

Festival of Letters 2022

10 - 15 March 2022

Daily News Bulletin

SATURDAY, 12 March, 2022

THE SAHITYA AKADEMI AWARD 2021 PRESENTED



The Sahitya Akademi Awards 2021 were presented at a splendid ceremony during the Festival of Letters, on Friday, 11 March 2022, at 5.30 PM, at the Kamani Auditorium, Copernicus Marg, New Delhi. Prof. Bhalchandra Nemade, Jnanpith Award winning distinguished Marathi fiction writer, poet and critic, was the Chief Guest at the ceremony.

The Award winning writers - Anuradha Sarma Pujari (Assamese), Bratya Basu (Bengali), Mwdai Gahai (Bodo), Raj Rahi (Dogri), Yagnesh Dave (Gujarati), Daya Prakash Sinha (Hindi), Wali Mohd. Aseer Kishtwari (Kashmiri), Sanjiv Verenkar (Konkani), Jagadish Prasad Mandal (Maithili), George Onakkoor (Malayalam), Thockchom Ibohanbi Singh (Manipuri), Kiran Gurav (Marathi), Chabilal Upadhyaya (Nepali), Hrushikesh Mallick, Khalid Hussain (Punjabi), Meethesh Nirmoi (Rajasthani), Vindhyeshwari Prasad 'Vinay', Arjun Chawla (Sindhi), Ambai (Tamil), Gorati Venkanna (Telugu),

Chander Bhan Khayal (Urdu) received the Awards at the hands of Prof. Chandrashekhkar Kambar, President, Sahitya Akademi. The Award in English to Namita Gokhale and the one in Santali to Niranjan Hansda were received by their representatives, and D.S. Nagabhushana, the Awardee in Kannada, could not make it.

The ceremony commenced with the invocation sung mellifluously by Ms Anagha. Welcoming all the assembled literary connoisseurs and

dignitaries heartily, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, observed that it is actually awarding the literary traditions and legacy the writers belong to. He added that creative writing encapsulates two realities - physical and metaphysical. Further he said that every excellent literary work of art certainly adds to the literary traditions, and the universal human values it advocates.

Prof. Chandrashekhkar Kambar, President, Sahitya Akademi, in his presidential address, congratulating all the Awardees, said that this time the theme of the Akademi's Festival of Letters is the outstanding Indian Freedom Struggle. It is indeed extraordinary to study the struggle for Indian Independence, and how Indian literature in many regional languages reflected, celebrated, encouraged and glorified it.

Prof. Bhalchandra Nemade, in his insightful and scholarly address, professed that our diversity of culture and languages should be recognized as

TODAY'S EVENTS

Writers' Meet :
**Award winning
writers will share their
creative experiences**

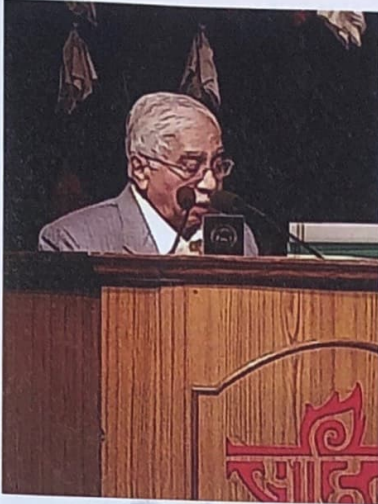
Rabindra Bhawan Lawns, 10.00 am

Face to Face

Rabindra Bhawan Lawns, 11.15 am

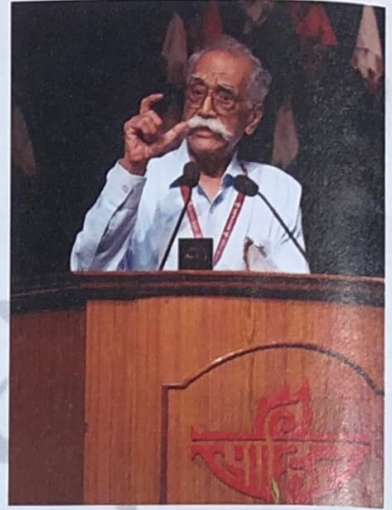
**Symposium on Evolution of Play
in India since 1947**

Rabindra Bhawan Lawns, 02.30 pm



a landmark by the UNESCO. This is what we are celebrating this evening, and while doing this we should feel proud that we are at once with the 24 of the Makers of Indian Literature who belong to so many mighty literary traditions of literature in these languages.

