

SAHITYA AKADEMI TRANSLATION PRIZE 2013

August 22, 2014, Guwahati



Award Winning Translators with the President, Vice President and the Secretary of the Akademi and the Chief Guest Dr Kedarnath Singh

Sahitya Akademi's Translation Prizes for 2013 were presented at a grand ceremony held at Pragyajyoti Auditorium, ITA Centre for Performing Arts, Guwahati on August 22, 2014. Sahitya Akademi and Jnanpith Award winner Dr Kedarnath Singh graced the occasion as a Chief Guest and Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi presided over and distributed the prizes and cheques to the award winning translators.

Dr K. Sreenivasarao welcomed the Chief Guest, participants, award winning translators and other literary connoisseurs who attended the ceremony. He spoke at length about various efforts and programmes of the Akademi to promote literature through India and abroad. Translation is the core of all the activities of the Akademi and through translation the Akademi brings together various cultural and literary traditions together and unites such diverse country like India in its own way. Dr Sreenivasarao also talked about how the translations not only bring the traditions of various cultures of the present time together but also act as bridge between remote past and the future. He cited the examples of translations of, in various Indian languages," Kalidasa and Homer and how those translations enriched local literary and cultural traditions in each region of India and the world. He said he is proud that Akademi not only celebrates the legendary writers and their works but also their translators and translations. Akademi has been doing whatever it can for the cause of translators and translations.

Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, in his addressed talked about various facets of translations and their role in enriching literature.

Translation is one area that has been by and large neglected hitherto by the literary community world over and it is time others too emulate the work of the Akademi in this regard and promote translations. For, translations in addition to their role of carrying creative literature beyond known boundaries also act as rebirth of the original creative writings. Also translation, especially of poems, supply to other literary traditions crafts, tools and rhythms hitherto unknown to them. He cited several examples from Hindi poetry and their transportation into English.

Sahitya Akademi and Jnanpith Award winner, Dr Kedarnath Singh, in his address, spoke at length about the role and place of translations in any given literature. He was very happy that the Akademi is recognizing and celebrating the translators and translations and also financial incentives are available now a days to the translators. He also enumerated how the translations widened the horizons his own life and enriched his literary career. He also said institutions like the Akademi should take up the work of translations of major Indian literary works in other languages of the world. He said translations play a very vital role in compiling histories of various literary traditions of diverse country like India.



Dr Kedarnath Singh addressing the inaugural session

The Secretary of the Akademi read out the citations of each award winner, the Vice President of the Akademi Dr Chandrasekhara Kambar honoured each awardee with the traditional Assamese Gamocha and the President of the Akademi distributed the prizes and cheques. The Vice-President proposed a vote of thanks.

List of award winning translators

(Late) Dipika Chakraborty – Assamese / Soma Bandyopadhyay – Bengali / GobindaBoro – Bodo/ Veena Gupta – Dogri / RanjitHoskote – English /

Buddhadeva Chatterji – Hindi / Jagannatha Pandurang Dodamani – Kannada / Aziz Hajini – Kashmiri / Hema Naik – Konkani / GunanathJha – Maithili / Ulloor M. Parameswaran – Malayalam / IbochaSoibam – Manipuri / Rev Father Francis D’Britto – Marathi / I.K. Singh – Nepali / BilasiniMohanty – Odia / Balbir Madhopuri – Punjabi / (Late) Shanti Lal Bhardwaj ‘Rakesh’ – Rajasthani / Abhiraja Rajendra Mishra – Sanskrit / Mangal Majhi – Santali / KhimanMulani – Sindhi / Iraiyadiyan – Tamil / NalimelaBhaskar – Telugu / Nizam Siddiqui – Urdu

TRANSLATORS’ MEET, August 23, 2014, Guwahati



Award Winning Translator for Bengali speaking at Translators' Meet with Chandrasekhara Kambar in the Chair.



Participants of Translators' Meet observing a minute's silence in memory of U.R. Ananthamurthy

Translators' Meet, featuring all the award winning translators of Sahitya Akademi Translation Prizes 2013, was held at the Vivekananda Kendra, Guwahati on August 23, 2014. Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi welcomed all the award winning translators and Dr K. ChandrasekharaKambar, Vice President, Sahitya Akademi presided over the meet. A minute's silence was observed at the beginning of the meet as a mark of respect to Dr U.R. Ananthamurthy, eminent Kannada writer and the past President of Sahitya Akademi.

At the meet all the award winning translators shared and talked about their experiences as writers and translators. Soma Bandyopadhyay, who won the award for Bengali, shared how her travelling to different places in India and exposure to various literary and cultural traditions enriched her sensibility towards different sounds, rhythms and concepts, thereby

enabling her to become a better translator. She thanked the jury and the Akademi for selecting her works and said meets like this will benefit all the translators. GobindaBoro, renowned Bodo translator, spoke about how translation enabled him to realize that the translator has more responsibility than the writer while translating the award winning book. Veena Gupta, Dogri translator, said that over the years translating different works has given an awareness, more acutely in the award winning title, that fidelity to the original does not mean only syntactical but semantical too. The replication of expressions with similarity in the meanings will enable the translations to achieve rhythm of the original too. Aziz Hazini, Kashmiri translator, spoke about the peculiarities of his native tongue, the difficulties of translating alien tongue into Kashmiri and his journey as a translator. Hema Naik, Konkani translator, talked about how translations are

attempts and tools at restoration of the cultural and literary traditions in different modes and they also serve the additional purpose of informing people who do not know the original language. Gunanath Jha, Maithili translator, spoke about how his love for his native tongue and works of scores of great translators in Maithili helped him to become a better translator. UlloorParameswaran, Malayalam translator, too spoke in the same vein as the speaker before and cited the presence of his father and prominent translators of his time as big influences on his works. Ibocha Soibam, Manipuri translator, positive messages and energy of the titles he choose including his award winning title are the reasons for success of his translations. Francis D’Britto, Marathi translator, spoke about the challenges in and satisfaction that one derives out of translating such epic works like Bible into languages very remote from the original. Dr Sushmita represented her father I.K. Singh, Nepali translator, and read out a speech of the latter thanking the Akademi. Bilasini Mohanty, Odia translator, spoke about how translations themselves are creative works and often they spur the original writings

subsequently. Balbir Madhopuri, Punjabi translator, spoke about the events and circumstances in his life that enabled him to become a better translator and also big influences on his career. Abhiraj Rajendra Mishra, Sanskrit translator, talked about various influences on his translations and also about the necessity to translate Sanskrit works into languages world over. Mangal Majhi, Santali translator, talked about how he has been striving to bring Santali works to the knowledge of many and also about difficulties of translating into Santali language. Khiman Mulani, Sindhi translator, talked about the difficulties of translating from / to Sindhi and also about conduciveness of translation in Sindhi literary community. Iraiyadiyan, Tamil translator, recalled the encouragement given by the Akademi in his translation efforts and also about the influences of other translated works on his own works. Nizam Siddiqui, Urdu translator, shared his journey as a translator. Dr Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, thanked all the translators and other participants.

ABHIVYAKTI, August 23 - 24, 2014, Guwahati

In the second session of the day, a programme, Abhivyakti, was organized at the same venue. Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and briefly outlined the nature and objective of the programme where translators from all the 24 languages recognized by the Akademi read out excerpts from their works. He also talked about great literary and cultural tradition heritage of Assam. Nagen Saikia, eminent Assamese writer inaugurated the programme and Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, Dr Chandrasekhara Kambar, Vice President, Sahitya Akademi and Karabi Deka Hazarika, noted writer also participated. Karabi Deka Hazarika thanked the Akademi for conducting such an important function in Guwahati, hoped that this will give fresh impetus to literary efforts in Assam and said listening to translators from 24 languages is like experiencing different colours of India sitting on the banks of Brahmaputra. Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari talked about how even the title Abhivyakti is very appropriate for programme like this and enumerated the thought process behind it. He said the term means expression and also immortal poems of God. This is a platform



Dr Karabi Deka Hazarika, Nagen Saikia, Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari and Dr Chandrasekhara Kambar

where the creative people give expressions to feelings and thoughts and as such is an art that is beyond the capabilities of common man. He also said translators play a vital role in carrying and the sounds rhythms of one language and tradition to other languages and traditions. Nagen Saikia, in his inaugural speech said though different languages may have different origins and also different cultural and literary traditions and hence different forms of expressions and art forms, the thought, feeling and creativity behind are same

universally. So, as such translators are boats who ferry one tradition into many. He also congratulated the Akademi for bringing together and giving opportunity to 45 Indian contemporary writers in single platform and felt such efforts enrich all the literary traditions. Dr Chandrasekhara Kambar read two of his poems, 'A Tree by a Bank of a River' and 'Mirror'. Twelve poets from different languages, in two groups, Sumitra Goswami (Assamese), Gautam Basu (Bengali), Aurobindo Uzir (Bodo), Rajesh Pandya (Gujarati), Ekantshrivastava (Hindi) and Arif Raja (Kannada), R. K. Bhubonsana Singh (Manipuri), Anuradha Patil (Marathi), Sudha M. Rai (Nepali), Vennila A. (Tamil), Pratap Singh Betab (Urdu) and Y. Ramakrishnarao (Telugu) rendered their poems and the translations were also read out. Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi thanked all the poets, participants and delegates for making the programme successful.

A day long Abhivyakti for short story writers and a Poets' Meet was held on August 24, 2014 at Vivekananda Kendra Institute of Culture, Guwahati, as part of Sahitya Akademi Translation Prize 2013 festival.

The first session of Abhivyakti for short story writers began with Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary Sahitya Akademi welcoming the participants and the audience and Sri Lakshmi Nandan Bora, eminent Assamese writer chairing the session. Five fiction writers, Devabrata Das (Assamese), Rai Rahi (Dogri), Manu Baligar (Kannada), Paresh Patnaik (Odia) and M. Narendra (Telugu) read their stories in the original language and also in translation.

In the second session of Abhivyakti that was chaired by renowned writer Paradip Acharya, five writers, Srabani

Pal (Bengali), Kavery Nambisan (English), Ramesh Chandra Shah (Hindi), Asha Menon (Malayalam) and Irom Robindro Singh (Manipuri) spoke about why they write and shared their experiences as writer. The Chair, Sri Pradip Acharya, summed up and evaluated all the speeches and observed that it is always an interesting learning experience to be part of a platform where various thinking minds representing diverse cultural and literary traditions meet and also how such gatherings give rise to quality post-modern discourses.

The third session of Abhivyakti, chaired by noted writer Dr Anil Boro and five short story writers, Urmila Shirish (Hindi), Mahendra Kadam (Marathi), Dev Bhandari (Nepali), Bharat Ola (Rajasthani) and Solai Sundaraperumal (Tamil) read out their stories and translations. Dr Boro summed up and evaluated the stories presented.

Poets' Meet marked the fourth and last session of the day. Prof Robin S Ngangom, eminent Manipuri writer and translator chaired the session and nine poets, Jnan Pujari (Assamese), Mangalsingh Hazowary (Bodo), G. M. Ajir (Kashmiri), Madhav Borkar (Konkani), Phoolchandra Jha 'Praveen' (Maithili), Surjit Judge (Punjabi), Balram Shukla (Sanskrit), Arjun Charan Hembram (Santali) and Jaya Jadwani (Sindhi), presented their poems and translations. Robin Ngangom then summed up and evaluated the poems presented.

Three day Translation Prize 2013 festival came to a colourful end with the Secretary thanking all the literary connoisseurs from all over Assam, participating poets and writers, award winning translators and other delegates and luminaries for making the event successful.

BIRTH CENTENARY SYMPOSIUM ON CHAMAN NAHAL, August 2, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with the India International Centre, New Delhi, organized a day-long commemorative symposium, "Remembering Renaissance Writer Chaman Nahal (1927-2013) on his Birth Anniversary" on August 2, 2014 at India International Centre, New Delhi.

Dr Anita Nahal, Fellowship Program Administrator, The Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, Washington D.C. and youngest daughter of Chaman Nahal, moderated the symposium.

Ms. Geetanjali Chatterjee, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi spoke at length about how much Chaman Nahal meant for the Akademi, not merely because he was Akademi's award winner but because of the value system he presented as author. Ms. Deepa Bhatnagar, Nehru Memorial Library, New Delhi spoke about the contribution of Chaman Nahal in the art of manuscript acquisition and the help he rendered for the library.



Ms. Gitanjali Chatterjee speaking at the Symposium on Chaman Nahal

contributions to Children's literature in India.

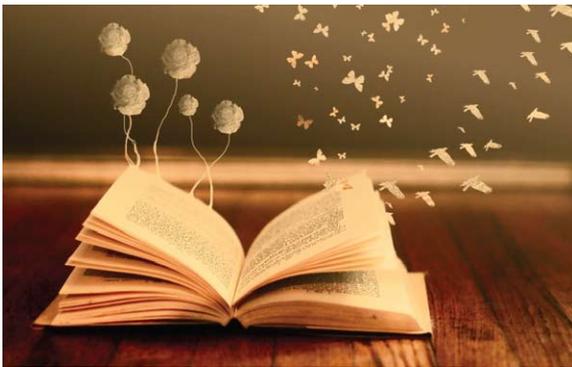
In the third session that was chaired by Dr Vijay Sharma, Principal, Ram Lal Anand College, University of Delhi, Prof Harish Narang, former professor from JNU and Dr Roopali Sircar Gaur presented papers on the various facets of Azadi, Nahal's masterpiece and for which he won Sahitya Akademi Award.

The final session that was chaired by Prof R. W. Desai, former Professor and Head, Department of English, University of Delhi, witnessed a lively presentation of Nahal's short story The Silver Lining by a group of students from Venkateswara College, New Delhi that was directed by Ms. Tulika Nygoi.

Concluding remarks were provided by Dr. Vijay Sharma who succinctly summed up the day's sessions with insightful and thoughtful comments. Dr Ajanta Kohli, Dr Chaman Nahal's elder daughter gave the vote of thanks, remembering Dr Chaman Nahal as a writer and a father. She thanked all the participants, Sahitya Akademi and India International Centre for their kind support and generosity in hosting the symposium.

SYMPOSIUM AND BOOK RELEASE FUNCTION ON INDRANATH MADAN, August 8, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a symposium on eminent writer and critic Sri Indranath Madan on August 8, 2014 at the Sahitya Akademi Conference Hall in New Delhi. A book of critical essays on Indranath Madan was also released during the programme.



Noted writer and scholar, Sri Ramesh Kuntal Megh chaired the symposium. Sri Phoolchand Manav, Sri Rakesh Kumar and Sri Shailendra Shail presented scholarly papers on the occasion.

Sri Rakesh Kumar, who also authored the released book said that it was Indranath Madan who put the work at the centre replacing the creator at the centre in all Hindi literary criticism. This improvisation by Sri Indranath Madan helped Hindi criticism beyond all comparisons and remains immeasurable. Sri Phoolchand Manav and Sri Shailendra Shail, in addition to the analysis of Indranath Madan's writings, remembered their association with

the celebrated author remarked that there was no distinction between him and his creations and what was not there in his works we witnessed in his life. He was indeed a treasure trove of all those who sought knowledge.

