



# Annual Report

2013–2014

**Sahitya Akademi**  
*(National Academy of Letters)*



# Annual Report

2013-2014



**Sahitya Akademi**  
(National Academy of Letters)

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President : Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari  
Vice-President : Dr. Chandrashekhara Kambara  
Secretary : Dr. K. Sreenivasarao

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## ON SAHITYA AKADEMI (National Academy of Letters)

The Sahitya Akademi was formally inaugurated by the Government of India on 12 March 1954. The Government of India Resolution, which set forth the constitution of the Akademi, described it as a national organization to work actively for the development of Indian letters and to set high literary standards, to foster and co-ordinate literary activities in all the Indian languages and to promote through them all the cultural unity of the country. Though set up by the Government, the Akademi functions as an autonomous organization. It was registered as a society on 7 January 1956, under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.

Sahitya Akademi, India's National Academy of Letters, is the central institution for literary dialogue, publication and promotion in the country and the only institution that undertakes literary activities in twenty-four Indian languages, including English. Over the 60 years of its dynamic existence, it has ceaselessly endeavoured to promote good taste and healthy reading habits, to keep alive the intimate dialogue among the various linguistic and literary zones and groups through seminars, lectures, symposia, discussions, readings and performances, to increase the pace of mutual translations through workshops and individual assignments and to develop a serious literary culture through the publication of journals, monographs, individual creative works of every genre, anthologies, encyclopedias, dictionaries, bibliographies, Who's Who of Writers and histories of literature. It has so far brought out over 4800 titles, the present pace of publication being one book every thirty hours. Every year the Akademi holds at least thirty seminars

at the regional, national and international levels along with the workshops and literary gatherings, about 200 in number per year, under various heads like Meet the Author, Samvad, Kavisandhi, Kathasandhi, Loka: The Many Voices, People and Books, Through My Window, Mulakat, Asmita, Avishkar, Literary Forum and Cultural Exchange programmes with writers and scholars from abroad. New literary series programme such as Nari Chetna for women writers Purvotari for North East writers and Foundation Day celebrations have been introduced from this years.

Akademi gives twenty-four awards annually to literary works in the languages it has recognised and an equal number of awards to literary translations from and into the languages of India, both after a year long process of scrutiny, discussion and selection. Apart from Bal Sahitya Puraskar and Yuva Puraskar, Akademi also gives special awards called Bhasha Samman for significant contribution to classical and medieval literature. It has also a system of electing eminent writers as Fellows and Honorary Fellows and has also established fellowships in the name of Anand Coomaraswamy and Premchand. The Akademi has launched Centres for Translation in Bangalore and Kolkata, and an Archives of Indian Literature in Delhi. A project office for the promotion of Tribal and Oral literature has also been set up in Agartala. Many more imaginative projects are on the anvil. Sahitya Akademi is aware of cultural and linguistic differences and does not believe in forced standardization of culture through a bulldozing of levels and attitudes. At the same time, it is also conscious of the deep inner cultural, spiritual, historical and experimental links that

unify India's diverse manifestations of literature. This unity seeks an international species-dimension through the Akademi's Cultural Exchange Programmes with other countries on the globe.

The supreme authority of the Akademi vests in the General Council which consists of 99 members made up as follows:

The President, the Financial Adviser, five members nominated by the Government of India, thirty-five representatives of the States of the Union of India and Union Territories, twenty-four representatives of the languages recognized by the Sahitya Akademi, twenty representatives of the universities of India, eight persons elected by the General Council for their eminence in the field of letters, one representative each of the Sangeet Natak Akademi, the Lalit Kala Akademi, the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, the Federation of Indian Publishers and the Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation.

The general policy of the Sahitya Akademi and the basic principles of programmes are laid down by the General Council and implemented under the direct supervision of an Executive Board. There is an Advisory Board for each language consisting of eminent writers and scholars on whose advice the specific programme in the language concerned is formulated and implemented.

The tenure of the General Council is five years. The present General Council, the twelfth since the inauguration of the Akademi, had its first session in February 2013. The General Council elects the President, the Vice-President, the members of the Executive Board representing languages, and Finance Committee of the Sahitya Akademi. Advisory boards for various languages are appointed by the Executive Board.

## THE PRESIDENT

The first president of the Sahitya Akademi was Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru. He was re-elected in 1963. After his demise in May 1964, the General Council elected Dr. S. Radhakrishnan as the President of the Sahitya Akademi. On reconstitution of the General Council, Dr. Zakir Husain was elected the President of the Sahitya Akademi in February 1968. After his demise in May 1969, the General Council elected Dr. Suniti Kumar Chatterji as the President. He was re-elected by the General Council in February 1973. After his death in May 1977, Prof. K.R. Srinivasa Iyengar, Vice-President, was designated as Acting President. In February 1978, Prof. Umashankar Joshi was elected as the President of the Akademi. In February 1983, Prof. V.K. Gokak was elected the President and in February 1988, Dr. B.K. Bhattacharyya was elected. Prof. U.R. Anantha Murthy became the President in 1993. Sri Ramakanta Rath was elected President in 1998. Prof. Gopi Chand Narang became President in 2003. Sri Sunil Gangopadhyaya was elected president in 2008. The General Council was reconstituted for the term 2013-2017 which elected Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari as President in 2013.

## THE CONSTITUTION

The Sahitya Akademi was established under a Government of India Resolution dated 15 December 1952 in which the Constitution of the Akademi was originally embodied. The Akademi functions as an autonomous organization, and the power to amend its Constitution vests in the General Council of the Akademi. This power has been exercised from time to time.

## LANGUAGES RECOGNISED

Besides the twenty-two languages enumerated in the Constitution of India, the Sahitya Akademi has recognized English, Rajasthani and Bodo as languages in which its programme may be implemented. There are language Advisory Boards, which have been constituted to render advice for implementing literary programmes in 24 languages. The languages now recognized by the Akademi are Assamese, Bengali, Bodo, Dogri, English, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Maithili, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Oriya, Punjabi, Rajasthani, Sanskrit, Santali, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu.

## THE ORGANIZATION

**Head Office:** The Head Office of the Sahitya Akademi is housed in Rabindra Bhavan, 35 Ferozeshah Road, New Delhi. This elegant building was constructed in 1961 to commemorate the birth centenary of Rabindranath Tagore, and houses all the three National Academies, namely, the Sangeet Natak Akademi, the Lalit Kala Akademi and the Sahitya Akademi.

The Head Office looks after the publication and programmes in Dogri, English, Hindi, Kashmiri, Maithili, Nepali, Punjabi, Rajasthani, Sanskrit, Santali and Urdu and functions as a regional office as far as these languages are concerned.

**Regional Office, Kolkata:** Set up in 1956 and now located at 4 D.L. Khan Road, Kolkata, this Regional office looks after the publication and programme work in Assamese, Bengali, Bodo, Manipuri and Odiya, besides a part of publication work in English. It also handles programmes in the other North-East Indian

languages. The Regional office maintains a major library.

**Regional Offices, Bangalore:** Southern Regional Offices of Sahitya Akademi was established in 1959 at Chennai which was shifted to Bangalore in 1990. The Regional Office looks after the publication and programme work in Kannada, Malayalam, Tamil and Telugu, besides a part of publications in English. Located in Central College Campus, University Library Building, Dr. Ambedkar Veedi, Bangalore, it maintains a major library as an important activity.

**Chennai Office:** Set up in 2000, it looks after part of the work of the Bangalore office and is located in Guna Complex, Main Building, (II Floor) Rear Side, 443 (Old No. 304) Anna Salai, Teynampet, Chennai.

**Regional Office, Mumbai:** It was set up in 1972 and is located at 172, Mumbai Marathi Grantha Sangrahalaya Marg, Dadar, Mumbai. It looks after the publication and programme work in Gujarati, Konkani, Marathi and Sindhi, besides a part of publication work in English and Hindi.

**Sale of Publications:** Sahitya Akademi's Sales Section is at 'Swati', Mandir Marg, New Delhi. Besides this, its publications are sold at its offices at Mumbai, Kolkata, Bangalore and Chennai and its new sales outlet at Puducherry.

**Library:** The Sahitya Akademi Library is one of the most important multilingual libraries in India which has a rich collection of books on literature and allied subjects in the 24 languages recognized by the Sahitya Akademi. The libraries at the Regional Offices are being

built up as centres for the concerned regional languages and are being envisaged as liaison institutions for important language libraries in the regions.

A showroom-cum-sales counter was opened from 27 July 2007 at Puducherry (Pondicherry). A Book Shop was opened at the Rabindra Bhavan premises of the Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi on 14 February 2007. A permanent Sales Counter was opened on 10 October 2007 at Rabindra Sarobar Stadium, Diamond Harbour Road, Kolkata.

**Sahitya Akademi Website:** Sahitya Akademi's website <http://www.Sahitya-akademi.gov.in> carries details of the genesis, objectives, role and history of Sahitya Akademi, the complete catalogue of its books with descriptions about important publications arranged language-wise, information about its journals, literary activities, special projects like the Archives of Indian Literature and Translation Centres, detail of Awards and Fellowships, a description of the Library, and assessment of the achievements of the institution over the years. Reconstruction and updation of the Akademi website is in the anvil.

## HIGHLIGHTS

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- Akademi Awards 2013 presented
- Akademi Translation Prizes 2012 presented
- Akademi Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2013 presented
- Akademi Yuva Puraskar 2013 presented
- Bhasha Samman presented
- Sahitya Akademi Fellowships presented
- Two International Poetry Festival held
- 48 Seminars, 42 Symposia and 2 Language Conventions organized
- 442 Books including reprints brought out
- 144 Meetings of literary forum, pravasi manch, rajbhasha manch, cultural exchange programmes, book release functions, etc. held
- 11 Workshops organized
- 20 Meet the Author programmes held
- 10 People and Books programme organized
- 16 Through My Window programmes held
- 9 Loka, 12 Mulakat, 11 Kathasandhi, 17 Kavisandhi, 11 Asmita and 9 Narichetna programmes organized
- 143 Book Exhibitions conducted
- Six Issues of *Indian Literature*, Six issues of *Samakaleena Bharatiya Sahitya* and two issues of *Sanskrita Pratibha* published



## SAHITYA AKADEMI AWARDS 2013

The Executive Board of the Sahitya Akademi which met on 18 December at New Delhi under the chairmanship of its President, Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, approved the selection of 24 books for the Sahitya Akademi Awards 2013. The books were selected on the basis of the recommendations made by a jury of three member each in the concerned language. The awards relate to books first published in any of the languages recognized by the Akademi during the three years prior to the year immediately preceding the year of award (i.e. between 1 January 2009 and 31 December 2011).

### Recipients of Sahitya Akademi Awards 2013

- Assamese** Rabindra Sarkar, *Dhuliyori Bharir Sanch* (Poetry)  
**Bengali** Subodh Sarkar, *Dwaipayana Hrader Dhare* (Poetry)  
**Bodo** Anil Boro, *Delphini Onthai Mwdai Arw Gubun Gubun Khonthai* (Poetry)  
**Dogri** Sitaram Sapolia, *Doha Satsai* (Poetry)  
**English** Temsula Ao, *Laburnum For My Head* (Short Stories)  
**Gujarati** Chinu Modi, *Khara Zaran* (Poetry)  
**Hindi** Mridula Garg, *Miljul Mann* (Novel)  
**Kannada** C.N. Ramachandran, *Akyana-Vyakyana* (Essays)  
**Kashmiri** Mohi-ud-Din Reshi, *Alna Aatish* (Short Stories)  
**Konkani** Tukaram Rama Shet, *Manmotayam* (Essays)  
**Maithili** Sureshwar Jha, *Sangbarsh Aa Sebanta* (Memoirs)  
**Malayalam** M.N. Paloor, *Kathayillathavante Katha* (Autobiography)  
**Manipuri** Makhonmani Mongsaba, *Chinglon Amadagi Amada* (Travelogue)  
**Marathi** Satish Kalsekar, *Vachanaryachi Rojanishee* (Essays)  
**Nepalli** Man Bahadur Pradhan, *Man Ka Lahar Ra Raha Abaru* (Travelogue)  
**Odia** Bijay Misra, *Banaprastha* (Play)  
**Punjabi** Manmohan, *Nirvaan* (Novel)  
**Rajasthani** Ambika Dutt, *Aanthyo Nabi Din Hal* (Poetry)  
**Sanskrit** Radhakant Thakur, *Chaladuravani* (Poetry)  
**Santali** Arjun Charan Hembram, *Chanda Bonga* (Poetry)  
**Sindhi** Namdev Tarachandani, *Mansh-Nagari* (Poetry)  
**Tamil** R.N. Joe D' Cruz, *Korkai* (Novel)  
**Telugu** Katyayani Vidmahe, *Sahitya Akasamlo Sagam* (Essays)  
**Urdu** Javed Akhtar, *Lava* (Poetry)



Rabindra Sarkar



Temsula Ao



Mohi-ud-Din Reshi



Subodh Sarkar



Chinu Modi



Tukaram Rama Shet



Anil Boro



Mridula Garg



Sureshwar Jha



Sitaram Sapolia



C.N. Ramachandran



M.N. Paloor



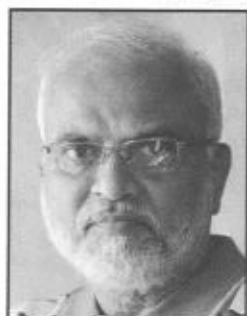
Makhonmani Mongsaba



Manmohan



Namdev Tarachandani



Satish Kalsekar



Ambika Dutt



R.N. Joe D' Cruz



Man Bahadur Pradhan



Radhakant Thakur



Katyayani Vidmahe



Bijay Misra



Arjun Charan Hembram



Javed Akhtar

## MEMBERS OF THE JURY FOR 2013 AWARDS

### *Assamese*

Sri Arun Sharma  
Sri Hrishikesh Goswami  
Dr. Malinee Goswami

### *Bengali*

Prof. Asru Kumar Sikdar  
Sri Nirendranath Chakravarti  
Sri Ratul Deb Barman

### *Bodo*

Sri Bisweswar Basumatary  
Sri Janil Kumar Brahma  
Sri Toren Boro

### *Dogri*

Dr. Om Goswami  
Prof. Satya Pal Shrivatsa  
Dr. Nirmal Vinod

### *English*

Dr. Jasbir Jain  
Ms. Mamang Dai  
Sri Shiv K. Kumar

### *Gujarati*

Smt. Dhiruben G. Patel  
Dr. Pravin Shanilal Darji  
Sri Raman Kantilal Soni

### *Hindi*

Prof. Arvindakshan  
Smt. Chandrakanta  
Sri Himanshu Joshi

### *Kannada*

Dr. K. Chinnappa Gowda  
Dr. H.C. Boralingaiah  
Sri T.P. Ashoka

### *Kashmiri*

Prof. Mishal Sultanpuri  
Sri Manshoor Banhali  
Prof. Shafi Shauq

### *Konkani*

Smt. Meena S. Kakodkar  
Sri Melvyn Rodrigues  
Sri Ramesh B. Veluskar

### *Maithili*

Dr. Devendra Jha  
Dr. Yoganand Jha  
Dr. Rup Narayan Chaudhary

### *Malayalam*

Sri M. Mukundan  
Sri Paul Zacharia  
Prof. M. Thomas Mathew

### *Manipuri*

Sri Nongthongbam Kunjamohan Singh  
Sri Arambam Biren Singh  
Prof. Thounaojam Ratankumar Singh

### *Marathi*

Prof. Sadanand More  
Dr. Nagnath Kottapalle  
Prof. Vilas Khole

### *Nepali*

Dr. Gokul Sinha  
Dr. Pratap Chandra Pradhan  
Sri Man Prasad Subba

### *Odia*

Dr. Krushna Ch. Behera  
Dr. Prasan Kumar Swain  
Prof. Soubhagya Kumar Mishra

### *Punjabi*

Sri Amarjit Grewal  
Sri Prem Prakash  
Dr. Satish K. Verma

### *Rajasthani*

Dr. Bharat Ola  
Sri Anna Ram Sudama  
Sri Upendra 'Anu'

### *Sanskrit*

Prof. (Smt.) M.V. Ramana  
Prof. Ramesh Chandra Panda  
Prof. Shivjee Upadhyaya

### *Santali*

Sri Jadumani Besra  
Sri Ram Chandra Murmu  
Dr. Ratan Chandra Hembram

### *Sindhi*

Sri Laxman Dubey  
Sri Lakhmi Khilani  
Sri Dholan Rahi

### *Tamil*

Dr. C.S. Lakshmi (Ambai)  
Dr. Indira R. Parthasarathi  
Sri Ponnelan

### *Telugu*

Prof. Banna Ailaiah  
Prof. Elluri Siva Reddy  
Sri J.S Murthy 'Vihari'

### *Urdu*

Sri Krishan Kumar Toor  
Sri Fey Seen Ejaz  
Sri Salam Bin Razak

## SAHITYA AKADEMI PRIZE FOR TRANSLATION 2013

The Executive Board of the Sahitya Akademi which met on 10 March 2014 at New Delhi under the chairmanship of its President, Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, approved the selection of 24 books for the Sahitya Akademi Prize for Translation 2013. The books were selected on the basis of the recommendations of Selection Committees in the respective languages. The Prizes relate to books first published during the five years prior to the year immediately preceding the year of the prize (i.e. between 1 January 2007 and 31 December 2011).

