29 May 2017, Chennai

Sri Tiruppur Krishnan on Draupathiyin Kathai

15 June 2017, Chennai

Smt. Idaimaruthur Ki. Manjula on Siruvar Kathai Kalanjiam (an anthology of children's short stories)

29 June 2017, Chennai

Sri Sa Kandasamy on Aaseervaathathin Vannam (Tamil translation of Akademi's Award winning Assamese novel)

06 July 2017, Chennai

Dr. Rama Gurunathan on Kaditha Ilakkiyam (an anthology of letters)

13 July 2017, Chennai

Sri B. Veeramani, on Therntthedutha Sanga Ilakkiya Paadalgal (an anthology of selected songs from Sangam literature)

20 July 2017, Chennai

Dr. Prakash Manu on Bharatiya Bal Sahitya
24 August 2017, Delhi

Mithilak Lok Katha Sanchayan

02 September 2017, Siharsa

Prof. M. Muthuvel on Thaninayaga Adigalaarin Thamizhiyal Pangalippu

21 September 2017, Chennai

K. Satchidanandan, Sumanyu Satpathy, Animesh Mohapatra and Malashri Lal on K. Ayyappa Paniker: Selected Essays and Natabara Samantaray: A Reader

26 September 2017, Delhi

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M. Sampath Kumar on Telugu Naavalgal Sirukathaigal (Tamil translation of Akademi's award winning Telugu book)

26 October 2017, Chennai

Prof. Indra Nath Choudhuri, on Sahitya Sidhant Vimarsh

30 October 2017, Delhi

Dr. N. Avadaiyappan on N. Subbu Reddiyarrim Panmugam

22 November 2017, Chennai

S.M. Sangavai on Tamizhaga Yappu Marabuppavalargalin Paththguppu

21 December 2017, Chennai

Sri Pradeep Pant on Pahar Gatha and Sri Vinod Tiwari on Sarveshwar Dayal Saxena Rachna Sanchayan

08 January 2018, Delhi

Ramdarash Mishra on Kavita Mein Dilli and Yogendranath Sharma "Arun" on Pitambardutt Barthwal Rachna Sanchayan

12 January 2018, Delhi

Prof. Tamilselvi on Vaddarathanai Kathai Ulagam (Tamil translation of Kannada stories)

29 January 2018, Chennai

Sri Pulavar Ve Prabhakaran on Panmuga Nokkil Ayothidasa Pandithar

15 March 2018, Chennai

Creative Writing Workshops

Youva Creative Writing

24-25 April 2017, Goa

Kissa-O-Kalam: The Speaking Pen, workshop for children

22-26 May 2017, Delhi

How to increase reading habits in children

21-22 June 2017, Rajsamand

Poetry writing

14-16 November 2017, Madhubani, Bihar

Sanskrit Natya Lekhan Karyashala

26-28 November 2017, Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh

For Young Writers

5-6 December 2017, Chennai

Cultural Exchange Programmes**Indian writers' delegation to Brazil to participate in Festival of India in Brazil**

04-10 September 2017

Indian writers' delegation to Thailand to participate in a Seminar on Influence of Sanskrit & Pali on South East Asian Languages under the Festival of India.

23-27 September 2017)

Indian writers' delegation to Spain to participate in a Sanskrit Round Table Conference as part of India's 70th independence anniversary celebrations

17-21 October 2017

Indian writers' delegation to Israel to participate in a Festival of India to celebrate 70th Anniversary of India's Independence

05-10 November 2017

Russian writers' delegation to India

30 January-11 February 2018

Israeli writers' delegation to India

12-18 February 2018

Documentary Film Screening**Thakazhi Sivasankara Pillai**

15 June 2017, Chennai

Ashokamitran

23 June 2017, Chennai

Indira Goswami

06 July 2017, Chennai

D. Jayakanthan

13 July 2017, Chennai

Indira Parthasarathy

20 July 2017, Chennai

Mahasweta Devi

08 March 2018, Bengaluru

Festival of Letters

(12-19 February 2018, New Delhi)

Inauguration of Sahitya Akademi Exhibition 2017

12 February 2018, Rabindra Bhavan Lawns, Delhi

Presentation of Sahitya Akademi Awards 2017

12 February 2018, Kamani Auditorium, Delhi

Writers' Meet

13 February 2018, Rabindra Bhavan Lawns Delhi

Indo-Israeli Writers' Meet

13 February 2018, Akademi Auditorium, Delhi

Samvatsar Lecture by S.L Bhyrappa

13 February 2018, Rabindra Bhavan Lawns, Delhi

Seminar on Oral and Tribal Literature and All Tribal Poets' Meet

13-14 February 2018, Rabindra Bhavan Lawns, Delhi

Symposium on Media and Literature

14 February 2018, Rabindra Bhavan Lawns, Delhi

Face-to-Face (Interviews with select 2017 Sahitya Akademi Award Winners)

14 February 2018, Rabindra Bhavan Lawns, Delhi

Yuva Sahiti: The New Harvest
15 February 2018, Rabindra Bhavan Lawns,
Delhi

**A 3-day National Seminar on 70 Years of
Indian Independence: Literary Portrayals**
15-17 February 2018, Akademi Auditorium,
Delhi

**Purvottari: North East and Northern
Writers' Meet**
16 February 2018, Rabindra Bhavan Lawns,
Delhi

Symposium on 'Translation as Retelling'
16 February 2018, Rabindra Bhavan Lawns,
Delhi

**Spin-A-Tale (Poetry and story writing
competition for the children)**
17 February 2018, Rabindra Bhavan Lawns,
Delhi

**Symposium on the Role of Publishers in
Indian Literature**
17 February 2018, Rabindra Bhavan Lawns,
Delhi

Foundation Day

**Dr. Karan Singh (eminent scholar and
writer)**
12 March 2018, New Delhi

**Erode Tamilanban, Kuzha. Kathiresan and
Gowri Kirubanandan**
12 March 2018, Chennai

**H.S. Venkatesha Murthy (Eminent Kannada
Writer)**
12 March 2018, Bengaluru

A documentary film on P.T. Narasimhachar
12 March 2018, Bengaluru

Ramdas Bhatkal (Marathi Scholar)
12 March 2018, Mumbai

**Samik Bandyopadhyay (Eminent Critic of
Indian Art, Theatre and Film)**
12 March 2018, Kolkata

Gramalok

Village Bisfi, Dist. Madhubani, Bihar
With Maithili poets
27 May 2017

**Village Nuwagaon, Dist. Mayurbhanj,
Odisha**
With Santali poets
28 May 2017

Village Samalsar, Moga, Punjab
With Punjabi poets
30 May 2017

Village Raipur, Dist. Jammu, J&K
With Dogri poets
16 June 2017

**Village Dharampur, Dist. Darbhanga, Bihar
In collaboration with Maithili Sahitya Sodh
Sansthan, Dharampur**
With Maithili poets
24 June 2017

**Village Dhalbhumgarh, Jharkhand in
collaboration with Jaher Than Committee,
Jamshedpur**
With Santali poets
25 June 2017

**Vidyavahini Vasathi Shaale, Sirivara Village,
Manvi Taluk, Raichur Dist. Karnataka in
collaboration with Jnanagangotri Education
Trust, Sirivara Village on Children
Literature**
28 June 2017

**Village Charichhak, Dist. Parikud, Odisha
In collaboration with Sri Kamaleswar Dev
Kala Sahitya Sanskruti Parishad**
01 July 2017



Village Haidergarh, Barabanki, Uttar Pradesh

03 July 2017

Village Kanglatomgbi, Dist. Imphal West, Manipur in collaboration with Siroi Sirjana, Kanglatongbi

09 July 2017

Village Kanjhari, Jalon, Uttar Pradesh

19 July 2017

Village Jagmamapur, Jalon, Uttar Pradesh

20 July 2017

Bahour Commune, Pondicherry in collaboration with Bharathi Government Higher Secondary School

24 July 2017

Village Garhi, Dist. Udhampur, J&K

Meri Mitra Mandali

28 July 2017

Village Babai, Haushangabad, Madhya Pradesh

29 July 2017

Village & Teh. Paithan, Dist. Aurangabad in collaboration with Pratishthan Mahavidyala

30 July 2017

Village Mahishi, Saharsa, Bihar

30 July 2017

Village Baromile, Mayurbhanj, Odisha

30 July 2017

Village Doddaballapur, Bangalore Rural Dist. In collaboration with Government First Grade College on Environment, Inscriptions and Kannada Folk

05 August 2017

Village Shahpur, Dist. Burhanpur, Madhya Pradesh

05 August 2017

Village Savli, Dist. Vadodara in collaboration with Sri B.K. Patel Arts & Smt. L.M. Patel Commerce College

10 August 2017

Village Pedaprolu, Krishna Dist., Andhra Pradesh, Presentation of Bihu Songs and Dance of Assam

14 August 2017

Village Khultabad, Dist. Aurangabad, Maharashtra in collaboration with Marathwada Sahitya Parishad

24 August 2017

Village Mallayyanapura, Dist. Chamarajnagar, Karnataka, Kathe Kelu Magu – Kathe Helu Magu (Children's Literature in Kannada)

14 September 2017

Village Rah Solyute, Dist. Rajouri, J&K in collaboration with Rashtriya Mahila Kavya Manch, Dogri Poets' Meet

23 September 2017

Village Kalasapur, Chikkamangalur Taluk, Karnataka in collaboration with Ajjampura G. Suri Prathistana Trust

