

librarian



Sahitya Akademi

15 September 2006

meet the author

Naveen





Naveen receiving Sahitya Akademi Award from Prof. Gopi Chand Narang, President, Sahitya Akademi in New Delhi on 16.2.2005

“Since childhood I acquired the habit of observing myself as a third person. I was always looking into myself to find out what was happening inside me. This introspection made me realize that man is not what he outwardly appears to be. The real man is hidden inside him. The writer should portray this real man in his writings.”

- Naveen

D.Naveen, popularly known as Ampashayya Naveen, was born on 24 December 1941 in a middle class agricultural family at Vaavilala, a village in the district of Warangal. As his birth place was the centre of many historical events, Naveen’s childhood witnessed some major social struggles such as Telangana Peasants’ Armed struggle against the rule of Nizam. The deep impact of the struggle between the haves and the have nots during Nineteen Forties made him write *Kala Rekhalu*, the novel which won the Sahitya Akademi Award in 2004. *Kala Rekhalu* is his socio-autobiographical novel based on the Telangana struggle against the imperialist regime. In this novel, Naveen uniquely picturises the struggle of the suppressed humanity and successfully encapsulates the sentiments of the populace in the throes of liberating themselves.

Since childhood Naveen had inclination towards literature and great fascination for Burra Katha, Hari Katha and the street plays based on the *Mahabharatha* and the *Ramayana*. When he was in fourth class he wrote his first short story which was published in *Chandamama*. Finishing the primary education at his native place and its neighbouring villages Naveen left for the town of Warrangal for high school studies. He was admitted to A.V. High school at Warangal. The reputed teachers in the school encouraged Naveen to cherish and grow the creative writer in him. He did his matriculation in 1957 and undergraduation in 1962 from Arts & Science College at the same place.

In his college days the writings of contemporary Telugu writers like Chalam, Bucchibabu, Vishwanatha Satyanarayana, Sri Sri, Kodavatiganti Kutumbarao, Gopichand, Rachakonda Vishwanatha

Sastri inspired him. In the same period of time he also read Hardy, Dickens, Aldous Huxley, Russel, Tolstoy, Dostoyevsky and Gorkey. From all these writers he acquired the art of story telling. Naveen did his M.A. in Economics from Osmania University, Hyderabad in 1964 after which he held many prestigious positions in various Government Colleges in Andhra Pradesh.

His literary career began in the late Sixties with his path-breaking novel *Ampashayya* (1969) in which he successfully employed the stream of consciousness technique. His novels *Ampashayya*, *Mullapodalu* and *Antasravanthi*, called the "Ravi Trilogy", have brought the stream of consciousness technique to near perfection in Telugu fiction. Depicting the life of the university students and emphasizing the psychoeconomic factors, *Ampashayya* (1969) portrays just sixteen hours in the life of a student who stays in a hostel. *Mullapodalu* (1976), shows how the educated unemployed youth are drawn to various movements like Naxalism. *Antasravanthi* (1991) depicts the married and professional life of the protagonist Ravi. *Vichalita* (1976) depicts how a woman committing adultery is punished by the society while a man doing the same sin is excused. *Cheekati Rojulu* (1979) is an epistemological novel which depicts the atrocities committed by the police on innocent writer during the emergency days of 1975. *Prayanamulo Pramadaalu* (1987) is a novel written in the form of a travelogue. The exciting experiences and troublesome encounters of fifty young girls and their lecturer Rajeshwari who are on an excursion party in south India form the plot of this novel. The different viewpoints of a reporter, a police officer, the victim and the quack about the rape in a dental clinic, are captured in a new narrative technique in his novel *Drukkonaalu* (1999). His novels *Bandhavyaalu*(2001) and *Raktakaasaaram*(2001) give a realistic view of the social and family relationships that are affected in the Telangana region due to the movements like Naxalism, Separate Telangana Agitation, etc. from 1956 to 1995.

Naveen has written more than fifty short stories and twenty-eight widely acclaimed novels and several essays and he stands in the galaxy of Telugu literary giants like Vaddera Chandidas, Keshava Reddy, Rachakonda Vishwanatha Sastri, Vasireddy Seethadevi and Dasarathi Rangacharya. His latest trilogy comprises the novels *Kala Rekhalu*, *Chedirina Svapnaalu* and *Baandhavyaalu*.



The Governor of Andhra Pradesh, Sri Susheel Kumar Shinde congratulating Naveen on the occasion of Naveen winning Sahitya Akademi Award in 2004.