### Recipients of Translation Prize 2013

Assamese	(Late) Dipika Chakraborty, <i>Sei Samay (Vol. II)</i> ( <i>Sei Samay</i> [Bengali] Novel by Sunil Gangopadhyay)
Bengali	Soma Bandyopadhyay, <i>Gathanbad, Uttar-Gathanbad Ebang Prachya Kavyatattva (Sakhtiyat Pas-Sakhtiyat Aur Mashriqi Sheriyat</i> [Urdu] Criticism by Gopi Chand Narang)
Bodo	Gobinda Boro, <i>Jagari (Jagori</i> [Bengali] Novel by Satinath Bhaduri)
Dogri	Veena Gupta, <i>Kalkatte Di Kahani: Via Bypass (Kali Katha Via Bypass</i> [Hindi] Novel by Alka Saraogi)
English	Ranjit Hoskote, <i>I, Lalla: The Poems of Lal Ded (Lalla's Vakhs</i> [Kashmiri] Poetry by Lal Ded)
Hindi	Bhuddhadev Chatterjee, <i>Abiran (Abiran</i> [Assamese] Novel by Indira Goswami)
Kannada	J.P. Dodamani, <i>Mahatma Jyotirao Phule (Mahatma Jyotirao Phule</i> [Marathi] Biography by Dhananjay Keer)
Kashmiri	Aziz Hajini, <i>Ze Gaz Zameen (Do Gaz Zameen</i> [Urdu] Novel by Abdus Samad)
Konkani	Hema Naik, <i>Kali-Katha: Via Bypass (Kali Katha: Via Bypass</i> [Hindi] Novel by Alka Saraogi)
Maithili	Guna Nath Jha, <i>Bangla Ekanki Natya Sangraha (Bangla Ekanki Natya Sangraha</i> [Bengali] Collection of One-Act Plays Comp. & Ed. by Ajit Kumar Ghosh)
Malayalam	Ulloor M. Parameswaran, <i>Thiruvachakam (Thiruvachakam</i> [Tamil] Classical Poetry by Manikka Vaachakar)
Manipuri	Ibocha Soibam, <i>Khambi Meigi Mashashing (Wings of Fire</i> [English] Autobiography by A.P.J. Abdul Kalam)
Marathi	Father Francis D'Britto, <i>Subodh Bible - Nava Karar (Bible: The New Testament</i> [English] Religious Text)
Nepali	I.K. Singh, <i>Maila Anchal (Maila Anchal</i> [Hindi] Novel by Phanishwar Nath Renu)
Odia	Bilasini Mohanty, <i>Anabruta Andhakar: Saadat Hasan Mantonka Ardhasata Kahani (Collection of Fifty Short Stories</i> [Hindi] Novel by Pankaj Bist)
Punjabi	Balbir Madhopuri, <i>Rajkamal Chaudhary Dian Chonvian Kahaniyan (Rajkamal Choudhary Ki Chuninda Kahaniyan</i> [Hindi] Collection by Sadat Hasan Manto)
Rajasthani	(Late) Shanti Bhardwaj 'Rakesh', <i>Ardhmarishwar (Ardhanarishwar</i> [Hindi] Novel by Vishnu Prabhakar)
Sanskrit	Abhiraja Rajendra Mishra, <i>Vijayaparva (Vijaya parva</i> [Hindi] Novel by Vishnu Prabhakar)
Santali	Mangal Majhi (Murmu), <i>Malang Anal (Bhagya Chakra</i> [Bengali] Novel by Haradhan Adhikari)
Sindhi	Khiman U. Mulani, <i>Dr. Ambedkar Hik Prernadayee Shakhisyat (Dr. Ambedkar</i> [Hindi] Collection of Articles by Ratan Kumar Sambharia)
Tamil	Iraiyadiyan (Dass), <i>Avadeshwari (Avadeshwari</i> [Kannada] Novel by Shankar Mokashi Punekar)
Telugu	Nalimela Bhaskar, <i>Snaraka Silalu (Smaraka Silakal</i> [Malayalam] Novel by Punathil Kunhabdulla)
Urdu	Nizam Siddiqui, <i>Kyap (Kyap</i> [Hindi] Novel by Manohar Shyam Joshi)

\* No award for Gujarati this year





(Late) Dipika Chakraborty



Ranjit Hoskote



Hema Naik



Soma Bandyopadhyay



Bhuddhadev Chatterjee



Guna Nath Jha



Gobinda Boro



J.P. Dodamani



Ulloor M. Parameswaran



Veena Gupta



Aziz Hajini



Ibocha Soibam



Father Francis D'Britto



I.K. Singh



Bilasini Mohanty,



Balbir Madhopuri



(Late) Shanti Bhardwaj  
'Rakesh'



Abhiraja Rajendra Mishra



Mangal Majhi (Murmu)



Khiman U. Mulani



Iraiyadiyan (Dass)



Nalimela Bhaskar



Nizam Siddiqui

## MEMBERS OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEE FOR TRANSLATION PRIZE 2013

### *Assamese*

Sri Anjan Sarma  
Sri Tirtha Phukan  
Dr. Rajen Saikia

### *Bengali*

Sri S. Krishnamoorthy  
Ms. Bharati Nandi  
Sri Afsar Ahmed

### *Bodo*

Dr. Sunil Phukan Basumatary  
Sri Bijoy Baglary  
Sri Maneswar Brahma (Basumatary)

### *Dogri*

Sri Darshan Darshi  
Sri Sham Lal Raina  
Sri Narinder Bhasin

### *English*

Prof. Udayan Misra  
Prof. Sumanyu Satpathy  
Prof. J.P. Das

### *Hindi*

Sri Girish Pankaj  
Dr. Om Nishchal  
Ms. Anju Dhadda Mishra

### *Kannada*

Prof. Siddhaling Pattanshetti  
Prof. O.L. Nagabhushana Swamy  
Dr. D.A. Shankar

### *Kashmiri*

Sri Ghulam Nabi Aatash  
Sri Makhan Lal Kanwal  
Sri Shoukat Ansari

### *Konkani*

Prof. K.R. Vasamthamony  
Sri Kamalakar Dattaram Mhalshi  
Dr. Geetha Shenoy

### *Maithili*

Dr. Brajkishore Mishra  
Dr. Amarnath Jha  
Dr. Mahendra Narayan Ram

### *Malayalam*

Dr. S. Thankamoni Amma  
Dr. Arsu (R. Surendran)  
Dr. Desamangalam Ramakrishnan

### *Manipuri*

Prof. Ksh. Munal Singh  
Dr. Elangbam Vijaya Lakshmi Devi  
Prof. Shyamsunder Singh

### *Marathi*

Dr. Uma Virupaksh Kulkarni  
Dr Laxminarayan Bolli  
Sri Nitin Gulabrao Rindhe

### *Nepali*

Dr. Rajkumari Dahal  
Dr. Diwakar Pradhan  
Dr. Khagen Sarma

### *Odia*

Dr Ajoy Kumar Patnaik  
Dr Bijaya Kumar Nanda  
Dr Santosh K. Ratha

### *Punjabi*

Dr. Manmohan  
Smt. Rashpinder Rashim  
Professor Joga Singh

### *Rajasthani*

Sri Nand Bharadwaj  
Sri Kundan Mali  
Sri Ambika Dutt

### *Sanskrit*

Prof. Rajendra Nanavati  
Sri Haridutt Sharma  
Sri P.V. Ramankutty

### *Santali*

Sri Krushna Chandra Soren  
Sri Biswanath Tudu  
Sri Rabindra Nath Murmu

### *Sindhi*

Sri Namdev Tarachandani  
Sri Harish Karamchandani  
Ms. Rashmi Ramani

### *Tamil*

Dr. K.S. Subramanian  
Dr. Ma. Ramalingam  
Dr. Tamil Selvi

### *Telugu*

Sri Ramateertha  
Prof. T. Vijay Kumar  
Dr. Nomula Satyanarayana

### *Urdu*

Prof. Tariq Chhatari  
Dr. Rashid Anwar Rashid  
Sri Maher Mansoor

## BAL SAHITYA PURASKAR 2013

The books and writers for their total contribution were selected on the basis of recommendations made by a Jury of three members in the concerned languages in accordance with the procedure laid down for the purpose. The Awards relates to books first published during the five years, year immediately preceding the year of Award (i.e., between 1 January 2007 and 31 December 2011). However, during the intital five years i.e. 2010 to 2014, the award may be given to an author based on his/her total contribution to children literature if no book is considered suitable for the award.

### Recipients of Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2013

<b>Assamese</b>	Toshaprabha Kalita, For Total Contribution to Children Literature
<b>Bengali</b>	Narayan Debnath, <i>Comics Samagra - Vol. 1&amp; 2</i> (Stories)
<b>Bodo</b>	Jatindra Nath Swargiary, <i>Birbalni Solo</i> (Stories)
<b>Dogri</b>	Krishan Sharma, <i>Khadaune</i> (Stories)
<b>English</b>	Anita Nair, For Total Contribution to Children Literature
<b>Gujarati</b>	Shraddha Trivedi, For Total Contribution to Children Literature
<b>Hindi</b>	Ramesh Tailang, <i>Mere Priya Baal Geet</i> (Poetry)
<b>Kannada</b>	H.S. Venkateshmurthy, For Total Contribution to Children Literature
<b>Kashmiri</b>	Rashid Kanispori, <i>Gul Te Bulbul</i> (Essays & Poetry)
<b>Konkani</b>	Maya Anil Kharangate, <i>Ranachya Manant</i> (Novel)
<b>Maithili</b>	Dhirendra Kumar Jha, <i>Hamra Beech Vigyan</i> (Essays)
<b>Malayalam</b>	Sumangala (Leela Namboothiripad), For Total Contribution to Children Literature
<b>Manipuri</b>	Raghu Leishangthem, <i>Patpangi Thoibi</i> (Stories)
<b>Marathi</b>	Anant Bhave, For Total Contribution to Children Literature
<b>Nepali</b>	Bhotu Pradhan, For Total Contribution to Children Literature
<b>Odia</b>	Nadiya Bihari Mohanty, For Total Contribution to Children Literature
<b>Punjabi</b>	Kamaljit Neelon, For Total Contribution to Children Literature
<b>Rajasthani</b>	Vimla Bhandari, <i>Anmol Bhent</i> (Stories)
<b>Sanskrit</b>	H.R. Vishvasa, <i>Marjalasya Mukham Drishtam</i> (Plays)
<b>Santali</b>	Sari Dharam Hansda, <i>Dombe Baba</i> (Poetry)
<b>Sindhi</b>	Vasudev 'Nirmal', <i>Moonkhe Char Puchh, Re!</i> (Stories)
<b>Tamil</b>	Revathy (E.S. Hariharan), <i>Pavalam Thantha Parisu</i> (Stories)
<b>Telugu</b>	D. Sujatha Devi, <i>Aatalo Aratipandu</i> (Stories)
<b>Urdu</b>	Asad Raza, <i>Nanbe Munno Ki Sarkar</i> (Stories)



Toshaprabha Kalita



Anita Nair



Rashid Kanispori



Narayan Debnath



Shraddha Trivedi



Maya Anil Kharangate



Jatindra Nath Swargiary



Ramesh Tailang



Dharendra Kumar Jha



Krishan Sharma



H.S. Venkateshmurthy



Sumangala (Leela  
Namboothiripad)





Raghu Leishangthem



Kamaljit Neelon



Vasudev 'Nirmal'



Anant Bhawe



Vimla Bhandari



Revathy  
(E.S. Hariharan)



Bhotu Pradhan



H.R. Vishvasa



D. Sujatha Devi



Nadiya Bihari Mohanty



Sari Dharam Hansda



Asad Raza

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Sri Hirendra Nath Dutta  
Sri Prafulla Chandra Bora

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Sri Sailen Ghose

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Sri Prakash Premi

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Dr. Arshia Sattar  
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Dr. Krishnamurthy Hanur

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Dr. M.M. Basheer  
Sri Perumbadavam Sridharan

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Dr. N. Khagendra Singh

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Sri Nachhatar  
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Sri Laxman Dan Kaviya  
Sri Mohan Alok

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Prof. V. Kutumba Sastry  
Prof. Radhakant Thakur

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Sri Gorachand Murmu  
Sri Jamadar Kisku

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Dr. Jagdish Lachhani  
Smt. Kala Prakash

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Prof. (Smt.) R. Meenakshi (Ira. Meenakshi)  
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Sri Syed Saleem  
Sri Vasireddy Naveen

### *Urdu*

Sri Abdul Rehman  
Sri Sham Sunder Anand Lahar  
Sri Suleman Khumar

## YUVA PURASKAR 2013

The Executive Board of the Sahitya Akademi which met on 23 August 2013 at Chennai under the chairmanship of its President, Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, approved the selection of 22 books for the Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar 2013. The books were selected on the basis of the recommendations made by a Jury of three members in the concerned languages.

According to the procedure, the Executive Board declared the Awards on the basis of unanimous selections or selection made on the basis of majority vote made by the Jury. The Award relates to books published by an author of the age of 35 and below as on 1st January of the year of the award.

### Recipients of Yuva Puraskar 2013

Assamese	Bijoy Sankar Barman, <i>Ashokastami</i> (Poetry)
Bengali	Subhro Bandopadhyay, <i>Bouddho Lekhomala O Onyanyo Shraman</i> (Poetry)
Bodo	Sansumai Khungri Basumatari, <i>Felengni Saogari</i> (Novel)
Dogri	Dheeraj Kesar 'Nikka', <i>Rough Copy</i> (Poetry)
English	Janice Pariat, <i>Boats On Land</i> (Short Stories)
Gujarati	Ashok Chavda 'Bedil', <i>Dalkhithi Saav Chhutan</i> (Poetry)
Hindi	Archana Bhaisare, <i>Kucch Boodhi Udaas Auratein</i> (Poetry)
Kannada	Lakkur Ananda, <i>Batavadeyagada Raseethi</i> (Poetry)
Konkani	Yogini Acharya, <i>Matyentle Gandh</i> (Poetry)
Maithili	Dilip Kumar Jha 'Lootan', <i>Ankura Rahal Sangharsh</i> (Poetry)
Malayalam	P.V. Shajikumar, <i>Vellarippadam</i> (Short Stories)
Manipuri	Akhom Yandibala Devi, <i>Lai Matha Shaari</i> (Poetry)
Marathi	Ravi Laxmikant Korde, <i>Dhoosar Zale Nasate Gav</i> (Poetry)
Nepali	Suraj Dhadkan, <i>Ghar</i> (Short Stories)
Odia	Kshetrabasi Naik, <i>Dadan</i> (Short Stories)
Punjabi	Harpreet Kaur, <i>Toon Mainu Sirlekh De</i> (Poetry)
Rajasthani	Kumar Ajay, <i>Sanjeevane</i> (Poetry)
Sanskrit	Rajkumar Mishra, <i>Bharatabusanam</i> (Poetry)
Santali	Lalchand Saren, <i>Terang</i> (Short Stories)
Tamil	Kathirbharathi, <i>Messiyavukku Moondru Machangal</i> (Poetry)
Telugu	Manthri Krishna Mohan, <i>Pravabinche Padalu and Other Poems</i> (Poetry)
Urdu	Moid Rasheedi, <i>Takbleeq Takheel Aur Isteara</i> (Literary Criticism)

*No Prize in Kashmiri and Sindhi this year*



Bijoy Sankar Barman



Janice Pariat



Lakkur Ananda



Subhro Bandopadhyay



Ashok Chavda 'Bedil'



Yogini Acharya



Sansumai Khungri Basumatari



Dilip Kumar Jha 'Lootan'



Dheeraj Kesar 'Nikka'



Archana Bhaisare



P.V. Shajikumar



Akhom Yandibala Devi



Harpreet Kaur



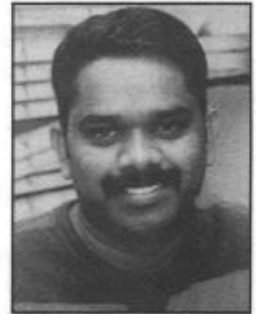
Lalchand Saren



Ravi Laxmikant Korde



Kumar Ajay,



Kathirbharathi



Suraj Dhadkan



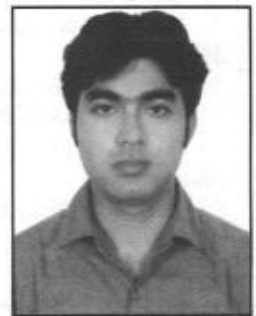
Rajkumar Mishra



Manthri Krishna Mohan



Kshetrabasi Naik



Moid Rasheedi



## MEMBERS OF THE JURY

### *Assamese*

Dr. Arupa Patangia Kalita  
Prof. Nagen Saikia  
Prof. Pradip Acharya

### *Bengali*

Prof. Sutapa Sengupta  
Prof. Manabendra Bandyopadhyay  
Prof. Pinakesh Sarkar

### *Bodo*

Dr. Anil Kumar Boro  
Sri Indrajit Brahma  
Sri Gobinda Basumatary

### *Dogri*

Sri Gianeshwar Sharma  
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Ms. Vijaya Thakur

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Sri Uday Bhembre  
Sri Prasad Loliengar

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Sri Vaisakhan

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Dr. Toijam Tampha Devi

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Sri Pravin D. Bandekar

### *Nepali*

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Prof. Pankaj Chande

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Sri Kanailal Tudu  
Sri Purna Chandra Hembram

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Dr. Vaderevu Chinna Veerabhadrudu

### *Urdu*

Dr. Ashfaq Ahmad Aarfi  
Dr. Aziz Parihar  
Dr. Perwaiz Shaharyar

## PROGRAMMES

### FESTIVAL OF LETTERS 2014

Festival of Letters 2014 (Sahityotsav) was organised in Delhi on a grand scale from 10-15 March 2014 at a few venues, Meghadoot Theatre Complex, Kamani Auditorium and Rabindra Bhawan lawns and Sahitya Akademi auditorium. Festival of Letters 2014 sought to reach out to the writers of all age groups across the country. Noteworthy feature of this year was a massive 'Akademi Exhibition' with rare collage of photographs and texts depicting the journey of the Akademi in the last 60 years. Felicitation of Sahitya Akademi Fellows was held as a part of the celebration of the jubilee year. The events of the festival included Sahitya Akademi Award Presentation Ceremony, Writers' Meet, Samvatsar and Foundation Day Lectures, Face to Face programmes, Live Performances of Artists (Loka: The Many Voices), Purvottari: Northern and North-Eastern Writers' Meet, Felicitation of Akademi Fellows, Young Poets' Meet, Bal Sahiti: Spin-A-Tale and a National Seminar on 'Literary Criticism Today: Text, Trends and Issues'.

### Inauguration of Akademi 2013 Exhibition

An exhibition depicting the epochs down its journey of 60 years of its establishment organised at Rabindra Bhawan lawns, New Delhi was inaugurated on 10 March 2014. Nabaneeta Debsen, a leading Bengali writer inaugurated the exhibition in the presence of Akademi President Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, veteran Hindi poet, its Vice-President Chandrasekhar Kambar, veteran Kannada writer, the members of the Akademi General Council, the media persons and the writers and readers from Indian literary feternity.