03 October 2017

Village Mundur, Palakkad Dist. Kerala Yuvaprabhath Vayansala, Mundur

29 October 2017

Village Baida, Sherghati, Gaya, Bihar

05 November 2017

Village Kareli, Dist. Narsinghpur, Madhya Pradesh

26 November 2017

Village Tarsattari, Goa

10 December 2017

Mappilappattu – Literature and Folk Tradition

5 January 2018, Kerala

**Village Manaray Toll, Dist. Samastipur,
Bihar**

With Maithili poets
07 January 2018

Kathasandhi

**Dr. Debraj Lenka, eminent Odia fiction
writer**

08 April 2017, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

Smt. Kusum Ansal, eminent Hindi writer

20 April 2017, Delhi

Sri Krushnat Khot, eminent Marathi writer

23 April 2017, Mumbai

Sri M. Rajen Singh, eminent Manipuri writer

21 May 2017, Imphal, Manipur

**Smt. Malti Joshi, renowned Hindi and
Marathi writer**

10 June 2017, Delhi

**Dr. Bhagirath Mishra, eminent Bengali
writer**

27 June 2017, Kolkata

Sri Asaram Lomte, noted Marathi writer

07 July 2017, Thane (west), Maharashtra

**Dr. Phul Goswami, eminent
Assamese writer**

06 August 2017, Guwahati

Ms. Jaya Jadwani, noted Sindhi writer

20 August 2017, Nagpur, Maharashtra

Sri Ahmad Rasheed, eminent Urdu writer

13 October 2017, Delhi

**Dr. Vadrevu Veeralakshmi Devi, noted
Telugu writer**

29 October 2017, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh

**Dr. Mohd. Shafi Zarl, noted Kashmiri
writer**

02 November 2017, Gul, J&K

Sri Adon Ringong, noted Nepali writer

04 November 2017, Kalebung, West Bengal

Dr. Shashi Pathania, noted Dogri writer

25 November 2017, Udhampur, J&K

**Sri Govind Chandra Majhi, eminent Santali
writer**

03 December 2017, Mayurbhanj, Odisha

Dr. Gobinda Basumatary, noted Bodo writer

17 March 2018, Kokrajhar, Assam

Kavi Anuvadak

Arun Kamal, Eminent Hindi Writer

Sameer Tanti, noted Assamese Translator

22 April 2017, Dispur Assam

Dr. Manmohan, noted Punjabi writer

Ms. Nirupama Dutt, well-known translator

24 September 2017, Chandigarh

Kavisandhi

Sri Jnan Pujari, eminent Assamese poet

28 April 2017, Guwahati, Assam

Sri Kh. Rajen Singh, eminent Manipuri poet

20 May 2017, Imphal, Manipur

**Dr. Sambhunath Chattopadhyay, eminent
Bengali poet,**

30 June 2017, Kolkata

Dr. V.R. Vidyarthi, eminent Telugu poet

02 July 2017, Hanamagonda, Telangana

Ms. Anishetti Rajitha, eminent Telugu poet

02 July 2017, Hanamagonda, Telangana

**Dr. Kotla Venkateshwara Reddy, eminent
Telugu poet**

09 July 2017, Mahabubnagar, Telangana

Sri Gopinath Brahma, eminent Bodo poet

29 July 2017, Doimukh,
Arunachal Pradesh



Dr. Balachandran Chullikkad, eminent Malayalam poet

30 July 2017, Bengaluru

Dr. Nandini Sidha Reddy, eminent Telugu poet

30 July 2017, Hyderabad

Dr. Sitaram, eminent Telugu poet

30 July 2017, Hyderabad

Prof. Suresh Rituparna, noted Hindi poet

04 August 2017, Delhi

Dr. Eethakota Subba Rao, noted Telugu poet

08 August 2017, Vizag, Andhra Pradesh

Sri Arun Babani, noted Sindhi poet

27 August 2017, Pune

Sri Asharaju, eminent Telugu poet

28 August 2017, Hyderabad, Telangana

Dr. Nityananda Nayak, eminent Odia poet

28 August 2017, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

Sri Sudhama (A. Venkata Rao), eminent Telugu poet

29 August 2017, Hyderabad, Telangana

Sri Bandla Madhava Rao, eminent Telugu poet

20 September 2017, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh

Prof. Ratan Lal Hangloo, eminent Urdu poet

29 September 2017, Allahabad

Sri G.N. Gauhar, eminent Kashmiri writer

07 October 2017, Charare Shareif, J&K

90th Anniversary of visit of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore to Siam and 70th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between India and Thailand.

16 October 2017, Delhi

Sri Ali Saida, eminent Kashmiri writer

16 October 2017, Anantnag, J&K

Sri Mohd. Shabaaz Rajoravi, noted Kashmiri poet

04 November 2017, Rajouri, J&K

Sri Keval Chandra Lama, noted Nepali writer

05 November 2017, Kurseong, West Bengal

Sri Vijay Verma, noted Dogri writer

26 November 2017, Jammu, J&K

Language Conventions

Tiwa Language Convention

22-23 September 2017, Tezpur, Assam

Koshli-Sambalpuri Language Convention

2-3 December 2017, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

Literary Forums

Influence of the Epics on Modern India and South Asian Writing

3 April 2017, Delhi

Goutam Buddha and Odia Literature

9 April, 2017, Bhubaneshwar

Literary Forum

13 April 2017, Delhi

Indian Writing in English: New Genres, New practices

13 April 2017, Delhi

Swachhta Pakhwada and Literary Programmes

17-30 April 2017, Bengaluru

World Book Day

23 April 2017, Bengaluru

World Book Day

23 April 2017, Salem

Noted Konkani writers

23 April 2017, Goa

Noted Sanskrit writers

24 April 2017, Delhi

Observance of Swachhta Pakhwada – Guest Lecture

25 April 2017, Chennai

An Evening with a Critic

26 April 2017, Imphal

Kamakshiprasad Chattopadhyay

27 April 2017, Kolkata

Release of Malayalam translation of Daatu

29 April 2017, Bengaluru

Kannada Literature and Prospects of e-publishing at Bangalore

4 May 2017, Bengaluru

A Hundred different Lamps: Rabindra Nath Tagore, the Polymath

08 May 2017, Delhi

Dr. Narendra Mohan, well-known Hindi poet and playwright read his short play Amber Habshi

12 May 2017, Delhi

Gandhi and Odia Literature

14 May 2017, Bhubaneswar

Noted Kashmiri writers

17 May 2017, Delhi

Evaluation of Translated Hindi Novels in Manipuri

20 May 2017, Imphal, Manipur

Manipuri Lyrical Literature

21 May 2017, Imphal, Manipur

Pathapatu and Childrens Stories

30 May 2017, Malappuram, Kerala

Thikkodian's Contribution to Malayalam Literature and Drama

06 June 2017, Calicut, Kerala

The Life and Works of Birinchi Kumar Baruah

09 June 2017, Nagaon, Assam

Folklore in Manipuri Literature

10 June 2017, Imphal, Manipur

H. Kanhailal Singh's contribution to Manipuri Dramatic Literature

10 June 2017, Imphal, Manipur

An Evening With Prabhat Bora

11 June 2017, Guwahati

The Place of Women in Myth and Legend

12 June 2017, Nambol, Manipur

Book release of Madhavrao Sapre Rachna Sanchayan

19 June 2017, Delhi

Yoga Day

20 June 2017, Kolkata

Reading of Bengali and Assamese Poetry and Comparative Discourses

21 June 2017, Guwahati, Assam

Observance of Yoga Day

21 June 2017, Chennai

International Yoga Day

21 June 2017, Bengaluru

Literary Forum

23 June 2017, Delhi

A tribute to Askhokamitran – The Master Storyteller

23 June 2017, Chennai

Literary Forum on Jadumani Mahapatra

30 June 2017, Nayagarh, Odisha

Literary Forum on Godabarish Mahapatra

30 June 2017, Balugaon, Odisha

Literary Forum on Zikir Zari and Azan Peer

8 July 2017, Balighat, Golaghat, Assam



Literary Forum: Kaviyarangu

12 July 2017, Calicut, Kerala

Literary Forum: A Tribute to Dr C. Narayana Reddy, eminent Telugu writer

12 July 2017, Hyderabad

Noted Konkani writers

16 July 2017, Ponda, Goa

Literary Forum on Globalisation – Telugu Poetry

17 July 2017, Tirupati

Noted Kashmiri writer

19 July 2017, Doda, Jammu & Kashmir

Literary Forum on the life and works of Pandit Oinam Bogeshwor Singh

21 July 2017, Imphal, Manipur

Literary Forum on Impact of Sanskrit Literature on Contemporary Manipuri Literature

21 July 2017, Imphal, Manipur

Literary Forum on Post War Manipuri Dramatic Literature

22 July 2017, Imphal, Manipur

Literary Forum

27 July 2017, Vadodara, Gujarat

Literary Forum

27 July 2017, Delhi

Telugu Poet Kundurthi

31 July 2017, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh

Literary Contributions of Poets Abdul Rahman, Inquilab and Na. Kamarasan

3 August 2017, Chennai

Adhunika Malayalakavithayile Samskarika Bahutwam

9 August 2017, Muvattupuzha, Kerala

With Ms. Adeena Karasick, a noted poet from Canada

9 August 2017, Delhi

Feminist Approaches to Drama

16 August 2017, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

Contemporary Trends in Tamil and Hindi Literature

16 August 2017, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

Malayalam Novel and Odayil Ninnu by P. Keshava Dev

17 August 2017, Kozhikode, Kerala

Sahitya Loka

17 August 2017, Karkala

Literary Forum

17 August 2017, Delhi

On R.P. Sethupillai

18 August 2017, Papanasam, Tamil Nadu

Swachhata Pakhwada

18 September 2017, Kolkata

Sindhi writers

20 August 2017, Nagpur, Maharashtra

Sindhi writers

27 August 2017, Pune

Life and Works of Hijam Guno

3 September 2017, Imphal, Manipur

Science and Literature

3 September 2017, Imphal, Manipur

Contribution of Lai Haraoba in Contemporary Manipuri Literature

4 September 2017, Imphal, Manipur

Agrarian Novels in Telugu Literature

4 September 2017, Tirupati

Literary Forum

7 September 2017,
Kundapur, Karnataka

Historical Epics in Telugu (Ancient and Modern)

10 September 2017, Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh

Literary Forum

13 September 2017, Kutch, Gujarat

Experiments in Telugu Free Verse

15 September 2017, Nandyal, Andhra Pradesh

Contribution of Muslim Writers for the development of Telugu Literature

16 September 2017, Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh

Indian Epics

19 September 2017, Madurantakam, Tamil Nadu

Guest lecture on Nature and Literature: Inter-relations (Swachhta Pakhwada)