Dr Madhav Kaushik, Vice-President, Sahitya Akademi, made the concluding remarks congratulating the Award winning writers and their family members, and saying that the range and scope of Indian creative genius and sensibilities are limitless and are beyond imagination. He added that we are such a creative and culturally diverse nation, and are invincible.



THE SECOND DAY OF THE FESTIVAL DAWNED WITH THE TRIBAL WRITERS' MEET

The second day of Sahitya Akademi's Festival of Letters, Friday, 11 March 2022, began with the Tribal Writers' Meet, at 10 AM, on the Rabindra Bhavan Lawns. Padma Shri Akhone Asgar Ali Basharat, eminent Balti poet, inaugurated the Meet. The Meet included a session on Tribal Language and Literature: Preservation and Revitalization, besides two sessions of poetry recitations. Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, heartily welcomed all the participants, and dignitaries, saying that the Akademi, has been keen on organizing programmes and bringing out publications in our Tribal languages, for literature in these languages is part of our cultural legacy. Sri Akhone Asgar Ali Basharat, inaugurated the Meet thanking the Akademi for including the Meet in the Festival. He recited one of his beautiful Balti poems and also rendered its Hindi translation. He talked about the significance of



preserving Tribal languages encouraging the spread and translation of the literature in these languages. Prof. Chandrasekhar Kambar, President, Sahitya Akademi, in his presidential address, observed that writers in Tribal languages are laying foundation of our culture. Their originality and genius is of course part of what generally is called the main stream.

First session of the Meet was meant for deliberation on Tribal languages and literature: preservation and revitalization. Dr Chandrakanta Murasingh, Sahitya Akademi Bhasha Samman recipient eminent scholar, chaired the session. He emphatically pointed it out that what is excellent and classic in any languages need to get preserved, nurtured and cherished, and essentially need to get imparted to



10 - 15 March 2022



the next generations. He concluded his brilliant talk saying that it was only through creative writing, speaking, and using the languages on priority without any inferiority complex that the languages could be preserved well. Sri R. Ramesh Arya, noted litterateur, shared his views saying that Adivasis should not be taken as the backwards, for they in fact are closer to nature and are original, and their languages are affluent. In the case of unwritten Tribal languages, he suggested that strong scripts could be adopted for them. Sri Thupstan Norboo, noted scholar, focused his talk on languages and dialects in Ladakh where Tibetan language and three dialects are spoken. He informed about development of Ladakhi and Boti languages also. Sri Sumanaspati Reddy, noted researcher and scholar, spoke of the actual problematics of the preservation and revitalization of Tribal languages.

The second session included poetry recitations by the poets - Jyoti Nayak Rathod (Banjara), Kusum Chakma (Chakma), Anadi Koda (Desia), Jaan Kemprai (Satyasan Barman) (Dimasa), Prabhulal Parteti (Gondi), Girisha B. (Hakkipikki), Tulsidas Radhelal Bhojar (Halbi), Solony

Bareh (Jayantia), Hirjir Ingtipi (Karbi), Pradip Kanhar (Kui). Sri Vishram Valvi (Dehwali) chaired the session. Complementing the efforts by the poets, he thanked the Akademi for proving such an opportunity to them.

Sri Lyangsong Tamasang, noted litterateur in Lepcha language, chaired the third session of the Meet. He said that men and women are equal in tribal communities, and that some tribes are even matrilineal. Women empowerment which we hear in the country today is already prevalent in the Adivasis since long.

Tribals are nature lovers and nature worshippers and therefore very close to nature. They are the protectors of mother nature.

The noted poets - Alfidarie Kharsyntiew (Khasi), Bhajai Mahali (Mahali), Anita Vanlalnunmawii (Mizo), Valte Ginkhenpau (Paite), Bhaskar Jnandev Bhosle (Pardhi),

Taqi Khan Nayab (Purgi), Rajeshkumar Ramanlal Rathava (Rathavi), Raza Amjed Badgami (Sheena), Ramjan Gulab Tadavi (Tadavi), Ditya Toto (Toto), Chattan (Wagri).