K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi in his welcome speech mentioned



Nabaneeta Debsen inaugurating the Akademi Exhibition 2013

that this year being a Diamond Jubilee Year, the Annual Exhibition showcases the history, milestones, seminal events, achievements in the last 60 years of the Akademi anticipating the great response it would evoke and of reaching out to even the common readers. Inaugurating the Exhibition, Smt. Debsen, said that she experiences the real creativity

through the creative endeavours of Sahitya Akademi and also through this massive depiction of great memories in pictures and texts. Speaking on the occasion Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, recalled the journey of the Akademi's 60 years with its achievements and he said, "This is truly the time to celebrate."

## Sahitya Akademi Awardes 2013 Presentation Ceremony

On the second day of the Festival of Letters, in an elegant function organised at Kamani Auditorium, Sahitya Akademi Award winners for 2013 representing 24 Indian languages were honoured with the prestigious Sahitya Akademi awards on 11 March 2014. Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, a poet of greater eminence presided over the Award presentation ceremony.

Ramakanta Rath, Akademi's former President and eminent Odia poet and Fellow of the Sahitya Akademi was invited as the chief guest on the occasion. K.Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, and Chandrashekar

Kambar, Akademi Vice President were present to deliver welcome address and propose vote of thanks, respectively.

The award winners were beautifully seated in an array on the dais in the presence of the chief guest, the President and Vice-President of the Akademi. K.Sreenivasarao cordially welcomed the awardees and the literary connoisseurs. In his address "Dr. K.S. Rao said, If only we spent a little more time reading and pondering the profound literary works that Indian authors and philosophers have produced over centuries each one of us would benefit by their wisdom and be a better



L-R: Chandrashekar Kambar, Ramakanta Rath, Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari and K. Sreenivasarao



An array of Sahitya Akademi awardees on the dias

person than we are today.” He also presented a detailed report of the functioning of the Sahitya Akademi in the past year with its attempts and achievements.

Then, the Akademi President Prof. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, presented the Sahitya Akademi award, the awardees present which included a brass plaque and a cheque of rupees one lakh. The citations were read out by the Secretary, Sahitya Akademi before the presentation of the awards which was

followed by garlanding the awardees by Chandrashekhar Kambar, Akademi Vice-President.

Presiding over the ceremony, Prof. Tiwari said, “What the Sahitya Akademi is offering to these literary greats is merely a gesture compared to their immense contribution to Indian literature. We are privileged to be able to salute their great works in the form of this felicitation, which is not to be considered an award but an apt recognition for their



Akademi President presenting the award plaque to Temsula Ao, English awardee



Javed Akhtar, Urdu awardee receiving the Akademi award from the Akademi President

efforts, dedication and the perfections that they have achieved in their works". He further added, "Writers play a vital role in functioning of the Akademi and because of this, Akademi is in a way self-operated organization. It symbolises the prestige of the democracy of our country."

The award winners who received the awards included Rabindra Sarkar (Assamese), Anil Boro ( Bodo), Sita Ram Sapolia (Dogri), Temsula Ao (English), Chinu Modi (Gujarati), C.N. Ramachandran (Kannada), Mohi-ud-Din Reshi (Kashmiri), Tukaram Ram Shet (Konkani), Sureshwar Jha (Maithili), M.N. Paloor (Malayalam), Makhonmani Mongsaba (Manipuri), Satish Kalsekar (Marathi), Manbahadur Pradhan (Nepali), Bijay Mishra

(Odia), Manmohan (Punjabi), Ambika Dutt (Rajasthani), Radhakant Thakur (Sanskrit), Arjun Charan Hembrum (Santali), Namdev Tarachandani (Sindhi), R.N. Joe D'Cruz (Tamil), Katyayani Vidmahe (Telegu) and Javed Akhtar (Urdu).

Ramakanta Rath, the chief guest who delivered his address observed "The legacy of rich Indian literature is being carried forward by the eminent personalities present here today and hundreds of others like them who have dedicated their whole lives to literary pursuits."

Chandrashekhar Kambar gave the vote of thanks and the ceremony ended with beautiful Manipuri dance presentation by the students of Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy.

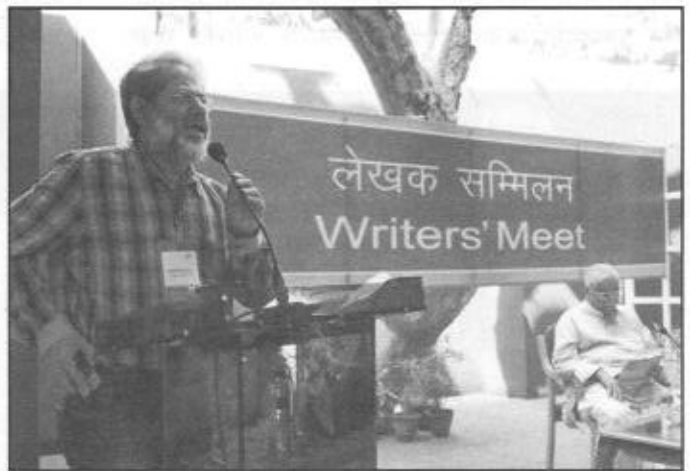
## Writers' Meet

12 March 2014, New Delhi

On the third day, 12 March 2014 of the Festival, 'Writers' Meet' programme was organised at 10.30 am at Meghadoot Theatre complex, Rabindra Bhawan. Chandrashekhar Kambar, Vice-President, Sahitya Akademi presided over the Meet. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, while welcoming the writers, he said that the authors would speak their hypnotic creative experiences.

Award winning writers presented their speeches expressing their creative experiences in this programme. M.N Paloor, Malayalam awardee, Satish Kalsekar, Marathi awardee and Javed Akhtar Urdu awardee were unable to participate in the Meet. Speaking about his poetry collection *Dhuliyori Bhavir Sanch*, Rabindra Sarkar, Assamese poet

and writer said that he tried to focus and amplify the feelings and emotions of the common people. Subodh Sarkar, well-known



Subodh Sarkar, Bengali awardee sharing his creative experience. Chandrashekhar Kambar presiding over the Meet



Bengali poet said that for him poetry is a treasure house of human civilisation. Anil Boro, Bodo poet and writer said that his role as a poet cannot be understood by bifurcating it from Bodo people who are in search of their identity while conserving language and culture.

Sitaram Sapolia, Dogri writer, while sharing his creative journey said that he is the supporter of human dignity and harmony. He further added that he has tried to assimilate sensitivities of modern times while following the tradition.

Temsula Ao, well-known writer in English, from North-East highlighted the foresightedness of founders of Sahitya Akademi for recognising English as an Indian language.

Chinu Modi, Gujarati writer shared various experiences of his creative life as how a writer deals with the challenges of language and craft.

Mridula Garg, Hindi novelist while discussing on her creative process said, "Writing a novel is just like ending your personal life and starting a new life. On the basis of experiences and realisations you enter somebody else's life neglecting your own. Then you write as if you are living that life."

C.N Ramachandran, Kannada writer and critic said that as a critic he is not restricted to any specific school of thought.

Mohi-ud-Din Reshi, Kashmiri writer shared his concern for Kashmir and said that though his work projects the crisis and contemporary situations of his mother land, it also deals with universal problems plaguing human life.

Tukaram Rama Shet, fiction writer, essayist and poet in Konkani said that he tries to capture through his pen the atmosphere, language, colloquial expressions, idioms and natural beauty of his village.

Sureshwar Jha, Maithili writer, essayist and translator said that the struggle in his life is associated with the betterment of the

people and language of Mithila region.

Makhonmani Mongsaba, Manipuri poet and fiction writer said that his award-winning work is the result of his travelling experiences around the world as an actor.

Manbahadur Pradhan, Nepali writer remarked that the great merit of being a writer is that, he can travel anywhere anytime innumerable through your book or in your thoughts.

Bijay Mishra, Odia playwright remarked that the Oriya cultural heritage inspired him and that possibly was the reason he became a playwright.

Manmohan, Punjabi poet and fiction writer while speaking about his awarded work *Nirvaan*, he said that the completeness of a word is beyond words and is realised through poetry.

Ambika Dutt, Rajasthani writer expressed that he wants to infuse courage, strength and happiness into people to fight the challenges of life through his works.

Radhakant Thakur, Sanskrit poet and scholar spoke that he wants to discover the truth, and progressive thought process of contemporary society.

Arjun Charan Hembram, Santali writer and activist shared that his literary experience is associated with software and literary revolution of Santali language.

Namdev Tarachandani, Sindhi writer and critic expressed his responsibility over Sindhi literature and his concern over the extinction of Sindhi language and literature.

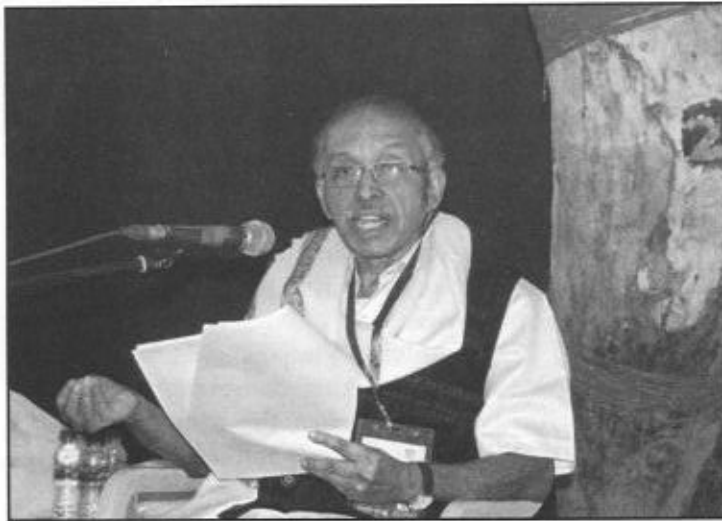
R.N Joe D' Cruz, Tamil poet and fiction writer shared his various experiences of costal life and said, "To progress one must be aware of the history and culture of his society and should have respect for one's roots."

Katyayani Vidmahe, Telugu writer and essayist said that her work brings to the fore enormous bias faced by women writers in Telugu over the years.



## Samvatsar Lectures: ONV Kurup

### Poetry that Defies Definitions: Its Relevance in Modern Times



O.N.V Kurup, veteran Malayalam writer delivered this year's Samvatsar Lecture on the topic 'Poetry that Defies Definitions: Its Relevance in Modern Times.' Further, in the course of his discourse one of the points ONV highlighted was the inherent music in the poem, continued to be the tradition in both East and West. Though new experiments and improvisations of modern times have broken this tradition, it has not become extinct; the tradition lives on in folk poetry and even in contemporary poetry. The ballads of North Malabar region in Kerala are enriched with the sentiments of love and valour whose diction is colloquial and the melody all-pervading. Changampuzha's poetry flowed like music from a country flute. There is music in the poetry of great Malayalam poets Kumaran Asan and Vyooppilly, but in adequate measure with pristine precision. A mere emotional outburst cannot create an

aesthetic experience, he said.

He further stated that poetry is also a creation; a lullaby is the self expression that a mother expands its status from personal to that of 'universal.' He dwelt at length on the use of metaphor in poetry. ONV remarked, "A genuine metaphor plays a vital role in poetry as it turns the abstract to concrete." The poetry becomes universal when the poetry becomes the voice of the voiceless. He finally stated that definitions of poetry are defied, but poetry remains. Classics become

contemporary when it stands the test of time. The tribe of poetasters may increase, but poetry will survive.

He also raised the issue of the social movement that was aimed at the protection of an ecologically sensitive forest in Kerala, which was later converted into a National park. The issue had drawn widespread support of poets then. The Silent Valley is monument of poet's collective intervention in the issue, Kurup said. He pointed out that most poets like Krishna Warriar, Vyooppilly, Edassery, Ayyappa Paniker, Kadammanitta and Vinayachandran who died were effective in raising awareness about the issue. But commitment alone will not make poetry great. Intellectual honesty is the hallmark of inspired poetry. He shared a number of his experiences of joy and sorrow in the course of a long journey seeking poetic truth.

## Foundation Day Lecture: Justice M.N. Venkatachaliah

Hon'ble Justice M.N. Venkatachaliah, former Chief Justice of India delivered the second 'Foundation Day Lecture' on 12 March 2014 at Meghadoot Theatre Complex. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi felicitated him with a bouquet.

K.Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi in his introductory address said that, "the Foundation Day being celebrated today is of special kind as exactly 60 year from today, Sahitya Akademi came into being, inaugurated by Dr. Radha Krishnan. Blessed and promoted by the great leaders and intellectuals of that period, generously supported by the Government of India, promoted by the literary community from every part of our multilingual country shaped and reshaped by reputed writers and scholars since its inception. Sahitya Akademi has gone from strength to strength. All the celebrated writers and scholars, who tried to deepen, promote, diversify, disseminate and enrich the Akademi's activities in many splendours as ever expanding literary cosmos. Literature is basically commentary on life. Democratization by literature connects people.

Hon'ble Justice M.N. Venkatachaliah spoke about the origin of the Sahitya Akademi, which came into existence in 1954 and its journey so far in the field of Indian literature. He also spoke about the evolution of human race, contribution of science and technology to human civilization, origin of the Sanskrit language and how its supremacy just as the Western-classical languages like Greek and Latin. He opined that despite the rich heritage of India, around 500 dialects have gone



missing over the years. He congratulated the Sahitya Akademi for its role and exemplary contribution in the field of literature in presenting and sustaining Indian languages.

He said that in these modern times human civilization is obsessed with science and technology. Literature plays an important role in protecting the sensitivity in our hearts towards the nature and society. He emphasized on the existence of organizations like Sahitya Akademi, as these institution play an important role in conserving literature and culture. He further added that establishment of Sahitya Akademi was one of the landmark decisions made by Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru. He formulated the importance of literature by quoting various lectures given by important politicians, thinkers, writers and scholars.

Chandrashekhar Kambar, Vice-President, Sahitya Akademi while praising the spontaneity and genuineness in the presentation of the lecture of the honourable guest, he expressed his gratitude to him for generous presentation at the end.

## National Seminar

### Literary Criticism Today: Texts, Trends and Issues

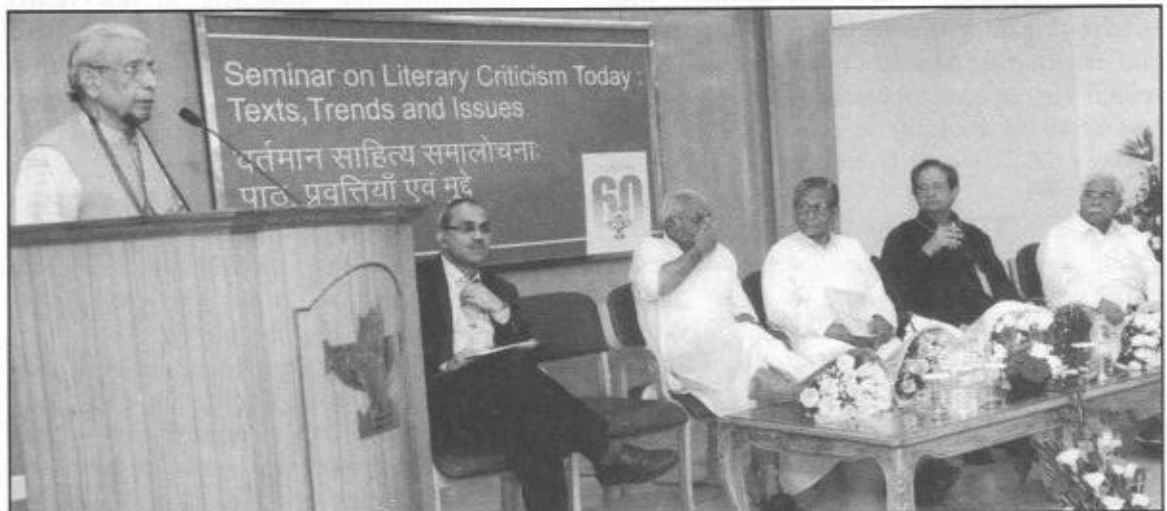
The three day seminar on 'Literary Criticism Today: Text, Trends and Issues' was organised from 13 to 15 March 2014 involving about 50 writers/scholars/critics from all over the country.

In his welcome address, K.Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi said that the seminar on 'Literary Criticism Today: Text, Trends and Issues' was conceived in order to study, review and evaluate the literary criticism in the regional and national levels in Indian languages in the global perspectives. Its connection with aesthetics, poetic perspectives and its Western influences on it and also the invisible interdependence between them would also be expected to be discussed in the seminar of its first kind on the subject organised by the Akademi.

Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi in his presidential address emphasized, the point that critical acumen is born out of the creative talents. The criticism

deprived of creativity is only supported by sheer references would never work at all. Elaborating the process of critical endeavour, Prof. Tiwari said that it is a three layered process. Critic should first imbibe the spirit of the work, then comes the analyses and finally evaluation. He further added that critic should be free from any prejudices only then he can justify his attempt. He also quoted Alexander Pope who said critics are born not made like that of a true poet. He also emphasized on the need of translations of literary criticisms available in other languages in their own.

The seminar was inaugurated by Namwar Singh, veteran Hindi critic. In his inaugural address, he said that we do find *Kavya Shastra* in Sanskrit but no treatise on literary criticism or appreciation. The word 'alochana' in Hindi is just a translation of the term 'criticism.' While he discussed at length about the theories of criticism, Prof. Singh said that we must



Namwar Singh delivering inaugural address.

L-R: K. Sreenivasarao, Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, Manoj Das, Aijaz Ahmed and Chandrashekhar Kambar

learn to read text first. He quoted Goethe in this context who said "All theory dear friend is grey, but the golden tree of Life springs ever green." He further added that only a creative person can always be a good critic. While discussing about the theories of criticism, he quoted Viktor Shklovsky's theory of 'Ostranenie' which means 'defamiliarisation,' which means observing a work as if we are experiencing it for the first time. A critic can be deeply perceptive in his review, he concluded.