Sri Brajendra Tripathi, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi co-ordinated the programme.

SYMPOSIUM ON 'MOHIUDDIN HAJINI'S CONTRIBUTION TO KASHMIRI LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE'

August 18, 2014, Bandipora



Participants speaking at the Symposium on Mohiuddin Hajini

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, organized a symposium on Mohiuddin Hajini's Contribution to Kashmiri Language and Literature on August 18, 2014 at Bandipora.

The symposium was chaired and moderated by Mohammad Ahsan Ahsan, well known Kashmiri writer and he spoke at length about the nature and uniqueness of Kashmiri literature and about Mohiuddin Hajini's contributions to it. He concluded by saying, "Mohiuddin Hajini is an epitome of excellence in Kashmiri language and literature and his contribution will serve as a guide to the critics and writers in the foreseeable future."

Convener of Kashmiri Advisory Board of the Akademi, Prof Mohd. Zaman Azurdah said that his association with Kashmiri literature spanned over so many decades and his work will keep resounding his greatness through the ages.

In this Symposium Mohd. Ismail Ashna, Mehfoza Jan, Mishal Sultanpuri, Zameer Ansari, Shahbaz Hakbari and Mohd. Shafi Shakir presented their papers on the life and different aspects of his contribution. Dr Mushtaq Sadaf, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

SEMINAR ON 'NATIONAL LANGUAGE: FORM, CHALLENGES AND POSSIBILITIES'

August 19, 2014, New Delhi



Participants speaking at the Seminar on National Language

Sahitya Akademi organized a seminar on 'National Language: Form, Challenges and Possibilities' on August 19, 2014 at the Akademi Seminar Hall in New Delhi.

In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the writers, scholars, participants and the audience and explained the efforts of Sahitya Akademi to promote national language through various schemes and programmes. He spoke about the contribution of Hindi to Indian literature both in India

and abroad. Sri V.P. Gaur, Director, Official Language Division, Ministry of Culture, Government of India, in his introductory remarks spoke about the effort of Indian government to preserve and promote and languages of India through Human Resource Ministry and efforts to preserve and promote literature contained in those languages through institutions like Sahitya Akademi. He said both are necessary and felt that although official recognition has been granted to Hindi as a national language more concerted efforts are needed to promote it in a vigorous manner both at home and abroad. Dr Girishwar Mishra, Vice Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, in his inaugural address said that though Hindi has been officially recognized as a national language it has been weak on the ground; the policies of the government of the day as well as weakness of the individuals and institutions concerned are also the reasons for this situation. Prof Achutanand Mishra, former Vice Chancellor, Makhanlal Chaturvedi University for Journalism, in his address as Chief Guest felt that it is the responsibility of Hindi to take along all other languages of the country and more efforts should be made to make people realize that



Hindi is not antagonistic towards neither English nor other languages of India, failing which we will only see regress of Hindi as a national language. Sri Mahesh Chanra Gupt, in his address as a special guest, felt that bringing many regional languages under Eighth Schedule damages the stature of Hindi and it is not likely that these moves done of political compulsions will benefit those regional languages either. Sri Triloki Nath Chaturvedi, in his presidential address said that during the freedom struggle and independence movement Hindi played a vital role of uniting the people of India but today the situation has changed and there is a necessity for Hindi to take along other languages and cultural traditions of the country and this would be possible only if more and more works from other languages are translated and published in Hindi.

In the second session that was chaired by Sri Vimlesh Kanti Verma, five Hindi poets, Sri Paramanand Panchal, Ms Thangamani Amma, Sri Narayan Kumar, Sri Suryaprasad Dixit and Sri Rahul Dev presented their recently composed poems. Sri Surya Prasad Dixit,

Convener, Hindi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, said that any national language should possess five main characteristics, namely, vocabulary, simplicity, accessibility, communicative ability and reception. Today there is a perception that Hindi's utility lies only within the academic and official domains and the challenge is to break this myth. Noted journalist, Sri Rahul Dev in his address said that Hindi developed mainly as a language love by the speakers. But today Hinglish, the mixture of English with Hindi [similarly in other Indian languages as well] has imposed itself as a main obstacle for the development of Hindi and this obstacle should be removed. All over India the primary and elementary education should be made compulsory in regional languages. While summing up from the Chair, Sri Vimlesh Kanti Verma said that serving Hindi is equal to serving the nation. We should not have any narrow perception in this regard.

The event was co-ordinated by Sri Brajendra Tripathi, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi.

HONORARY FELLOWSHIP to DR ABHIMANYU UNNUTH, August 26, 2014, New Delhi



Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari conferring Honorary Fellowship on Dr Abhimanyu Unnath

Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, said he was honoured to felicitate Dr Unnuth. He said Dr Unnuth's writings were inspiration for generations of Hindi readers and said his writings reflect and portray the trials, tribulations and sufferings of Indian diaspora community not only in Mauritius but world over. As such his writings are important contributions to migrant literature written in any language over the past century.

Dr K. Sreenivasarao read out the citation and Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari presented the Fellowship to Dr Unnuth.

Accepting the Fellowship, Dr Unnuth in his speech said when he started writing about fifty years ago he did not even think that he would such an highest honour, anywhere and he was extremely proud that Sahitya Akademi chose him for this honour. He said this honour was not merely for himself but for all the marginalized people all over the world. He said he has written what all he could but there is lot left to be achieved and even he himself is aware that he has not written all that he wanted to. He said this honour reminds him one more time in his life that creative works are more important than the one who has created them and whatever life we are living today it is only on the sweat and blood of those who lived before us. Life is a continuum and no one has got any right to say they own anything. This award also reinforces in me in a very strong way that I should continue to write in Hindi, my language, till I breathe last. He also remembered and thanked all the countless readers of his writings, critics who have been touchstone of his writings, publishers who published him over past five decades and fellow writers who pushed him to achieve more. He also read out and quoted excerpts from his works.

Sahitya Akademi conferred its Honorary Fellowship on Dr Abhimanyu Unnuth, eminent Hindi writer from Mauritius at a grand ceremony in New Delhi on August 26, 2014.

Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed Dr Unnuth, the prominent writers and scholars from Delhi and the audience and spoke briefly about the life, works and legacy of Dr Unnuth. He also explained to the audience that Honorary Fellowship of the Akademi is conferred on those eminent writers and scholars who live outside the sub-continent but contribute in a big way to the promotion and development of Indian literature.

HINDI-HIMACHALI POETS' MEET, July 14, 2014, Dharamshala

Sahitya Akademi organized a Hindi-Himachali Poets' Meet on July 14, 2014 at Bachat Bhavan, Dharamshala featuring twenty two Hindi and Himachali poets.

In the inaugural session, Sri Brajendra Tripathi, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the poets, delegates and audience and spoke briefly about the nature and scope of such literary programmes organized by the Akademi through the year and across India. Sri Pratyosh Guleri, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi, who chaired the session, spoke at length about the literary and cultural traditions of Hindi and Himachali and stressed the importance and relevance of organizing such literary events. Five Hindi poets, Sri K.K. Tud, Sri Sushil Kumar Phull, Sri Om Awasthi, Sri Rajiv Trigarti, Ms. Saroj Parmar and six Himachali poets, Sri Naveen Haldunvi, Sri Ram Prasad Sharma, Sri Harikrishan Murari, Sri Kushal Katoch, Sri Pavanendra Pavan and Sri Satpal Ghritwanshi rendered their recent poems.

In the second session that was chaired by the noted poet Sri Parmanand Sharma, six Hindi poets, Sri Rammurti Vasudev, Ms. Aditi, Sri Piyoosh Guleri, Ms. Rekha Dadhwal, Sri Suresh Bhardwaj 'Nirash' and Sri Navneet Sharma and five Himachali poets, Sri K.C. Kanwar, Sri Yugal Kishore Dogra, Sri Dhaniram Sankhyayan, Sri Gautam Sharma Vyathit and Sri Rameshchandra Mastana rendered their recent poems.

LITERARY FORUM POETRY READING, July 18, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a poetry reading literary forum session on July 18, 2014 at Sahitya Akademi Conference Hall in New Delhi. Three well-known poets, Sri Pratap Rao Kadam, Sri Hareprakash Upadhyay and Sri Mithilesh Shrivastava participated and rendered their recently composed poems.

The programme was well attended by writers, scholars and eminent poets from Delhi and the surroundings.

'KATHA SANDHI' AND 'MULAKAT', July 20, 2014, Moga

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, organized a twin programme of 'Katha Sandhi' and 'Mulakat' on July 20, 2014 at Freedom Fighter Bhavan, Moga. In the 'Kathasandhi' segment, noted writer Gulzar Singh Sandhu read out excerpts from his works and the reading session was followed by an interactive session with the noted scholars, poets and writers who attended the programme.

In the 'Mulakat' segment, Sri Sampooran Singh Tallevaliya, Sri Amandeep Singh, Sri Darshan Singh Guru and Sri Surjeet Barad read out their poems and stories and the reading session was followed by interactive session with the noted scholars, poets and writers who attended the programme.

LITERARY FORUM – READINGS, July 21, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a literary forum comprising readings of poetry in English and Hindi and excerpts and translation from a novel in Telugu on July 21, 2014 at Sahitya Akademi Conference Hall in New Delhi.

Noted poets Ms Uddipana Goswami and Sri Kamal Kumar rendered their poems in English and Hindi respectively. Ms Kalpana Rentala read out excerpts from her story and also in translation.

The writers interacted with the audience after the reading session. Eminent writers and scholars from New Delhi participated in the function.

READINGS BY YOUNG WRITERS, July 23, 2014, Udaipur

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with the College of Social Science and Humanities, Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur organized a reading programme for young and upcoming writers on July 23, 2014 at Udaipur.

Prof Madhav Hada, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the Vice Chancellor, Dean, the faculty and students of the University in addition to the young writers who participated in the programme and briefly outlined the initiatives of the Akademi for promoting young and aspiring writers and also various programmes organized by the Akademi throughout the country covering all the 24 recognized languages. Prof Indravardhan Trivedi, Vice Chancellor of the University, who was a Chief Guest, thanked the Akademi for choosing the University to organize such a programme to revitalize and recognize the talent of the youth. Prof Sharad Shrivastava, Dean, spoke about Rajasthan literary



scenario and said there is a plenty of talent out there and he was very happy that the Akademi has come forward to tap them not only in Rajasthan but all over the country.

In the first session that was chaired by noted poet Sri Nand Chaturvedi, five young writers, Ms Anushree Rathod, Ms Arti Vaishnav, Ms Urmila Khatik, Sri Kunjan Acharya and Sri Jayesh Nandavana, presented their writings. In the second session that was chaired by Sri Naval Kishore, noted critic, seven young writers, Ms Tarushri Sharma, Ms Neeta Kothari, Sri Chetan Sipi, Ms Reena Menaria, Ms Swati Shakunt, Sri Mahesh Bunker and Sri Parag Patot presented their papers.

Prof Madhav Hada proposed a vote of thanks.

POETS' MEET, July 27, 2014, Agartala

Sahitya Akademi's North East Centre for Oral Literature [NECOL] at Agartala organized the Oral Languages Poets' Meet on July 27, 2014 at Press Club, Agartala.

Smt. Minkashi Sen Bandyopadhyay, Director, NECOL, welcomed the poets and the audience and briefly outlined the activities of NECOL. Sri Chandrakanta Murasingh, eminent poet from Tripura presided over the function and presented the literary scenario of tribal languages of Tripura.

Kokborok, Chakma, Halam, Mog and Garo were the languages represented and the noted poets Sri Narendra Debbarma (Kokborok), Smt. KrairiMog Chaudhury (Mog), Sri ThaiongaMog (Mog) Sri KishorMurasingh (Kokborok), Sri Santimayee Chiran (Garo),

Sri Rajendra Reang (Kokborok), Smt. Uttara Chakma (Chakma), Sri Darindra Tripura (Kokborok), Sri UdayJyoti Chakma (Chakma), recited their recent poems.

Smt. Minkashi Sen Bandyopadhyay proposed a vote of thanks.

HINDI LITERARY FESTIVAL IN SOUTH AFRICA, July 25-July 30, 2014

As per a communication received from the Deputy High Commissioner, High Commission of India, Pretoria (South Africa), an invitation was extended to the Sahitya Akademi to participate in a Hindi Literary Festival in coordination with the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, in South Africa which was held from 25 to 30 July 2014. Accordingly, the President, Sahitya Akademi nominated a 8-member Indian writers' delegation consisting of (1) Dr. Naresh Chandra Saxena (2) Dr. Om Nishchal (3) Dr. Bhagwan Singh (4) Sri Prem Shankar Shukla (5) Sri Rewati Raman Prasad (6) Sri Shiv Narayan Singh (7) Sri Ashok Chakradhar and (8) Sri Prem Janmejai. The programme was organized by Hindi Shiksha Sangh in South Africa in association with the High Commission of India in Pretoria. The delegation reached Johannesburg on July 24, 2014 and returned on July 31, 2014. The members of the delegation participated in the Hindi Literary Festival featuring a Symposium on Trends in Contemporary Hindi Literature and a Kavi Sammelan. The members also visited Pietermaritzburg, Addington beach (Mahatma Gandhi Phoenix), Patidar Hindi School in Lenasia and High Commissioner's Residence,

Waterkloof, Pretoria during the course of their visit.

VOICES IN VERSE – A POETRY EVENT, August 6, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with LILA Foundation for Trans-social Initiatives, organized 'Voices in Verse,' a collaborative multilingual poetry event on August 6, 2014, at Sahitya Akademi conference hall.

"For the dead and the living, we must bear witness..." The spirit of Elie Wiesel's words animated the air as the Sahitya Akademi hosted a unique poetry evening, with readings by seven major writers in various languages, and a conversation among them, to mark the launch of the cultural banner of LILA Foundation, LILA Bearing Witness. The event, entitled 'Voices in Verse' celebrated the multicultural origins of the participants, and also served as an initial collective reflection on the possibilities of individuals and communities bearing witness to the times in general, and the on the multitudinous ways in which poets in particular tend to bear witness.

After the welcome address by Sahitya Akademi Secretary K Srinivasa Rao, and initial remarks by LILA Executive Director Rizio Yohannan Raj, Malaysian poet, journalist, and puppetry conservationist Eddin Khoo opened the evening with the reading of an exclusive statement on the arduous agenda of poetry as a genre necessarily and urgently bearing witness. Reflecting on Auden's words, "Poetry might be defined as the clear expression of mixed feelings," Khoo reminded the audience how poetry always bears witness, but also welcomes creations not evidently or immediately political, ethical or even critical. It does so, principally in its power to regenerate language, to



animate experience, to inspire chaos of feeling, to commemorate... When poetry bears witness, it becomes an ambivalent act that sidelines or subverts the classical paradigms of action. Khoo read his own poetry in English, and read a couple of poems by well-known poets in Indonesian and Malay poems, and his translations of the same.

The poetry reading and conversation that followed, *Voices in Verse*, was chaired by senior poet and critic K Satchidanandan, who responded to the questions Khoo raised. He said poetry transmuted history by creating lasting verbal monuments, and historical time became poetic time as a consequence. He added that witnessing is an act of volition and involves a choice unlike seeing which is automatic and involuntary. Witnessing is not only seeing but also showing like Neruda saying: 'Come and see the blood in the streets!'