20 September 2017, Chennai

Literature: Interrelation between Environment and Literature

21 September 2017, Kolkata

Khwaja Ahmad Farooqui on the occasion of his Birth Centenary

22 September 2017, Delhi

Navala Rachayitrulu Abhyudaya Dhrukpadham

22 September 2017, Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh

Literature: an Inter-relation

26 September 2017, Bangalore

Life Versus Writings

4 October 2017, Malappuram, Kerala

Syncretic Culture in the Poetry of T. Ubaid

6 October 2017, Calicut, Kerala

Sindhi writers

6 October 2017, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh

Kashmiri writers

7 October 2017, Charare Sharief, J&K

Literary Forum

12 October 2017, Delhi

125th Birth Anniversary : Pt. Vishambharnath Sharma Kaushik

14 October 2017, Kanpur, UP

Kashmiri writers

16 October 2017, Anantnag, J&K

Evolution of Malayalam Story Telling

20 October 2017, Trivandrum, Kerala

Cinema and Literature Poets' Meet

22 October 2017, Kakching, Manipur

M. Gopalakrishna Iyer

23 October 2017, Chennai

Influence of Bolshevik Revolution of Russia on Telugu Society and Literature with Special Reference to Women

31 October 2017, Warangal, Telangana

Kashmiri writers

2 November 2017, Gul, J&K.

Kashmiri writers

2 November 2017, Gul, J&K.

Exploring the Modern Bengali Short Story

3 November 2017, Silchar, Assam

Vigilance Awareness Lecture

3 November 2017, Chennai

Lecture on Vigilance Week

30 October-3 November 2017, Bengaluru

Vigilance Awareness Week with Hemanta Kr. Mohanty

3 November 2017, Kolkata

Kashmiri writers

4 November 2017, Rajouri, J&K.

Poets Meet with Raul Zurita

9 November 2017, Delhi



On So. Murugappa

11 November 2017, Karaikudi, Tamil Nadu.

Literary Forum

15 November 2017, Mumbai

Book release of Lalan Shah Fakir ke Geet

16 November 2017, Kolkata

On Jagdish Chandra Mathur

17 November 2017, Delhi

Modern Tamil Poetry

30 November 2017, Trichy, Tamil Nadu

Kannada poets

12 December 2017, Bangalore

Literary Forum

17 December 2017, Mumbai

Literary Forum

22 December 2017, Delhi

Husnul Jamal and Badharul Muneer

28 December 2017, Kondotti, Kerala

25 years of Globalisation and Rayalaseema Literature

28 December 2017, Anantpur, Andhra Pradesh

Selected Epic/Long Poems in Telugu

29 December 2017, Kalyandurg, Andhra Pradesh

Khongjom Prava and Manipuri Literature

30 December 2017, Agartala

Hundred years of Manipuri Literature

31 December 2017, Agartala

Telugu Short Stories Reflecting Occupational Crafts

27 January 2018, Hindupuramu, Andhra Pradesh

Book Release of Arignar Anna

8 February 2018, Chennai

Kannada Fiction, Poetry, Criticism and Present Scenario

17 February 2018, Arasikere, Karnataka

Bodo Short Story Reading

18 February 2018, BTAD, Assam

Literary Forum

28 February 2018, Chennai

Dr. H.S. Venkateshmurthy, eminent Kannada writer spoke on Kannada classic Maledegula by P.T. Narasimhachar

12 March 2018, Bengaluru

Noted Tamil writers spoke on Development of Indian Literature

12 March 2018, Chennai

Poets' Meet on the occasion of World Poetry Day

21 March 2018, Chennai

Loka: The Many Voices

Loka: The Many Voices with MMDMC

27 April 2017, Imphal

Loka: The Many Voices: Mogua Tamsa performance by Sri Badal Sikdar and his troupe

11 May 2017, Bhubaneswar

Loka: The Many Voices

9 June 2017, Aizwal, Mizoram

Loka: The Many Voices: Bihu Songs and Dance from Assam

13 August 2017, Vijayawada

Loka: The Many Voices with Srijan Utsav

5-6 November 2017, Purulia

Loka: the Many Voices: Bahuwa Dance performance with a scholarly lecture on the dance form

12 November 2017, Sivasagar, Assam

Loka: The Many Voices: North Bengal Tribal Dance performance on Fishing

28 January 2018, Howrah, West Bengal

Loka: The Many Voices: Traditional Fugddo folk dance form and the related songs were presented along with a scholarly lecture

4 March 2018, Cochin

Loka: The Many Voices: Women Folk Songs of Karnataka performance by Appagere Thimmaraju & Troupe

16 March 2018, Bangalore

Loka: the Many Voices

22 March 2018, Delhi

Meet the Author

Smt. Prativa Satpathy, eminent Odia writer

9 April 2017, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

Dr. Jivan Namdung, Eminent Nepali writer

29 April 2017, Darjeeling, West Bengal

Ms. Shefalika Verma, eminent Maithili and Hindi writer

4 May 2017, Delhi

Dr. Chennaveera Kanavi, eminent Kannada poet

18 June 2017, Dharwad, Karanataka

Sri N. Shivdas, eminent Konkani writer

29 June 2017, Goa

Sri Gyan Singh Shatir, eminent Urdu writer

4 July 2017, Delhi

Sri Poomani, eminent Tamil writer

5 August 2017, Chennai

Sri Sarat Kumar Mukhopadhyay, eminent Bengali writer

23 August 2017, Kolkata

Dr. N. Kalimohan Singh, eminent Manipuri writer

2 September 2017, Imphal, Manipur

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Dr. Jetho Lalwani, distinguished Sindhi scholar

10 September 2017, Ahmedabad

Sri Mohan Gehani, eminent Sindhi writer

6 October 2017, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh

Dr. Na. Mogasale, eminent Kannada writer

27 October 2017, Mangalore, Karnataka

Dr. Madhu Acharya 'Ashawadi', eminent Rajasthani writer

28 October 2017, Kolkata

Sri Imran Shah, eminent Assamese writer

12 November 2017, Sivasagar, Assam.

Sri Narottam Palan, distinguished Gujarati writer

25 February 2018, Junagarh, Gujarat

Mulakat

Young Hindi Writers

25 April 2017, New Delhi

Young Manipuri writers

26 April 2017, Imphal

Young Assamese writers

7 July 2017, Jorhat, Assam

Mulakat with Young Writers

20 March 2018, Bikali

Multilingual Meets

Literary Festival

28-29 September 2017, Singrauli, Madhya Pradesh

North-East Literary Festival

11 November 2017, Guwahati

Multilingual Poets' Meet

15-16 November 2017, Mizoram

Visva Bangla Sahitya Utsav

24-25 November 2017, Kolkata

Literary Festival

24-25 November 2017, Kolkata, West Bengal

One day All India Multilingual Poets' Meet

19 March 2018, Kokrajhr

Multilingual Poets' Meet

21 February 2018, Delhi

Nari Chetna

Manipuri women writers

26 April 2017, Imphal

Reception of Women in Assamese Fiction

27 April 2017, Gouripur

Odia women writers

26 August 2017, Bhubaneswar

Kashmiri women writer

16 October 2017, Anantnag, J&K

Nepali women writers

5 November 2017, Kurseong, West Bengal

Women writers from different Indian languages.

13 November 2017, Delhi

Nari Chetna at Boroma College

17 February 2018, Baroma

On the occasion of International Women's Day.

8 March 2018, Bangalore

Nari Chetna

8 March 2018, Mumbai

Nari Chetna

8 March 2018, Kolkata

Nari Chetna

8 March 2018, Chennai

National Book Week

November 14-21: The Akademi celebrated National Book Week 2017 in Delhi and all its Regional Office at Bengaluru, Kolkata, Mumbai and sub-office at Chennai and organised book exhibitions as well as literary programmes at Mangalore, Karnataka and Tanjore Tamilnadu.

Mangalore, Karnataka

15: Poets' Meet with noted Kannada writers at St. Aloysius College, Mangalore.

16: Literary Forum programme where eminent Kannada playwrights read their short plays at St. Aloysius College, Mangalore.

17: Short story reading programme with noted Kannada short story writers a St. Aloysius College, Mangalore.

18: Bal Sahiti: recitation of children poetry at St. Aloysius College, Mangalore.

19: Book Culture: A Discussion programme at St. Aloysius College, Mangalore.

20: Valedictory programme: St. Aloysius College, Mangalore.

Tanjore, Tamilnadu

National Book Week Programme 14-21 November 2017, Thanjavur. Documentary films on eminent writers were screened.

Documentary Film on D. Jayakanthan

15 November 2017, Thanjavur

Documentary Film on Thakazhi Sivasankara Pillai

16 November 2017, Thanjavur

Documentary Film on Neela Padmanaban

17 November 2017, Thanjavur

Documentary Film on Vaikom Muhammad Basheer

18 November 2017, Thanjavur

Documentary Film on Kuvempu

19 November 2017, Thanjavur

Nari Chetna with Kalaiselvi, Lakshmi, Manushi and Revathi

20 November 2017, Thanjavur

North-Eastern and Regional Meets

Purvottari: Festival of Letters

21-23 April 2017, Dispur, Assam

East and Northern Writers' Meet

13-14 May 2017, Darbhanga, Bihar

North Eastern Literary Festival

22-24 May 2017, Guwahati, Assam

Northeast and Southern Writers' Meet

13-14 August 2017, Vijayawada

North Eastern Literary Festival

11 November 2017, Guwahati, Assam

North East and Southern Writers' Meet

19 November 2017, Lakshadweep

Purvottari: with writers from North East and Northern Indian languages

22 November 2017, Delhi

North East and Southern Writers Meet

7-8 December 2017, Kochi, Kerala

Kavi Sammelan (Northeast and Southern poets' Meet)

8 January 2018, Vijayawada

Purvottari: North Eastern Writers' Meet

9 January 2018, Kochi, Kerala

Purvottari: Multilingual readings by North-eastern and Northern writers

9 January 2018, Delhi

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North East Indigenous Literary Festival

10-11 January 2018, Agartala, Tripura

North East and Northern Writers' Meet

16 February 2018, Agartala, Tripura

North East and Southern Women Writers' Meet

16-17 March 2018, Bangalore

Discussion meeting-cum-workshop on Revitalization of Heritage languages and Culture under North Eastern Indian Languages-Srijana