Manoj Das, veteran writer in Odia and English was invited as a guest of honour in the inaugural session of the seminar. In his free wheeling delivery, Sri Manoj Das said that he resorted only to critical appreciation in his evaluation of any work, being a creative writer. He expressed his fear to offer any critical dictum. Has there been any landmark in any of the creative achievement? Sri Das interrogated. Every decade had to offer a kind of critical theory. The past century was highly eventful than any other century of the past. "Two great World Wars, Russian Revolution, Chinese Revolution, rise and the fall of Soviet Russia, end of imperialism, monarchy, feudalism and so many such cataclysmic epochs took place. Similarly great experiments of literature too were practised by writers. There was dadaism which led to surrealism, existentialism, social realism etc. There were innumerable critical theories. When the novel *Ulysis* by James Joyce was published, several critics opined "*Ulysis* was an ultimate novel." Whereas thousands of novels with equal merit or more were published later" he said. Sri Manoj Das referred to Lord Ganesha who helped Veda Vyasa in recording the great epic the *Ramayana*. Lord Ganesha never stopped, or interrupted Vayasa's creative endeavour. Creativity and evaluation are ingrained from the dawn of Indian history. The makers of literary movement or literary theories in the

20th century hardly followed their own dictum. Quoting the example of T.S Eliot, Sri Manoj Das was doubtful whether Eliot followed his own theory of Tradition and Individual Talent in his great works "The Wasteland" or "Four Quartets" One need not be a poet to appreciate the beauty of a poem. The readers are left to feel the exact beauty of a poem, Sri Das concluded.

In his keynote address, Aijaz Ahmed, veteran scholar began his address pointing out the role of Sahitya Akademi that it tries to provide the institutional mooring for the idea and practice of Indian Literature. In a national setting when college, universities and the other institutions of higher learning have not designed any shape on the whole and sustained in its study of Indian Literature and its complexities as a distinct academic discipline. Unlike the Euro American capitalistic modernity to create unilingual nation states, like France or United States, India by contrast represents for largest experiment that humanity has ever undertaken to make a tradition to a modern industrial society and vast market economy. No single university can possibly teach the number of languages with available material resources. The French monarchy in its heyday instituted an academic standardized linguistic culture for all of France suppressing local regional differences in many dialogues and sense generating oralities. By contrast post-independent India constituted Sahitya Akademi with the belief to strengthen and promote a host of languages for multilingual production.

Dr. Ahmed expressed his opinion stating, however, we dramatically fail to restructure the actual teaching of literature in our universities and colleges in ways commensurate with this multilingualism. Much more impressive work was done in assembling literature histories and accumulation of translated texts but much less in the disciplines

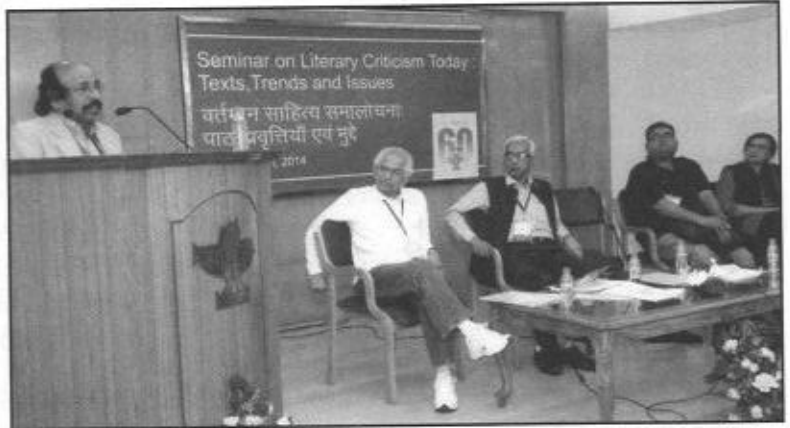


of comparative literature. It is within the last two decades or so a serious view have been made institutionally in terms of revision of syllabi, the organization of seminar and conferences and publication of books and papers addressing the whole range of subject involved in the study of Indian literature. He further stated that he would not be rehashing his old argument that Indian literature was not conceptualized on the model of national literature, but was inherited from the model of colonial educational apparatus. Dr. Ahmed reiterated that the comparative literature would be more appropriate for multilingual character of our society. Chandrashekhar Kambar Vice-President, Sahitya Akademi, presented vote of thanks at the end.

The first session titled 'Literary Criticism Today: A Global Perspective' was chaired by Harish Trivedi. T. Vijay Kumar, Sachin Ketkar and P.P Raveendran presented their papers. The topic for the second session was 'The State of Literary Criticism in Indian Languages.' Sitanshu Yashaschandra chaired the session and C.N Ramachandran, Vaasanthi and C. Mrunalini read out their papers.

The second day of the seminar on 14 March 2014, the third session was chaired by Ganesh Devy and the topic for discussion was 'Interrogating the Hegemony.' Vellikkeel Raghavan, Y.S Alone and M.T Ansari presented their papers.

'Towards the Theory of Indian Poetics' was the topic for the fourth session chaired by Gopi Chand Narang. Purushottam Agarwal, C.Rajendran and S. Settar presented their papers. In the fifth session the topic on 'The Western Impact, Indian Response' was discussed. Samik Bandopadhyay chaired the



L-R: K. Satchidanandan, D.S. Rao, E.V. Ramakrishnan, Giriraj Kiradoo and Antara Dev Sen

session. Sachidananda Mohanty. GJV Prasad and Raj Rao presented their papers.

In the last session of the day, on the topic 'The State of Literary Criticism in the Indian Languages,' K.C Baral, M. Asaduddin and Swapan Chakravarty read out their papers. Bhalachandra Nemade chaired the session. On the last day of the seminar, the seventh session devoted to the topic 'Literary Criticism: Science or Art?', was the chaired by Manager Pandey. B. Rajeevan, V. Sanil and Sudhish Pachauri presented their papers. 'The State of Literary Criticism in the Indian Languages' was the topic for the eighth session. Anamika, Akshay Kumar and K.S. Ravikumar presented their papers while Purushottam Agrawal chaired the session. In the ninth session 'Aesthetics and Literary Criticism' was discussed under the chairmanship of Kapil Kapoor. Radhavallabh Tripathi, Nirmal Selvamony and Sharan Kumar Limbale read out their papers. The last session was devoted to the topic 'Do Book Reviews Qualify as Literary Criticism?' E.V Ramakrishnan chaired the session and D.S. Rao, Giriraj Kiradoo and Antara Dev Sen presented their papers.

The valedictory address was delivered by K. Satchidanandan.

## Diamond Jubilee Celebration Felicitation of Sahitya Akademi Fellows

Sahitya Akademi felicitated its living Fellows in a special programme organised in the event of its Diamond Jubilee celebration on the evening of 13 March 2014, the third day of the Festival at Meghdoot Theatre Complex of Rabindra Bhavan. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi felicitated the Fellows with a plaque and shawl. The Fellows who were presented on the occasion included

Ramakant Rath, Gopi Chand Narang, Chandar Nath Mishra Amar, Manoj Das, Kedar Nath Singh, Raghuveer Chaudhury, Sitakant Mahapatra, Satyavrat Shastri and Arjun Hasid.

K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the Fellows and expressed his deep gratitude on behalf of the President, Vice-President, and the members of the General Council for being present and honouring Akademi's invitation. Nine Akademi Fellows,



Felicitation speech being delivered by Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, Akademi President. The Fellows seated on the dais

great living legends in the field of letters representing Indian languages, delivered their brief speeches, praising on the performances of the Akademi and also gave few valuable suggestions. The suggestions included a demand of for subsidy towards the publication of old classics for all Indian languages and to prepare a register of translators

The programme ended with a vote of thanks by Chandrashekhar Kambar, Vice President, Sahitya Akademi.

## Face to Face Programme

In the 'Face to Face' literary programme authors were interviewed by a renowned critics of the respective language on the scope of the text, its place in the Indian literary scene and the personality of the author. Six awardees and six critics representing from different zones

of the Akademi were interviewed on an experimental basis.

Prayag Shukla, Hindi writer, critic and editor interviewed Mridula Garg (Hindi awardee), C. Mrunalini with Katyayani Vidmahe (Telugu awards), Sitanshu



Yashachandra, well-known Gujarati writer with Chinu Modi (Gujarati awardee), Maalan V Narayanan with R. N Joe D'Cruz (Tamil awardee), Esther Syeim with Temsula Ao, (English awardee) and Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharjee with Subodh Sarkar, (Bengali awardee).

It was observed by the lovers of literature that the programme was interesting and innovative. Media also covered the points discussed and meticulously published them.



Prayag Shukla and Mridula Garg

## The New Harvest: Young Poets' Meet

Sahitya Akademi organised a special programme under its Yuva Sahiti series entitled 'The New Harvest: Young Poets' Meet' on 13 March 2014. As a parallel session, the New Harvest programme was introduced as a part of Festival of Letters 2013 and was well received among the literary public especially the young lovers of literature.

K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the writers and audience. The programme was inaugurated by Vishwas Patil, well-known Marathi writer. Lecladhar

Mandaloi presided over the session and discussed the various elements of poetry and also shared his views on contemporary poetry.

The first session was chaired by J.P. Das, renowned Odia writer. Kongkana Dutta (Assamese), Yash Raina (Dogri), Jatush Harishchandra Joshi (Gujarati), Aarif Raja (Kannada), Arunabh Saurabh (Maithili), Ranvir Sarungbam (Manipuri), Manoj Bogati (Nepali) and Saalim Saleem (Urdu) presented their poetry. Baldev Vanshi, eminent Hindi poet chaired the second session. Mau Dasgupta (Bengali), Mihir Chitre (English), Manzoor Yusuf (Kashmiri), Lopa R. (Malayalam), Preetidhara Samal (Odia), Om Nagar (Rajasthani), Praveen Pandya (Sanskrit) and Anuj Lugun (Hindi) recited their poems. In the last session of the Meet Bijit Goyari (Bodo), Yuga Adarkar (Konkani), Kalpana Dudhai (Marathi), Neetu Arora (Punjabi), Shyam Charan Tudu (Santali), Bharti Sadarangani (Sindhi), M.Sumati (Tamil) and Siriki Swami Naidu (Telugu) presented their poems. Dinesh Kumar Shukla, eminent Hindi poet chaired the session.

Brajendra Tripathi, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, coordinated the event.



Kongkana Dutta presenting her Assamese story. J.P. Das and other young writers on the dias

## Bal-Sahiti Programme



Prakash Manu delivering his speech

On the fifth day of the Festival on 14 March 2014, various programmes under the series of 'Bal-Sahiti' were organised. It comprised of 'Spin-a-Tale,' 'Poetry Writing Competition' and a 'Panel Discussion' on 'The Challenges of Getting Young Adults to Read in this Age of Technology.'

K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the children from various schools, parents, teachers and guests.

Prakash Manu, veteran children writer, in his inaugural speech mentioned that, "the programme is a true fair and a festival for children." He narrated three small stories and a poem. He concluded with a suggestion that Sahitya Akademi should also encourage the publishing of monographs of writers for children.

Further in this programme, Kamaljeet Neelon (Punjabi), Usha Bande (English) and Anupa Lal (Hindi) read out stories for children. The programme was coordinated by Geetanjali Chatterjee, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi.

Poetry writing competition was also organised simultaneously with 'Spin-a-Tale.' Deepa Aggarwal and Surekha Panandikar judged the competition. 56 students from various schools participated in the competition.

The programme concluded with a panel discussion on 'The Challenges of Getting Young Adults to Read in this Age of Technology.' K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi delivered the welcome address and Gitanjali Chatterjee, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi introduced the panelist to the audience.

The panel included V.K Kartika (Publisher), Paro Anand (Writer), Smriti Lamech (Writer), Swati Roy (Director of Bookaru), Samit Basu (Writer) and Devapriya Roy as moderator. Well-known children writer in English Paro Anand said that the concept of adolescence or young-adult is new in India. Earlier there were two categories childhood and adult. She opined that these days inclination of children towards reading is more than adults.

V.K Kartika while further clarifying the



L-R: Sumit Basu, Devapriya Roy, Paro Anand, V.V. Karitika and Smriti Lamech at the panel discussion

term 'young-adult' said that children of this age group are capable of deciding what exactly they want to read as the books for children are bought only after the approval or recommendation from teachers, guardians and parents.

Smriti Lamech opined that children should not be discouraged from reading or watching television. She insisted that parents and teacher should not enforce on children what they want them to read. Rather they should encourage their independent decision of making their own choice. This will boost

confidence and further motivate them towards creativity. Sumit Basu said that writing for the young-adult category should be promoted as it will further enhance the reading interests in the children.

The discussion was successful as it was concluded that writers should write keeping in mind the interests and psychology of children which will not only contribute in developing their interests in reading but will also work towards their development.

There was an interesting interaction session at the end of the discussion.

## Purvottari : North-East and Northern Writers' Meet

On the last day of the Festival 'Purvottari: North East and Northern Writers' Meet' programme was organised on 15 March 2014 at Meghadoot Theatre Complex, Rabindra Bhawan. K.Sreenivasarao, Secretary Sahitya Akademi welcomed the guests, participants and audience. Eminent Manipuri writer H. Behari Singh inaugurated the Meet and Mangalesh Dabral, veteran Hindi writer was the guest of honour. Arupa Barua (Assamese), Bijay Baglary (Bodo), Varyam Singh (Hindi), Suman Bantawa (Nepali), Chandramani Jha (Maithili), Sarabjeet Kaur Sohal (Punjabi), Shyam Maharshi (Rajasthani), Ramakant Shukla (Sanskrit) and Chandrabhan Khayal (Urdu) rendered their readings in the inaugural session.

The first session of 'Short-Story Reading' was chaired by Chander Trikha. Sibananda Kakoty (Assamese), Rahul Saini (English), Dayanand Pandey (Hindi) and Rajkumari Hemavati Devi (Manipuri) read out their stories.

Ganga Prasad Vimal, eminent Hindi wrier chaired the second session on 'Poetry Reading.' Anupama Basumatary (Assamese), Ano Brahma (Bodo), Lalit Mangotra (Dogri), Sudeep Sen (English), Sanjay Kundan (Hindi), Majrooh Rashid (Kashmiri), Bhavilal Lamichhane (Nepali), Surjit Judge (Punjabi), Fatikchand Hembram (Santali) and Abdul Ahad Saaz (Urdu) recited their poems.



K. Sreenivasarao welcoming the guests.  
L-R: H. Behari Singh, Manglesh Dabral and Renu Mohan Bhan

## PRESENTATION OF TRANSLATION PRIZES 2012

Translation Prizes 2012 presentation function was at Thiagaraya auditorium, T. Nagar Chennai on 23 August 2013. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi delivered his welcome address. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, veteran Hindi poet and President of Sahitya Akademi presided over the award presentation function and presented the Translation Prizes to the awardees. Eminent Tamil fiction writer Ashokamitran was the chief guest; and Chandrashekhar Kambar, veteran Kannada writer and Vice-President of Sahitya Akademi delivered concluding speech and also proposed a vote of thanks.

In his welcome address, Dr. Sreenivasarao mentioned that translation is one of the pivotal activities of Sahitya Akademi. Akademi is bound to preserve, nurture and disseminate not only creative literature but also literature in translations as well, he informed. He extended his welcome to the Awardees, dignitaries, invitees, writers, translation, scholars and lovers of literature from Tamil

Nadu and invitees from all over India to prize presentation ceremony.

The President of the Akademi gave away Translation Prizes to Pankaj Thakur (Assamese); Oinam Nilkantha Singha (Bengali); Swarna Prabha Chainary (Bodo); Shashi Pathania (Dogri); M.L. Thangappa (English); Shalini Chandrakant Topiwala (Gujarati); Ramji Tiwari (Hindi); K.K. Nair and Ashok Kumar (Kannada); Abdul Ahad Hajini (Kashmir); Gurunath Shivaji Kelekar (Konkani); Mahendra Narayan Ram (Maithili); Anand (P. Satchidanandan) (Malayalam); Elangbam Sonamani Singh (Manipuri); Sharda Sathe (Marathi); Gita Upadhyay (Nepali); Prasanta Kumar Mohanty (Odia); Satish Kumar Verma (Punjabi); Poora Sharma 'Pooran' (Rajasthani); Bhagirathi Nanda (Sanskrit); Ravindra Nath Murmu (Santali); Hiro Thakur (Sindhi); G. Nanjundan (Tamil); R.Venkateswara Rao (Telugu) and Ather Farouqui (Urdu).

After the presentation of the prizes, Prof. Tiwari delivered his presidential address. He



L-R: Sreenivasarao, Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, Ashokamitran and Chandrashekhar Kambar





Akademi President V.P. Tiwari presenting the award to M.L. Thangappa, English awardee

expressed his great pleasure in organizing this important multi-lingual literary event and its Translation Prize presentation function in a historically rich and culturally vibrant city of Chennai. Tamil language is one of the foremost languages of our nation and also the world. Tamil people greatly revere their writers in general. Translation is the part and parcel for our communication in the multilingual society. Though translation is a tough job to do but it is most necessary in a multilingual country like ours. It is a herculean task to give justice to the original in translations". He cited examples of different words to denote the meaning of 'house' in various rasas. At this juncture we are bound to congratulate the award winning translators- the ambassador of cultures, he concluded.

The chief guest Ashokamitran in his address said that he was overwhelmed on hearing the citations of the prize winners while being read out. He could understand the amount of valuable contributions made to Indian languages and literatures by them. Bankim Chandra Chatterjee in Tamil translation was the bestsellers in Tamil Nadu in 1940's and

also the stories of Rabindranath Tagore. For the past 20-30 years, despite many awards for translations were given and the encouragement provided by the institutions like Sahitya Akademi and National Book Trust, he was not sure whether translations are reaching out to people at all. He hoped that such institutions would work hard to reach out to more readers even at the remote areas. This kind of efforts would encourage not only the original writers but also the translators as well.

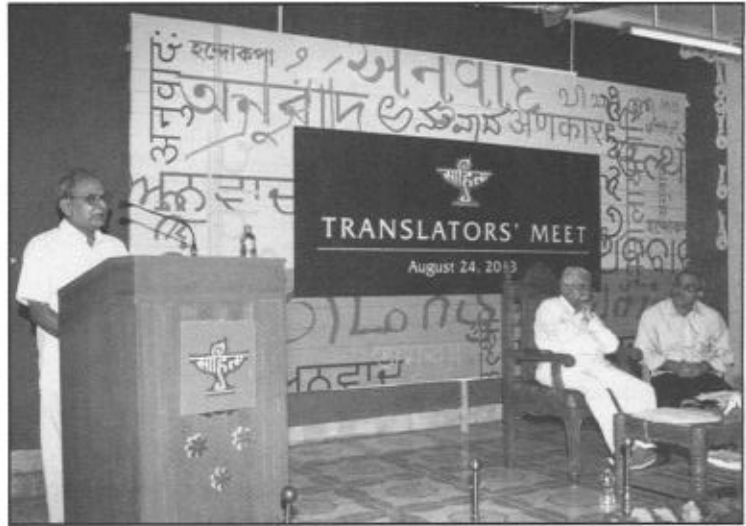
Veteran Kannada writer and Vice-President of Akademi, Prof. Kambar, in his concluding speech said, "Linguistic pluralism is the peculiarity of the sub-content. Our language shares common history, common destiny and common future in spite of 'mutual unintelligibility'. The disastrous situation today is the use of English which is not ours. The use of English in our country is formidable. He appealed to the assembled writers, translators and scholars to inculcate love for mother tongues among our children and check the domination of English over our languages. He also proposed the vote of thanks.