The other poets who read were Sudeep Sen, Anamika, Vanita, Michael Creighton and RizioYohannan Raj. They discussed how poetry raises its voice, often ironically inverted, in an effort to cope with times fraught with differences that are made to appear irreconcilable. The evening celebrated multiplicity through the presentation of poems from various languages and backgrounds, in which the audience participated with enthusiasm.

'ASMITA' – MULTILINGUAL READING SESSION,

August 14, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized an 'Asmita' programme featuring multilingual reading session by well-known poets and short story writer on August 14, 2014 at Sahitya Akademi

Conference Hall in New Delhi.

Well-known women writers Ms ArchanaDatta (English), Ms MamtaKiran (Hindi) and Ms J. Bhagyalakshmi (Telugu) read out from their own works. Number of writers and scholars were present during the programme and a lively interactive session followed the reading session.

'MEET THE AUTHOR' with JASWANT SINGH NEKI,

August 13, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a 'Meet the Author' programme with the prominent neo-metaphysical poet, leading Sikh Scholar and prolific Punjabi writer, Dr Jaswant Singh Neki on August 13, 2014 at the Akademi auditorium in New Delhi.

Dr Singh began by speaking about his early life, his works and the influences on his life and writings. Then he read out excerpts from his works and the interactive session followed involving prominent writers, poets, playwrights and scholars from all around Delhi.

'THROUGH MY WINDOW' ON GHULAM NABIKHUSHDIL,

August 18, 2014, Bandipora

Sahitya Akademi organised a programme "Through My Window" on 18 August 2014 at Wular Vantage Park Garoora, Bandipora on Ghulam Nabi Khushdil, a veteran Kashmiri poet, translator, social activist and

columnist. Mr. Abdul Ahad Hajini, an eminent Kashmiri writer presented an elaborated paper on the life and contribution of Ghulam Nabi Khushdil besides a critical assessment of Khushdil's poetic sensibility, novelty of thought, aesthetic aspects of his ghazals, naats, nazams and wachun. Zameer Ansari, Shakir Shafi, G H Taskeen and other writers made valuable interventions and interacted with the speaker. A galaxy of writers attended the functions.

In the beginning of the programme, Prof Mohd. Zaman Azurdah, welcomed the speaker and audience. He described Ghulam Nabi Khushdil as a distinguished writer. Dr Mushtaque Sadaf Programme Officer of Sahitya Akademi explained the importance of organising such programmes besides referring to the main contribution of the poet. He also thanked the speaker and audience.

'THROUGH MY WINDOW' ON ASADULLAH AFAQUI, August 19, 2014, CharariShareef

Sahitya Akademi organised a programme "Through My Window" on August 19, 2014 at Degree College, Charari Shareef on eminent Kashmiri writer, scholar, critic and poet Asadullah Afaqui. Dr Mohammad Zaman Azurdah, Convener, Kashmiri Advisory Board welcomed the speaker and the audience. Mr. Ali Ahsan, noted Kashmiri writer spoke on the life, works and legacy of Asadullah Afaqui. Mr. Nazmul Islam, son of late writer also attended the function. Dr Mushtaque Sadaf, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi proposed a

vote of thanks.

PRAVASI MANCH

August 25, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi organized a Pravasi Manch programme featuring Toronto based Hindi writer and poet, Dr Shailaja Saksena on August 25, 2014 at the Sahitya Akademi Conference Hall in New Delhi.

Dr Shailaja, who is the founding director of Hindi Writers' Guild in Canada and is also the recipient of Maithilisharan Gupt Award, read out some of her recently composed poems.

Many poets, writers and scholars from around Delhi participated in the poetry reading and interactive sessions.

READING SESSIONS – DELHI BOOK FAIR

August 23, 2014 and August 27, 2014, New Delhi

During the Delhi Book Fair 2014 that was held at Pragati Maidan from August 23 to August 31, 2014, the Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with the Federation of Indian Publishers, organized two reading sessions by noted writers on August 23, 2014 and August 27, 2014 in Hall No. 8 at the venue.

On August 23, 2014, three women writers, Ms Chirashree Bishi Chakravarty (Bengali), Ms Leena Sharma (Assamese) and Ms Mondira Gosh (English) read out from their works while on August 27, 2014, three writers, Sri Gautam Das Gupta (Bengali), Ms Leena Malhotra (Hindi) and Ms Sujata

Choudhuri (Odia) read out their works.

AVISHKAR

August 28, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized an 'Avishkar' programme on August 28, 2014 at the Akademi auditorium in New Delhi, where well-known writer, composer and vocalist, Dr Priti Prakash Prajapati presented a musical rendition of the selected poems of the eminent Hindi poet Surya Kant Tripathi 'Nirala'.

LITERARY FORUM – KASHMIRI POETRY

READING

August 31, 2014, Banihal

Sahitya Akademi organized a Literary Forum Programme (Poetry Reading) at Banihal, Kashmir on August 31, 2014. In this programme Mr. Marghoob Banihali, Mr. Manshoor Banihali, Mr. Iqbal Shahid, Mr. Ghulam Mohammad Dilfigar, Mr. Ghulam Hasan Hasan and Prof. Shad Ramzan recited their recent poems.

Prof. Mohd. Zaman Azurdah, Convener, Kashmiri Advisory Board welcomed the poets and the audience and spoke briefly about Kashmiri poetry. Well-known Kashmiri poet and writer Dr. Aziz Hajini presided over the programme and presented his latest poems.

'ASMITA' (Urdu)

August 31, 2014, Lucknow

Sahitya Akademi organized 'Asmita' Programme on August 31,

2014 at Jaishankar Hall, Lucknow. The Programme divided into two sessions witnessed readings of Urdu Fiction and Urdu Poetry by women Urdu fiction writers and women poets. Dr. Waseem Begum, Member, Urdu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the participants and dignitaries and introduced the platform 'Asmita' and the objectives with which the Akademi created it.

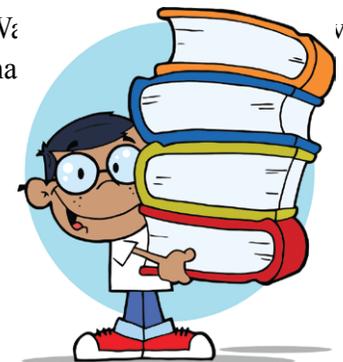
In the first session three women fiction writers, Sabiha Anwar, Tabassum Fatima and Shahida Siddiqui read out their latest stories. In the second session, five women poets, Naseem Nikhat, Rashida Baqi Haya, Azra Parveen, Salma Hijab and Rukhsana Lari recited



Participants of Asmita programme

their recent poems. After the story reading and poetry recitation sessions the writers interacted with the audience as well. All the writings witness during the two sessions portrayed the pain, longing, suffering and misery of women in the modern world.

Dr. Waseem Begum, Member of the



SYMPOSIUM ON SANTAL MOVEMENTS IN ODISHA and THEIR REFLECTION IN SANTALI LITERATURE

August 31, 2014, Baripada

Sahitya Akademi organized a symposium on ‘Santal Movements in Odisha and their reflection in Santali Literature’ on August 31, 2014 at Baripada, Odisha.

Dr Devendra Kumar Devesh, Sub-editor, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the participants and the audience and briefly outlined the initiatives and programmes of Sahitya Akademi to promote Santali literature. Sri Uday Nath Majhi, eminent Santali writer, in his inaugural address delineated the historical events concerning Santal community in Odisha and observed that large number of Santalis participated in the freedom movement. He alluded to Gunduria massacre in which thousands of Santalis were killed just after independence. Dr Damayanti Beshra in her keynote address talked about the enhanced level of awareness of Santali people of socio-cultural identities. Sri Gangadhar Hansda, Convener, Santali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi talked about various santal movements in Odisha. Sri Dasharathi Soren, noted Santali poet and Member, Santali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi proposed a vote of thanks. In the first session that was chaired by Sri Mangal Charan Majhi, three Santali scholars, Sri Kandra Murmu, Sri Ratnakar Murmu and Sri Jagannath Murmu presented their papers. In the second session that was chaired by Sri Gobinda Chandra Majhi, three scholars, Sri Madhab Hansdah, Sri Ramray Majhi and Dr Naku Hansdah presented their papers. In the valedictory session that was chaired by Ms. Raimani Marandi, Sri Arjun Charan Marandi delivered a valedictory speech and Sri Gangadhar Hansdah, Convener, Santali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

MEET THE AUTHOR, KAVI ANUVADAK & KATHASANDHI

August 30, 2014, Betnoti

Sahitya Akademi organized one day Santali programmes on Meet the Author, Kavi-Anuvadak and Kathasandhi on August 30, 2014 at Betnoti, Odisha.

Dr Devendra Kumar Devesh, Sub-editor, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the audience and Dr. Binod Kumar Nayak, eminent folklorist, in his inaugural speech spoke about the folk elements in the tribal and endangered languages. On the occasion Nisarthi Arang, a collection of Santali short stories by Sri Sirip Chandra Soren, published under Navodaya Scheme by the Akademi was released. Sri Gangadhar Hansdah, Convener, Santali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi spoke about the Akademi’s initiatives to take literature to all parts of the country and Sri Kandra Murmu proposed the vote of thanks

In Meet the Author programme Sri Kherwal Soren, eminent dramatist, fiction writer, poet described in detail his life, works and influences on his writings. Most of his writings covered the lives of oppressed sections of the society. In Kavi-Anuvadak programme Sri Arjun Charan Hembram, recited his three poems, ‘Udau Bing’ (Flying Snake), ‘Nawa Chando’ (New Moon) and ‘Sengel Marshal’ (Fire Light) in Santali and Sri Anpa Marand, Sahitya Akademi Yuva Purasakar winner recited these poems in Odia translation.

In Kathasandhi programme Sri Lalchand Soren, well known Santali fiction writer read out his short stories, ‘Tamak’ (Drum), ‘Buchiya’ and ‘Tanalak Tiryaw’ (Flute of Tanal).

‘KATHASANDHI’, August 31, 2014, Baripada

Sahitya Akademi organized a Kathasandhi programme with Sri Badal Hembram, noted Santali fiction writer on August 31, 2014 at Baripada, Odisha. Sri Badal Hembram read out his short stories ‘Hod Rekan Hod’ and ‘Ipil Aar Hopon’, dealing with the travails of a Santal family and both the stories were well received by the audience.

LITERARY FORUM ON 'CULTURE AND LITERATURE'

July 13, 2014, Kottarakara, Kollam, Kerala.



Dr C.R. Prasad delivering inaugural address

The Regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Bangalore, in association with Samskara, Kottarakara, organized a literary forum on 'Culture and Literature' on July 13, 2014 at Kottarakara, Kollam. The programme was preceded by a literary camp for children. Sixty young writers participated in the poetry and short story discussions.

The literary forum was presided over by Dr Gangadharan Nair, President of Samskara, Kottarakara. Dr Muraleedharan Nair, General Secretary, Samskara, welcomed the participants and the audience. Dr C.R. Prasad, Member, Malayalam Advisory Board of Sahitya Akademi spoke briefly about the nature of language, its place in the development of societies and the nature of relationship between language and culture. Dr Murali, noted Malayalam short story writer, described how cultural components get expressed in a language especially in short stories and summarized all experiences that the author tries to put into the stories are nothing but the cultural components. Dr Unnikrishnan, Malayalam critic, spoke about the impact of literature on a given culture and the universality of such impacts. Sri K. Sajeew Kumar, poet, also spoke briefly about translating culture in poetry. Sri K.V.S. Kartha, Vice-president of Samskara, proposed a vote of thanks.

LITERARY FORUM - "VACHANANUSANDHANA: A SPECIAL LECTURE ON READINGS OF VACHANAS"

July 20, 2014, Bangalore

Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Bangalore organized a literary forum "Vachananusandhana: A special lecture on Readings of Vachanas" on July 20, 2014 at the library hall of Sahitya Akademi's Regional Office in Bangalore.

Smt P. Chandrika, Member, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the participants and the audience. In her brief introductory speech, Smt Chandrika stressed the necessity of re-reading of Vachanas given the present socio-cultural-economic contexts. She felt such programmes augment the awareness of vachanas among the young Kannada minds.

Dr O.L. NagabushanaSwamy, noted critic and translator, chaired the forum and spoke at length about various frameworks from which the Vachanas can be approached and comprehended. At the physical level the Vachanas acted as vehicles of social revolution explicitly refuting the oppressing caste system, at the inner level they drew the mind of devotees and so can be considered as mystical and finally they can also be categorized as metaphysical as they also deal with matters beyond phenomena.

DrBasavarajKalgudi, noted Kannada critic and writer, delivered a special lecture focusing on various traditions of vachanas, their relevance to the society at present and beyond and more importantly the universality of the message they carried. He focused on the social elements of vachanas and how they consolidated the Bhakti movements within Karnataka while weeding out the caste system. He cited examples of Siddha and Natha traditions of vachanakaras and read out numerous vachanas to substantiate his views on vachanas.

Sri Mahesh Harave, noted Kannada writer, delineated Vachana tradition in the backdrop of folklore, Tantric Literature, HariharanaRagale. He expressed that the Vachana tradition is the tradition of awareness.

Mrs. D.C. Geetha, the final speaker, focused mainly on the social sides of the vachanakaras and the backdrop of their creative endeavors.

The programme was well attended by eminent Kannada scholars and critics.

LITERARY FORUM 'KAVI SAMAYA – POETRY RECITATION AND INTERACTION'

July 26, 2014, Mysore

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Bangalore organized a literary forum 'KaviSamaya- Poetry Recitation and Interaction' at Kuvempu Institute of Kannada Studies, Mysore on July 26, 2014.

Dr Aravind Malagatti, Member, General Council and Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the poets, faculty and the students of the Institute. He outlined the activities and programmes of the Akademi and highlighted how the Akademi is committed to taking the best of Indian literature to masses by organizing and conducting various literary programmes throughout India.

Dr D. Jaware Gowda, noted Kannada writer, delivered the inaugural speech and spoke about various poetic forms such as Champu, Ragale, Keerthane, Shatpadi, Tripadi and Sangatya and said some of these forms can be traced only in Kannada poetic traditions. He appealed to the young poets present at the programme to internalize the rhythm which is the soul of all poetry.

Dr R. Ramakrishna, Director of Kuvempu Institute, contrasted the contemporary poetry with the classical

and medieval and pointed out the lacking rhythm and observation of Nature in the contemporary.

The young and promising poets, Ragow, C. Sarvamangala, HoreyalaDoreswamy, M.S. Shekar, Latha Mysore, C. Ravindranath, Abdul Rasheed and Annapurna Nanjanagud, recited their poems composed in traditional forms but reflecting on contemporary issues.

Delivering the Presidential Speech, Dr C.P. Krishna Kumar, the well-known poet and critic said presenting a poem before an audience is an art and poets seldom master this. He further said that poetry does not yield its meaning in one reading or two readings; one must engage with it constantly to make the study of poetry a really profitable experience. At the end he presented three of his short poems.