27-28 March 2018, Gurgaon, Haryana

North East and Western Writers' Meet

29-30 March 2018, Mumbai

Northeast and Southern Writers' Meet

30-31 March 2018, Visakhapatnam

People and Books

Ms. Benu Mishra, eminent artist

28 April 2017, Guwahati

Sri Sanwar Agarwal, reputed publisher

30 April 2017, Darjeeling

N. Rajmohan Singh

12 June 2017, Imphal, Manipur

Prof. Pradip Bhattacharya, eminent scholar delivered a lecture on Jaiminiya Mahabharata

8 August 2017, Delhi

Prof. Syed Shahid Mehdi, former Vice-Chancellor, Jamia Milia Islamia

13 October 2017, Delhi

Prawasi Manch

Ms. Sneh Thakore, noted Hindi writer from Canada

5 May 2017, Delhi



Rajbhasha Events

Rajbhasha Week

14-21 September 2017, Delhi

Rajbhasha Manch

15 September 2017, Delhi

Rajbhasha Hindi Day Celebration

18 September 2017, Bengaluru

Rajbhasha Hindi Day Celebration

18 September 2017, Mumbai

Rajbhasha Hindi Day Celebration

18 September 2017, Chennai

Rajbhasha Hindi Day Celebration

20 September 2017, Kolkata

Seminars

Indian Literature and Social Development: Theory, Practice and Community Impact

5-7 April 2017, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan: Life and Works

14-15 April 2017, Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh

Trends of Santali Novels

23-24 April 2017, Jamshedpur,
Jharkhand

Birth Centenary Seminar : Pt. Brajobehari Sarua

25 April 2017, Imphal

Standardization of Indian Nepali Language

29-30 April 2017, Darjeeling

Sant Namdev

9-10 May 2017, Mumbai

Language, Literature and Gender

18-19 May 2017, Delhi

Contemporary Manipuri Poetry and its Perspectives

18-19 May 2017, Imphal, Manipur

Birth Centenary seminar : R.K. Surjaborosana Singh

11 June 2017, Imphal, Manipur

Birth Centenary : Dinu Bhai Pant

17-18 June 2017, Jammu

Birth Centenary : Gajanan Madhav Muktibodh

27-28 June 2017, Rajnandgaon, Chattisgarh

Representing Marginality: Texts and Traditions of Eastern Indian Languages

29-30 June 2017, Guwahati, Assam

Birth Centenary : Annapurna Maharana

2 July 2017, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

Sri Ramanujadarshan : Relevance in the Modern Era on the occasion of 1000th Birth Anniversary of Sri Ramanujacharya

7-8 July 2017, Tirupati

Birth Centenary : Narayana Gangopadhyay

13-14 July 2017, Kolkata

Folk Literature in West and North East Indian languages

14-15 July 2017, Panaji, Goa.

Paths and Schools of Thoughts in Modern Kannada Literature

17-18 July 2017, Harugeri, Karnataka

Birth Centenary Seminar : Rajkumar Sanahal Singh

23 July 2017, Imphal, Manipur

Socio-Cultural Perspective of Literary Adaptation of Malayalam Films

9-10 August 2017, Malappuram, Kerala

Inshaallah Khan 'Insha'on the occasion of his 200th Death Anniversary.

18 August 2017, Hyderabad

Birth Centenary : Trilochan

21-22 August 2017, Delhi

Dogri Short Stories

25-26 August 2017, Jammu

Birth Centenary : Brajakishore Dhal

27 August 2017, Dhenkanal, Odisha

Contribution of AIR (Akashwani) to Telugu Language and Literature

28-29 August 2017, Hyderabad, Telangana

Adhunik Maithili Sahityik Shilpi

2-3 September 2017, Saharsa, Bihar

Birth Centenary : M.K. Indira

9 September 2017, Thirthahalli, Karnataka

Birth Centenary : Gopal Chhotray

17 September 2017, Bhunbaneswar

Sense of Displacement in Eastern Indian Literature

18-19 September 2017, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

Gouthama Buddha : Reflections in Telugu Literature and Culture

20-21 September 2017, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh

Influence of Sanskrit & Pali on South East Asian Languages under Festival of India in Thailand.

23-27 September 2017, Thailand

Symposium on Modern Trends in Bodo Short Story and Drama

25 September 2017, Karbi Anglong, Assam

Translating Contemporary Indian Drama on the occasion of International Translation Day

30 September 2017, Shillong, Meghalaya

Tamil Poetics and Prosody

4-5 October 2017, Puducherry

Yug Ka Sahitya Shastra

14-15 October 2017, Ahmedabad

Birth Centenary : N. Khelchandra Singh

23-24 October 2017, Imphal, Manipur

Changing Patterns of Punjabi Diasporic Literature

26-27 October 2017, Chandigarh

Medieval Vaishnav Literature

26-27 October 2017, Delhi

Post-Modern Trends in Bodo Literature

5 November 2017, Assam

Samar Sen

6-7 November 2017, Kolkata

Ismail Meerathion the occasion of his 100th Year of Death Anniversary

11 November 2017, Delhi

Birth Centenary : Upendranath Jha 'Vyas'

12-13 November 2017, Patna, Bihar

Birth Centenary : Kartar Singh Duggal

13-14 November 2017, Delhi

The Evolution of Children Literature

15-16 November 2017, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh

Sagar Sahitya: from Kachchh to Konkan

2-3 December 2017, Bhuj, Gujarat

Birth Centenary : Sunaram Soren

3 December 2017, Mayurbhanj, Odisha

Seminar on Folklore

4-5 December 2017, Jammu

Birth Centenary : Prabhakar Machave

6 December 2017, Delhi



**Cultural Sensibility and Creativity :
Emerging Trends in Indian Literature**
7-9 December 2017, Wardha, Maharashtra

175 years of Khasi Written Literature
14-15 December 2017, Shillong, Meghalaya

**Birth Centenary : Thokcham Sonamani
Singh**
31 December 2017, Agartala

**Birth Centenary : M. Gopalakrishna
Adiga**
6-7 January 2018, Bengaluru

Artistic Expression in Sindhi Literature
24-25 January 2018, Mumbai

Science, Language and Renaissance
2 February 2018, Tirur, Kerala

**70 Years of Indian Independence: Literary
Portrayals was organised**
15-17 February 2018, Delhi

Baite and their languages
17 March 2018, Aizwal, Mizoram

Symposia

Journey of Unwritten Languages
5 April 2017, Delhi

Goutam Buddha and Odia Literature
9 April 2017, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

Environment, Cleanliness and Literature
26 April 2017, Delhi

**Preservation and Documentation of
Folk-Literature of the Bodos (Meches) of
North Bengal**
22 April 2017, Alipurduar,
West Bengal

**Birth Centenary : Birendra Kumar
Bhattacharya**
22 April 2017, Kolkata, West Bengal
Satyagraha in Indian Literature on the
occasion of 100th year of Champaram
satyagraha, led by Mahatma Gandhi.
27 April 2017, Delhi

Modern Plays in Western Regional languages
4 May 2017, Mumbai

Mir Sonaulah Kreeri
14 May 2017, Kreeri, Jammu & Kashmir

Universalism in Govinda Pai's Literature
19 May 2017, Kasaragod,
Kerala

M.M.T. Ganapati Shastri
25 May 2017, Ernakulam, Kerala

**Patriotism in Contemporary Manipuri
Literature**
9 June 2017, Imphal, Manipur

20th Century Assamese Novel
10 June 2017, Tezpur, Assam

**Nature of Children Literature in Western
Indian Languages**
11 June 2017, Vadodara, Gujarat

**Growing Impact of Urbanisation in Indian
Nepali Literature**
11 June 2017, Shillong, Meghalaya

Nature and Culture in Bodo Poetry
12 June 2017, Udalguri, Assam

**Literary Journalism in Northern Regional
Languages**
17 June 2017, Indore,
Madhya Pradesh

Yoga in Indian Literature

20 June 2017, Delhi

Art and Poetry: Inter-relation

30 June 2017, Nainital, Uttarakhand

Contemporary Telugu Fiction of Telangana

2 July 2017, Telangana

Tradition of Verse Reading

25 July 2017, Varanasi, UP

Literary Luminaries of Telangana

30 June 2017, Hyderabad

Valasa Sahityam

9 July 2017, Mahabubnagar Town

Poems of Moyinkutty Vaidyar

18 June 2017, Malappuram, Kerala

Symposium on Nishat Kishitwari

20 July 2017, Kishtwar, Jammu & Kashmir

**Portrayal of Nature in Gujarati Poetry:
Romantic, Modern and Environmental**

22 July 2017, Vallabh Vidyanagar,
Gujarat

Haricharan Bandyopadhyay

26 July 2017, Kolkata

Changing Trends in Urdu Novels

29 July 2017, Bangalore

Contemporary Bodo Writings

29-30 July 2017, Doimukh,
Arunachal Pradesh

**Reflection of Women Empowerment in
Assamese Literature with Special reference
to Women Writings**

6 August 2017, Guwahati, Assam

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Visakha Zilla Katha Sahithyam

8 August 2017, Vizag, Andhra Pradesh

Sa. Viswanathan (Saavi)

11 August 2017, Chennai, Tamil Nadu

Rajasthani Dalit Lekhan

12 August 2017, Udaipur, Rajasthan

Ishwar Petlikar

12 August 2017, Anand, Gujarat

S.R. Ekkundi's Poetry at S.R.K. B.Ed College

13 August 2017, Raichuru, Karnataka

Rajasthani Women Writing

13 August 2017, Udaipur, Rajasthan

**What Freedom Means to Me on the occasion
of 70th Anniversary of India's Independence**

15 August 2017, Delhi

Birth Centenary : Na. Vanamamalai

22 August 2017, Palayamkottai, Tamil Nadu

Dogri Ghazal

27 August 2017, Jammu

Indian Folk Narratives: Themes and Genres

30 August 2017, Mallapuram, Kerala

**The Reflection of Manipuri Culture on
Contemporary Manipuri Literature**

2 September 2017, Imphal, Manipur

**Folk Literature of East and North-East
Regions: Continuity, Divergences and
Merger Deoghar,**

4 September 2017, Jharkhand

Sindhi Lekhikao Ka Samkaleen Sahitya

10 September 2017, Ahmedabad,
Gujarat



Samkaleen Maithili Upanyask Pravarti
10 September 2017, Ranchi, Jharkhand

**Maharashtra Mein Urdu Adab Ki Maujooda
Surat-e-Haal**
16 September 2017, Pune, Maharashtra

Manishankar Ratnaji Bhatt 'Kant'
16 September 2017, Ahmedabad

Interrelation between Nature and Literature
19 September 2017, Delhi

Maharshi Debendranath Tagore
20 September 2017, Kolkata

Birth Anniversary : Rahul Sanskritayanon
21 September 2017, Delhi

Literature and Media
23 September 2017, Udupi, Karnataka

**Modern Trends in Bodo Short Story and
Drama**
25 September 2017, Karbi Anglong, Assam

**Birth Anniversay : Hindi Navjagaran and
Shivpoojan Sahay**
26 September 2017, Delhi

**Modern Literary Creations of the Kongu
Region**
26 September 2017, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