Chandrashekhar Kambar presenting the bouquet to Shashi Pathania, Dogri awardee

## Translators' Meet

In the 'Translators' Meet' held on 24 August, 2013 at Platinum Jubilees Auditorium, University of Madras, Marina Campus in Chennai, the translators who received the awards shared their experiences as translators. Most of the translators reflected, through their presentations, their pleasures and pains in undertaking the translation works and selection of words in the target languages. An absolute understanding of the words in connotation of the original languages is the most essential part and stupendous task for them to give the best of the translations in the target languages. They are after all translating not only the works but also cultures. The deep involvement and identification with the original works are the most essential



Anand, Malayalam awardee, delivering his speech.  
L-R: Chandrasekhar Kambar and K. Sreenivasarao

aspects of the best translation. The 'Translators' Meet' was chaired by Chandrasekhar Kambar, Vice-President of the Akademi.

## Abhivyakti Programme

The 'Abhivyakti' programme held on 25 August 2013 at Platinum Jubilees Auditorium, University of Madras, Marina Campus in Chennai is a regular feature being organized by the Akademi, followed by the presentation of Translation Prizes. More than 50 writers representing 24 languages from all over the country have been invited to read out from their works. The programme was divided into five reading sessions including the inaugural session. There were two sessions devoted to reading of poetry, two for short stories, one session for the presentation of papers on the topic "Why do I write" by eminent writers.

In the welcome address by K.

Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, he called the 'Abhivyakti' programme a multicultural festival wherein the creative talents of this vast country of many languages converged in one place. It is an occasion of harvest of Indian literature in prose and poetry and fiction, he called.

Krishnaswamy Nachimuthu, Convenor, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akedmi delivered his introductory address. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari in his presidential address highlighted the fact that our mother tongues are in peril. He called every mother tongue in our country a national language. He referred to a few languages in North-East having no



script but being spoken by handful of people. He gave clarion call to the writers in India to protect our mother tongues. The time has come that every Indian has to wake up, or else our grand children would not be able to read our writings. The literary programme by Sahitya Akademi would reinforce our love for mother tongues. The best literature will of course regain the power of words, the sound and rhythms, he concluded.

The programme was inaugurated by Vairamuthu, an eminent Tamil poet and film lyricist. In his inaugural address, he expressed his pleasure over Sahitya Akademi does the job of bringing together different communities, different cultures, various experiences and values and integrate them.

Sahitya Akademi functions like a human heart. Just as the heart purifies the blood and passes it from head to foot of human body, Sahitya Akademi filters good literature from the mediocre ones from all the languages and present them to the people of India from Kashmir to Kanyakumari. Literature either renews our experience of the past or present and infuses experience that we have not encountered. In the span of one's life, how many time literature would have given them life; what kind of literature benefited or patronized with a life one has not lived through, the language that has not been heard, the place one has never seen and an experience that one has not underwent, he stated.

The inaugural session concluded with the poetry reading by Angshuman Kar (Bengali), Susheel Begana (Dogri), Kamal Vora (Gujarati), Arun Kamal (Hindi), Prathibha Nandakumar (Kannada), Savithri Rajeevan (Malayalam), Arambam Ongbi Memchoubi



Vairamuthu inaugurating the Abhivyakti programme

(Manipuri), Salma (Tamil), Devipriya (Telugu), Sheen Kaaf Nizam (Urdu) etc.

Vice-President of the Akademi, Chandrasekhar Kambar concluded the 'Abhivyakti' programme with his brief address. He said Indian languages remain isolated on seeking English to connect them. Despite we managed our freedom from Britishers, we have yet to set our freedom from English. He hoped that situation would change in the days to come.

On 25 August 2013 the 'Abhivyakti' programme continued with four sessions with two devoted for short story reading, another session for a presentation of writers on the topic "Why do I Write", and the last session was 'Poets' Meet' wherein thirteen poets from various Indian languages participated. In the first session of short story reading, Sa. Kandasamy chaired the session. In his introductory speech Sri Kandasamy exhorted the fellow writers to undertake the responsibility of promoting their respective languages to retain the original cultures which is a strong point for the existence of the sub-continent. The participants in this session included Ravindra Kalia (Hindi), Amar Nath

Jha (Maithili), Ajay Swain (Odia), Paavannan (Tamil) and Volga (Telugu) who read out their stories or excerpts from their novels.

In the next session on "Why do I Write", veteran Tamil poet and writer Sirpi Balasubramaniam chaired the session. While appreciating the Akademi to have such session in the programme which expounds the inner self of the individual writers on the theme why they choose to be a writer. Speaking about himself, his purpose of being a poet and writer is to somehow or other to perpetuate his purpose of living in the world and to be remembered by the posterity even after his existence. In this session most interesting presentations were made by well-known writers Arundhathi Subramaniam (English), Vinod Joshi (Gujarati), Mridula Garg (Hindi), S. Faustina 'Bama' (Tamil), K. Siva Reddy (Telugu) and Sharan Kumar Limbale (Marathi).

In the third session Nagathi Halli Chandrashekhar (Kannada), B. Murali

(Malayalam), Nachhatar (Punjabi), Amirtham Surya (Tamil) and M. Narendra (Telugu) read out their stories. Balchandra Nemade, one of the major fiction writers in Marathi presided over the session. He appreciated the thematic diversity of the fiction writers who read out their stories in different Indian languages.

In the concluding session of 'Poets' Meet', K. Satchidanandan, well-known Malayalam poet chaired the session. The poets who read out their poems include Anis Uz Zaman (Assamese), Bisweswar Basumatary (Bodo), Tamilselvi (Kannada), Aziz Hajini (Kashmiri), Madhav Borcar (Konkani), Bindya Subba (Nepali), Arjun Dev Charan (Rajasthani), K. Ramakrishna Warriar (Sanskrit), Yashoda Murmu (Santali), Vasdev Mohi (Sindhi), Thamizhachi Thangapandiyani (Tamil) and M. Sampath Kumar (Telugu).

The four days programme came to an end making a deep impact on the writers community of India and particularly Tamil Nadu.

## BAL SAHITYA PURASKAR PRESENTED

Sahitya Akademi held its Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2013 Presentation ceremony on 15 November

2013, at Goa State Museum Auditorium, Panaji, Goa.



Manoj Das, the chief guest, delivering his address and the awardees in an array



Manoj Das presenting a bouquet to Telugu awardee  
Dokala Sujatha Devi

The three day event included the 'Presentation of Bal Sahitya Puraskar', 'Writers' Meet' and a 'Symposium on Writing' for Children; The New Challenges' on 17 November.

K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the gathering. In his welcome address, he highlighted a vital point despite a vast body of children's literature available to-day, still there is a dearth for good literature for children. In a country like ours with rich heritage of multiple cultures and languages, most ancient and modern the scenario of the production of children's literature is far from satisfaction. Sahitya Akademi came forward to encourage best of literature for children by instituting Bal Sahitya Puraskar from 2010. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, in his presidential address while congratulating all the award winning writers, he said that no genuine writer would write for an award, particularly the writers who write for children. The writer genuinely

attempt to educate and to impart wisdom to the new generation. In the domain of creative writing, writing for children is one of the most difficult challenges to face. We are bound to congratulate the writers, who took up the challenges and handled them most creatively.

After the presidential address, the awards were given away to the winners by the President of the Akademi.

Manoj Das, distinguished Oriya and English writer and the chief guest offered his humble indebtedness to the award-winning creative souls

writing for children with deep concern and welfare. While highlighting the qualities of vibrant children literature available today, Sri Das said, "What strikes us is innocence, colourfulness, imagination, curiosity and love for the strange and the morale". Having read this literature, a child reader is expected to come up with a series of questions and the deep cautions that allow opting for the good over evil, he said.



Akademi president presenting award to the Kannada  
award winner H.S. Venkatesha Murthy

## Writers' Meet

A 'Writers' Meet' held on 16 November 2013 Tosha Probha Kalita, the Bal Sahitya Award 2013 winner in Assamese said that the lullabies and devotional songs sung by women, the wedding songs, the devotional hymns, the voice of my mother and my grandmother inspired her.

Jatindra Nath Swargiary, the award winner in Bodo said that he was inspired by prominent writers and novelists like Dharanidhar Wary who is also a critic and short story writer in his language.

Dhirendra Kumar Jha, the Maithili awardee said that he chose a science theme for his book.

Sumangla, the Malayalam awardee said that she strongly believes that children's stories should be value based, and should have an underlying lesson igniting a spark of goodness.

Raghu Leishangthem, the Manipuri awardee opined that the children literature must be supported by illustrations.

Anant Bhave, the awardee in Marathi, said that one should involve children to narrate stories and sing songs. This involvement

encourages and entuses them to mimic and imitate not only the pronunciation but also the gesticulations and facial expressions.

Saridharam Hansda, the award winner in Santail informed that he was inspired by two great poets in his language, Kabi Guru Sadhu Ramchand Murmu and Pandit Raghunath Murmu.

Vasudev Nirmal, the Sindhi awardee, said that he wrote poems about children, their mannerism, their use of words, about their pets, dolls and toys etc.

E.S. Hariharan (Revathi), the Tamil awardee, said that writing for the present day children is a challenging task as they are very knowledgeable with their modern information kits especially in the field of science.

Asad Raza, the award-winner in Urdu said that his aim is not only to entertain but also to educate children so that they may become broad minded Indian citizens with rational and scientific attitude towards life. He also tries to educate children to respect the diversity of India.

## Seminar on Writing for Children: New Challenges

In the symposium held on the topic "Writing for Children: New Challenges" on 17 November 2013 as the concluding part of the Bal Sahitya Puraskar presentation programme at the same venue, K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, who opened up the symposium with his welcome address, stated that this symposium would discuss so many issues affecting our socio-cultural, economic life, and challenges for our identity, may it be linguistic or cultural or social. And these issues get reflected in our

literature. These issues, "I believe, influence children's psyche, not in the way they influence the mind of elders".

Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, in his presidential address said that having heard the writers speaking at the 'Writers' Meet' came across so many challenges the literature for children puts forth before the writers. The language should be very simple, easy to comprehend in children literature. On the contrary, the mind that achieves this simplicity of language is enigmatic.

It is not easy to make expression simple. Literature for children always teaches great responsibility as it carries knowledge and wisdom in a very simple language.

Bansi Kaul, an eminent theatre persona, in his inaugural address, said that unfortunately there is hardly any playwright who writes plays especially for children. Instead of depriving children we must understand and encourage their natural inclination.

Pundalik Naik, distinguished Konkani writer, was the chief guest at the seminar, who in his address said that the writer needs to keep alive the child in him in order to write for children.

The first session was chaired by Devika Rangachari. Deepa Agarwal (English) in her paper emphasized that the media should be vary of using bad language in cartoon serials. These serials lack variety and imagination. Santanu Tamuly through his paper said that children's literature should aim at encouraging extra curricular activities of a child. Sudha G. Kharangate (Konkani), categorized Konkani

literature for children in three age groups viz. 4-8, 8-12, 12-16 in terms of growing mind of children and professed that children literature should be in accordance with this category.

The second session was chaired by Tanaji Halarnkar, Convenor, Konkani Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi. Baba Bhand (Marathi) in his paper said that every writer should try his hand at writing for children as a creative challenge. Divik Ramesh (Hindi) in his paper said that instead of keeping on discussing problems that media poses, we must believe in our mighty tradition of children literature. We have for instance *Panchatantra* where inanimate become the animate and it is found that this kind of imagination endeavour children. K. Shreekumar (Malayalam) in his paper said that the current scenario of children literature in Malayalam is not satisfactory. This literature is nearly stuffed with advices and they should instead work on readability of literature.

The third session was meant for recitation of poems for children, and was chaired by Prakash Manu. Vinod Gandhi of Gujarati, Anand V. Patil of Kannada, Bharat Naik of Konkani, Sarabjit Singh Bedi of Punjabi, Dindyal Sharma of Rajasthani and Nazir Fatehpuri of Urdu recited their poems for children. Their poems were very well appreciated by the audience.

Finally, Damodar Mauzo, eminent Konkani writer, made concluding remarks.



Pundalik Naik, the chief guest, delivering his address.  
L-R: K. Sreenivasarao, Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari and Bansi Kaul



## PRESENTATION OF YUVA PURASKAR 2013



Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari delivering the presidential address. Yuva Puraskar awardees on the dias

In a graceful Yuva Puraskar presentation ceremony held on 5 February 2014 in Jodhpur. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, opened up the function with the presentation of his welcomed address. He welcomed the chief guest, Nand Kishore Acharya, eminent Hindi writer, Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, and all the Yuva Puraskar winners along with their family and friends, media representatives, as also the august gathering of eminent writers and scholars. Dr. Rao said that the most important of all, Indian writers no more need to wait

till they grow grey and old to be recognized and honoured by Sahitya Akademi. Though it is believed that the greatest achievements happen in ripe old age this is not always true.

Prof. V.P. Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, presided over the function and presented the plaques and cheques to 21 Yuva Puraskar winners. One of the awardees in English Janice Pariat, could not attend the function. Dr. Acharya addressed the gathering as chief guest and presented bouquet and garlands to the award winners.



Archana Bhaisare, Hindi awardee receiving the award from the Akademi President



Akademi President V. P. Tiwari presenting the award to Bijoy Sankar Barman for Assamese



## Awardees' Meet

The grand award presentation ceremony was followed by an Awardees' Meet on the next day on 6 February 2014 at the Gallery of Rajasthan Sangeet Natak Akademi, Jodhpur. During the programme, the award winning authors from different Indian languages, spoke about their work and the creative experiences, before the lovers of literature from the city of Jodhpur.

Kumar Ajay, Rajasthani awardee said, that his language Rajasthani, bears the pain of unrecognition at the Constitutional level, but he is satisfied to write in it as it is counted as one of the world's most richest and greatest languages. Archana Bhaisare, Hindi awardee, spoke that her poetry starts from herself as she has experienced all the necessary and

unnecessary restrictions levied upon a woman in her city. The other awardees who spoke were Bijoy Sankar Barman (Assamese), Subhro Bandopadhyay (Bengali), Sansumai Khungri Basumatari (Bodo), Dheeraj Kesar 'Nikka' (Dogri), Ashok Chavda 'Bedil' (Gujarati), Lakkur Anand (Kannada), Yogini Acharya (Konkani), Dilip Kumar Jha 'Lootan' (Maithili), P.V. Shajikumar (Malayalam), Akhom Yandibala Devi (Manipuri), Ravi Laxmikant Korde (Marathi), Suraj Dhadkan (Nepali), Kshetrabasi Naik (Odia), Harpreet Kaur (Punjabi), Raj Kumar Mishra (Sanskrit), Lal Chand Saren (Santali), Sengathir Selvan (Kathir Bharathi) (Tamil), Manthri Krishna Mohan (Telugu) and Abdul Moid (Moid Rasheedi) (Urdu).

## Avishkar: Young Writers' Festival

The Awardees' Meet on 6 February was followed in the evening at 3.30 p.m. on 6 February 2014 at the Gallery of Rajasthan Sangeet Natak Akademi, Jodhpur by a two-day programme Avishkar - Young Writers' Festival.

Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari presided over the inaugural session. In his presidential address, Prof. Tiwari said, Sahitya Akademi has recognized English also as one of the Indian languages but the Government has not yet given that status. He opined we should give honour to all languages and English is one of them.

Sheen Kaaf Nizam, eminent Urdu poet, inaugurated the Festival. He said that poetry is

immortal and existed for five thousand years. Everybody likes to hear poetry but nobody encourages their children to write it, he remarked.



V.P. Tiwari delivering the presidential address. L-R: K. Sreenivasarao, Arjan Dev Charan and Sheen Kaaf Nizam on the dias

Arjun Dev Charan, Convener, Rajasthani Advisory Board, delivered the introductory speech. He said that a writer should have close relationship with his mother tongue. He expressed his satisfaction on the fact that even in the era of globalization country's language is alive in the form of prose and poetry.

K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the august gathering of eminent writers and litterateurs. Ujjal Powgam, Sanjay Kundan, P. Chandrika read from their works among others during this session.

First session began on 7 February 2014. The feature of the session was 'Why Do I Write?' In this session, young writers shared their experience about what impetus to write. It was chaired by Bhanu Bharti and the papers were presented by Subhro Bandopadhyay (Bengali), Sagar Shah (Gujarati), Arun Dev (Hindi), K.P. Sudheera (Malayalam) and Arvind Ashiya (Rajasthani).

The second session of 'Short Story Reading' was chaired by eminent Rajasthani writer, Malchand Tiwari. The story writers, Nirmal Vikram, Manisha Kulshreshtha, Sanatombi Ningombam, Ashok Kautik Koli and Madan Gopal Ladha read their short stories in Dogri, Hindi, Manipuri, Marathi and

Rajasthani respectively. The writers beautifully depicted through their story reading, the true elements of society at their individual regional levels.

In the third session wherein eminent young poets from various Indian languages recited their poems and strongly portrayed the various current aspects and issues of society. Yatindra Mishra, eminent Hindi poet, reflected the social aspects on man and society by focusing his poem on Kabirdas. Sagar Nazir in his poetry portrayed the fear of common man in Kashmir due to terrorism. Nepali poet, Tika Bhai, expressed in his sad poem the problems and struggle of Nepali people, who are residents of India and consider themselves as Indian. Punjabi poet, Gangandeep Sharma, depicted Punjabi culture and civilization through his poetry. Om Nagar, Rajasthani poet, gave a picture of love in various characters. Kaushal Tiwari, Sanskrit poet, recited his poems. Sindhi poet, Sheelu Tanha illustrated the real picture of corruption, bribery, cheating and other heinous crimes in the country. Two fine poems were the poems recited by eminent Urdu poet, Mohd. Afzal Jodhpuri. Eminent Urdu writer Chander Bhan Khayal chaired the session.