Dr C. Naganna, Member, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

The programme was well attended and covered in the local media.



'KAVI SANDHI' with Smt.VIMALA July 27, 2014, Telugu Akademi, Hyderabad

The Regional of Sahitya Akademi at Bangalore organized a 'Kavisandhi' programme with noted Telugu poet, SmtVimala at Telugu Akademi Seminar Hall, Hyderabad on July 27, 2014.

The programme began with the observation of a minute's silence in memory of noted Telugu writer and critic Sri Chakkuri Rama Rao, who had passed away recently.

Sri N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the poet and the gathering and introduced the poet to the audience. He outlined the dominant themes in the works of SmtVimala and her legacy as a leading feminist poet representing Telugu voice across the globe.

Accepting the welcome, SmtVimala thanked the Akademi for the wonderful evening and recited some of her poems with annotations. She divided the poems selected on themes instead of chronology and the themes dominated the selections were, working women's problems, relationship issues of women, humiliations women suffer in their lives and the women's struggles across the world to end the slavery-like situations for women.

Eminent poets and Telugu scholars like Sri K.Sivareddy, Sri Yendluri Sudhakar, Sri A.Venugopal, Sri Rajaram Mohan Rao, Sri Yakub, Smt Sheela Lalith, Smt Saroja Raghu, Dr B.Bhavanadevi, Sri K.Vijayakumar, Sri Mukund Ram Rao, Sri Jimbe, Sri K.Mallaiah, Sri Muniapalle Raju, Sri K.Prabhakar, Dr Ramulu, Sripathi, Dr Poranki Dakshinamurthy and scores of literary connoisseurs along with the media persons attended the programme.

'MEET THE AUTHOR' with Sri MUNIPALLE RAJU

July 27, 2014, Telugu Akademi, Hyderabad.

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Bangalore organized a 'Meet The Author' programme with Sri Muniapalle Raju at the Telugu Akademi Seminar Hall on July 27, 2014.

Prof N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed everyone and introduced Sri Muniapalle Raju to the audience outlining the celebrated writer's life, works and legacy. He observed Sri Raju was a writer of prose-poems of different culture and from the important phase of Telugu literature.

Eminent Telugu writer of distinction, Sri Muniapalle Raju accepted the welcome and thanked the Akademi for arranging such a wonderful literary gathering. He reminisced about his childhood, loss of parents, poverty and the massive influence of Theosophical movement, Brahmasamaj, Gandhian thoughts, Marxism, Buddhism and Puranic discourses on his initial literary career. He also remembered the impact that legendary writers like Sri Venkatachalam, K. Kutumbarao, Gopichand, G.V. Krishna Rao, S. Narasimha Rao and Govindraj Subbarao had on his life and how he could mold himself into a serious writer on their influence. He spoke about how his understanding of people's struggle for identity has helped him in writing many stories based on this struggle and felt that 'Magic Realism' is not a new idea as promoted by the westerns as he clearly see its wide presence even in ancient texts like Veda Vyasa's Mahabharatha.

Prof YendluriSudhakar proposed a vote of thanks. Eminent scholars and writers like Anuvangala Venugopal, Sri Sripathi, Prof Yendluri Sudhakar, Ms A.Bhavanidevi, Sri K.Mallaiah, Sri Poranki Dakshinamurthy, Sri Dasura Ramulu, Sri S.Raghu Jimba, Shaila V.Raju, Sri K.Prabhakar and K.Sivareddy attended the programme.

LITERARY FORUM - 'INCLUSIVENESS IN MODERN LITERATURE with SPECIAL REFERENCE to RAYALASEEMA SHORT STORIES'

August 3, 2014, Anantapur

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Bangalore, in association with Jenee Manikyamma Publications, organized a literary forum programme on 'Inclusiveness in Modern Literature with Special reference to Rayalaseema Short Stories' at N.G.O. Home, Anantapur on August 3, 2014.



Rachapalem Chandrashekhara Reddy inviting audience for discussion

Jenne Anand Kumar, Chairperson of Jenee Manikyamma Publications welcomed the participants and thanked the Akademi for organizing important literary programme like this at Anantapur. Prof Rachapalem Chandrashekhara Reddy, Member, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi outlined the activities and programmes of the Akademi and explained the efforts of the Akademi to include the local literary organizations and publishers in all the 24 languages recognized by the Akademi. The programme was chaired by Dr B. Suryasagar, noted Telugu critic and the fiction writers, Sri Singamaneni Naryana, MsSanthi Narayana, Sri Sadlapalli Chidambara Reddy and Chilukuri Deevana read out the stories 'Nadipisthe Nadichi', 'Kaalaadhinulu', 'Jivana Pooraatam' and 'Aatapattu' respectively. The story reading session was followed by interaction with the scholars and students present. The All India Radio, Anantapur recorded the programme and broadcasted it on August 4, 2014.

LITERARY FORUM

ON "READING OF NEW POETRY", August 8, 2014, Gadag

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Bangalore, in association with the Centre for Lingayat Studies and Dalit Sahitya Parishad, Gadag, organized a literary forum on 'Reading of New Poetry' on August 8, 2014 at Niranjana Auditorium, Thontadharya Mutt, Gadag.

Sri Shivanagowda Gowdara, Secretary, Centre for Lingayat Studies welcomed the participants and the audience and thanked the Akademi for hosting a literary event at Gadag. Dr Arjuna Golasangi, Member, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi outlined the activities and initiatives of the Akademi. Noted Kannada writer Dr Chandrasekhara Vastrad who chaired the meeting spoke at length about the changing styles of Kannada poetry from ancient times to the present, how the poems of yore still remain a source of inspiration and how the modern greats adopted the style to write poems for the present. He urged the young poets not to ignore the styles of yore. Poets, Dr H.B. Poojara, Sri Manjunath Bammanakatti and Dr Kavita Kusagal read few of their Kannada poems and in English as well. Many prominent poets of the region participated in the event.

LITERARY FORUM

"A READING BY ANITA NAIR" , August 17, 2014, Bangalore

The Regional Office Sahitya Akademi at Bangalore kick started a monthly series of literary forum in English language with the reading by distinguished Indian English writer Ms Anita Nair on August 17, 2014 at Atta Galatta book shop in Koramangala, Bangalore.

Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Officer-in-Charge of Bangalore Sahitya Akademi office welcomed the celebrated author and explained the raison d'être of the platform. Ms. Shashi Deshpande, eminent Indian English writer and the Member, English Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi inaugurated the series and introduced the distinguished guest of the event, Ms. Anita Nair.

Ms. Anita Nair briefly spoke about her journey as a writer and then read out excerpts from her latest novel, Idris: Keeper of Light. The critically much acclaimed novel, set in the 17th century South India, revolves around the life of a Somali trader Idris Maymoon Samataar Guleed. Fate takes this eternal traveller to his hitherto unknown son, Kandavar, who aspires to join the warrior class. Rest of the novel tracks the journey of Idris and Kandavar across the length and breadth of 17th century South India and former's efforts to keep the latter away from all dangers.

Many literary connoisseurs from Bangalore and surrounding areas participated in this rendering of a gripping tale. Ms. Anita Nair also interacted with the audience after the reading session. Sri Subodh Sankar from Atta Galatta bookshop proposed vote of thanks.

LITERARY FORUM ON BHAKTI MOVEMENT,

August 17, 2014, Bangalore



Dr Narahalli Balasubramanya clarifying a point and the participants are keenly listening

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Bangalore organized a Literary Forum on Bhakti Movement on August 17, 2014 at the Library Hall of Akademi's Regional Office at Bangalore.

Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Officer-in-Charge of the Regional Office welcomed the participants and the audience and spoke briefly about the topic of the discussion.

Smt P. Chandrika, Member, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi in her introductory remarks highlighted how Bhakti traditions across India during medieval ages bound the society

and helped the oppressed to have voices.

Sri Surya Prakash Pandit, Editor of Vijayavani Daily and Smt Varada Srinivas, noted Kannada writer and translator spoke about various dimensions and dynamics of Bhakti movement in both Karnataka and other places. They alluded to verses referring to Bhakti in Vedas to Kumara Bharata of Kannada to modern period to substantiate their views.

Dr Narahalli Balasubramanya, Convener, Kannada Advisory Board, chaired the programme and spoke at length about relationship between Bhakti and other ideas such as Knowledge and Bhakti, Beauty and Bhakti, Murtha and Amurtha etc. Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar proposed a vote of thanks.

LITERARY FORUM READING OF 'HARISHCHANDRAKAVYA,' August 25, 2014, Mumbai

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Bangalore, in association with the department of Kannada of Mumbai University, organized a literary forum on 'Reading of Raghavanka's HarishchandraKavya' on August 25, 2014 at WRIC Bhavan, Mumbai.

Dr G.N. Upadhyaya, Member, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, Sri Ambataneya Mudradi, Sri Chandrasekhara Kedlaya, Dr Manonmani and Ms. Poornima Shetty participated in the programme. Sri Chandrasekhara Kedlaya recited Gamakas based on Raghavanka's epic Harishchandra Kavya. Sri Ambataneya Mudradi spoke at length about the real meaning behind the allegory of Samudra Manthan – mythological churning of ocean of milk and compared the process of gaining knowledge to this allegory. Dr Manonmani and Ms. Poornima Shetty too talked about the literature involving gamakas of Raghavanka's epic. Dr G.N. Upadhyaya proposed vote of thanks. The event was attended by literary connoisseurs of Mumbai and members of Kannada Sangha, Mumbai and was covered well by the local media.

HOMAGE TO Dr U.R. ANANTHAMURTHY,

August 25, 2014, Bangalore

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Bangalore organized a condolence meeting to mourn the demise of Dr U.R. Ananthamurthy, distinguished writer, past president and Fellow of the Akademi and Jnanpith awardee at the office premises at 2.00 pm on August 25, 2014.

Dr Chandrasekhara Kambar, Vice-President, Sahitya Akademi, Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Officer-in-Charge and the entire staff paid homage to DrAnanthamurthy.

Dr Kambar said he had utmost reverence and respect for Dr Ananthamurthy who was a distinguished writer of international fame, social activist and original thinker par excellence. He said that one striking aspect of DrAnanthamurthy's personality was he never held himself back on anything and spoke and acted on anything that came to his mind. Having been influenced by the socialist philosophy, Dr Ananthamurthy helped and encouraged the colleagues and fellow writers throughout his life. Dr Kambar also remembered the democratic values that Dr Ananthamurthy brought to the writer community and literary organizations.

Sri S.P.Mahalingeshwar, Officer In-charge, also paid his respects for Dr Ananthamurthy. Dr Kambar and the staff of the regional office at Bangalore observed a minute's silence to pay homage to the departed soul.

ONE DAY SYMPOSIUM ON "BHASHANTHARA ANUBHAVA"

August 30, 2014, Thiruvananthapuram



The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Bangalore organized an one day symposium on "Bhashanthara Anubhava" at Vylopilli Samskrithi Bhavan, Thiruvananthapuram on August 30, 2014 to celebrate the culture and tradition of translation

and appreciating the sensibilities of expressions in other languages.

Inaugural Session:

Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the participants, scholars and writers attending the event and spoke briefly about the nature of translation. He said translation is not merely a transformation of syntax and semantics from one linguistic form into another but rather a translation of one culture into another. He informed the participants and audience that the core activity of the Akademi is translation and if this event turns out successfully, the Akademi will be very happy to replicate the same in other languages and zones of India. Sri Puthusseri Ramachandran, eminent Malayalam poet and linguist, delivered the inaugural address



Sri Puthusseri Ramachandran inaugurating the symposium Bhashantara Anubhava



and spoke at length about the techniques and nuances of translation. He said translation is the essence of all poetry and as such all translation is nothing but transcreation. Sri K. Nachimuthu, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board, enumerated in detail about the task of translators and listed out difficulties in translating even among the similar languages such as Malayalam and Tamil. Sri C. Radhakrishnan, Convener, Malayalam Advisory Board, who chaired the session, talked about the necessity of symposiums of this kind and enumerated the efforts of the Akademi in the field of translation and also how translation brings together diverse communities and cultures and thereby acts as a platform for unity, peace and national integration.

First Session:

The first session was chaired by Sri Neela Padmanabhan, noted bi-lingual writer and translator who felt that translating poetry especially in a diverse country like India, with vastly different cultures and languages, is a serious task and a challenging one too. Prof H.S. Shivaprakash, eminent Kannada poet and playwright recited his poems in Kannada that was followed by the recitation of these poems in translation by Prof K. Satchidanandan, eminent writer and translator in Malayalam, by Sri Indran in Tamil and by Prof N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in Telugu. In the second part of the session Sri Asha Raju recited his Telugu poems that were recited in translation by Sri Prabha Varma in Malayalam, by Smt Uma Maheshwari in Tamil and by Sri Narahalli Balasubramanya, Convener, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi in Kannada.

Second Session:

The second session was chaired by Prof N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory Board. Prof K. Satchidanandan recited two of his poems in Malayalam that were recited in translation by Smt Uma Maheshwari in Tamil, by Sri Asha Raju in Telugu, by Prof Aravind Malagatti in Kannada. In the second part of the session, Smt Uma Maheshwari recited her poems in Tamil that were recited in translation by Sri Prabha Varma in Malayalam, by Sri Narahalli Balasubramanya in Kannada and by Prof Gopi in Telugu.

Third Session:

The third session was chaired by Sri Narahalli Balasubramanya. Sri Indran recited his poems in Tamil that were rendered in translation by Dr C.R. Prasad in Malayalam, by Sri Asha Raju in Telugu and by Prof H.S. Shivaprakash in Kannada. In the second part of this session Prof Aravind Malagatti recited his poems in Kannada and the same poems were rendered in translation by Dr C.R. Prasad in Malayalam, by Smt. Uma Maheshwari in Tamil and by Prof N. Gopi in Telugu.

Valedictory Session :

This session was chaired by eminent Malayalam poet and social activist Smt Sugathakumari. In this session Prof N. Gopi recited his Telugu poems that were rendered in translation by Sri Indran in Tamil and by Prof H.S. Shivaprakash in Kannada. In the second part of the session Sri Prabha Varma recited his Malayalam poems that were rendered in translation by Prof H.S. Shivaprakash in Kannada, by Smt. Uma Maheshwari in Tamil and by Sri Asha Raju in Telugu.



MEET THE AUTHOR **with PUTHUSSERY RAMACHANDRAN** **August 30, 2014, Thiruvananthapuram**

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Bangalore organized a “Meet the Author” programme with eminent Malayalam poet and linguist, Sri Puthusseri Ramachandran on the evening of August 30, 2014 at Vylopilli Samskrithi Bhavan, Thiruvananthapuram.

Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, introduced the poet to the scholars and literary connoisseurs present at the venue and spoke briefly about the life, work and legacy of Sri Puthusseri Ramachandran.