Aajachi Marathi Kadambari
28 September 2017, Osmanabad, Maharashtra

**Vinodi Konkani Sahitya: Ek Chikitsak
Abhayas**
28 September 2017, Goa

**Pure Tamil Movement and Pure Tamil
Literature**
11 October 2017, Erode, Tamil Nadu

**The Influence of Bhakti Sampradaya on
Marathi Literature**
11 October 2017, Buldana, Maharashtra

Yug Ka Sahityashastra
13-14 October 2017, Ahmedabad

**Punjabi Media Ki Bhasha: Vichardhara
Avam Bunavat**
14 October 2017, Jalandhar, Punjab

**Symposium on Prapanchikarana Nepathyam
-Varthamana Kavithvam**
29 October 2017, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh

National Unity in Indian Literature
31 October 2017, Delhi

**Sub Cultures of Writings: Art and Thought
of O.V. Vijayan**
2 November 2017, Malappuram, Kerala

Travelogue in Manipuri Literature
3 November 2017, Silchar, Assam

**Contribution of Women Dramatist in Indian
Nepali Literature**
4 November 2017, Kalebung, West Bengal

Bharatiya Nepali Sahitya Mein Mithak
5 November 2017, Kurseong, West Bengal

Kuttipuzha Krishna Pillai
7 November 2017, Aluva, Kerala

Literary Contribution of V.G. Bhat
12 November 2017, Honnavar, Karnataka

Present Trends in Manipuri Literature
12 November 2017, Imphal, Manipur

**Contribution of K.P. Narayana Pisharody to
Sanskrit and Indian Theatre Tradition**
17 November 2017, Kalady, Kerala

Thiruloga Seetharam

18 November 2017, Trichy, Tamil Nadu

Subaltern Writings in Modern Tamil Literature

24 November 2017, Villupuram, Tamil Nadu

Echos of Folk Literature in Contemporary Dogri Literature

26 November 2017, Jammu, J&K

Telugu-Kannada Shaiva Sahityam: Social Perspective

27 November 2017, Bangalore.

Sindhi Lekhikaon Ka Samakaleen Sahitya

28 November 2017, Adipur, Gujarat

Birth Centenary : M.P. Sankunni Nair

29 November 2017, Calicut, Kerala

Contemporary Santali One Act Play

2 December 2017, Rairangapur, Odisha

Gujarat Ka Sagar Sahitya

4 December 2017, Kutch, Gujarat

Writings of T.N. Gopinathan Nair

14 December 2017, Edapal, Kerala

Travelogues in Konkani

15 December 2017, Goa

Sanskrit aur Adivasi Sanskriti

16 December 2017, Bhubaneswar

Symposium on Folklore

4 January 2018, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

Karisal Literature (Literature of the Scorched Drought Stricken Land)

6 January 2018, Sattur, Tamil Nadu

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Influence of Folk Literature on Contemporary Marathi Literature

22 January 2018, Amravati, Maharashtra

Literary Criticism

23 January 2018, Kottayam, Kerala

Dinesh Chandra Sen on the occasion of his 150th Birth Anniversary

30 January 2018, Malda, West Bengal

Shivarama Karanth: Life and Works

3 February 2018, Moodubidre, Karnataka

Birth Centenary : Binay Ghosh

6 February 2018, Kolkata, West Bengal

The Challenges to Women's Freedom Today on the occasion of International Women's Day

8 March 2018, Delhi

Bodo Folk songs and Dance

20 March 2018, Bikali, Assam

Maithili Evam Bangla: Paraspar Sambandh

23 March 2018, Kolkata

Through My Window**Dr. Anil Boro spoke on the life and works of Sri Aurobindo Uzir, eminent Bodo poet**

29 April 2017, Guwahati

Sri Naem Kausar spoke on the life and works of Sri Nida Fazli, eminent Urdu poet

29 April 2017, Bhopal

Dr. Kamlesh Dutt Tripathi, eminent Sanskrit scholar spoke on the life and works of Dr. Srinivas Rath, distinguished Sanskrit writer
27 May 2017, Ujjain Madhya Pradesh

Dr. Sudhir Dutta, eminent Bengali writer spoke on the life and works of Dr. Gita Chattopadhyay, eminent Bengali poet
30 May 2017, Kolkata

Dr. Radhavallabh Tripathi, eminent Sanskrit scholar spoke on the life and works of Dr. Bachchulal Avasthi, distinguished Sanskrit writer
27 June 2017, Ujjain Madhya Pradesh

Dr. Kamaluddin Ahmed, noted Assamese writer spoke on the life and works and Dr. Hirendra Nath Dutta, eminent Assamese writer
9 July 2017, Guwahati, Assam

Sri Basheer Bhaderwahi, noted Kashmiri writer spoke on the life and works of Dr. Wafa Bhaderwahi, eminent Kashmiri writer
18 July 2017, Kishtwar, Jammu & Kashmir

Dr. K. Shantibala Devi, well-known Manipuri writer spoke on the life and works of Dr. Arambam Memchoubi Devi
22 July 2017, Imphal, Manipur

Dr. Mohan Singh, noted Dogri writer spoke on the life and works of Vedpal Singh, distinguished Dogri poet
26 August 2017, Jammu

Dr. Prayag Shukla, eminent Hindi writer spoke on the life and works of Mahendra Bhalla
11 September 2017, Delhi

Ms. Seema Gurnani, noted Sindhi writer spoke on the life and works of Sri Lakhmi Khilani, distinguished Sindhi writer
6 November 2017, Adipur, Gujarat

Sri Sushil Begana, noted Dogri writer spoke on the life and works of Sri Surendra Singh Manhas, eminent Dogri writer
25 November 2017, Udhampur, J&K

Translation Workshops

Translation Workshop on Women's Writing
30 June-2 July 2017, Jaipur

Odia-Rajasthani Translation Workshop
14-16 July 2017, Jodhpur, Rajasthan

Tai Phake-Assamese Translation Workshop
7-9 August 2017, Dibrugarh, Assam

Selected poems of regional languages into Gujarati
14-15 September 2017, Bhuj

English-Punjabi Translation Workshop
22-24 September 2017, Chandigarh

Dogri and Kashmiri to Manipuri Translation Workshop
27-29 October 2017, Srinagar, J&K

Malayalam-Kashmiri Translation Workshop
11-13 December 2017, Kochi, Kerala

Oral and Tribal Literature Programmes

Tribal (Ho) Writers' Meet
22 April 2017, Keonjhar

Tribal (Kui) Writers' Meet
10 June 2017, Kandhamal, Odisha

All India Santali Poetry Festival
11-12 August 2017, Vishakhapatnam

All India Tribal Women Writers' Meet
7-8 September 2017, Ranchi, Jharkhand

Seminar on Linguistic Background and Oral Literature of the Karbis
23-24 September 2017, Diphu, Assam

'Gujarati Evam Chhattisgarhi Sahitya Goshti
8 October 2017, Ahmedabad

Symposium on Manipuri Oral Poetry: Performance and Aesthetics
4 November 2017, Sicha, Manipur

Seminar on Contribution of Little Magazines in the Development of Tribal and Dalit Literature
25-26 November 2017, Delhi

National seminar on Tribal Literature in India: Nature and Traditions
25-26 November 2017, Mumbai

Symposium on Tribal Language and Literature of Odisha
5 January 2018, Sambalpur, Odisha

Seminar on Tribal and Oral Literature: Present Scenario
22-23 February 2018, in Delhi

Literary Forum: Dr. Ramdas Bhatkal, eminent Marathi writer spoke on Contemporary Oral Tradition
12 March 2018, Mumbai

Writers' Meets

Dalit Writers' Meet
14 April 2017, New Delhi

Annual Report 2017-18

Urdu Poets' Meet
29 April 2017, Bhopal

Poets' Meet
13 May 2017, Chennai

Young Writers' Meet
27-28 May 2017, Mumbai

Writers' Meet
3-4 August 2017, Shillong, Meghalaya

Two days Bodo Festival
5-6 August 2017, Rangiya

Poets' Meet of the Karbi and other languages of the region
23-24 September 2017, Diphu, Assam

Poets' Meet
22 October 2017, Kakching, Manipur

Eastern Regional Writes' Meet
24-25 October 2017, Imphal, Manipur

Kavi Sammelan (Sharad Rang Utsav)
27 October 2017, Udaipur

Sindhi Young Writers' Meet
5-6 November 2017, Adipur

Kavi Sammelan (Hindi Poets' Meet)
24 November 2017, Delhi

All India Young Writers' Festival
23-24 December 2017, Chandigarh

Two days second Poetry Festival of Young Mizo Poets
18-19 January 2017, Aizwal

Writers' Meet: An Interface: Russia and Bengal

3 February 2017, Kolkata

Bodo Poets' Meet

19 February, Assam

Kavita Utsav: 2018

22-25 February 2018, Santiniketan, Kolkata

Youth Bodo Writers Festival

18 March 2018, Kokrajhar

All India Poets' Meet

15-16 March 2018, Aizwal, Mizoram

Poet's Meet

8 March 2018, Delhi

All India Poetry Festival

21 March 2018, Delhi

All India Writers' Meet

24-25 March 2018, Kohima, Nagaland

Yuva Sahiti

Yuva Sahiti: Young Odia writers

7 April 2017, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

Yuva Sahiti programme: Young writers from different Indian languages

30 August 2017, Delhi

Yuva Sahiti: Young Sanskrit writers

23 October 2017, Delhi

Yuva Sahiti: Multilingual poetry reading by young writers

20 November 2017, Delhi

Yuva Sahiti: Young writers from different Indian languages

11 January 2018

Governing Body, Language Advisory Boards and Regional Board Meetings Held in 2017-2018