## BHASHA SAMMAN PRESENTATION CEREMONY

Bhasha Samman for 2012 were conferred upon Narayan Chandra Goswami and Hasu Yasnik for Classical and Medieval Literature, Sondar Sing Majaw for Khasi literature, Addanda C Cariappa and late Mandeera Jaya Appanna for Kodava and Tabu Ram Taid for Mising on 13 May 2013, Shillong.

The Sahitya Akademi Bhasha Samman Presentation Ceremony and Awardees' Meet were held on 13 May 2013 at the Soso Tham Auditorium, Shillong wherein the Meghalaya Minister of Urban Affairs, Ampareen Lyngdoh

was the chief guest. K Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi delivered the welcome address. President of Sahitya Akademi, Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari presented the Samman and delivered his presidential address. Ampareen Lyngdoh, Hon'ble Minister, was the chief guest and Sylvanus Lamare, as the guest of honour. K Sreenivasarao in his welcome address stated that Sahitya Akademi is committed to literatures of officially recognized languages has realized that the literary treasures outside these languages are no less invaluable



L-R: K. Sreenivasarao, Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, Ampareen Lyngdoh (First row) Sylvanus Lamare. Bhasha Samman Awardees seated behind

and no less worthy of celebration. Hence Bhasha Samman award was instituted to honour writers and scholars.

Then Bhasha Sammans were presented by the Sahitya Akademi President Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari to six eminent writers and scholars while Sylvanus Lamare, eminent Khasi and English writer garlanded them. Sammans were presented to Narayan Chandra Goswami and Hassu Yajnik for classical and medieval literature, Tabu Ram Taid for his contributions to Missing language and literature, Addanda C. Carriappa and (Late) Mandeera Jaya Appanna jointly for Kodava language and literature (while the son of (late) Mandeera Jaya Appanna received on her behalf) and Sondar Sing Majaw for Khasi language and literature. Speaking on the occasion, Sahitya Akademi President Prof. V. P. Tiwari while reiterating the glory of the multiplicity of our country with its multi-lingual and multi-cultural aspects abound in various cultures and traditions, he stated that greatest discovery man has ever made was 'language'. Language is the ultimate strength a man can have. He also informed the audience, besides the Akademi has recognized 24 Indian languages

and the awards are presented in these languages, Akademi also strives for hundreds of languages, written or oral, which represents our rich culture and heritage. Therefore, he called upon the people to honour and enrich the language, "the greatest invention of man."

The chief guest of the function Hon'ble Urban Affairs Minister, Arunachal Pradesh Ampareen Lyngdoh expressed her sentiment that she is proud about the progress and the development of Khasi. Though they are still fighting for the language to be included in the Eighth schedule, Lyngdoh wished that the dream would soon come true.

At the Awardees' Meet, the awardees expressed their gratitude for being chosen for the award taking into account their contribution to their own mother tongues that too not belonging to the languages recognized by Sahitya Akademi. Their experiences as writers and the circumstances that made them writers and the factors that inspired them to write, primarily their love for their own mother tongue and creative and critical urge were discussed by them.

The vote of thanks was proposed by Sylvanus Lamare at the end.

## AKADEMI FELLOWSHIP PRESENTATION FUNCTIONS

### ARJAN HASID, SINDHI WRITER

Sahitya Akademi conferred its Fellowship on Sri Arjan Hasid, distinguished Sindhi poet, in Ahmedabad, Gujarat on 20 July 2013.

Arjan Hasid started writing poetry in 1956 and continues to enthral the hearts and minds of readers with his soulful and mordant poetry. Authored seven collections of poetry, Sri Hasid writes in all forms of poetry but he is well-known for his songs and ghazals. A poet par excellence in Sindhi, he is noted for his ghazals. His ghazals do not explain, they simply come out as witness to the present age, moving through time and struggling with destiny.

K. Sreenivasaro, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the gathering of Sindhi litterateurs and the dignitaries on the stage. He introduced Arjan Hasid to the audience as a poet whose poems have left an incredible impact in Sindhi literature. Sri Hasid was honoured with Fellowship by Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President of Sahitya Akademi.

Prof. Tiwari in his presidential address proclaimed the importance of the Fellowship offered by Sahitya Akademi in different languages. He said, "A writer mirrors the society. He visualizes the things which are ignored by the society and places before the society through his writings. Hasid's ghazals depict the revolt also and not only love. Sahitya Akademi is honoured in conferring the Fellowship on Sri Hasid".

Sri Hasid in his acceptance

speech thanked Sahitya Akademi for conferring the honour on him.

Prem Prakash, Convenor, Sindhi Advisory Board described Sri Hasid as a simple and yet an effective and perfect poet. He is a simple "Ghazalkar" whose ghazals describe the agony of the Partition.

The Fellowship presentation ceremony was followed by a Samvad programme. Eminent Sindhi litterateurs Vasdev Mohi, Namdev Tarachandani and Vimmi Sadarangani spoke, and Prem Prakash, Convenor, Sindhi Advisory Board chaired the programme. Vasdev Mohi in his speech traced the journey of Hasid's ghazals and his sensibility.

Namdev Tarachandani evaluated Hasid as a very lively poet. He said that Hasid revolutionized the form of ghazal which later came to be known as 'Nai Kavita' in Sindhi. His poems are for peace and for social awakening also.

Vimmi Sadarangani spoke on short stories of Sri Hasid.



L-R: K. Sreenivasarao, Vasudev Mohi, Arjan Hasid, V.P. Tiwari and Prem Prakash

## SATYA VRAT SHASTRI, SANSKRIT SCHOLAR

Sahitya Akademi conferred its Fellowship upon Satya Vrat Shastri, eminent Sanskrit poet and critic. Though trained as a grammarian steeped in the Paninian system, Prof. Shastri flowered into a highly talented poet. Poetry to him is a charming expression distinct from the beaten track (vakrokti as Bhamaha puts it), enlivened by profundity of meaning and lucidity of expression.

K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi in his welcome address in Sanskrit enumerated in detail Prof. Sastri's contribution to the corpus of contemporary Sanskrit literature.

Viswanath Prasad Tiwari, veteran Hindi poet and the President, Sahitya Akademi presented Prof. Shastri the Fellowship plaque and shawl amidst the cheers of the audience. Sahitya Akademi Vice-President, veteran Kannada poet, playwright and Jnanpith award winner Chandrashekhar Kambar was also present during the presentation of the Fellowship.

Prof. Tiwari in his Presidential address highlighted a vital point that any foreigner who desires to make a real study of India's deep rooted culture and tradition, he/she should inevitably possess the knowledge of Sanskrit.

Prof. Shastri, in his acceptance speech while expressing his gratitude to the Akademi for conferring upon him the prestigious Fellowship, stated that the languages should never be tempered with simplification or experimentation in any form affecting the main characteristics of the language.

At the end of the Fellowship presentation, Prof. Kambar proposed the vote of thanks.

The Fellowship presentation programme was followed by a Samvad programme which was chaired by Radhavallabh Tripathi, Convenor, Sanskrit Advisory Board. Eminent writers and scholar Satya Vrat Varma, Harekrishna Satpathy, Kamal Anand and S. Ranganath spoke on the life and works of Satya Vrat Shastri.



L-R: Sreenivasarao, Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, Satya Vrat Shastri and Chandrashekhar Kambar



## RAGHUVVEER CHAUDHARY, GUJARATI WRITER

Sahitya Akademi conferred its Fellowship on Raghuvveer Chaudhary, distinguished Gujarati fiction writer, poet and critic, in Ahmedabad at Gujarati Sahitya Parishad on 20 July 2013.

Raghuvveer started writing poetry, and though it has remained his first love, it is his ability to weave powerful narratives in the genre of novel that brought him name and fame as a leading Gujarati literary figure. 'Raghuvveer is a writer with deep sensitivity who believes in the co-existence of the spirituality and science, reality and emotions or thinking and sentiments. Raghuvveer is a seeker of truth and truth is beauty to him. As a human being and as a creative person, Raghuvveer is truthful to his inner truth.

K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi in his welcome address informed that this year the Akademi has decided to confer its Fellowship on Dr. Satya Vrat Shastri of Sanskrit and on Sri Raghuvveer Chaudhary of Gujarati and Sri Arjan Hasid of Sindhi. Dr. Satya Vrat Shastri had already been conferred upon at a grand function held at Sahitya Akademi on 16 July in New Delhi.

Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi conferred the Akademi Fellowship upon Dr. Chaudhary offering the plaque of Fellowship to Sri Chaudhary.

Prof. Tiwari in his presidential address reminisced his early meetings with Dr. Chaudhary and described how a writer reacts to his/her reality in various situations and expresses meditation in his work in any form he is comfortable with. Citing the very famous



Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari presenting the Fellowship plaque to Raghuvveer Chaudhary

instance of Sartre, he said that a good writer's presence is kind of a parallel intellectual government.

Drishti Patel, daughter of Dr Chaudhary, read out the acceptance speech on Dr. Chaudhary's behalf. In his acceptance delivery, he said that he is satisfied with his output as a writer. He expressed his feelings as a farmer, too. In his address, he spoke about different phases of literature, right from the beginning of his writing career till today. He recited excerpts from his poem in Gujarati.

At the 'Samvad' programme, Sitanshu Yashaschandra expressed his exceeding joy over the conferment of Fellowship upon Dr. Choudhury and presented a brief account of the merit of the works of the writer.

Chandrakant Topivala spoke of Dr. Chaudhary as a close friend and a significant literateur in Gujarati, and emphasized on deep social concern reflected in Dr. Chaudhary's works.

Ramesh R.Dave spoke of Dr. Chaudhary's

fictional works. He emphasized on the writer's faith in the importance of the day to day reality, and his human empathy. Satish Vyas who spoke of Dr. Chaudhary's plays, highlighted his active role in contributing

fairly good plays in Gujarati. He highlighted Sri Chaudhary's contribution to drama and cited examples of few writers who were involved in such activities.

## SITAKANTA MAHAPATRA ORIYA WRITER

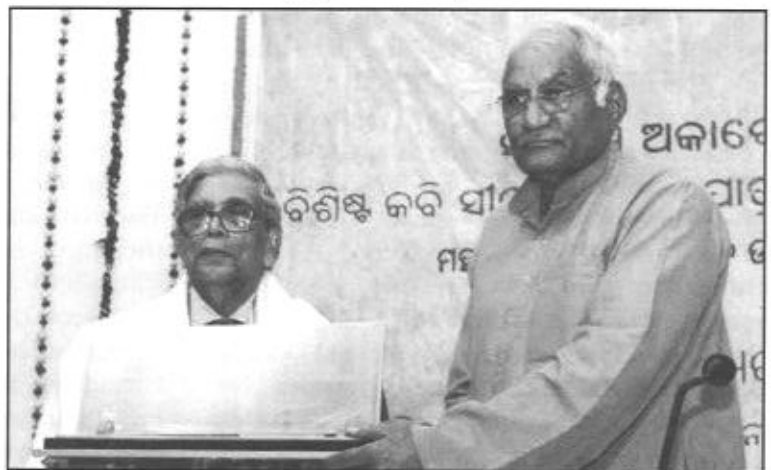
Sahitya Akademi conferred its Fellowship, the Akademi's highest literary honour, on eminent litterateur Sitakant Mahapatra on 14 December 2013 at a special function presided over by its President Viswanath Prasad Tiwari at IDCOL auditorium, Bhubaneswar.

Sitakant Mahapatra a veteran Odia poet critic and scholar is also known for his contribution to the field of tribal poetry. He has worked extensively to connect the gaps between tribal primitive, ritual based societies and the efforts of the modern state to initiate development programmes for them. Sri Mahapatra, born in 1937, is at his best while portraying the ethos of Odishan tradition. His is one of the best-known names in Indian Literature today. The people of Odisha appear in his poetry as a compassionate, simple, and innocent community.

Speaking on the occasion, Akademi's President Viswanath Prasad Tiwari said that poets are respected for their ability to immortalise a place, object or person through their words. The future generations would see the world through the picture painted by the poets today, he added. Describing Sri Mahapatra as a poet of myth, tradition and culture, he added that Sri Sitakant has a deep love

for his language. His poetry reflects a generous amount of Odia life style. Sri Mahapatra is such a rare talent who respects past, present and future. He also described Sri Sitakant as a true Indian.

In his acceptance speech, Sri Mohapatra said the Fellowship by Sahitya Akademi was an honour to his literary creations as well as for Odia language and literature. Dedicating the Fellowship to 'Kavyaguru' Jagannth Das and saint poet Bhima Bhoi, Sri Mohapatra said reading the *Bhagabata* in the morning and listening to Bhima Bhoi's *bhajans* in the evening in childhood helped him become a poet. He said that he believed that he still had a child in him and that he would stop writing poems only when the child inside



Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President Sahitya Akademi, presenting the Fellowship plaque to Sitakant Mahapatra

him dies. Sri Mahapatra also spelt out his relationship with words and language by quoting the lines from his own poem "Words". "My words are the confused nightingale's cry embossed on the earth's sun-baked face". Later, a 'Samvad' programme was held wherein Prafulla Mohanty, Basanta Kumar Panda and Aparna Mohanty discussed different dimensions of Mahapatra's poetry.

Dr Mohanty described Sri Mahapatra as poet of relationship and a poet of silence. He never writes about religion, but Lord Krishna is always the metaphor in his poetry. He often talks about the feelings of the society. Basant Kumar Panda said that Sitakant

Mahapatra is the representative of middle aged metaphorical poets. He also described him as a mythographer of time. He discussed the translations of Sri Mahapatra's creations. Aparna Mohanty discussed the mystic consciousness of his poetry collections.

Earlier, K. Srinivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the welcome address and said that this rare honour is reserved for 'the immortals of literature' and limited to 21 only at any given time.

Gourahari Das, Convenor of the Odia Advisory Council of the Akademi proposed the vote of thanks at the end.

### M.T. VASUDEVAN NAIR, MALAYALAM WRITER

Sahitya Akademi conferred its fellowship upon M.T. Vasudevan Nair, veteran Malayalam writer and film maker. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the gathering. In his welcome speech, he gave a detailed account of MT's writing and life.

Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, veteran poet and the President, Sahitya Akademi presented MT the Fellowship and delivered his presidential address. In his address he said "MT is a major voice in Indian literature though writing in Malayalam. His creative expression touched upon many spheres of life. He is highly imaginative fiction writer and a versatile genius that contemporary India has produced. He is an institution himself," he complimented

MT began his acceptance speech remembering the writers who wrote before him. He remembered Changampuzha, Kesava Dev, P. Kunhiraman Nair and Vaikom Mohammed Basheer and shared the difficulties and sufferings they had to encounter in their time. He introspected him as a writer who



Akademi President Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari presenting the Fellowship to M.T. Vasudevan Nair

said, I feel I am a little more sensitive than an ordinary individual to the pains, pleasures, fears, dreams and disillusion of the phenomenon called life. I try to analyze human situation and in the process I rediscover my own self sometimes. The limits of my craft are established by myself and not dictated by others. I know well that I do not form a part of machinery which manipulates the commodisation of culture. And so I cannot aspire for a big material success.

Followed by the Fellow presentation a Samvad programme was held in which K.P. Sankaran, a well known critic, spoke on the articles written by MT on various subjects bringing his deep concerns. MT is concerned about nature, environment, hapless and the helpless atrocities happening around the world, and also cruelty showered upon the animals.

He protested against male domination over the women and woman's anger against the man in his short stories, he said.

Sunil P. Elayidam said that history in MT's literature reflects his own experience and characters he reflect society.

E.P. Rajagopalan said that MT's literature survived the limitation of renaissance. Though his characters are introverts by nature, they never hesitated coming out of their shells when necessary.

Alankode Leelakrishnan spoke on MT's Desam, his birth place. He went in detail how his surroundings, the people in his village, the river 'Nila' influenced his writings and continues even now. He concluded his speech stating that MT is Kerala's private pride.

## SEMINARS, SYMPOSIA AND CONVENTIONS

### ADI LANGUAGE CONVENTION

7 April 2013, Arunachal Pradesh

Sahitya Akademi organized a Convention on Adi Language in collaboration with Adi Agom Kébang on 6 and 7 April 2013 at Dooying Guumin Hall in Pasighat, East Siang, Arunachal Pradesh. As many as seventeen scholars and two performing groups participated in the convention.

Eminent writer Mamang Dai was in the chair. Hon. Education Minister, Science and Technology, Government of Arunachal Pradesh Bosiram Siram was invited as chief guest. Kaling Borang, eminent scholar and General Secretary of Adi Agom Kébang delivered key-note address. The guest of honour for the Convention was Bodong Yirang, Director, Elementary Education, Arunachal Pradesh.

Kaling Borang, in his key-note address, described the rich heritage of Adi language especially its oral tradition because of it possessing rich elements of priestly and epic literature that require urgent documentation for preservation of its oral and cultural heritage.

The chief guest of the session Hon'ble

Minister Bosiram Siram, inaugurating the first-ever convention of Adi Language called upon the youth to come forward to help promoting Adi language and literature, Siram stressed on documentation, research and publication of literature in Adi language.

Guest of honour Bodong Yirang, Director, Elementary Education, Arunachal Pradesh observed that Arunachal Pradesh has as many as eighty-two languages and dialects. Adi language is one of them bearing the cultural heritage of the community.

Mamang Dai, presiding over the inaugural function, said that documentation of *Aabang*, the traditional ballad literature of the Adis is of utmost importance as *Aabang* forms the basis of our spiritual and intellectual life. She said literature is a form of articulation of ideas and collective endeavour is required for its overall development. While sharing her experiences in the field of literary activities, she said the convention aims to preserve and promote Adi language and cultural heritage in particular, creating a better understanding of humanity and democracy, secularism, justice and equalities in the society.



L-R: Gautam Pal, Mamang Dai, Bosiram Siram, Nini Pettin, Bodong Yirang and Obang Tayeng



In the first session three scholars Tarak Mize, Deputy Director of Public Libraries, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Maktil Apum, Assistant General Secretary, Adi Agom Kébang and Talom Dupak, renowned cultural specialist, presented papers on the histories of 'Adi literature', 'Adi script' and 'Adi Folk songs' respectively with Ms Mamang Dai, in the chair.

The afternoon session was presided over by Dana Pertin, Kaling Borang presented a paper entitled 'Introducing the Adis and Their Language'. Kabuk Pertin, a Language Official and an expert on Adi language, presented a paper entitled 'Adi Language : Study on Some Basic Siang, Upper Siang, East Siang, Lower Siang and some part of Lohit districts of Arunachal Pradesh.