Sri Puthussery Ramachandran answering a question

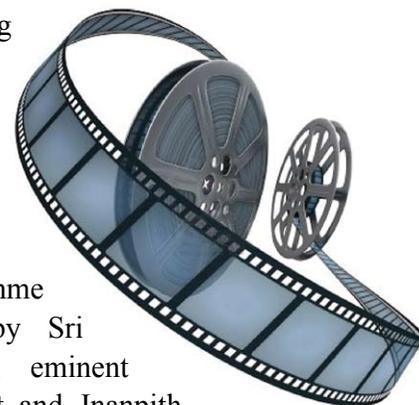
Sri Ramachandran, accepting the welcome thanked the Akademi for arranging such a wonderful literary gathering. He talked about his early life, awakening of general awareness due to his early exposure to the political world, his tryst with communism, influences on his literary life and his fascination with the early Malayalam languages and poetry. He said this awareness helped in bringing a touch of realism to his poetry and also how it influenced his work in Dravidian languages, especially ancient Malayalam poetry. He also recited some of his poems

Sri C. Radhakrishnan, Convener, Malayalam Advisory Board, proposed a vote of thanks. The event was followed by a question-answer session and was well attended by the scholars and writers from all over Kerala.

**SCREENING OF DOCUMENTARY FILMS ON
EMINENT INDIAN AUTHORS,
August 31, 2014, Thiruvananthapuram**

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Bangalore organized a screening of Akademi documentary films on eminent Indian authors on August 31, 2014 at Vylopilli Samskrithi Bhavan, Thiruvananthapuram.

Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the scholars and writers present at the venue and talked briefly about the role of documentary films in literature and also outlined the effort of the Akademi in this direction.



Sri ONV Kurup inaugurating the programme

The programme was chaired by Sri O.N.V. Kurup, eminent Malayalam poet and Jnanpith awardee. He spoke about the necessity of documentary films and the value of archives in our attempts to pass on the gems of literature to posterity. He appreciated the efforts of the Akademi in this regard and hoped that the Akademi will continue to do this service in the years to come too.

Following documentaries were screened – on O.N.V. Kurup by K. Jayakumar; on Neela Padmanabhan by Gouthaman; on M.R. Moorthy; on Kamala Das by Suresh Kohli; on M.T. Vasudevan Nair by

Harikumar and on Vaikom Muhammad Basheer by M.A. Rahim.

ONE DAY SYMPOSIUM ON ANANDARANGA PILLAI, July 31, 2014, Puducherry

Inaugural Session :

Sri A.S. Ilangovan, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, Chennai welcomed the participants and audience. He briefly explained to the audience present the importance and relevance of Anandarangapillai works and his legacy and why Sahitya Akademi is keen on preserving and promoting the literature of this polyglot and master litterateur.

Sri Ki. Nachimuthu, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board of Sahitya Akademi, who chaired the session, dwelt on the nature of Anandarangapillai's diaries, how they are in the form of colloquial language. He brought out before the audience the possible impact of Malayalam language on the literature of Anandarangapillai. Sri Nachimuthu opined that many universities should take up intense research on these aspects of Anandarangapillai's writings.

Sri S. Arockianathan, who delivered the key note address, spoke at length about multi-faceted personality of Anandarangapillai as seen through his journals and how perspectives from different angles and fields will help understanding and critically appreciating Anandarangapillai. He also brought forth some unknown and interesting facets of Anandarangapillai. He opined that though a number of scholars and institutions are taking up research on Anandarangapillai, more needs to be done for a better understanding and enhanced awareness of cultural and literary milieu found in Anandarangapillai's literature.

Sri R. Sambath, Member, General Council of Sahitya Akademi proposed a vote of thanks.

First Session :

The session was chaired by Sri E.M. Rajan, eminent professor and Principal-in-Charge, Tagore Arts College, Puducherry and he welcomed the participants with introductory remarks on Anandarangapillai's language.

Sri Silambu Na Selvarasu presented a paper on AnandarangaKovai and Anandaranga Pillai thamizh, literature written in sub-genre of Tamizh poetry. His paper highlighted how these verses are faithful to the grammar of poetry and yet at the same time how the poet innovated packing each line pleasures for the readers.

Sri S. Sathiyarayanan presented a paper on Anandaranga Vijaya Sambu and he listed out the classification of Anandaranga Pillai's writings. His paper brought out the greatness of Anandarangapillai and features of Ratchandamu and Sambu.

Sri Aranga Murugaiyan presented a paper on 'Vanam Vasapadum,' one of the important novels written in

twentieth century. He explained how the novelist has brought the lives and times of people who lived along with Anandarangapillai. He opined that Vanam Vasapadum cannot be merely treated as a work of fiction but also as an important tool for understanding the past.

Second Session :

The second session was chaired by noted anthropologist and Puducherry researcher, Sri BhaktavachalaBharathi and he welcomed the participants with pointed observations on picking up random references and building up a theory based on stray references and then validating them against the evidence, historical, archaeological, literary etc.

Sri Sankar presented a paper on the references of trade in Anandarangapillai's diaries and how these references enable the discerning readers to have peep into the trading practices of Anandarangapillai's time. More importantly they also highlight the trading practices of far off lands.

Sri Ezhil Raman presented a very interesting paper on the references to the Siddhars in Anandarangapillai's diary. He listed out and explained the presence of Baalayya Saami, Ambalathaadam Saami, noted siddhars of Pondicherry at that time but also numerous other pandaarams and swamis from the neighbouring areas. He opined that these references not only help one in understanding religious thoughts of Anandarangapillai but also ritual and spiritual practices of the people of coastal Tamil Nadu at that time.

Valedictory Session :

The session was chaired by Sri Sam Vijay who welcomed the participants and introduced the literature of Sri Prapanchan to the audience.

Sri Prapanchan, eminent novelist and Sahitya Akademi award winner, talked about how the very nature of Anandarangapillai's writings attracted him and how this attraction to Anandarangapillai led to him writing two seminal fiction works – Maanudam Vellum and Vaanam Vasapadum. He said unlike the journals of his contemporaries which kept the records of interactions with the royals and government officials, Anandarangapillai's diaries record and bring out the wails and pleasures of common people.

Sri SundaraMurugan, Member, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

The symposium was attended by journalists, academicians, research scholars and students in addition to hordes of literary connoisseurs from various walks of life.

YUVA SAHITI, July 12, 2014, Chennai

The Chennai sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi organized a programme called ‘Yuva Sahiti’ on 12th July 2014 at Bharathiya Vidya Bhavan, Mylapore.

Sri A.S. Ilangovan, Officer-in-Charge of Sahitya Akademi sub-regional branch at Chennai welcomed the participants and the audience with a beautiful line from the poem of great Malayalm poet, Vallathol “Winter or Spring / I cannot / Exist without / Flowering” to explain how Sahitya Akademi has been constantly encouraging, over sixty years, the flowering young talents across India. Sri Maalan, Member, Tamil Advisory Board, briefed the participants and the audience about the motives and scope of the platform. He introduced each participant, their works, genre of their choice, language in which they write and the current projects they are working on. He spoke at length about great writers across the world who started early and how starting early in their lives helped them in becoming a writer of note over the years.

Ms Lakshmi Krupa, the first participant, read out one of her recently written English short stories. The love story, based in the rural settings of early 20th century Tamil Nadu, describes the tussle and struggle within the mind and the family of a protagonist, a teenage girl who tries to overcome the overbearing social rules of the time. The next participant, Ms Nayanthara, read out two of her recent Malayalm poems. The poems highlighting the reflections of a young girl about the Nature and natural phenomena around her captivated the audience. The poet herself rendered English translations of her poems for the benefit of the audience. Next participant, Sri Adityan, noted Tamil poet and research scholar read out a couple of his poems, annotating them with features from Tamil poetic traditions from the yore through middle-ages to the present era of 21st century.

Final participant, Ms Elizabeth Jayakumari spoke about the evolution of Telugu short stories over 100 years, her area of research and also spoke about what made her take interest in that particular area of literature. She gave plenty of new information to everyone present such as the first short story published in Telugu was not by Guruzada Apparao but by Bandaru Achamamba. Noted writers, journalists from both the print and electronic media, academicians and literary connoisseurs graced the occasion and encouraged the young writers.

LITERARY FORUM ON ISSAC ARUMAIRAJAN'S WRITINGS July 18, 2014, Nagercoil

The Chennai sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi conducted a literary forum programme on Issac Arumairajan's writings on July 18, 2014 at Scott Christian College, Nagercoil.

Dr Nithyavathi, Head, Tamil Dept of Scott Christian College welcomed the participants and audience. She gave a brief introduction to the life and works of Issac Arumairajan. Dr Issac Samuel Nayagam, Professor of Tamil, Scott Christian College presided over the function. He spoke about the fiction world of Arumairajan, about the thirty-four short stories of Arumairajan and the idioms and narratives of fiction of Arumairajan. Five Scholars from various educational institutions presented their papers in



(L-R) Prof Issac Samuel Nayagam, Prof Arunagiri, Prof Kumara Selva, Prof Rajadoss and Prof Muhilai Rajapandian

the literary forum. Dr Muhilai Rajapandian, Presidency College, Chennai, presented a paper explaining the fiction crafts used by Arumairajan. Dr Rajadoss, Retd. Professor of Nesamony Memorial Christian College, presented a paper on the language and dialects of Arumairajan's fiction, especially Kalkulam and Vilavankod. Kedakkathu, Irukkattu, Sangathi. Dr Neelakanda Pillai, Professor of Tamil, S.T. Hindu College, presented a paper on the aspect of characterization in Arumairajan's novels. Dr Kumara Selva, Professor of Tamil, Nesamony Memorial Christian College, presented a paper on the presence of Christian elements in Issac Arumairajan's fiction. The paper explained how Christian Communism was the content of all his novels. His fiction also is well known for severe criticism of Christianity, though Arumairajan himself was a born Christian. Dr N.A. Arunagiri of Kerala University College presented a paper on the contents of Arumairajan's novels. The paper explained in detail the social, cultural and religious thoughts permeate almost all the pages of his short and long fiction.

SCREENING OF DOCUMENTARY FILMS ON EMINENT INDIAN AUTHORS July 27, 2014, Chennai



Prof K. Nachimuthu, Sri A.S. Ilangovan, Sri S. Ramakrishnan and Sri Maalan.

all over the country. He said “We decided to make films based on the lives of living authors. We filmed them with their contemporaries so that their voices, handwriting and conversation styles could be preserved.”

Sri K. Nachimuthu, the Convener, Tamil Advisory Board of Sahitya Akademi, briefly spoke about the documentaries that the Akademi has made so far and also about the future plans in this direction. He also briefly spoke about the importance of making documentaries on noted writers across the spectrum of the society and in all Indian languages.

Sri Maalan, who spoke next, stressed upon the identification of changes that are sweeping the societies across the world and their reflections in the writings in all the languages. With this also arises the need to make documentaries, not only on the eminent authors but also on those who set the trends in small ways. He said the purpose of documentaries is also changing with the times and now it is not only the preservation but dissemination also is sharing the focus. He also briefly introduced to the audience the writers whose documentaries were screened that day.

Noted writer, translator, critic and film script writer, S. Ramakrishnan spoke about the impact of the documentaries have on the readers. It brings alive the writers, their works and magnifies the world of the authors. This is more important especially to avoid any and all misunderstandings by the readers vis a vis their works. The documentaries have power to enlighten and also instruct about the writers and their works.

In all six documentary films made by the Sahitya Akademi were screened, three in the morning session and three in the evening session. The writers, whose documentaries screened were, D. Jayakanthan, Sunil Gangopadhyay, Mahasweta Devi, Vaikom Muhammad Basheer, Kamala Das and Indira Parthasarathy

Several luminaries, writers, poets, playwrights, film makers, critics, print and electronic media personnel and more than 200 literary connoisseurs from various parts of Tamil Nadu participated in this day-long programme.

NARI CHETNA, August 14, 2014, Mannargudi

A literary forum on NariChetna was organized on 14th August 2014 at Gopalamudhram Middle School, Mannargudi.

General Council member, Dr R. Kamarasu, Professor in Tamil, presided over the above forum. In his presidential address, he noted, "Sahitya Akademi" rendered yeoman service for the progress of women, children, tribes and daliths. He spoke on how women nowadays are gaining progress in their position. He remarked that short stories, poems and other literary works are being written at present for their attainment of gender equality. He strongly emphasized that gender equality is the base for democracy. Professor Dr P. Diravida Mani spoke on 'women in novels'. In his speech, he referred to novels "O-America" by Jayakanthan, "Pavalayi" by

K. ChinnappaBharathi and "Thooppukkari" by Malarvathi and explained how women were characterized in these novels. He narrated interestingly how women were suppressed on the basis of their gender in their work places and how they overcome from these suppressions. Professor Dr M. Kannammal followed him on the title, "Women in folk literature". She explained in her speech how women are described and narrated in lullaby, folklore, folk story and other sort of country folk song forms. "Women in media" was the caption for Professor Dr. Thamizharasi Anbalagan and she spoke how women are visualized in advertisements, cinema and TV serials as a consumer products created for the sake of men. She strongly condemned the media (cinema and TV) for projecting women as consumer product, villainous and feeble hearted crying dolls in nature and not characterizing them as brave souls. She praised media for canvassing women's security. Poet S. Selvakumar, welcomed the gathering and T. Anbuchelvi, Headmistress, delivered vote of thanks.

LITERARY FORUM ON PUDUMAIPITHAN, August 23, 2014, Chennai

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai, in association with the Dept of English, University of Madras conducted a literary forum on Pudumaipithan on August 23, 2014 at University of Madras main building and the English translation of collected stories of Pudumaipithan, published by the Akademi in 2014 was released.

Sri A.S. Ilangovan, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, Chennai welcomed the guests and the audience. He briefly delineated the life, work and legacy of Pudumaipithan. He quoted several passages from the works of the legendary writer and felt that his thoughts, philosophy and writings are more relevant today than ever before. He congratulated Prof R.E. Asher, eminent linguist from the University of Edinburgh for taking up the tough task of translating Pudumaipithan and delivering a highly readable book. He also congratulated Sri V. Subramanian, co-translator.

The Guest of Honor of the evening, Prof R. Thandavan, Vice Chancellor, University of Madras, released the book and Prof Chellappan, educationist, received the first copy. The Vice Chancellor, in his keynote address, expressed his happiness that the Sahitya Akademi has chosen the University of Madras as a venue for such an important function. He hoped in the days to come both the Sahitya Akademi and the University of Madras will work together more in promoting quality literature in Tamil and other languages in Tamil Nadu. He felt that the writings and thoughts of Pudumaipithan cannot be confined merely to the narrow world of 'Tamil' or 'Indian' Literature. Pudumaipithan belongs, properly, to all the literary connoisseurs of the world. He also felt that Pudumaipithan was not a writer who can be easily fixed into anyone ism as people very often like to do.

Prof K Chellappan, in his speech

talked about the literary canons of Pudumaipithan's writings, drew parallels between Pudumaipithan and other great writers of twentieth century. He congratulated the translators for a commendable job and the Sahitya Akademi for publishing such a wonderful book. Sri Maalan, in his speech felt that more research needs to be done on the writings and creative patterns weaved by Pudumaipithan. He felt even after close to seven decades since his passing away Tamil literature and Tamil fiction in particular, is still feeling the echoes of his writings. After SubramaniaBharati, Pudumaipithan was one writer who lasted for that long. Sri V. Subramaniam, in his speech thanked the Akademi for agreeing to publish the book and host the event. He briefly narrated what prompted him to take up the translation and said that without the help and encouragement that he received from Prof Asher, the book would not have seen the light. He also described to the audience and the guests the highs and lows he experienced as a translator. Prof S. Armstrong proposed a vote of thanks. The event was well covered in the local print and electronic media.