MEDIA INTERACTION WITH THE AWARDEES

The Akademi conducted Media Interaction with Sahitya Akademi Award 2021 winning writers on Friday, 11 March 2022, 10.30 AM, on the Rabindra Bhavan Lawns. On the occasion the Award winning writers answering the questions of literary connoisseurs and representatives of

the Media shared their views on literature, languages in general and on their own writing in particular.

Dr Ambai (Ms C.S. Lakshmi), the Award winning writer in Tamil, said that her stories are based on what she sees and experiences what happens around her world, and it becomes part

of her creative writing. Ms Anuradha Sarma Pujari, the Award winning writer in Assamese, said that the writing of the novel Iyat Ekhn Aronya Asil, meaning there was once a forest, was inspired by the forest near her place. She saw how the forest got destroyed gradually. She felt wounded



witnessing deforestation in the name of growth and development. She added further that she has become so concerned about this issue that she would continue writing about it in future too. Dr George Onakkoor, the Award winning writer in Malayalam, said that although we belong to different places and languages, we are all equal in terms of our contribution to literature in these languages. Sri Khalid Hussain, the Award winning writer in Punjabi, stated that we are writers as well as activists, and we should honestly keep on writing what we are experiencing and reflect our times immaculately. Sri Wali Mohd. Asseer Kishwari, the Award winning writer in Kashmiri, opined that as writers we make readers experience our viewpoints about our times. Prof. Vindhreshwari Prasad Mishra 'Vinay', the Awardee in Sanskrit, we can not plan to write a poem, as it flows directly from the heart. Sri Mwdai Gahai,

the Awardee in Bodo, said that I write what I feel, and do not know anything except writing poetry honestly. Dr Hrushikesh Mallick, the recipient of the Award in Odia, opined that the writers are activist too, as they raise their voice against the wrong. Sri Jagdish Prasad Mandal, the Awardee in Maithili, said that he writes about the vulnerable and the oppressed farmers of Mithilanchal, and feel that it is my first duty as a writer. Sri Kiran Gurav, the Awardee in Marathi, found it a writers' duty to come with awareness of social issues and spread it amongst readers. Sri Meethesh Nirmohi, the Awardee in Rajasthani, opined that his poetry is focused on newer aspects of the contemporary world and political conflicts. The entire session of the interaction with Award winning writers helped unfurl so wonderfully the creative minds that were present on the occasion.



PROGRAMMES OF FESTIVAL OF LETTERS 2022

Media Partners



Book Exhibition
10:00 am to 7:00 pm (Daily)



Link:
<http://sahitya-akademi.org.in/>



SAHITYA AKADEMI

Rabindra Bhavan, 35 Ferozeshah Road, New Delhi-110 001
Telephone: 91-11-23386626/27/28
E-mail: secretary@sahitya-akademi.gov.in

Programmes and Dates are subject to change.
for further details visit :
<https://sahitya-akademi.gov.in>

ALL COVID-19 PROTOCOLS WILL BE KEENLY OBSERVED

HIGHLIGHTS

13 March 2022 (Sunday)		
Three day National Seminar on <i>Impact of Literature on Indian Freedom Movement</i>	10:30 a.m.	Sahitya Akademi Auditorium (1 floor)
Symposium on <i>Fantasy and Science Fiction in Indian Languages since 1947</i>	02:30 p.m.	Rabindra Bhawan Lawns
Fellowship presentation to Jagadguru Ramanandacharya Swami Rambhadracharya	06:00 p.m.	Rabindra Bhawan Lawns
14 March 2022 (Monday)		
National Seminar on <i>Impact of Literature on Indian Freedom Movement (Contd...)</i>	10:00 a.m.	Sahitya Akademi Auditorium (1 floor)
Panel Discussion on Media and Literature	10:30 a.m.	Rabindra Bhawan Lawns
Transgender Poets' Meet	02:30 p.m.	Rabindra Bhawan Lawns
Samvatsar Lecture on the occasion of the Sahitya Akademi Foundation Day	06:00 p.m.	Rabindra Bhawan Lawns
15 March 2022 (Tuesday)		
National Seminar on <i>Impact of Literature on Indian Freedom Movement (Contd...)</i>	10:00 a.m.	Sahitya Akademi Auditorium (1 floor)
Purvottari	11:00 a.m.	Rabindra Bhawan Lawns
Symposium on <i>Literature and Women Empowerment</i>	02:30 p.m.	Rabindra Bhawan Lawns