The third session of the Convention was chaired by Osong Ering, retired IAS officer and renowned scholar and writer. The topic of the third session was 'Adi Folk Songs and Tradition'. Oling Ratan, Arak Megu, Osik Pertin and Nini Pertin presented papers on 'Folk Songs of the Adis', 'Classification of Adi Folk Songs', 'History of Adi Language', and 'Dreams and Influence on Adi life' respectively.

Bani Danggen, a renowned writer and former Information Commissioner presided over the fourth session. The topic of the session was 'Modern Adi Literature'. Gindu Borang, Assistant Professor, J.N. College, Girin Tamuly, a poet and scholar, Kaling Borang and Maktin Lego, General Secretary of Adi Cultural and Literary Society, Roing, participated in the session.

In the valedictory session the chief guest was Bidyeshor Doley, President, Mishing Agom Kébang. In his speech enumerated various challenges in the way of developing its written literature especially problem in script issues and inadequate sources, he called upon members of both the communities to strive for preservation and promotion of the language.

The guest of honour and Director of School Education, Tapang Taloh stressed on research and documentation of the language for proper development and its introduction as first language in schools as per National Minority Language Policy formulated by Government of India.

Obang Tayeng, General Secretary of Adi Agom Kébang presented his concluding speech.

#### NATIONAL SEMINAR

**TRANSLATION AND DISCOURSES OF POWER**  
10-11, April 2013, New Delhi

School of Translation Studies and Training (SOTST) of Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) in collaboration with Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi organized a two day seminar on 'Translation and Discourses of Power' from 10-11, April 2013 at Preview Theatre, emp. ignou Campus. The Seminar discussed different aspects of the role of translation in different discourses, practices of power.

Various processes of power discourse condition translation activities considerably. In this manner a translated culture seems to cast its shadow on ambience surrounding us. Various issues of these discourses have to be confronted while translating texts pertaining to colonial and post-colonial, multicultural, dalit and gender discourses. The urgency of these issues has made it necessary to discuss them in a studied manner. This National Seminar has explored re-visiting various aspects of discourses of power and translation by keeping Indian contexts in view.

The seminar was inaugurated by M. Aslam, Vice Chancellor, ignou, Manager Pandey, well-known Hindi critic delivered the key-note address. Many scholars who made their presentations included N. Kamala, Savita Singh, Ipshita Chanda, Rajendra Yadav, Ashok

Vajpeyi, Devendra Raj Ankur, Tulsi Ram, T.V. Kattimani, Bajrang Bihari Tiwari, Sanjeev Kumar, Varyam Singh, Vishnu Khare, Arun Kamal, Sushant K. Mishra and Raj Kumar Prasad among others.

The seminar was coordinated by Deoshankar Navin, Jyoti Chawla and Organising Committee consisting of all faculty and staff of sotst of ignou.

### INDIA'S INTELLECTUAL TRADITIONS AS ENVISAGED THROUGH SANSKRIT SASTRAS 14-15 April 2013, New Delhi

The National Seminar on "India's Intellectual Traditions as Envisaged through Sanskrit Sastras" was organized under the joint collaboration of the Sahitya Akademi and the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi at Rabindra Bhawan, New Delhi on 14 and 15 April, 2013.

In the six academic sessions, 16 exhaustive presentations were made by distinguished scholars on different aspects of Sastric traditions in Sanskrit and their relevance in the post-Modern age.

Ramanath Sharma, formerly Professor at the University of Hawaii in his inaugural address discussed some of the basic concepts from the Sastric traditions, such as *sampradaya* (continuity), *kutashanidyata* (eternity) and *pravahanidyata* (eternity as flow). In his key-note address, Radhabhallabh Tripathi pointed out the male-dominance in the Sastric discourse of Sanskrit. He outlined the history of Sastric traditions in Sanskrit, comprising the span of more than three millenniums, through four stages development. Satyavrat Shastri in

his presidential remarks emphasized over the need for search of the roots and basic concepts. He elaborated upon some of the categories of Sanskrit grammar.

In the first academic session chaired by Ramesh Kumar Pandey, K.E. Devanathan presented his brilliant paper on the relevance of concepts of Nyaya in contemporary scenario. K. Venkatesha Murthi presented his paper on *Paramarthadarsanam* – a *magnum opus* on the new system of philosophy by Mahamahopadhyaya Pundit Ramavatar Sharma. The paper of Piyush Kant Dikshit on the concept of *dehatmavada* (theory of body as soul) as propounded by Pundit Badarinath Shukla was presented by one of his students in his absence.

The second session was focused on Vedanta in new millennium. Prahladachar, Professor and a noted traditional scholar chaired this session.

Godavarish Mishra, Professor in Sanskrit presented an exhaustive and analytical account of acharyas of Vedanta during the past few centuries. Ramanath Sharma, veteran Sanskrit teacher discussed the applicability of



L-R: Radhabhallav Tripathi, Satyavrat Shastri, Ramnath Sharma and K.D. Subbrayadu

grammatical categories from the view point of computational linguistics.

The first session on the second day was chaired by Shashiprabha Kumar, professor and scholar. Sachchidanand Mishra presented his paper on the scientific perspective of Vaisesika philosophy, Ambikadatta Sharma, professor and scholar in his paper on Modernity, Inter-religious conflict and Buddhism presented the genesis of inter-religious conflict by searching its roots in the modernity inspired by Christianity. Madhu Khanna in her paper on 'Timeless Modernity of Saktatantra' gave an account of Kundalini and female discourse in the tradition of Saktism. Ramakant Pandey presented the analysis of new discourses on Vyakarana in twentieth century and proved the propriety of the categorizations of Ramagya Pandey with regard to the theory of Sphoma.

The fourth session was devoted to the diversity of intellectual discourses. Kamlesh Datta Tripathi presided over this session. Harshadev Madhav a well-known Sanskrit poet presented his paper on re-constructing new literary theory on the basis of the four categories of Saktatantra – maitrl, mudita, karuna and upeksha. Rajendra Mishra presented an account of attempt at reconstructing and rebuilding new rhetoric in Sanskrit during nineteenth and twentieth century. Kamlesh Datta Tripathi discussed the relevance of Natyasastra in Post modern age. The fifth session was focused on Language and Reality. P.C. Muraleemadhavan presided over this session. Prof. Ramanuj Devanathan presented a brilliant exposition of Bhrttrhari's theory of Linguistic monism in the context of post. Modern thinkers like Lacan. Dipti Tripathi raised a number of pertinent issues related to Bhrttrhari's philosophy of grammar and various linguistic categories. Malhar Kulkarni discussed the relevance of Panini's grammar in modern age and he gave details of works

being done in the area of Computational Linguistics with a view to prepare data base of Paninian systems.

In the valedictory session, Balram Shukla presented a resume of the deliberation in the seminar during the two days. The valedictory session was presided by V. R. Panchamukhi and was addressed by Godavarish Mishra, Ramakant Shukla and K. Sreenivasrao.

K. Sreenivasrao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi delivered his concluding remarks. Radhavallabh Tripathi proposed a vote of thanks.

#### WARLI LANGUAGE CONVENTION 29-30 June 2013, Wada.

Sahitya Akademi, Regional Office, Mumbai, in collaboration with Arts and Commerce College, Wada, Maharashtra, organized a two day Convention on Warli language on 29-30 June 2013 at the college. N.K. Phadke, Principal, Arts and Commerce College, Wada, inaugurated the convention.

K. Sreenivasrao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, in his welcome speech mentioned that the Akademi is also deeply concerned about the non recognized languages in India, for their oral traditions that enrich the culture of the nation. Like Bhili, Kokborok, Tulu, Bundeli, Laddakhi, Himachali, Bhojpuri, etc., Warli language also contributed a lot to the rich oral traditions of India.

In the inaugural address, Prof. Phadke said that this convention help bring them along the main stream maintaining their typical culture and traditions, he said.

Kirankumar Kawathekar, noted scholar, delivered the key-note address.

Sudam Jadhav, speaking from the chair, informed on a very interesting fact that there are *la, da, sha, ksha, chha* sounds in the Warli language.

Bhaskar Girdhari chaired the first session and Sunil Ghankute, Chandrakant Gaikwad, Sachin Jivde and Balvant Magdum presented their papers on various concepts of Wali language and culture.

Arvind Mardikar chaired the second session, and Tukaram Rongate, Bhaskar Girdhari, Gokul Shikhare and Mohini Savedkar presented their papers on Warli customs and rituals songs, myths etc. Shikhare spoke of Warli dances and musical instruments.

Maheshwari Gavit chaired the third session, and Raju Shanwar, Darshana Mhatre and Mukund Kule presented their papers. In the fourth session, meant for Warli paintings, chaired by Sudhakar Yadav, Mangala Sinnarkar and Vivek Kudu presented papers. Both the sessions brought out the exemplary beauty, unusual and genuine rhythm that Warli art possess.

Maheshwari Gavit delivered valedictory address. Prakash Bhatambrekar was the chief guest at the valedictory session. Kailas Joshi, Associate Professor of Marathi, Arts and Commerce College, Wada, proposed a vote of thanks.

## FESTIVAL OF KABIR

3-4 August 2013, Varanasi

A two day programme of 'Kabir Utsav' was organized by Sahitya Akademi on 3 and 4 August 2013 in collaboration with Malviya Mulya Anusheelan Kendra, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi.

Purushottam Agarwal, well-known critic in his key-note address expressed, "To call Kabir a voice of edge is a result to view Indian literature from a perspective of colonialism. Kabir's voice is a poetry from heart of a sensitive human being". Further he explained that 'bhakti' poets including Kabir set a different social value.

Delivering the introductory address, Convenor of Hindi Advisory Board, Surya Prasad Dixit said that Kabir and Tulsi portrayed the life and also the interests of common man. The session was presided over by Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President of Sahitya Akademi.

The first session focused on "Kabir in Loka" was presided over by Surya Prasad Dixit. In this session, Neerja Madhav, Gautam Chatterjee and Prakash Uday presented their papers. In the evening a 'Poets' Meet' was organised. Gyanendrapati, eminent Hindi poet chaired the Meet. Ashtbhuja Shukla, Aashish Tripathi, Vashishtha Anup, Om Nischal, Danish, Janardan Prasad Pandey, Arunabh Saurabh and Paramjeet Singh recited their poems.

The subject of the second session of the next day was "Kabir in Scholarly World". Awadesh Prasad presided over the session and Ajay Verma, Rajender Prasad Pandey and Rakesh Kumar Mittal presented their papers. Common idea emerged among the paper readers that there is a need to



L-R: Mukund Kule, Raju Shanwar, Maheshwari Gavit and Darshana Mhatre



understand the poetics of Kabir in the light of Indian poetry otherwise he would simply be understood as a 'Bhakti Kavi'. In the third session Balram Pandey, Arunesh Neeran and Uday Pratap Singh presented their papers. The session "Kabir in Behddi Maidan" was presided over by Ramvachan Rai .

The programme concluded with the presentation of songs by Bharu Singh Chauhan & Group at Pandit Onkarnath Thakur Auditorium, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi.

#### SYMPOSIUM ON CHILDREN'S LITERATURE 11 August 2013, Mohali, Punjab



L-R: Manmohan, Rawail Singh,  
Manmohan Singh Dau and others

Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with Punjabi Sath, Mohali organized a symposium on 'Children's Literature in Punjabi' on 11 August 2013 at Shivalik School, Mohali, Punjab.

Inaugurating the symposium, Rawail Singh, Convenor, Punjabi Advisory Board discussed in detail the present scenario of

children's literature in Punjabi. He emphasized that one who is writing for children should be aware of child psychology and in the present era of information technology and electronic media, he/she should be more careful while writing for children. He said that though there are number of writers writing for children in Punjabi, our celebrated writers never tried this genre.

Earlier welcoming the audience, Manjeet Bhatia, Publication Assistant, Sahitya Akademi elaborated the efforts made by Sahitya Akademi in promoting children literature in 24 Indian languages.

Delivering the keynote address, eminent scholar Manmohan said, "Children literatuers are more respected in Western countries than in India". He also said, "He does not have to write to educate the children but to make them a good and responsible citizen".

Eminent children's literature writers Manmohan Singh Dau and Darshan Singh Asht, both Sahitya Akademi children's literature award winners, and Sarbjeet Bedi shared their experience and spoke on different aspects of children's literature in Punjabi.

A number of scholars, who attended the programme, took part in the discussion on papers. Symposium was chaired by Deepak Manmohan Singh and Jaspal Kang. Amarjit Ghumman proposed a vote

of thanks.

#### SYMPOSIUM ON SHAHRYAR 26 August 2013, Aligarh

Symposium on 'Shahryar's Life and Works'





L-R: Chandra Bhan Khayal, Zameer Uddin Shah, Abul Kalam Qasmi and Khursheed Ahmad

organized on 26 August 2013 by Sahitya Akademi, Delhi at the Arts Faculty, AMU.

Zameer Uddin Shah, Vice Chancellor, Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), said that Shahryar only achieved distinction of being a Jnanpith and Sahitya Akademi Award winner but also brought laurels by penning popular songs for Indian cinema. He acknowledged the fact that Shahryar dedicated all his life to promote Urdu language.

Chandra Bhan Khayal, Convenor of Urdu Advisory Board of Sahitya Akademi, in his introductory speech said that his work will keep resounding his greatness for the ages.

Delivering the presidential address, Shafey Kidwai, Chairman, Department of Mass Communication, AMU said that Shahryar had expertise in expressing his feelings with great precision. Shahryar succeeded in portraying common human sentiments and that is why his poetry strikes a chord with the masses, he added.

Khursheed Ahmad, former Chairman of Department of Urdu elaborated on the various attributes of Shahryar's poetry. He said that Shahryar and Akhta-rul Iman took Urdu Nazm to new heights. Abul Kalam Qasmi

said that Shahryar's poetry is endowed with creative potential.

Ghazanfar, Prem Kumar, Seema Sagheer and Sarwarul Hoda presented their papers in the first session. The second session was presided over by Aqeel Ahmad Siddiqui, and Ajay Bisariya, A.R. Fatihi and Mirza Shafeeq Hussuain Shafaq highlighted various aspects of Shahryar's creative world and amenable traits of his personality.

The day-long symposium came to a close with a poetry reading session, in the memory of Shahryar, presided over by Chandra Bhan Khayal and Saeeduz Zafar Chughtai. Well-known poets Jamuna Prasad Rahi, Mehtab Haider Naqvi, Raeesuddin Raees and Rashid Anwar Rashid recited their poems.

#### SYMPOSIUM PEJAVARA SADASHIVA RAO 31 August 2013, Udupi

A 'Centenary Symposium' on Pejavara Sadashiva Rao was organised on 31 August 2013 at Udupi. Na. Damodar Shetty in his introductory remarks mentioned that late Pejavara Sadashiva Rao's vast body of writings reflected the core human values.

In his inaugural address, Muralidhar Upadhya Hiriyadka recalled how as a student he read Sadashiva Rao's works with keen interest.

Narahalli Balasubramanya in his presidential remarks recalled how Pejavara Sadashiva Rao was a precursor of 'Navya Sahitya.' He can be ranked among the eminent literary luminaries of coastal Karnataka namely Muddana, Govinda Pai, Sediypu Krishna Bhat.

In the first session of the symposium, Janardhana Bhat presented his paper on

“Pejavara Sadashiva Rao as a Story Writer.” He analyzed Pejavara’s eight stories. In his stories, one gets the true perspective of the society of his times, Sir Bhat expressed.

In the second session, Tharini Shubhadayini presented her paper on the poetry of Pejavara Sadashiva Rao. She pointed out how Rao’s writings were a link between ‘Navodaya’ and ‘Navya.’ His poems reflect patriotism and nationalism.

In the third session, A.V Navada made a comprehensive analysis of Pejavara Sadashiva Rao’s Letters available from the archive, written to Gokak and to his mother.

In the fourth session Na. Damodar Shetty presented his paper on Pejavara Sadashiva Rao as a playwright. He analyzed two plays *Beedigilida Naari* and *Jeevana Sangeetha*. Pejavara Sadashiva Rao’s cousin C.R. Ballal traced the history of Pejavara family.

Narahalli Balasubramanya summed up the proceedings.

**NATIONAL SEMINAR ON AUTOBIOGRAPHY, TRAVELOGUE, CRITICISM AND ESSAYS**  
31 August and 1 September 2013, Sambalpur

Sahitya Akademi organized a two-day national

seminar on ‘Autobiography, Travelogue, Criticism and Essays’ in collaboration with Sambalpur University in Biju Pattnaik Auditorium at Jyoti Vihar, Sambalpur, Odisha on 31 August and 1 September 2013.

The inaugural session was chaired by Gopal Krushna Rath, eminent Odia poet while B.C. Barik, Vice-Chancellor of Sambalpur University inaugurated the seminar. Gaurahari Das, eminent fiction writer and Convenor of the Odia Advisory Board of Sahitya Akademi delivered the introductory address. The chief guest Rajendra Kishore Panda, a celebrated Odia poet and scholar, shared his thought about the plight of literature in this age of technological revolution and entertainment industry. Krushna Chandra Pradhan presented the keynote address in the session while M.K. Meher from the Department of Odia, Sambalpur University proposed a vote of thanks.

First session was on the ‘Odia Travel Literature’ chaired by Bhupen Mohapatra who is a famous travel writer in contemporary Odia literature. Anasuya Mohapatra, Gouranga Charan Das, Manoranjan Pradhan and Prasanna Kumar Swain presented their papers on the themes, “History of Travel Literature in World,” “Art Value in Odia Travel Literature” and “Matters and Analysis of Odia Travelogues” respectively.

‘Autobiography’ was the theme of the second session chaired by Jatindra Kumar Nayak, Member of the Odia Advisory Board and papers were presented by Aparna Mohanty, Bijayananda Singh, Dwarikanath Nayak, Sangram Jena and Udayanath Sahu. The topics were varied and provoking such as: “Post-Independence



L-R: Krushna Chandra Pradhan, Gopal Krushna Rath, Rajendra Kishore Panda, B.C. Barik, Mihir Kumar Sahoo and Gourahari Das

Odia Autobiographies,” “Autobiography as a Literary Genre,” “Literary significance in Autobiographies,” “Odia Autobiography: a Brief History,” and “Creative Aspects of Autobiography in Odia.”