Executive Board

Date	Venue
21 February 2017	New Delhi
22 June 2017	Guwahati
21 December 2017	New Delhi
22 March 2018	New Delhi

General Council

Date	Venue
22 February 2017	New Delhi
22 June 2017	Guwahati
20 December 2017	New Delhi
12 February 2018	New Delhi

Finance Committee

Date	Venue
13 June 2017	New Delhi
19 December 2017	New Delhi

Regional Board Meetings 2017-2018

Board	Date	Venue
Northern Regional Board	18 May 2017	New Delhi
Eastern Regional Board	6 May 2017	Kolkata
Western Regional Board	9 May 2017	Mumbai
Southern Regional Board	15 April 2017	Hyderabad

Projects and Schemes

Archives Project

Considering the need for and the importance of documentation in the field of literature, Sahitya Akademi has launched a project for an Archives of Indian Literature since March 1997. The Archive, when set up in a full-fledged way, will collect and preserve precious material connected with writers and literature like manuscripts, photographs, audio recordings, video recording and portraits, etc.; would build up a solid basis for a museum of Indian Literature by collecting available video films all over India, manuscripts of writers, interesting letters among writers and available audio-recordings of interviews and reading, etc. The Archive has already initiated scanning and preserving in CD ROMS some of the most important photographs. Over a hundred photographs, after careful selection, have now been preserved in portfolio.

Sahitya Akademi already has a project of archives of films and the video recordings related to Indian writers and their writings. Video documentaries of the Akademi on the best of Indian writers attempted to document their images, voice, the momentous events that moulded their lives and vision and the contemporary response to the creative achievements. These video films archives will be the seed of a unique Indian literary museum of the future, a delight to the common reader and useful to literary researchers and historians. These films have been produced by directors who are creative artists in their own right. The Akademi has so far produced 124 films on the authors and CDS of some of these films are also on sale.

The correspondence with the Akademi has been reviewed and the important letters of Jawaharlal Nehru, S. Radhakrishnan, Krishna Kripalani, Zakir Husain, C. Rajagopalachari and other eminent personalities have been laminated and bound in book form for preservation. Digitization of all Master Beta films has been done. The work of accessioning, proper labelling and cataloguing of audio tapes have also been completed till 2013, after checking their authenticity.

As another major initiative, Sahitya Akademi, has also signed an agreement with the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) for digitization of audio/video recordings of its archival materials. Accordingly, the work is under process.

National Bibliography of Indian Literature

As per the Sahitya Akademi Executive Board decision dated 19 August 2002, the second series of the NBIL has been taken up covering the period, 1954-2000 to serve the scholars, librarians, publishers, booksellers and those interested in the book world as a valuable tool of reference.

The second series will cover all books of literary merit and abiding value in the field of literature and allied subjects published between 1 January 1954 and 31 December 2000.

The project plans to compile bibliographic data of 22 Indian languages. Assignments have been made to specialists in twenty-two languages. They are already in different stages of compilation.

Centres for Translation

As translation lies at the core of Akademi's activities, Sahitya Akademi has established Centre for Translation in Bengaluru and an Eastern Region Translation Centre in Kolkata. These Centres are meant to bring out special series of books from the languages of the region translated into English and other languages.

Encyclopaedia of Indian Literature

A major activity of the Sahitya Akademi is the preparation of an Encyclopaedia of Indian Literature. The venture, covering twenty-two languages of India, is the first of its kind. Written in English, the Encyclopaedia gives a comprehensive idea of the growth and development of Indian literature. The entries on authors, books and general topics have been tabulated by the concerned Advisory Boards and finalized by a Steering Committee. Hundreds of writers all over the country contributed articles on various topics. The Encyclopaedia planned as a six volume project, has been brought out. Each volume of approx. 1000 pages is in demy quarto size.

The revision work of the encyclopaedia project was taken up under the editorship of Prof. Ayyapa Panikar. Presently Prof. Indra Nath Choudhuri is associated with the project as its Chief Editor. The first, second and third volumes of revised version have been published. The work on the fourth volume is in progress at the Sahitya Akademi, Regional Office, Kolkata.

History of Indian Literature

It is a project of the Akademi meant to give a holistic account of the literary activities in India down the ages, in the various languages and under different social conditions. Three volumes covering the period from 500 to 1300, 1800 to 1910 and 1911 to 1956, authored by Prof. Sisir Kumar Das, have been published.

Bilingual Dictionary Project

In 2004, Sahitya Akademi initiated a project of compiling several bilingual dictionaries. In the first phase entries were taken up for Bengali-Assamese, Bengali-Odia, Bengali-Maithili, Bengali-Manipuri and Bengali-Santali dictionaries. Editorial boards were formed for each dictionary with eminent scholars, lexicographers and language experts of different languages. A central editorial board was also formed for setting up guidelines and general supervision work during the making of the manuscript and subsequent production.

It has been observed that in almost all the languages of Eastern India, mono and bilingual dictionaries with English as one language were more or less available, but bilingual dictionaries like Bengali-Manipuri or Manipuri-Assamese, etc. were almost absent. In its effort to increase the bond between the languages of neighbouring states, Sahitya Akademi gave ample stress in translating literary works of one language into other languages. But non-availability of adequate dictionaries became a stumbling block and the translators could not be provided with reliable dictionaries to facilitate their work. At this juncture, Sahitya Akademi was constrained to take up the dictionary projects.

These dictionaries will be of moderate size containing 40000–45000 words and phrases as entries. In the description part, it was proposed to give pronunciation symbols in IPA (International Phonetic Association), sources, such as Sanskrit, Arabic, etc., parts of speech, descriptive meaning (more than one, if required) examples, derivatives, etc. The whole project is under the editorial guidance of Professor Ashoke Mukhopadhyay, an eminent lexicographer.

The first dictionary of the project, Bengali-Maithili bilingual dictionary was released on 1 May 2012. The Bengali-Santali bilingual dictionary was released on 14 August 2012. Bengali-Manipuri dictionary was published and Bengali-Assamese is expected to be published within this year. Compilation of the other bilingual dictionaries which are Bengali-Nepali, Santali-Odia, Maithili-Odia and Maithili-Assamese are in progress.

Centres for Tribal and Oral Literature

For the purpose of collecting, preserving and disseminating vast tribal and oral literature of India, Sahitya Akademi has established two centres, North-East Centre for Oral Literature (NECOL) in Imphal and Centre for Oral and Tribal Literature (COTLIT) in New Delhi.

The main objective of North-East Centre for Oral Literature is to collect and publish folk and modern oral literature. It organizes folk festivals, reading sessions of prose and poetry of oral literature, literary forums, seminars, symposia, workshops, etc. It translates from North-Eastern oral languages to other recognized Indian languages. It also helps to build up a relation through regular interaction between North-Eastern oral languages and other major Indian languages. It has already translated and published materials from languages like Lepcha, Kokborok, Mising, Bongcher, Garo and Mog into English. COTLIT collects, preserves and promotes oral and tribal literature of the country through programmes and publications. The Centre is also actively engaged in the creation of the House of Voices, a digital archive platform for oral literature.

Library

Sahitya Akademi Library is a multilingual library with a rich collection of books on Literature and allied subjects in 24 Indian languages including English. The library enjoys an active and appreciative readership (total 13597 registered members) making it one of the widely used libraries in Delhi. During 2017-2018, the H.O. library enrolled 378 new members and 1147 new books were added. The total collection has now crossed more than 1,73,000 in H.O. library and 2.5 lacs (approx.) in all the libraries including regional office libraries.

Akademi's Library web page has also been redesigned for the convenience of the users. The WebOPAC has been customized to make it more user-friendly. Library has also started a new service of 'Content Based Full Text Search System' which is very helpful for reference purpose. A digital library (Sahitya Sagar) has been created keeping in mind the requirements of the users as well as the staff members. The catalogue of all 24 language sections are fully computerized and can be searched online through WebOPAC on the Akademi's website, www.sahitya-akademi.gov.in. Current acquisitions of all the language books are being catalogued online. Automation of these sections has enabled the library to provide bibliographic service on demand at short notice. The editing work of prestigious project 'Who's Who of Indian Writers' has been completed by the library

and is now available on our website on the link www.sahitya-akademi.gov.in/sahitya-akademi/SASearchSystem/sauser/. The authors who are willing to include their names in this directory may send their entries via offline/online form given on the website. The compilation of second volume of Critical Inventory of North-Eastern Tribal Literature is now in progress which will be published by the Sahitya Akademi very soon.

Indexing of English language articles on Indian Literature, based on its journal receipts is also done by the library. This database is also available to library users.

The library is continuing services such as News Clips, Book Reviews and Current Contents which were started some years back for the benefits of the readers.

Books are added regularly in regional offices' libraries every year. Regional office libraries (Kolkata, Bengaluru and Mumbai) have also started retro-conversion/computerization of their collections. The catalogues of these libraries are also accessible through single window WebOPAC which provides information location-wise availability of books in a form of union catalogue.