U.R. ANANTHA MURTHY CONDOLENCE MEETING, August 26, 2014, Chennai

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai held a condolence meeting to mourn the passing away of the distinguished Kannada writer U.R. Ananthamurthy, who was also the past President of the Akademi on August 26, 2014 at the Sahitya Akademi office premises. Sri A.S. Ilangovan briefed the staff about the works and achievements of Sri Ananthamurthy and also spoke briefly about his association with the legendary writer as a colleague. Sri S. Rajmohan, Assistant Editor, spoke about the life, works, philosophy and legacy of Sri Ananthamurthy. A minute's silence was observed at the end as a mark of respect for the departed. All the staff of the Akademi's Chennai office participated in the condolence meeting.

'MULAKAT' with YOUNG ODIA WRITERS

July 4, 2014, Sonepur



(L-R) Ashok Kumar Rout, Pradyumna Kumar Sahoo, Sudhir K. Dhangdamajhi, Mihir Kumar Sahoo, Krushna Chandra Pradhan, Dwarikanath Nayak, Kamal Kumar Mohanty, Nilalohita Mahapatra and Sujit Kumar Satpathy

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata organized a 'Mulakat' programme with young Odia writers, Sri Pradyumna Kumar Sahu, Sri Sujit Kumar Satpathy, Sri Sudhir K. Dhangdamajhi, Sri Ashok Kumar Rout, Sri Kamal Kumar Mohanty and Sri Nilalohita Mahapatra on July 4, 2014 at Progress Inn, Sonepur, Odisha.

Dr Mihir Kumar Sahoo, Programme Officer with Sahitya Akademi welcomed the participants and audience and briefly outlined the aims and objectives of 'Mulakat' programme and listed the efforts of Sahitya Akademi in this direction. Mulakat is a platform for young writers seeking a definite place of their own to read out their works.

Prof Krushna Chandra Pradhan, Member, Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, introduced each participant and talked about their works. Except Sri Dhangdamajhi, who

read a short story of his own, all the participants recited their poems.

Prof Pradhan, at the end, summed up the renderings and presented a critical evaluations of the poems and the short story.

Dr Dwarikanath Nayak co-ordinated the programme and Smt Ranjita Panda, noted poet, proposed a vote of thanks.

'ASMITA' with ODIA WOMEN WRITERS

July 5, 2014, Bolangir

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata organized an 'Asmita' programme with Odia women writers, Smt. Mukul Mishra, Smt. Sabita Bhoi, Smt Nibedita Jena, Smt. Bandana Mishra and Smt Suchitra Panigrahi, on July 5, 2014 at Hotel Triveni, Bolangir, Odisha.

Dr Mihir Kumar Sahoo, Programme Officer with Sahitya Akademi welcomed the participants and informed the audience that the purpose of 'Asmita' platform is to help those writers who are seeking a definite identity of their own.



(L-R) Sabita Bhoi, Nibedita Jena, Mihir Kumar Sahoo, Krushna Chandra Pradhan, Bandana Mishra, Mukul Mishra and Suchitra Panigrahi

Dr Santosh Kumar Rath, noted Odia writer, inaugurated the proceedings with a brief talk and he also introduced the Chair of the programme Prof Krushna Chandra Pradhan, Member, Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi and the participants. Two participants, Smt Nibedita and Smt Bandana presented their short stories; two participants, Smt Mukul Mishra and Smt Sabita Bhoi recited their poems, while Smt Suchitra Panigrahi delivered a speech and recited two of her poems. All the presentations focused on the issues faced by women and also on poverty and oppression in the society.

The academic session was followed by question-answer session and Sri Khetrabhasi Nayak, Yuva Puraskar awardee, proposed a vote of thanks. The programme was well attended with eminent scholars and writers like Sri Srinivasa Udgata, Sri Pabitra Panigrahi, Sri Malay Mishra, Sri Manoj Panda, Smt Gayatri Saraf, Sri Sanjay Mishra and Smt Ranjita Panda gracing the occasion.



SEMINAR

ON 'CRITICISM IN BODO DRAMA and BODO CHILDREN'S LITERATURE'

July 26, 2014, Langhin

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in association with Karbi Anglong District Bodo Sahitya Sabha on August 26, 2014 at Langhin, Assam.

In the inaugural session, Dr Premananda Machahary welcomed the participants and informed the audience about the significance of holding seminar of this kind in Karbi Anglong district one of the most difficult terrains of North East.

Sri Bhupen Ch. Narzary who chaired the inaugural session thanked the Akademi for coming forward to hold literary seminar in Langhin and hoped this will spur interest in literature among the young minds of the region. He also outlined the development of children's literature in Bodo language and in the region.

Sri Bisweswar Basumatary of Bodo Sahitya Sabha called for the development of Bodo plays and events of this nature are perfect launch pads for the growth.

Dr Boro, in his keynote address called for the adoption of modern techniques and felt that development and growth of Bodo children's literature is very juvenile and felt that authors should focus on writing from children's perspective with the importance of simplicity in craft and language should be the center point in all children's literature.

In the first session, chaired by Sri Aurobindo Uzir, three scholars Sri Khagen Govary, Sri Promotes Basumatary and Sri Santiram Basumatary presented papers delineating the evolution and growth of Bodo drama over the centuries. The papers also highlighted realism in Bodo drama but more importantly all the papers focused on the lacunae inherent in Bodo drama that is preventing it from evolving properly and adopting techniques and craft from other cultures and theatre traditions, even from within the North East region.

In the second session, which was chaired by Sri Lalit Ch. Basumatary, the focus was on Bodo Children Literature. Three Bodo scholars, Sri Bistu Daimary, Sri Nirmal Basumatary and Sri Rituraj Basumatary, presented critical evaluation of Bodo Children's literature from different perspectives – from the angle of history, from the point of view of psychology and from the points of view of crafts and tools used in Bodo Children's literature. Sri Lalit Ch Basumatary summed up the presentations with critical appreciations of each paper. Sri Madan Ch. Swargiary gave a valedictory speech. The vote of thanks was proposed by Sri Nirmal Basumatary.

LITERARY FORUM

'BODO SHORT STORY READING and POETRY RECITATION',

July 27, 2014, Sonitpur

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, in association with the Sonitpur District Bodo Writers' Society, organized a literary programme on Bodo short story reading and poetry recitation on July 27, 2014 at Sonitpur, Bhalukpong, Assam.

In the inaugural session, the Chief Guest, Dr Anil Boro spoke at length about the areas of Bodo literature that require sustained development and he also said that it is time Bodo writers interact more and learn from other literary and cultural traditions of India. He appreciated the efforts of Sahitya Akademi to reach out to remote corners of India and to mark the occasion, Dr Boro recited two of his poems. The Chair of the session Sri Gopinath Brahma enumerated the literary contributions of the Bodo writers of Sonitpur District and thanked the Akademi for agreeing to conduct a high quality literary programme in Sonitpur.

In the first academic session that was chaired by Sri Kanta Kr. Narzary, noted Bodo fiction writer, five Bodo fiction writers, Sri Rabin Narzary, Sri Baneswar Basumatary, Sri Haricharan Basumatary, Sri Nabin Basumatary and Sri

Gopinath Brahma read out their short stories. All the stories reflected amply the social realities with good and bad sides of it. The stories were laced with humor and wit and hence made the Story Reading Session highly enjoyable for everyone concerned. The stories written in different styles also made the readings interesting. Sri Kanta Narzary summed up and evaluated the stories presented.

In the second academic session that was chaired by Sri Bijoy Baglari who initiated the proceedings with the recitation of his own poems, five promising poets, Sri Binod Basumatary, Sri Ninabi Basumatary, Sri Sobharam Boro, Sri Beremwdwi Mwshahary and Sri Satyanath Brahma recited their compositions. The poems were very modernistic and also expressed orientation towards human values. The extensive use of folk and local cultural flavors enhanced the beauty of the poems, especially the ones which were about Nature.

Sri Bijoy Baglari proposed a vote of thanks.



LITERARY FORUM ON BODO SHORT STORY READING,

July 28, 2014, Udalguri

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with ThunlaiBathwn, organized a Literary Forum on 'Bodo Short Story Reading' at Udalguri, Assam on July 28, 2014.

In the inaugural session, Sri Gopinath Brahma, noted Bodo poet and critic, welcomed the writers and informed the audience about core of Sahitya Akademi's activities. Dr Anil Kumar Boro, Gauhati University, chaired the session and spoke at length about the contemporary trends in Bodo short story writing and urged the young writers to opt for depth in their stories over charisma. Sri Taren Boro, who spoke next, stressed on the importance of writers sticking to the 'known' – language, culture and literature – while writing stories. He thanked the Sahitya Akademi for encouraging young writers and promoting minor languages.

In the Story-Reading Session that was chaired by Sri Taren Boro, the writers, Sri Babul Swrang, Sri MwdaiGahai, Sri Binon Boro, Sri Bwhwisar Brahma, Sri Dhanuram Basumatary, Smt Nila Hainary and Sri Srang Srang Swargiary read out their stories. All the stories centered around the contemporary social issues of Bodo society. During the session, Smt Nandeswar Daimary released a book on Bodo Drama written by Smt Jayshri Basumatary.

Noted Bodo writer Sri Gopinath Brahma proposed a vote of thanks.

LITERARY FORUM ON "CRITICAL ASSESSMENT OF MANIPURI POETRY" August 1, 2014, Imphal



Participants in one of the sessions of the literary forum

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with the Department of Manipuri, N.G. College, Imphal, organized a literary forum on 'Critical Assessment of Manipuri Poetry' on August 1, 2014 at the Jubilee Hall of the College.

In the inaugural session, the chief guest Prof H. Behari Singh, Dr Y Momon Devi, the Principal of the College and Sri S. Indrajit Singh who delivered the keynote address presented various aspects of the evolution and development of Manipuri Poetry and the influences on it.

In the academic session that was chaired by Prof P. Nabachandra Singh, three scholars, Smt K. Rashmani Devi, Smt. T. Chandrakala Devi and Dr L.C. Memi presented papers critically evaluating Manipuri poetry in the ancient, medieval and modern periods respectively.

LITERARY FORUM ON "THE MERITS OF GURU GULAPI AS A LYRICIST"

August 2, 2014, Imphal



H. Behari Singh, W. Irabot Singh, K. Sobita Devi

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with Guru Sanatan Apunba Hari Sankirtan Neinasang, Imphal, organized a literary forum on 'The merits of Guru Gulapi as a lyricist' at Sagolband Moirang Leirak, Imphal on August 2, 2014.

In the inaugural session, Sri Haorokcham Ibotombi Singh, a noted Manipuri scholar, Prof H. Behari Singh, Chief Guest, Dr K. Sobita Devi, Guest of Honor and Sri Irabot Singh of GSAHSAN spoke at length about the life and works of Guru Gulapi, his place in the tradition of Sankirtan and how he enriched the culture of Manipuri.

In the first academic session that was chaired by the noted scholar Sri Kh. Prakash Singh, four scholars, Smt Tombinou Devi, Sri K. Manglemchandra Sharma, Ms. Ksh. Thouranishabi Devi and Smt. Y. Gambini Devi, presented papers focusing on the devotion in Guru Gulapi's lyrics.

In the second academic session that was chaired by Sri A. Chitrashwar Sharma, four scholars, Sri S. Thanil Singh, Sri N. Shyamchand Singh, Sri L. Lakkpati Singh and Sri N. Kholo Singh presented papers offering in-depth analysis of concepts, imageries and metaphors used in Guru Gulapi's lyrics in addition to discrete analysis of spiritual side inherent in the lyrics.

Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi Eastern Region proposed a vote of thanks.

LITERARY FORUM ON "THE TREATMENT OF WOMEN IN THE FICTION WRITINGS OF NONGTHOMBAM KUNJAMOHON SINGH"

August 3, 2014, Manipur

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with Iramdam Meeyangi Apunba KhorjeiLup, organized a literary forum on "The Treatment of Women in the fiction writings of NongthombamKunjamohan Singh" at AwangPotsangbam, Manipur on August 3, 2014.

Sri R.K. Gunachandra, Founder President IMAKHOL,



Goutam Paul, H. Behari Singh, Ch. Chandrakala

Prof H. Behari Singh, Convener, Manipuri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi and Dr Ch. Chandrakala presented different aspects of Sri Kunjamohan Singh's fiction, his prowess as a translator,

especially from Bengali and how he enriched Manipuri literature. Smt. T. Saojini Chanu, IMAKHOL, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first academic session that was chaired by Prof I.S. Kangjam, noted critic, three scholars Prof N. Aruna Devi, Sri K. Hemchandra Singh and Dr SoibamPremila presented papers focusing on the portrayal of women in the fiction and how the portrayal in Kunjamohan Singh was just a reflection of the hardships and travails of women in the society of the day.

In the second academic session that was chaired by the noted scholar Dr Ch. Lamini Devi, three scholars, Dr Maya Nerpam, Sri Khelendra Phurishabam and Dr Th. Ibohanbi Singh presented papers offering critical evaluation of the portrayals of women in Sri Kunjamohan Singh's fiction and also the perception that Sri Kunjamohan Singh was a feminist writer. Mentions were also made about the contribution of Sri Kunjamohan Singh's fiction in the development of modern Manipuri literature.

**LITERARY FORUM
ON "EVALUATION
OF OLD MANIPURI
MANUSCRIPTS"
August 4, 2014, Imphal**

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with Research Forum, organized a literary forum on 'Evaluation of Old Manipuri Manuscripts' at Lamyamba Shanglen, Imphal on August 4, 2014.

In the inaugural session, Prof H. Behari Singh, Convener, Manipuri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi and Dr M. Lokendra spoke about the role of manuscripts in the evolution of literature, the need to preserve them and the adoption of modern techniques in doing so. Prof Behari Singh also called for the translation and publication of Khamba Thoibi Seireng, the epic of Manipur.

The first technical session was chaired by Professor Sairem Nilbir Singh, Retd. Principal, OM College of Commerce. While Dr M.T. Achou presented a paper on "Naothingkhong Phambalkaba", Dr M. Ranjana spoke on "Chengleiroi" and Sri M. Gourachandra Singh presented a paper on "Leithak Leikharol". The second technical session was chaired by Dr Kh. Samungou. While Dr W. Romesh presented a paper on "Thawanthaba Hiran", Smt Naoroibam Indramani spoke on "Poireiton Khunthokpa", Sri Mutuwa Bahadur on "Mashil" and Dr N. Birachandra on "Loyumba Sinyen". Sri Kongjengbam of REFORM proposed a vote of thanks.

**LITERARY FORUM
ON "MANIPURI LITERATURE IN THE FIRST DECADE
OF THE 21ST CENTURY"
August 5, 2014, Imphal**

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with the Cultural Forum, Imphal organized a literary forum on 'Manipuri literature in the first decade of the 21st century' at D.M. College Campus, Imphal on August 5, 2014.

