

डॉ. के. श्रीनिवासराव
सचिव
Dr. K. Sreenivasarao
Secretary

SA.16/14/

साहित्य अकादेमी
(नेशनल अकादमी ऑफ़ लेटर्स)
संस्कृति मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार की स्वायत्तशासी संस्था
Sahitya Akademi
(National Academy of Letters)
An Autonomous Organisation of Government of India, Ministry of Culture



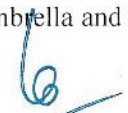
PRESS RELEASE
Third Day of the Festival of Letter-14.2.2018

Sahitya Akademi organized a **'Face to Face'** programme featuring select Award winners in conversation with eminent writers from their Award winning languages. Prof. Sandip Chatterjee interviewed Prof. Afsar Ahmed. Prof. Ahmed said that he has written about his community and geographical periphery. Ms. Mamang Dai, Award winner in English, was in conversation with Dr Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharjee. The interaction mainly focused on 'why did she abandon her first love i.e. poetry and shifted to fiction?' 'Is politics influence on her writing?' 'Why she shifted from journalistic prose to creative prose.' Sri Prayag Shukla interviewed Sri Ramesh Kuntal Megh. Ramesh Kuntal said that painting and literature have been his passion since childhood. Dr. A.J. Thomas interviewed Sri K.P. Ramanuni. Sri Ramanuni said that the awarded novel for him was quite a challenge, and an ambitious project too as time and place were differently treated in this novel and it was indeed an innovative struggle for him. Sri Devipriya reminisced that Sri A Subba Rao, eminent Telugu writer helped him a lot to stand in life.

Sahitya Akademi organized a daylong **symposium on Media and Literature** at Rabindra Bhavan Lawns on February 14, 2018. In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi delivered the welcome address. Sri A. Suryaprakash, Chairman, Prasar Bharati. inaugurated the symposium and talked about the deep relationship between journalism and literature and commented that journalism is literature in a hurry. Dr Madhav Kaushik, Vice President, Sahitya Akademi presided the inaugural session. The sessions were chaired by Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi, Sri Rahul Srivastava and Dr Baldeo Bhai Sharma and eminent scholars, like Sri Sudhish Pachauri, Sri Rahul Dev, Sri Rajeev Ranjan Nag, Sri Pratap Somvanshi, Sri K. Shrinivas and Sri R.V. Rama Rao, Sri Nidheesh Tyagi, Sri Mukesh Bhardwaj, Smt. Shashi Prabha and Sri Amarnath Amar shared their innovative ideas related to Media and Literature.

The **Seminar on Oral and Tribal Literature** continued for the second day on February 14, 2018 at Rabindra Bhavan Lawns. In the third session chaired by Sri Vasant Nirgune, three eminent scholars, Dr Mahendra Kumar Mishra, Sri Om Prakash Bharti and Sri Ashutosh Bhardwaj, presented their papers. Sri Ashutosh Bhardwaj in his speech said that the word tribe has immense political and cultural connotations and clubs together many diverse and heterogeneous communities into a monolithic block. Sri Om Prakash Bharati said that if you keep rejecting cultural diversity then the end of the Indian culture is confirmed. In the fourth session chaired by Dr Purushottam Bilimale, three eminent scholars, Ms. P. Shyama, Sri Naga Malleswara Rao and Dr Nirmal Selvamony, presented their papers. Dr Bilimale talked about the necessity of oral literature in writing history of the country, appealed to the Government to create National Folklore Akademi given the importance of folklore in culture and expressed concerns over the glamorizing oral traditions. Ms. Shyama, in her paper, talked about orallity and Historicity – the state of tribal literature in Malayalam and highlighted the contribution tribal communities in making the history of Kerala. In the fifth session devoted to Tribal Poets' Meet, thirteen noted tribal poets, M.P. Rekha (Kodava), Bikas Ray Debbara (Kokborok), Mahabir Oraon (Kurux), Deenabandhu Kanhar (Kui), Konchok Rigzen (Laddakhi), Th. Thumbu Maram (Maram), Dipok Kumar Doley (Missing), Puni Losie (Mao), Ashrita Tuti (Mundari), Jamuna Bini Tadar (Nyishi), N. Vumsuan (Paite), Charu Mohan Rabha (Rabha) and Rajesh Rathava (Rathavi), recited their compositions.

In the evening, Sahitya Akademi organized a cultural performance, **'Sangrain and Wa Dance'** by Sangrain Dance Academy, Tripura at Rabindra Bhavan Lawns. The troupe performed Umbrella and Pot & Candle dances.


(K. Sreenivasarao)