Book Exhibitions / Book Fairs

List of Book Fairs / Book Exhibitions –
Organized and Participated – 2017-2018

Head Office

Sl. No.	Exhibition Details	Date
1	Alwar, Rajasthan	15-19 April 2017
2	Expo. Mart at Greater Noida	17-20 April 2017
3	Amritsar Book Fair	21-30 April 2017
4	Lalan Shah Fakir Book Release, New Delhi	6 May 2017
5	Delhi Public Library, New Delhi	17-19 May 2017
6	Delhi Public Library, New Delhi	24-26 May 2017
7	Dogri Seminar, Jammu	17-18 June 2017
8	Gajanan Madhav Muktibodh Birth Centenary Celebrations at Rajanand Gaon	27-28 June 2017
9	Faridabad Book Fair	27-30 July 2017
10	Symposia at Udaipur	12-13 August 2017
11	Delhi Book Fair	26 August – 3 September 2017
12	Dehradun Book Fair, New Delhi	28 August – 5 September 2017
13	Lucknow Book Fair	8-17 September 2017
14	Ranchi Book Fair	8-17 September 2017
15	Varanasi Book Fair	9-17 September 2017
16	New Delhi Book Exhibition	9-17 September 2017
17	Jamia Millia Islamia Programme	28-29 October 2017
18	Children Theatre Festival	3-7 November 2017
19	Panjabi Sahitya Akademi, Ludhiana	5-9 November 2017
20	Maithili Seminar, Patna	12-13 November 2017
21	National Book Week, Noida	14-19 November 2017
22	National Book Week, New Delhi	14-20 November 2017
23	Literary Forum, New Delhi	17 November 2017
24	Allahabad Sangrahalaya, Allahabad	21-25 November 2017
25	Patna Book Fair	2-11 December 2017
26	Eta Book Fair	8-10 December 2017

Sl. No.	Exhibition Details	Date
27	Azamgarh Book Fair*	29 November – 5 December 2017
28	Jashan-e-Rekha programme, New Delhi	8-10 December 2017
29	Ghalib Institute, New Delhi	23-25 December 2017
30	Maithli Lekha Sangah programme, New Delhi	24 December 2017
31	New Delhi World Book Fair	6-14 January 2018
32	Mega Book Fair, New Delhi	27 January – 2 February 2018
33	Gaya Book Fair	10-18 February 2018
34	International Arts Festival, New Delhi	4-18 February 2018
35	Panchayat Book Fair, Srinagar	23-27 February 2018
36	Festival of Letters, New Delhi	12-17 February 2018
37	Theatre Olympiad, New Delhi	20 February – 18 March 2018
38	Agra Book Fair	10-18 March 2018
39	Maithili Literature Festival, New Delhi	10-18 March 2018

Regional Office at Kolkata

Sl. No.	Exhibition Details	Date
1.	Dhanbad Book Fair 2017	02-09.04.2017
2.	Bhubaneswar Book Fair 2017	05-16.04.17
3.	Nababarsha Boi Mela 2017	11-19.04.17
4.	8th Barrackpur Boi Mela	20.04-01.05-2017
5.	Assam Sahitya Sabha Book Exhibition	21-23.04.17
6.	Keonjhar & Jamsedpur Book Exhibition	22-24.04.17
7.	Darjeeling Book Exhibition	29-30.04.17
8.	Book Exhibition with Odia Programmes at Bhubaneswar, Paradeep Odisha	11-14.05.2017
9.	Darbhangha Book Exhibition	13-14.05.2017
10.	Phulbani Tribal Book Exhibition	10.06.2017
11.	Nepali Book Exhibition at Shillong	11.06.2017
12.	Guwahati Book Exhibition	22-24.06.2017
13.	Guwahati Book Exhibition at G U	29-30.06.2017

Sl. No.	Exhibition Details	Date
14.	Two Days Book Exhibition with Narayan Gangopadhyay Seminar at R.O.K	13-14.07.2017
15.	One Day Book Exhibition with Symposium on Haricharan Bandyopadhyay at R.O.K	26.07.2017
16.	Indian National Exhibition cum Fair 2017 at Garia, Kolkata	17-20.08.2017
17.	Two Days Book Exhibition with Maithili Seminar at Ramesh Jha Mahila College at Saharsha	02-03.09.2017
18.	Two Days Book Exhibition with All India Tribal Women Writers, Meet at Ranchi	07-08.09.2017
19.	One Day Book Exhibition with Maithili Programme at Ranchi	10.09.2017
20.	One Day Book Exhibition with Seminar on Gopal Chhottary at Bhubaneswar	17.09.2017
21.	Two Days Book Exhibition with Sense of Displacement in Eastern indian Lit. at BBSR	18-19.09.2017
22.	20th Kaling Book Fair 2017	27.10-05.11.2017
23.	19th North East Book Fair 2017	03-14.11.2017
24.	Barak Book Fair 2017	03-12.11.2017
25.	Sibsagar Book Fair 2017	04-14.11.2017
26.	Book Exhibition at ROK on Samar Sen Seminar	06-07.11.2017
27.	7th Ekmra Book Fair 2017	10-20.11.2017
28.	Bhubaneswar Book Fair 2017	11-22.11.2017
29.	National Book Week Book Exhibition at R.O.K	14-20.11.2017
30.	Jorhat Book Fair 2017	17-27.11.2017
31.	Dibrugarh Book Fair 2017	01-10.12.2017
32.	18th Rajdhani Book Fair 2017	01-12.12.2017
33.	Two Days Book Exhibition with Santali Ekanki Natak at Rai Rangpur and Baripada	02-03.12.2017
34.	Nagaon Book Fair 2017	12-20.12.2017
35.	Behala Book Fair 2017	15-24.12.2017
36.	Simurali Book Fair 2017	24-30.12.2017
37.	Dhubri Book Fair 2017	24-27.12.2017
38.	31st Guwahati Book Fair 2017	22.12-02.01.2018
39.	4th New Town Book Fair 2018	04-14.01.2018

Sl. No.	Exhibition Details	Date
40.	Kharagpur Book Fair 2018	06-14.01.2018
41.	Howrah District Book Fair 2018	08-14.01.2018
42.	Little Magazine Book Fair & Sahitya Utsav	11-15.01.2018
43.	2nd Mizo Folk Festival Book Exhibition	19-20.01.2018
44.	20th Sambalpur Book Fair 2018	15-24.01.2018
45.	11th All India Urdu Book Fair 2018	20-28.01.2018
46.	Book Exhibition at R.K. Mission Ashrama	26-29.01.2018
47.	42nd Kolkata Book Fair 2018	30.01-11.02.2018
48.	Rourkela Book Fair 2018	01-11.02.2018
49.	Jalpaiguri Book Fair 2018	15-21.02.2018
50.	22nd Darjeeling Dist. Book Fair 2018 at W.B.	01-04.03.2018
51.	Siliguri Book Fair 2018 at Siliguri, W.B.	23.02-04.03.2018
52.	Bodoland Book Fair 2018, Kokrajhar, Assam	16-20.03.2018
53.	Methili Symposium Seminar	23.03.2018

Sub-Regional Office at Chennai

Sl. No.	Exhibition Details	Date
1.	Thrissur Book Fair	1-10 April 2017
2.	Display and sales of books in Poets' Meet programme	13 May 2017
3.	NESCO Book Fair	22-26 June 2017
4.	5-day book exhibition	25-29 June 2017
5.	Neyveli Book Fair	30 June – 9 July 2017
6.	Hosur Book Fair	30 June – 10 July 2017
7.	Vellore Book Fair	7-16 July 2017
8.	Airyalur Book Fair	14-23 July 2017
9.	Thanjavur Book Fair	14-23 July 2017
10.	Karur Book Fair	21-30 July 2017
11.	Coimbatore Book Fair	21-30 July 2017
12.	Chennai Book Fair	21-31 July 2017
13.	Erode Book Fair	4-15 August 2017
14.	Display and sales of books in the centenary symposium on Sa. Viswanathan (Savi)	11 August 2017

Sl. No.	Exhibition Details	Date
15.	Thiruvannamalai Book Fair	18-28 August 2017
16.	Display and sales of books in the centenary symposium on Na. Vanamamalai	24 August 2017
17.	Madurai Book Fair	1-12 September 2017
18.	Display and sales of books in the literary forum on Indian Epics	19 September 2017
19.	Display and sales of books in a literary programme organized by DRBCCC Hindu College	2 September 2017
20.	Chennai Book Fair	29 September – 8 October 2017
21.	Gudiyatham Book Fair	24 September – 2 October 2017
22.	Villuppuram Book Fair	25 September – 2 October 2017
23.	Tuticorin Book Fair	2-11 October 2017
24.	Display and sales of books in two day seminar on Tamil Poetics & Prosody	4-5 October 2017
25.	Display and sales of books in the symposium on 'Pure Tamil Movement & Pure Tamil Literature'	11 October 2017
26.	Display and sales of books in the literary forum on 'M. Gopalakrishna Iyer'	23 October 2017
27.	Cuddalore Book Exhibition	10-15 November 2017
28.	'National Book Week' book exhibition	14-20 November 2017
29.	Display and sales of books in the centenary symposium on Thiruloga Seetharam	18 November 2017
30.	Kottayam Book Fair	17-26 November 2017
31.	Pudukottai Book Fair	24 November – 3 December 2017
32.	Dindigul Book Fair	30 November – 10 December 2017
33.	Kochi International Book Fair	1-10 December 2017
34.	Chennai Book Fair	10-22 January 2018
35.	Tiruppur Book Fair	25 January – 4 February 2018

Sl. No.	Exhibition Details	Date
36.	Thunchan Book Festival	1-4 February 2018
37.	Thrissur Book Fair	1-10 February 2018
38.	Tirunelveli Book Fair	3-11 February 2018
39.	Karaikudi Book Festival	9-18 February 2018
40.	Perambalur Book Fair	16-26 February 2018
41.	Display and sales of books at a literary programme organized by the University of Madras	23 February 2018
42.	Kochi International Book Fair	1-11 March 2018
43.	Display and sales of books in Nari Chetna programme on the occasion of International Women's Day	8 March 2018
44.	Display and sales of books in Foundation Day celebrations	12 March 2018

Regional Office at Bengaluru

Sl. No.	Exhibition Details	Date
1.	World Book Day Programme, Bengaluru	23 April 2017
2.	Literary Forum, Bengaluru	29 April 2017
3.	Seminar, Tirupati	7-8 July 2017
4.	Seminar, Harageri	17-18 July 2017
5.	Seminar, Bengaluru	29 July 2017
6.	Literary Forum, Bengaluru	30 July 2017
7.	North-East and Southern Writers Meet, Vijayawada	13-14 August 2017
8.	Seminar, Hyderabad	28-29 August 2017
9.	Seminar, Guntur	20-21 September 2017
10.	Symposium, Udupi	23 September 2017
11.	Mysore programme	23-24 September 2017
12.	Symposium, Honnavara	12 November 2017
13.	Bal Sahitya Puraskar, Vijayawada	14-16 November 2017
14.	National Book Week, Mangalore	14-20 November 2017