In the inaugural session, Professor H. Behari Singh, Convener, Manipuri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, Sri LairellakpamIboton Singh, President, The Cultural Forum and Sri Kshetri Rajen, General Secretary, the Cultural Forum spoke at length about the need to develop modules for comparative studies and research work on the works of 20th century to establish foundation for 21st century literature. They also appealed to various sections to give up differences to work for a common cause of promotion of Manipuri.

Sri ArambamBiren Singh chaired the first session. Sri O. Anand Singh, Sri N. Ahanjao Meitei and Sri Budhichandra Heisnamba presented papers on "Critical Assessment of Manipuri Poetry (2001-2006)", "Critical Assessment of Manipuri Drama (2001-2013)", and "Critical Assessment of Manipuri Short Stories (2001-2006)" respectively in this session.

Professor Kh. Kunjo Singh chaired the second session. Dr K. Memton Devi, Dr M. Linthoingambi Devi and Dr H. Subashini Devi presented papers on "Critical Assessment of Manipuri Novel during 2001-2013", "Criticism on Manipuri Literature during 2001-2013" and "Critical Assessment of Manipuri Travelogue".

Dr KoijamShantibala Devi proposed a vote of thanks.

**'KATHASANDHI' with MIHIR SENGUPTA
August 12, 2014, Kolkata**

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata organized a "Kathasandhi" programme with noted Bengali writer Sri Mihir Sengupta on August 12, 2014 at Sahitya Akademi auditorium, Kolkata.

Sri Goutam Paul, Officer in charge, Sahitya Akademi Eastern Region, welcomed the writer and introduced Sri Mihir to the audience. He enumerated the life and works of Sri Mihir Sengupta including the celebrated Bishaad Brikkho, which is Sri Sengupta's autobiography and described it as a very important document of 1947 partition in Bengali language. Accepting the welcome Sri Senguptathanked the Akademi and read out excerpts from his novels portraying the characters of Mahabharata in a new light. Dr Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, Convener, Bengali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, spoke about the distinctive features of Sri Sengupta's writings. He referred to other stalwarts of Bengali literature in this respect. Sri Goutam Paul proposed the vote of thanks.

SEMINAR ON "SAHITYARATHI LAKSHMINATH BEZBAROA: A PIONEER OF MODERN INDIAN LITERATURE"

August 17-18, 2014, Kolkata



Karabi Deka Hazarika, Ranjit Kumar Dev Goswami,
Paramananda Rajbangshi, K. Sreenivasarao

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with Asam Sahitya Sabha, organized a Seminar on "Sahityarathi Lakshminath Bezbaroa: A Pioneer of Modern Indian Literature" at the Akademi auditorium on 17th and 18th of August, 2014.

Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and the literary connoisseurs present at the venue and said contributions of Lakshminath Bezbaroa should not be seen as contributions to Indian literature and not as contribution to one particular language. He also enumerated the simplicity of Bezbaroa's language that endeared him to masses and also his versatility. Prof Karabi Deka Hazarika, Convener, Assamese Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked about influences on Bezbaroa's writing and described him as father of Assamese

romanticism. Prof Ranjit Kumar Dev Goswami, who delivered keynote address analyzed Bezbaroa's contributions in the framework of Bengal Renaissance. Dr Paramananda Rajbangshi of Asam Sahitya Sabha thanked the Akademi for organizing the seminar.

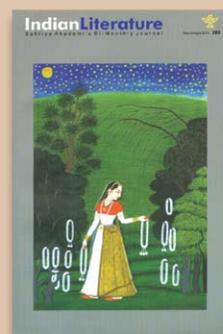
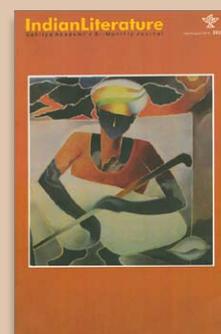
In the academic sessions chaired by Prof Ranjit Kumar Dev Goswami, five scholars, Smt Bibha Bharali, Sri Chandan Sarmah, Sri Gautam Prasad Barua, Smt Kalpana Talukdar and Dr Paramananda Rajbangshi presented papers "Bezbaroa and Contemporary Assamese Prose," "Bezbaroa and the first Assamese Assamese Feature Film Joymoti," "Bezbaroa and Contemporary Assamese Playwrights," "Bezbaroa and Contemporary Assamese Lyrics" and "Bezbaroa and Contemporary Assamese Creative Prose with Special Reference to His Short Story" respectively offering interesting multiple perspectives on Bezbaroa's versatile creations.

In the valedictory session, the valedictory address was delivered by Dr Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, Convener, Bengali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi. The chairperson of the session was Sri Kula Saikia, eminent Assamese scholar. Both the scholars spoke about the influence of Bezbaroa on not only the Assamese mind but on the Indian mind as a whole. He is one of the founders of modern Assamese literature, they opined. The vote of thanks was proposed by Sri Goutam Paul, Officer in charge, Sahitya Akademi.

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LITERARY FORUM ON "CONTRIBUTION OF MAITHILI LITERATURE TO BENGALI LITERATURE AND VICE VERSA"

August 19, 2014, Kolkata

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata organized a literary forum on 'Contribution of Mathili literature to Bengali literature and vice versa' at the Akademi auditorium in Kolkata on August 19, 2014.



Udaya Narayana Singh, Bina Thakur, Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, Goutam Paul

In the inaugural session, Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi Eastern Region, welcomed the participants and the audience. He briefly delineated the historical evolution of Maithili and points of convergence and divergence between Maithili and Bengali. Smt. Bina Thakur, Convener, Maithili Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi briefly described the social circumstances of different stages of Maithili literature and then listed out the influence of Bengali Renaissance on Maithili writing in general. Dr Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, who chaired the session, talked about the impact of Vidyapati on Bengali literature and the common points among various religious movements across India and their impact and interaction with Maithili literature, especially the ones which took place in Assam and Bengal. Prof Udaya Narayana Singh, who delivered keynote address, enumerated the commonalities between these two languages, influence of medieval Maithili literature on Bengali literature of the time and also about the impact of translations between these two, especially the works of Vidyapati and Tagore.

The first academic session was on Medieval Kavya literature. The speakers of this session were Professor Satyabati Giri and Sri Tarakanta Jha. While Professor Giri spoke on the topic of "Umapati Upadhyay: Bityapatir Uttaradhikar Abhijnane", Sri Jhaspoke on the influence of Jayadeva and other contemporary Maithili poets on Bengali literature. The topic for the second academic session was "Maithli and Bengali Poetry". The speakers of the session were Sri Buddhinath Mishra and Sri Nityasankar Mukhopadhyay. While Sri Mishra delivered an extempore speech on the interconnection of Bengali and Maithili poets through ages, Sri Nityasankar Mukhopadhyay presented a paper on the contemporary Maithili and Bengali poems and their mutual inter-dependence. The third session of the forum was entitled "Mithili and Bengali and Fiction". The speakers of the session were Professor Binoy Kumar Mahata and Sri Yogananda Jha. While Professor Mahata presented a paper on "The Maithili Era in Bengali Literature in the Context of the Last Century", Sri Yogananda Jha presented a comparative discussion on the features of Bengali and Maithili fiction.

'KATHASANDHI' with ARUPA PATANGIA KALITA

August 20, 2014, Guwahati

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with Cotton College, Guwahati, organized a 'Kathasandhi' programme with noted Assamese writer Smt. Arupa Patangia Kalita on August 20, 2014 at Conference Hall, Cotton College, Guwahati.

The programme was chaired by Smt. Manju Devi Pegu, Head, Assamese Dept and several scholars and college officials such as Dr Dhruvajyoti Saikia, Dr Subrata Sarma Bhattacharya, Sri Anis-uj-Zaman and Sri Rinti Saikia spoke about the fiction of Smt Arupa Patangia Kalita.

Smt Arupa Patangia Kalita read out one of her stories "Adhapura Bus" (The half-burnt Bus). She said that she is a simple person who loves human life and all her fiction is based on real life events. Regarding apparent anguish in her stories, she said it is more of hope seeing violence around her and the hope that common sense would prevail and ultimately peace would be upon earth is what is reflected in her stories.

The story reading was followed by question-answer session.



'MULAKAT'

August 25, 2014, Assam

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with the Department of Assamese, J.B. College, Assam, organized a 'Mulakat' programme with six Assamese writers, Sri Nabajyoti Pathak, Sri Mridul Haloi, Sri Poragjyoti Mahanta, Sri Junmani Sahu, Sri Akash Dipta Thakur and Smt Gitali Bora, on August 25, 2014.

Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi Eastern Region welcomed the participants and the audience. Dr Bimal Borah, Principal of the college spoke briefly about the contemporary Assamese literature and introduced the invited writers to the audience. With Sri Santanoo Tamuly in the chair, the invited writers rendered their stories and recited their poems. Prof Shamim Nasrin, proposed a vote of thanks.

LOKA: THE MANY VOICES ON "ANKIYA DRAMA"

August 26, 2014, Sivasagar

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with Moran College, Sivasagar, Assam, organized a 'Loka: The Many Voices' programme about 'Ankiya' on August 26, 2014 at the college.

Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi Eastern Region welcomed the faculty, students, Assamese scholars, noted playwrights and others present at the venue and gave a brief history of this form of art, narrating the changes that this art form has undergone over the centuries from Sankaradeva to the present times. Prof Karabi Deka Hazarika, Convener, Assamese Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi spoke about the unique features of this genre of plays. Sri Santanoo Tamuly, Prof Mridula Das and Dr Anil Saikia also spoke on the occasion.

Prof Pradipjyoti Mohanta, a special invitee, talked in detail about 'Ankiya Drama,' explaining the intricate details of this rare art form. He also explained about the preparations and how exactly this art form gets played out, often through the night till dawn and the role of songs and dances in the play.

"THROUGH MY WINDOW": GOBINDA PRASAD SHARMA ON PUROBI BORMUDOI

August 27, 2014, Dibrugarh

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata organized a 'Through My Window' programme on August 27, 2014 at Dibrugarh College, Assam, where eminent scholar Prof Gobinda Prasad Sharma spoke on the life and works of Akademi award winning author Purboi Barmudoi. Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi Eastern Region welcomed the scholar and other participants. Prof Karabi Deka Hazarika, Convener, Assamese Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi introduced Prof Gobinda Prasad Sharma to the audience and also spoke briefly about Purboi Barmudoi. While commenting on the works of Bormudoi, Professor Sharma stressed on the trait of patriotism in her works. Starting with Gajaraj, Prem Aru Bonditvupto Eti Alibator Etikotha, her novels are swept away with fervent patriotism and love for people as well. Dr Sharma commented on the mingling of myth and history in Santanukulanandan, her novel on Brahmaputra and the early history of Assam. He observed how her novels like Rupowali Noir Sonowali Ghat record feminist issues that are relevant still today. He concluded that her novels are commentaries on life and society and not a mere piece of fiction. Sri Satyakam Borthakur proposed a vote of thanks.

'KAVISANDHI' with HAREKRISHNADEKA

August 28, 2014, Digboi

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with Digboi College, Assam, organized a 'Kavisandhi' programme with eminent Assamese poet Sri Harekrishna Deka on August 28, 2014 at Digboi College.

Professor Karabi Deka Hazarika, Convener, Assamese Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, inaugurated the programme. The inaugural session was chaired by Sri Purnananda Saikia. Sri Harekrishna Deka, one of the most important writers in contemporary Assamese literature, has explored a variety of generic modes, extending from the creative realms of poetry and fiction, to sustained social and political criticism in a long and involved career spanning more than three decades.

Some of his book of poems are Swarabor (The Voices), Ratir Sobhajatra (The Procession by Night), AanEjan (Another One), Kabita 1960-1980 (Poems 1960-1980), Bhalpoar Babe Exar (A Word for Love), Xanmihali Barnamala (The Mixed Alphabets), Sea-Scare (poems translated into English) etc.

Sri Deka read out some of his recently composed poems. Some of his poems were "Prabrajak", "Tezpia" and "Bunda." In the interactive session, Sri Deka opined that the modern poets easily let emotions sway their intellect unlike the poets from the past. The vote of thanks was proposed by the Principal of the College.

SYMPOSIUM

ON "IMPACT OF FOLK LIFE ON CONTEMPORARY ASSAMESE LITERATURE"

August 29, 2014, Dibrugarh

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with Naharkatiya College, Dibrugarh, Assam, organized a symposium on "Impact of Folk Life on Contemporary Assamese Literature" at Naharkatiya College, Dibrugarh on August 29, 2014.

In the inaugural session, Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi Eastern Region, welcomed the participants and audience, pointed out the unique hybrid culture of Assam and how Assamese literature drew from many cultural and literary traditions, assimilated and evolved. Prof Karabi Deka Hazarika, Convener, Assamese Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in her inaugural address outlined the activities of the Akademi in the region, introduced the theme of the symposium and spoke about the intimate relationship between folk life and literature. Sri Harekrishna Deka, eminent Assamese poet, who delivered the keynote address, spoke about how literature cannot be totally separated from the folk life and traditional beliefs even when one accepts that modernity revolts against tradition and cited the example of modern field Cultural Anthropology which reconstructs, using modern techniques, the ancient objects and civilizations. He said such an assimilation can be traced in South American Literature as well. Dr Kalyan Baruah, Principal of the college proposed the vote of thanks.

In the first academic session chaired by Prof Arpana Konwar, three scholars, Prof Prafulla Gogoi, Pallavi Deka Buzarbaruah and Dr Pranjit Bora presented papers "Folk Life as Reflected in the Literary Works of Bezbaruah," "Legend in Assamese Literature- its Use and Reconstruction" and "Reflection of Folk Life in Modern Assamese Prose Literature" respectively. Each paper drew out the folk elements contained in the modern Assamese literature



Harekrishna Deka delivering the keynote address

and highlighted the areas that are to be pursued and researched upon. The paper presentation was followed by a lively interaction between the scholars and the audience. Prof Arpana Konwar moderated, summed up and presented a critical evaluation of the papers presented and positions taken.

In the second academic session chaired by Dr Hitesh Bordoloi, three scholars, Dr Arabinda Rajkhowa, Prof Arindam Borkotoky and Prof Mamoni Devi presented the papers “The Impact of Folk Life in Contemporary Assamese Short Stories,” “The Impact of Folk Life in the Poetry of Nilmoni Phukan” and “The Folk Life of Assam as Reflected in Umakanta Sharmas’ Novel “The Flight of Varanda Birds” respectively. The papers observed the changing patterns of Assamese literature and in some areas their movement away from the long-held trench of folklore and folk traditions. Prof Mamoni’s paper also highlighted the lives of folk people in the novel under discussion.

In the valedictory session chaired by Sri Hitendranath Sarmah, prof Probin Chandra das, eminent folklorist, enumerated at length about the birth of folk studies as a discipline, romantic naturalism’s origin in Europe and appealed to the researchers to adhere to a particular theme and should be relevant. He concluded his lecture by observing that folk language and dialects are different. Prof Satyakam Borthakur of Dibrugarh University proposed the vote of thanks.