Naveen with his friends on his 60th birthday on 24.12.2001

“If the first trilogy brought to Telugu novel the essentially Joyce-like modernist experimentalism and inward-looking absorption of the self, the trilogy that appeared nearly thirty years later is typically post-modernist reintegration of the self with the socio-historical matrix. The path that these two trilogies trace, with scores of the other novels and stories in between, is also the trajectory of Naveen’s contemporaneity and his seismographic sensibility...His writings speak for a generation that has come of age in the Sixties, straddling the two worlds of pre and post independence India to the present times. In the path-breaking novels like *Ampashayya*, *Cheekati Rojulu* and *Kala Rekhalu* Naveen has come to stand for experimentation, courage of conviction, sensitivity and liberal outlook...” these were the words of compliment spoken by Professor Chandrakant Kokate, Vice-Chancellor of Kakatiya University, Warangal, when Naveen was awarded the Doctor of Letters (Honoris Causa) by the Kakatiya University on 29th March 2004.

Naveen has also contributed many articles on films such as “Satyajit Ray’s Apu Trilogy”, “Gurajada Kanyasulkam as a movie” and articles on eleven outstanding films Casablanca, Gone with the Wind, Seven Samurai, Pather Panchali, Do Bigha Zamin, Sound of Music, to name a few.

Many of his novels and stories have been translated into English, Hindi, Kannada, Marathi and Tamil. Naveen has reviewed more than



Naveen receiving honorary doctorate from Prof. Kokate, V.C., Kakatiya University, Warangal on 29.3.2004

hundred books in Telugu and English. A number of seminars and research works have been conducted on Naveen's writings.

Professor G.V. Subrahmanyam compliments, "Naveen is the psychiatrist for Telugu novel. Stream of Consciousness is his specialisation."

"Naveen has ascended the peaks both as critic and a creative writer, and he has chosen novel as his subject for both creation and criticism", says Dr. Mudigonda Veerabhadraiah.

A Select Bibliography

NOVELS

Ampashayya,	1969
Vichalita,	1976
Mullapodalu,	1976
Sowjanya,	1976
Sankellu,	1977
Agadhalu,	1977
Cheekati Rojulu,	1979
Prayanamlo Pramaadaalu,	1987
Women's College,	1989
Antassravathi,	1991
Manoranyam,	1995
Karuna,	1995
Dagudu Moothalu,	1995
Maunaraagaalu,	1995
Pratyusha,	1995
Theerani Daaham,	1995
Cheekati Moosina Ekaanthamlo,	1995
Taaru Maaru,	2000
Chemmagillani Kallu,	2000
Bandhavyaalu,	2001
Raktha Kaasaaram	2001
Kala Rekhalu,	2002
Chedirina Svapnaalu,	2003



Naveen in Chicago, U.S.A. He addressed a meeting in Chicago on 07.07.2006



Naveen in Detroit, U.S.A with the literary friends who arranged an interactive meeting with Naveen when he visited U.S.A

COLLECTIONS OF SHORT STORIES

Life in a College,	1975
Enimido Adugu,	1999
From Anuradha, with love..,	2003

COLLECTION OF LITERARY ESSAYS

Sahitya Vyaasaalu,	2001
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A CHRONOLOGY

- 1941 Born to Dongari Narayana and Pitchamma, in Vaavilala village, Palakurthy, Warangal District of Andhra Pradesh
- 1964 M.A. Economics, Osmania University, Hyderabad
- 1964 Joined as Asst.Lecturer in Economics, AP Govt.Education Service
- 1978-82 Founder President, Karimnagar Film Society
- 1978 Novel *Dagudu Moothalu* gets Swathi (Monthly) prize
- 1987 to the date, President, Warangal Film Society
- 1993 Principal, Govt.Degree College, Narsampet, Warangal Dist.
- 1994 Best Novel for the year award to *Antasravanthi* by P.S. Telugu University
- 1995 Principal, Govt.Pingle Degree College for Women, Warangal
- 1996 Retired from Government Service
- 1997 Senior Fellowship for two years (oct.1997 to Sept.1999) awarded by the Department of Culture, Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India, for writing a novel depicting fifty years of socio-economic and political history of Telangana from 1944 to 1995.
- 1998 Life Time Achievement award by Vishala Sahitya Akademi, Jagtial
- 1999 Jyesta Literary Award
- 2000 Raavi Shastry Award
- 2004 Received Honorary Doctorate from Kakatiya University, Warangal
- 2004 Sahitya Akademi Award for the novel *Kala Rekhalu*
- 2006 Visited U.S.A. on the invitation of ATA (American Telugu Association) to participate in a conference.