Sl. No.	Exhibition Details	Date
15.	Sahitya Sammelan, Mysore	24-26 November 2017
16.	Symposium, Bengaluru	27 November 2017
17.	Telugu Conference	15-19 December 2017
18.	Vizag Book Festival org. by VBFS	1-11 December 2017
19.	Seminar, Bengaluru	6-7 January 2018
20.	Vijayawada Book Festival	1-12 January 2018
21.	Sahitya Sambrama, Dharwad	19-21 January 2018
22.	Seminar, Moodibidri	3 February 2018
23.	Kakkinada Book Festival	10-18 February 2018
24.	Seminar, Bengaluru	16-17 March 2018
25.	Seminar, Vizag	30-31 March 2018

Regional Office at Mumbai

Sl. No.	Exhibition Details	Date
1.	Symposium, Vadodara	9-11 June 2017
2.	Workshop, Bhavnagar	1-2 July 2017
3.	Meet the Author, Thane	7 July 2017
4.	North East and Western Writers Meet, Panji	14-15 July 2017
5.	Parbhani	24-26 July 2017
6.	Gramalok, Paithan	28-30 July 2017
7.	Khopoli	2-3 August 2017
8.	Akola	14-17 September 2017
9.	Balapur	18-19 September 2017
10.	SNDT University, Mumbai	26-27 September 2017
11.	Sundarabai Hall, Mumbai	26-30 September 2017
12.	Symposium, Kalamb	28 September 2017

Sl. No.	Exhibition Details	Date
13.	Goa University	28-29 September 2017
14.	Osmanabad	29 September 2017
15.	Symposium, Buldhana	11-13 October 2017
16.	Ahmedabad	7-9 October 2017
17.	Sahitya Sammelan, Raigad	3-5 November 2017
18.	Antarbharati, Mumbai	10 November 2017
19.	National Book Week, Kalyan	14-20 November 2017
20.	Grantha Mahotsav, Mumbai	17-18 November 2017
21.	Literary Forum, Adipur	28-29 November 2017
22.	Seminar, Bhuj	2-3 December 2017
23.	Urdu Kitab Mela, Solapur	23-31 December 2017
24.	Sion	23-24 December 2017
25.	Dadar	19-20 December 2017
26.	Sahitya Sammelan, Ambejogai	24-25 December 2017
27.	Satara	5-8 January 2018
28.	Symposium Amravati	22 January 2018
29.	Amravati	23 January 2018
30.	Chandur	24 January 2018
31.	Hingoli	26-28 January 2018
32.	SRT Marathwada University, Nanded	29-30 January 2018
33.	National Book Fair, Wardha	4-8 February 2018
34.	Mumbai University, Mumbai	8-9 February 2018
35.	Sahitya Sammelan, Vadodara	16-18 February 2018
36.	Gateway Litfest, Mumbai	22-24 February 2018
37.	Prabhadevi	27-28 February 2018

Books Published

from April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018

ASSAMESE

Banabhatr Atmakatha
By Hazariprasad Dwivedi; Tr. Chakreshwar
Bhattacharya
Pp. 332/-; Rs. 240/-; ISBN: 978-81-7201-830-6
(reprint)

Brahmaputrer Ashe Pashe
By Lil Bahadur Chhetri; Tr. Agni Bahadur
Chhetri
Pp. 192; Rs. 170/-; ISBN: 978-81-260-0476-8
(reprint)

Adhunik Assamiya Sahityata Sankardevar
Sangrahan
Compiler-Satyakam Barthakur
Pp. 74; Rs. 110/-; ISBN: 978-81-260-5260-8

Goalporia Lokagitor Bichar
Comp. Padumi Gogoi
Pp. 144; Rs. 150/-; ISBN: 978-81-260-5275-2

Dhrubaputra
By Amar Mitra; Tr. Satyen Choudhury
Pp. 624; Rs. 440/-; ISBN: 978-81-260-5398-8

Ujani Asamar Janagasthia Sadhukatha
Comp. Chandra Kamal Chetia
Pp. 66; Rs. 120/-; ISBN: 978-81-260-5380-3

Asomiya Kalpabijnan Galpa Sankalan
Comp Santanoo Tamuly
Pp. 258; Rs. 235/-; ISBN: 978-81-260-5397-1

Yugomiya Vivekananda
By Swami Lokeshwarananda; Tr. Gautam
Kakaty
Pp. 320; Rs. 280/-; ISBN: 978-93-86771-13-1

Rajatarangini (Historical chronicle)
By Kalhana Tr. Nava Kumar Handique
pp. 560, Rs 470; ISBN: 978-93-86771-66-7

Daipayan Hradar Parat (A/w Bengali Poetry
Collection)
By Subodh Sarkar
Translator: M. Kamaluddin Ahmed
Pp. 70, Rs 130; ISBN: 978-93-87567-43-6

Rabindranath Tagore (MIL)
By Sisirkumar Ghosh
Translator: Pallavi Deka Buzarboruah
Pp. 142, Rs 50
ISBN: 978-93-87567-46-7

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Separate Audit Report of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India on the Accounts of the Sahitya Akademi for the year ended 31 March 2018.

We have audited the attached Balance Sheet of the Sahitya Akademi (Akademi) as at 31 March 2018. Income & Expenditure Account and Receipts & Payments Account for the year ended on that date under Section 20(1) of the Comptroller and Auditor General's (Duties, Powers & Conditions of Service) Act, 1971. The audit has been entrusted for the period up to 2018-19. The financial statements include the accounts of three regional offices and two sales offices of the Akademi. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Akademi's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

2. This Separate Audit Report contains the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) on the accounting treatment only with regard to classification, conformity with the best accounting practices, accounting standards and disclosure norms, etc. Audit observation on financial transaction with regard to compliance with the Law, Rules & Regulations (Propriety and Regularity) and efficiency-cum performance aspects. etc., if any, are reported through Inspection Reports/CAG's Audit Reports separately.

3. We have conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in India. These standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatements. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidences supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management as well as evaluating the overall presentation of financial statements. We believe the our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

4. Based on our audit, we report that:

- i. We have obtained all the information and explanations, which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our audit.
- ii. The Balance Sheet, Income & Expenditure Account/Receipts.& Payments Account dealt with by this report have been drawn up in the uniform format of accounts approved by the Ministry of Finance.
- iii. In our opinion, Proper books of accounts have been maintained by the Akademi in so far as it appears from our examination of such books.
- iv. We further report that:

A General

A.1 Notes on accounts of Sahitya Akademi state that "Liability towards retirement benefits, that is, gratuity on death/retirement leave encashment of employee are not necessary in view of recurring grants towards non plan which includes amount payable to employee who retires & includes provision for retired employees for the grant period". AS-15 of ICAI indicates that Employee Benefits obligations are to be worked out on Actuarial Valuation Method. Thus, the accounting policy of Retirement Benefits of the organization is not in consonance with the Accounting Standard-15 This was reported in the previous year's report but no remedial action was taken.

A.2 As per the terms of the sanctions of grants, interest earned should be deposited/refunded to Government of India but the same has not been done.

A.3 An amount of Rs 41.62 lakh was reflected as Sundry debtors outstanding for more than 6 months (Schedule 11A), which needs to be addressed on priority.

B. Grants-in-Aid:

The grants-in-aid received and utilization thereof for the year 2017-18 is given below:

Particulars	Amount (Rs. in crore)
Grants in Aid received during the year	34.10
Unspent balance of previous year	1.51
Internal receipts during the year	3.13
Total available fund	38.74
Expenditure during the year	36.92
Unspent balance	1.82

Sahitya Akademi had unspent balance of Rs. 1.82 crore at the end of the financial year.

C. Management Letter : Deficiencies which have not been included in the Audit Report have been brought to the notice of the Secretary, Sahitya Akademi (SA) through a management letter issued separately for remedial/ corrective action.

v. Subject to our observations in the preceding paragraphs, We report that Balance Sheet, Income & Expenditure Account and Receipts & Payments Account dealt with by this report are in agreement with the books of accounts.

vi. In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the said financial statements read together with the Accounting Policy and Notes on Accounts and subject to the significant matters stated above and other matters mentioned in Annexure to this Audit Report give a true and fair view in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in India; and

- a. In so far as it relates to the Balance Sheet, of the state of affairs of the Sahitya Akademi as at 31 March 2018; and
- b. In so far as it relates to Income & Expenditure Account of the deficit for the year ended on that date.

For and on behalf of C& AG of India

Place : New Delhi

Date: 19.12.2018

Addl. Dy. C&AG(CE)

Annexure

1. Adequacy of internal audit system

Internal audit of the Akademi has been conducted up to March 2018 by the Chartered Accountant Firm.

The response of the management to statutory audit objections is not effective as 29 paras for the period from 2006-07 to 2014-17 were outstanding.

2. Adequacy of internal control system

The Internal Control System of the Akademi is inadequate due to :

Advances amounting to Rs. 31.36 lakh were outstanding as on 31.03.2018 (Schedule 11B), which needs to be adjusted at the earliest.

Cases of wrong/double payments were noticed in the accounts of Sahitya Akademi. System of release of payments should be strengthened.

Vouchers were passed for payment without classification of head. Vouchers were not marked as paid and cancelled.

Surprise check of Cash Book was not carried out periodically.

Advance register, investment register and Grant-in-aid registers were not maintained.

Details of cheques outstanding were not reconciled periodically with the Banks, the same needs to be done on priority.

It was noticed in BRS that cheques issued since August 2017 were still shown as “Cheques issued but not presented for payment.” It is suggested that all time barred cheques reflected in BRS may be identified and cancelled.

3. System of physical verification of fixed assets

Physical verification of fixed assets was conducted only up to 2013-14.

The Akademi had fixed assets worth Rs. 14.41 crore as of 31 March 2018 but the registers maintained by the Akademi did not depict the details of all the items shown in accounts.

4. System of physical verification of inventory

Physical verification of library books had been conducted up to 2017-18.

Physical verification of stationery and other consumable items was conducted up to 2016-17.

5. Regularity in payment of dues

As per accounts no payment over 6 months in respect of statutory dues was outstanding as on 31.3.2018.