“KAVI-ANUVADAK” with KEDARNATH SINGH and SOMA BANDYOPADHYAY

August 29, 2014, Kolkata

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata organized a ‘Kavi-Anuvadak’ programme with eminent Hindi poet and critic Sri Kedar Nath Singh and Prof Soma Bandyopadhyay, noted Bengali translator on August 29, 2014 at the Akademi auditorium in Kolkata.

The programme was chaired by Dr Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, Convener, Bengali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi and Sri Mihir Kumar Sahoo, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the guests and the audience. Sri Sahoo informed the audience about the objectives of the programme and neatly delineated the life, works and legacy of Sri Kedar Nath Singh. Recipient of Jnanpith, Sahitya Akademi Award, Vyas Award, Kumaran Asan Award among others during his illustrious and long literary career, Sri Kedar Nath Singh is a prolific writer and a top class translator too. Some of his major poetical works are Abhi Bilkul Abhi, Zameenpak Rahi Hai, Yahan se Dekho, Akaalmein Saarasand Baagh, Tolstoyaur cycle and notable among his collections of stories and essays are Mere Samayke Shabd, Kalpana aurchhayavad, Hindi kavita mein bimbidhan and Kabristan mein Panchayat.



(L-R) Mihir Kumar Sahoo, Khirod Parida, Mangalesh Debral,
Gourahari Das

While speaking about his life and works, Sri Kedar Nath Singh informed that his mother-tongue is Bhojpuri. Sri Singh opined that most of the translations are actually transcreations. Sri Singh translated Edward Fitzgerald’s translation of the Rubáiyát of Omar Khayyám. He also referred to the translation of Chinese poems which are very condensed in nature. To translate one must know the music and rhythm of the original language. He opined that Hindi and Bengali are members of same language group. The vocabulary of these language share many words, though some of those words are pronounced in slightly different ways. Translations from Hindi works into Bengali are much less in

number than those translated from Bengali in to English. Sri Singh himself read out one of his translated poems the title of which was “Kavitake Anuvadke Vareme”. Professor Soma Bandyopadhyay read out some of her translations of Sri Singh’s poems. The titles of some of her poems are “Ja Sunechhila Mangal Majhir Mukh Theke”, “Vijnanar Ghum”, “Phashal” etc. Dr Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, while speaking from the chair, said about the distinctive features of Sri Singh’s poems as well as of the faithful translations by Professor Bandyopadhyay. Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi Eastern Region, proposed a vote of thanks.

'MEET THE AUTHOR'
with BINAPANI MOHANTY
August 30, 2014, Bhubaneswar

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata organized a 'Meet the Author' programme with eminent Odia writer Binapani Mohanty on August 30, 2014 at IDCOL auditorium, Bhubaneswar.

Dr. Mihir Sahoo, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the poet and scholars who attended the event and said Sahitya Akademi is honored by the presence of Smt Binapani Mohanty, a towering personality of Odia literature. Dr Gourhari Das, Convener, Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, introduced Smt. Binapani Mohanty to the audience and said though there is no need to introduce Smt. Binapani Mohanty, the Queen of Odia literature, it is his duty as a Convener and coordinator to do so. He spoke briefly about the life, works and legacy of Smt. Binapani Mohanty.

Accepting the welcome, Smt. Binapani Mohanty thanked the Akademi for arranging such a wonderful literary gathering. She started narrating her journey as a writer, remembered her mother – the first reader of her stories and went on to enumerate certain points in her writings. She said withering values and shattering relationships make her sad and this is reflected in her stories as a 'crisis of faith.' She also wondered why people have branded her as a feminist writer given that her stories, plots, characters and themes are not always women-centric; also that she has equally focused on issues related to men only and especially when she has never taken a feministic stand so far as her stories are concerned.

Writer Smt Paramita Satpathy read out "Sikha", a short story written by Smt Binapani Mohanty and interactive session followed the story reading. Dr Mihir Sahoo proposed the vote of thanks.

"KAVI-ANUVADAK"
with MANGALESH DABRAL and
KHIRODPARIDA

August 31, 2014, Bhubaneswar

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata organized a 'Kavi-Anuvadak' programme with the noted Hindi poet Sri Mangalesh Dabral and Odia translator Sri Khirod Parida.

Dr Mihir Kumar Sahoo, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the poet, translators, host of eminent scholars who attended the event and other literary connoisseurs. He outlined the Akademi's measures in arranging Odia literary forums. Dr Gourhari Das, Convener, Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, introduced Sri Mangalesh Dabral and Sri Khirod Parida to the audience and said Sri Mangalesh Dabral is a poet of great sensibility, his poems express the most complex human feelings in a simple set of words and imageries. Though his images seem to be common, they contain layers of meanings and moods.

Accepting the welcome, Sri Mangalesh Dabral thanked the Akademi and narrated his journey as a poet from the young days in Teheri Garhwal to New Delhi, how places and people played vital role in his poetic sensibilities. He said he is very pained by the rapid decline in the values and memory due to the process that people identify as modernization. He spoke at length about the influences on his literary career and also the authors and poets that he admired most and learnt from. Then Sri Dabral recited his some of poems "Bachi hui jagaha", "Yeh number mahjoodahinhai", "Nayeyugkeshatru", "Kucch der keliya", "Iowa", "Gharshanthai", "Gumshuda", "Bahar", "Ek Dada kitasveer", "Maakitasveer", "Savyata", "Mein chatahun", "Puranitasveer", "Pita kismriti" and "Torch". Speaking on the occasion Sri Khirod Parida, the poet and translator shared his experience of translating a deeply rooted poet like Sri Mangalesh Dabral. He rendered Sri Dabra's poems in Odia.

Dr Sitakant Mahapatra, Sahitya Akademi and Jnanpith award winner and eminent poet, recited Odia version of one of the poems of Sri Dabral. Sri Banoj Tripathy, Member, Odia Advisory Board, proposed a vote of thanks.

KAVI SANDHI - July 18, 2014, Bhuj

Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, in collaboration with Krantiguru Shyamji Krishna Verma Kachchh University, Bhuj, organized a Kavisandhi programme with Sri Dileep Jhaveri, eminent Gujarati poet, on Friday, July 18, 2014 at Court Hall of the university.



Sri Dileep Jhaveri reciting his poems

Sri Ramanik Someshwar, Member, Gujarati Advisory Board, welcomed the audience and introduced the guest-poet to them. One of the noted poets of Gujarat, Sri Jhaveri has Pandukavyo AneItar (Poems) and Vyaasochchvas (Play), Breath of Vyas (English translation of the play) and an edited anthology of Gujarati poetry in English translation, Breath Becoming a Word, to his credit. His works have appeared in translation in several anthologies, both in the Indian languages and the Asian ones. He has been decorated with numerous awards in his life including Gujarat Sahitya Parishad Award.

Dileep Jhaveri began reciting his poems with a note saying poetry is always bigger than the poet. He further said that his poetry was not easy to understand, it required tremendous patience to understand the meaning deeply. He recited some poems from his widely acclaimed Pandukavyo AneItar, and some his recent compositions. About Pandukavyo AneItar, he said that these poems mainly deal with the city of Mumbai and especially its untold activities, misery of the city, life of people, and that he made an attempt to use of typical ‘Bambaiyyaa Hindi’

language which was highly appreciated. He also shared his views on his play Vyasochhwawasthat is a sort of modern adaptation of the Mahabharata, and read out a few dialogues from the play. Ms Darshana Dholakia, Head, Department of Gujarati, Krantiguru Shyamji Krishna Verma Kachchh University, proposed a vote of thanks.



Ms. Maya Rahi speaking on the occasion

KATHA SANDHI July 20, 2014, Mumbai

Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, in collaboration with Ram Panjwani Literary and Cultural Centre, Mumbai, organized a Kathasandhiprogramme with renowned Sindhi fiction writer Ms Maya Rahi at Sita Sindhu Bhavan, Santacruz, Mumbai, on 20 July 2014. Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, R.O. Mumbai, welcomed the gathering and introduced Ms Maya Rahi to the audience as one of the eminent writers in modern Sindhi literature who has been writing fiction for about four decades and her stellar role in highlighting realistic fiction in Sindhi language.

Ms Maya Rahi thanked the Akademi for the opportunity, shared her experiences in writing fiction and then read out two of her short stories ‘Hik Sawaal’ and ‘Maa.’ Rahi’s short story reading was followed by her interaction with the audience.

The vote of thanks was proposed by Sri Nand Jhaveri, Member, Sindhi Advisory Board.

KAVI ANUVADAK

August 16, 2014, Mumbai

Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai organized a Kavi-Anuvadak programme on Saturday, 16 August 2014 with Sri Uma Shankar Chaudhary, Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar winning Hindi poet, and Sri Prakash Bhatambrekar, eminent Marathi-Hindi-Marathi translator. On the occasion of the Kavi-Anuvadak Marathi translation, published by Sahitya Akademi, by Bhatambrekar - ... Mhane Tevha Rajadhiraj Jhopet Hote of Chaudhary's Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar winning collection of poems was released by Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi. Heartily congratulating the poet and the translator, Dr K. Sreenivasarao informed that this was the first Yuva Puraskar winning work that was taken up for translation.

Sri Chaudhary recited his poems in Hindi, and Sri Bhatambrekar rendered their Marathi translations entitled "Pudharlelyaya Kalat," "Karan Itihasachi Punarawrutti Hot Asate," "Gardiaataa Deshachi Shakti Nahiyee," "Rajadhirajanchi Jhop," and "Sujata he Ghar Tujha Navhata," "Sujata Tujhyat Ajun Kiti Ga Shillak Rahilye Sujata".

Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi proposed vote of thanks.

KAVI SANDHI

August 23, 2014, Ahmedabad

Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, in collaboration with Gujarati Sahitya Parishad, Ahmedabad, organized a Kavisandhi programme with Sri Yagnesh Dave, eminent Gujarati poet, on Saturday, 23 August 2014 in Ahmedabad at Goverdhan Smriti Mandir, Gujarati Sahitya Parishad, Ahmedabad.



Sri Yagnesh Dave reciting his poems

Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the audience and introduced Sri Yagnesh Dave. Sri Dave has made significant

contributions to literature in the form of travelogues, essays and children's literature besides poetry.

Yagnesh Dave, specifying the use of Kathiwadi dialect in his poetry, wonderfully recited his long poems – "Ashwatthama," "Varsona Varas," "Ghaas," "Haath," "Dada," "Varanasi," "Maa," "Vanajhetani Aato," "Wadimaku Varnan," and "Hisabni Diary". His poems included wide references to contemporary socio-cultural world and environment. Sri Dave interacted with the audience after the recitation of poems.

Sri Prafulla Rawal, Secretary, Gujarati Sahitya Parishad, proposed a vote of thanks.

KAVI SANDHI, August 25, 2014, Mumbai

Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, organized a Kavisandhi programme with Sri Vishnu Khare, distinguished Hindi poet, critic, and translator, on Monday, 25 August 2014 in Mumbai.



Sri Vishnu Khare reciting his poems

While introducing Sri Khare, Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, said that Khare had six collections of poems, Paathantar being the latest, and a critical treatise called Aalochanaaki Pahali Pustak to his credit, besides remarkable translation in Hindi Kalewala, Finnish national epic, and Faust by Goethe, and myriad of articles in connection with the arts and cinema.

Before the recitation of poems, a two minute silence was observed to condole the demised of Prof. U.R. Ananthamurthy, distinguished Kannada writer and the past President of Sahitya Akademi.

Sri Khare thanked the Akademi and spoke briefly about poetry, social institutions and traditions and the interaction of poetry and these institutions. He observed that contemporary reality was too complex to simply encapsulate in poetry, and hence contemporary poetry should be as complex as the reality was. Contemporary reality was horrifying, and to do justice to it one's poetry should also be horrifying, it could just not be simple or beautiful, and the committed poets like him had no other option but to express them through poetry, he said. He proudly said that the Mahabharat deeply influenced him, and he found it to be the best literary work of art in the world. Khare recited his long poems – "Dajjal," "1946," "Asahya," "Sankalp," "Shokasabha," "Pratyagaman," "Saraswativandana," and "Khuli Bahasonko Daawat Dena". After the recitation, he interacted with the audience. Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, proposed a vote of thanks.

THROUGH MY WINDOW MAHESH CHAMPAKLAL AND RAMAN SONI,

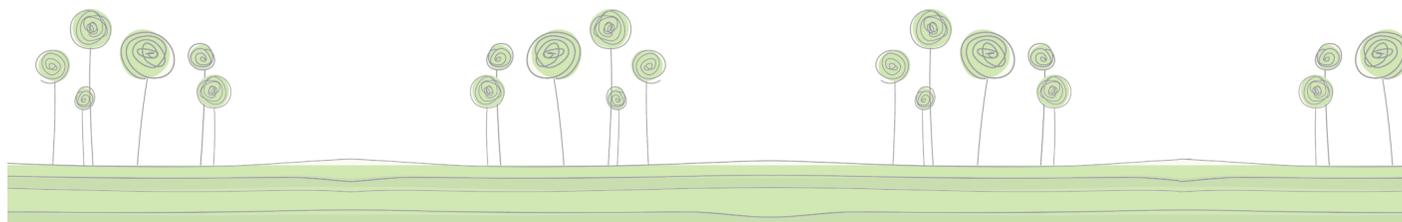
August 26, 2014, Baroda

Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, in collaboration with the Balvant Parekh Centre for General Semantics and Other Human Sciences jointly organized an a programme 'Through My Window' - evening of two lectures, by Prof Mahesh Champaklal, well-known theatre personality of Gujarat, and Prof Raman Soni, well-known critic and editor, on August 26, 2014. The two speakers explored the language of creative and critical understanding of literature in the twentieth century Gujarat, as in the writings of the eminent Gujarati playwright and theorist, Rasiklal Parikh and eminent critic and theorist, Vishnuprasad Trivedi.

Prof. Sitanshu Yashaschandra, Convener, Gujarati Advisory Board, welcomed the audience. Mahesh Champaklal looked closely at the underpinnings of the critical idiom and philosophical undercurrents of Rasiklal Parikh's research work in the area of Indian culture as well as the way his plays, especially the political play "Sharvilak", with plays by two ancient Indian playwrights, Bhasa and Shudraka. He analyzed the way a contemporary writer in our times relates to different stages of Indian cultural and literary past, modifies it and produces a new significance, context-sensitive today.

Raman Soni examined some of the assumptions in which Vishnuprasad Trivedi's critical theory was embedded and showed how some of these assumptions conflicted with each other. He then proceeded to analyze several of the eminent critic's texts and showed how Trivedi developed a hermeneutics that helps us read some of the major polysomic texts of Gujarati literature.

Each paper was followed by a lively discussion. Important Gujarati poets, musicians and translators participated in the discussion and many felt that the work of creative writer and critic is not to produce a large map of the territory of the given literary culture, but to take up an archaeology of knowledge and sensibility by digging deep into select spots in the texts before us. This is how each could influence the other and inquiries into Indian literary production and communication could help us localize the Western General Semantics and move towards an Indian Vyaapak Anvay Vichar. An interdisciplinary ethos and a larger hermeneutic inquiry marked the evening.





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