Autobiography was represented as a sincere portrayal of events, career, characters, places, scenes and experiences of the writer’s life. It was observed that in Odia literature more than 200 autobiographical works have already been published.

The next session was focused on the theme of criticism. The session was chaired by Kumad Ranjan Panigrahi. A.K. Dash, Debiprasanna Pattnaik, Kailash Pattnaik, Santosh K. Rath and Shyam Bhoi read out their papers in this session. The topics of the session were “Pre-Nineteenth Century Odia Criticism Literature,” “Trends and Tidings in Odia Criticism Literature,” “An Analytical Study of Major Odia Criticism,” “Odia Criticism Literature 1921-1950” and “A Critical View on Fiction Criticism in Odia After 1950.”

The concluding session of the seminar was on ‘Odia Essay’ which was chaired by Debendra Kumar Das, renowned essayist; papers were read out by Babrubahan Mohapatra, Samar Mudali and Prassana Kumar Pattnaik in the session. The topics of their papers were “The Beginning Chapter in the History of Odia Essays,” “Post-Independence Odia Essays” and “Essays and Non-Fictional Prose.”

Describing the evolution of Odia essays from the attempts made by Fakir Mohan Senapati and Radha Nath Ray, the participants expressed the view that while in the first phase Odia essays were non-specific without identifying scheduled subjects, in the second phase, they embraced diverse subjects and became recognized as a specific literary genre.

## SANKARADEVA IN MODERN ASSAMESE LITERATURE

7 September 2013, Duliajan, Assam

In connection with 445th death anniversary of Sankardeva, a symposium on the topic, ‘Reception of Sankardeva in Modern Assamese Literature’ was held in Duliajan College on 7 September 2013. The symposium was organized by Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with Duliajan branch of Assam Sahitya Sabha.

The welcome address was delivered by Satyakam Borthakur. The inaugural session of the symposium was chaired by Kamala Boragohain. Delivering the inaugural speech, Karabi Deka Hazarika specifically mentioned the impact of Sankardeva on Assamese art and literature across the ages. According to her, Sankardeva’s influence on Assamese cultural life is too deep to be effaced by the passage of time.

Ananda Bormudoi, Professor, Department of English, Dibrugarh University in his keynote address pointed out the difference between ancient literature produced during the time of Sankardeva and modern Assamese literature. He observed the dichotomy between creative literature and social life, he stated that when creative literature has rejected God, social life has welcomed God.

The first session was chaired by Prafulla Borah. The first paper presenter was Anil Saikia and the topic of his paper was “The Lyrical Literature of Sankardeva”. In his presentation, he highlighted through illustrations the salient aspects of Sankardeva’s songs and lyrics. The second paper was on the topic “Reception of Sankardeva in the language of Bezboruah,” presented by Bina Bordoloi and Deepak Gogoi. The paper was an in-depth study of how Bezboruah received the philosophy, language and diction of Sankardeva in his creations. The third paper was presented by Ranjan Bhattacharaya on



Participants in inaugural session of the symposium

the topic “Study of Sankardeva by Maheswar Neog.” He drew attention to the fact that it was Moheswar Neog, who provided for the first time a scientific and systematic analysis of Sankardeva in his research-based writings.

The second session was chaired by Nava Kr. Handique. The first paper was a joint paper by Aichena Buragohain and Phulajyoti Saikia on “Biographical Novels on the Life of Sankardeva.” The presentation was with special reference to two novels, namely *Dhanya Nara Tanu Bhal* by Abdul Malik and *Jakeri Nabi Upam* by Dr. Laksmi Nandan Borah. Sankardeva emerged as a social reformer and brought about numerous reforms in the beliefs and customs of the society, the scholars observed. Ajit Saikia presented a paper on “Reception of Sankardeva in Tribal Novels.” In his presentation, he showed how starting with *Miri Jiyari*, most of the novels bear the signs of Sankardeva’s reception. The last paper of the session by Pranjit Borah was on the topic, “Reception of Sankardeva in Modern Assamese Poetry.” Sri Borah presented the impact of Sankardeva on many poets in terms of idea, theme and language.

Punya Saikia gave a valedictory speech.

## SYMPOSIUM ON MIRAJI: LITERATURE AND THOUGHT 9 September 2013, Kolkata

On 9 September 2013, Sahitya Akademi organized a symposium at its Kolkata office auditorium on the renowned Urdu poet Meeraji.

Shafey Kidwai, in his keynote address. Referred to some of his celebrated works such as *Samundar ka bulawa* or *Nagari Nagari Phira Musafir* he stated that Meeraji is considered to be one of the pioneers

of symbolism in Urdu poetry who introduced free verse, run-on-lines and blank verse rejecting the conventional form.

Khalil Mamoon called assimilating ‘Indianism’ completely. Chandra Bhan Khayal delivered presidential address.

The first session was presided over by Nizzam Siddhiki which included presentations by Asim Shahnawaz Shivli and Shamin Anwar. Sri Shibli compared Meeraji with another celebrated Urdu poet Mir while Sri Anwar attracted the audience’s attention on the impact of theories of Dadaism, Cubism and Imperialism in Meeraji’s poetry.

The post-lunch session was presided over by E.S Ejaz accompanied by three speakers on stage. Abuzar Hashmi, Ashfakh Ahmad Arfi and Ajay Malwi read their papers, highlighting Meeraji’s psyche, even referring to a possibility of the presence of split personality in him. The programme ended with a vote of thanks.

## SEMINAR ON BODO DRAMA 10 September 2013, Kokrajhar, Assam

Sahitya Akademi organized a two-day seminar on ‘Bodo Drama’ from 9-10 September 2013 at Bodoland University, Kokrajhar, BTAD, Assam



in collaboration with Bodo Sahitya Sabha.

Kameswar Brahma, President of the Bodo Sahitya Sabha chaired the inaugural session. Welcome-address was delivered by Goutam Paul, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi. Premananda Machahary, Convenor, Bodo Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi inaugurated the session. Shekhar Brahma, Registrar, Bodoland University, Kokrajhar, graced the occasion as the chief guest.

First session began with the topic "Theme and Technique of Bodo Jatra Gawn," presented by Bhoumik Boro. Gwgm Brahma Kachari presented his paper on the topic "Social Impact of Bodo Jatra Gawn." Mangal Sing Hazoary also presented his paper on the topic "Origin and Evolution of Bodo Jatra Gawn." At the end of the seminar, Bisweswar Basumatary, Vice-President, Bodo Sahitya Sabha took part in an interaction as respondents on the topic "Origin and Evolution of Bodo Jatra Gawn," Khabaram Swargiary responded on the topic presented by Sri Kachari and Swarna Prabha Chainary on the topic presented by Sri Boro. Brajendra Kr. Brahma chaired the session.

The second session began with the topic "Theme and Technique of Modern Bodo Drama" presented by Indira Boro. Another scholar Swarna Prabha Chainary presented a paper "Social Picture as reflected in Modern Bodo Drama." Birhasgiri Basumatary also presented paper on "Bodo Historical Play a Critical Appreciation." Surath Narzary chaired the session.

In the second session, Tulan Mushahary presented a paper on the topic "Women Characters in the Plays of Kamal Kr. Brahma." Another scholar Rajendra Kr. Basumatary presented a paper, "Bodo Social Reality reflected in Monoranjan Lahary's play." Brajendra Kr. Brahma, former President, Bodo Sahitya Sabha took part in the interaction

as a respondent on the topic presented by Tulan Mushahary while Khabaram Swargiary, Rajen Khakhlary, Vice-President, Bodo Sahitya Sabha and Adhir Kr. Brahma discussed the other two topics of the session. At the end, the Chairperson Anil Kr. Boro delivered a brief speech highlighting the topics.

In the fourth session Adaram Basumatary presented a paper on the topic "Theme and Technique of Kamal Kr. Brahma's play." Another scholar Rwirup Brahma presented a written paper on the topic "Bodo One Act Play and Radio Play." Jibeswar Koch presented his paper titled "Critical Analysis of Mangal Sing Hazoary's Play." At the end, Indira Boro took part as a respondent on the topics presented by Sri Brahma while Sri Khabaram Swargiary responded on both the topics presented by Sri Basumatary and Sri Koch. The chairperson highlighted the topics in his brief speech. Janil Kr. Brahma chaired the session.

The valedictory session was presided over by Kameswar Brahma, President, Bodo Sahitya Sabha. Prafulla Kr. Hazoary, Secretary, Education Dept. BTC, Kokrajhar graced the occasion as the guest of honour. He delivered his speech briefing vividly the topics discussed as mentioned in the programme. Bisweswar Basumatary proposed vote of thanks.

#### CRITICISM IN BODO LITERATURE

11 September 2013, Karbi Anglong, Assam.

Sahitya Akademi organized a symposium 'Criticism in Bodo Literature' in collaboration with Bodo Sahitya Sabha on 11 September 2013 at Bodo Sahitya Sabha Bhawan, Karbi Anglong District, Assam.

The introductory address was delivered by Nirmal Basumatary, Secretary, Bodo Sahitya Sabha. The inaugural address was delivered





One of the sessions in progress

by Nipen Ch. Baglary, President, Bodo Sahitya Sabha.

The topic of the first paper presented by Aurobindo Uzir was “Modern Bodo Poetry.” He focused on the nature of post-modern poems and its use of simple language, formlessness, lack of traditional principles etc. Gopinath Brahma presented a brief sketch of the characters from the book entitled *Soul of Sound* by Aurabindo Uzir. The topic of the paper by Lokeshwar Hainary was “A Short Descriptions of the Modern Poems in the Book of Poems entitled *River of the Moon*.” Rituraj Basumatary spoke on the features of two poems by Uzir in his paper. Premananda Machahary, Convenor, Bodo Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi chaired the session.

The topic of the second academic session was “Criticism in Bodo Novel.” The speaker of the session was Magesh Narza Bodo with Lalit Ch. Basumatary in the chair. Sri Bodo spoke on the character of Rebeka in the novel of Manoranjan Lahary.

The topic of the third academic session was “Criticism in Bodo Short Story.” The speakers of the session were Dhanjoy Narzary

and Uttam Ch. Brahma with Bisweswar Basumatary in the chair. The topic of Sri Narzary paper was “The reply of Incomplete Letter: The Trend of the Social Awareness in the Short Story.” Sri Brahma presented the paper “Short Story of the Bodo and Its Style and Development.”

After a brief interactive session, the symposium ended with the vote of thanks by Modon Ch. Swargiary, Secretary, Bodo Sahitya Sabha.

#### MORAL SHORT STORIES FOR CHILDREN 15 September 2013, Vishakapattanam

A symposium ‘Moral Short Stories for Children’ was organized on 15 September 2013 at Vishakapattanam. Sahitya Akademi, Southern Regional Office S P Mahalingeshwar, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru welcomed the gathering.

N. Gopi, Convenor Telugu Advisory Board, in his inaugural address said, “Children’s literature should be aimed to inculcate subtle moral values in the society. The writers have to extricate our children from the onslaught of globalised culture”.

KSV Ramanamma, Editor, *Balabata*, Telugu monthly magazine, a reputed writer for children delivered the presidential address. Who said that there is a dearth of writers for children in Telugu.

The first session of “Moral Short Stories for Children” was presided over by an eminent short story writer and former editor of *Chandamama*, Telugu monthly. Naramsetty Umamaheswararao, B Nageswararao and Puttagunta Suresh Kumar also presented papers.

The second session was presided over by Ravi Ranga Rao, who said that playlets have great impact on children. That is why the playlets must contain moral values. In this session, eminent children's writers like Dasari Venkataramana, Sivam Prabhakar, Darla Chitti Babu presented the papers. The third session was presided over by Belagam Bheemeswara Rao. In this session, PSN Murthy read the paper on the impact of electronic media on children. D K Chaduvula Babu presented the paper on writing techniques of moral short stories for children. K Laxminarayanamma narrated her experience on story-poems for children. The valedictory session was presided over by Velaga Venkatappaiah, Member, Telugu Advisory Board. Reddy Raghavaiah, Bal Sahitya Puraskar awardee of Sahitya Akademi also delivered his address.

#### ROMANTICISM IN MANIPURI LITERATURE 15-16 September 2013, Imphal

A two-day seminar on 'Romanticism in Manipuri Literature' was organized by Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with The Cultural Forum, Manipur from 15-16 September 2013 at Manipur Rifles Banquet Hall, Imphal.

N. Khagendra Singh in his keynote address "Romanticism Revisited" stressed the importance of Romanticism in literature.

H. Behari Singh delivered the inaugural address. He said that many young writers took up the romantic tradition in their novels, short stories and later in narrative verse.

The first academic session on "Romanticism in Manipuri Poetry" was moderated by Th. Ratan Kumar of Manipur University. Three paper-presenters were T. Tampha Devi, N. Bidyasagar and K. Shantibala Devi on the poetry of Lanchenba, Memchoubi, Birendrajit and Raghu. All the papers made exhaustive

study of all the poets given to each one of the paper readers. The title of Tampha Devi's paper was "Romanticism in Manipuri Poetry of Irawat, Kamal, Chaoba, Anganghal, and Mineketan." The topic of Bidyasagar's paper was "Romanticism in Manipuri Poetry of Samarendra, Nilakanta, Madhubir, Biren and Ibopishak." Shantibala Devi spoke on "Romanticism in Manipuri Poetry of Bhubonsana, Lanchanba, Memchoubi, Birendrajit and Raghu."

The second academic session was 'Romanticism in Manipuri Short Story' was moderated by Kh. Prakash Singh. Paper presenters of this session were E. Dinamani Singh, N. Rojika Devi, K. Hemchandra Singh and H. Nalini Devi. They presented papers on the topics "Critical Assessment of Romanticism in Manipuri Poetry, Short Stories, Plays and Novels," "Romanticism in Manipuri Short Stories of Kunjamohan, Prakash, Dinamani, and Nilbir," "Romanticism in Manipuri Short Stories of Sonamani, R.K. Elangba, Priyokumar, Viramani and Ibomcha" and "Romanticism in Manipuri Short Stories of Premchand, Sunita, Sudhir, Mani, Nabakishore" respectively.

The third academic session, on the second day, 'Romanticism in Manipuri Drama' was moderated by Professor N. Khagendra Singh. Paper presenters of this session were N. Ahanjao Meitei, Rajen Toijamba and Makhonmani Mongsaba. The topics of their papers were "Romanticism in Manipuri Plays of Ibungohal, Anganghal, Lalit, Tomba and Ibobi," "Romanticism in Manipuri Plays of G. C. Tongbra, Samarendra, Kanhailal, Tomchou and Sri Biren" and "Romanticism in Manipuri Plays of Sanajaoba, Shamu, Brajachand, Rajen and Brojendra" respectively.

The last academic session 'Romanticism in Manipuri Novel' was moderated by Kh. Kunjo Singh. Paper readers of this session were Ng. Ekashini Devi, Sharatchandra

Longjomba and S. Santibala Devi. The topics of their papers were “Romanticism in Manipuri Novels of Chaoba, Kamal, Angahal, Shitajit and Thoibi,” “Romanticism in Manipuri Novels of Pacha, Guno, Binodini, Biren and Chitreshwor” and “Romanticism in Manipuri novels of B. M. Maisnamba Bira, Borkanya and Jodhachandra” respectively.

The valedictory speech was delivered by H. Behari Singh, Convenor, Manipuri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi. The seminar ended with a vote of thanks, proposed by Kshetri Rajen, Secretary, the Cultural Forum, Manipur.

#### TAMIL LITERATURE AND TAMIL CINEMA 20-21 September 2013, Chennai

Sahitya Akademi, Chennai organized a seminar on the ‘Influence of Tamil Literature on Tamil Cinema’ on 20 & 21 September 2013

K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, in his welcome address, Dr. Rao said that literature and cinema apply balm to the aching hearts of millions. Though the technique of cinema is Western, but the structure, texture and content of southern cinema are native — Dravidian

tone interspersed with folk idiom. Bharatidasan, Aringnar Anna and many poets and intellectuals from Tamil literary world gave a new direction to Tamil films.

Krishnaswamy Nachimuthu, Convenor of Sahitya Akademi, Tamil Advisory Board delivered his presidential address.

Maalan, a reputed Tamil writer and well-known editor delivered introductory address.

Balu Mahendra, veteran film director delivered the keynote address. He exhorted the writers to enter into the film world and improve the screen play, dialogues and songs with a better creative touch.

Neela Padmanabhan, well-known Tamil writer in his speech said that literature and cinema could not remain without influencing each other.

R. Kamarasu, well-known Tamil critic delivered the felicitation address. He mentioned that Globalization in cinema and literature sometimes affects the native efflorescence. He felt that progressive ideals emanating from literature should necessarily be portrayed well in films.

The first session concentrated on ‘Transition from Text to Cinema’. Three film directors participated to share their film-making



L-R: Kamarasu, Balu Mahendra, Neela Padmanabhan, Maalan and K. Sreenivasarao

experiences based on novels and stories. Playwright and actor Mu. Ramasamy chaired the session. Lenin, a veteran film editor and director, spoke on the film *Ooruku Nooruper*, a film based on the novel of the same title written by D. Jayakanthan. The script is more important and novelist can be roped in to do the job, Sri Lenin expressed. Amshankumar informed that literature and cinema are parallel, though identical, cinema adds colours and glamour to literature. Sasi said that a novel can be lengthy but a film should be crisp and focused to shun boredom. Literature is on emotion whereas the film is on visual and action.

The second session also concentrated on film-making experiences of Gnanasekaran and Gowthaman. Na. Muthusamy director of 'Koothu Pattarai', chaired the session. Na. Muthusamy informed that film-making and acting involve continuous learning process and the reading experience is different from cinematic experience. Gnanasekaran said in his presentation that if a film venture is based on a book, it would only be successful if the total effect of reading experience of the novel is fully conveyed on screen.

Gowthaman, film director and actor spoke about his film *Makizhchi* based on Neela Padmanabhan's novel *Thalaimuraigal* (Generation). He tried to recreate the pain and pleasures portrayed in the novel. The story creates empathy in a deeper level. He also screened some important scenes from the film which impressed the discerning minds that evoked appreciation.

The third session featured a single lecture by Theodre Baskaran on "Imaging the Word." He analyzed the portrayal of characters in literature to films and the narrative techniques followed in literature and cinema. Satyajit Ray mastered the imagination of the word that cinema is visual media, and the story

should not be told through conversations, he stated.

The fourth session held on 21 September 2013 was on "Living up the Legendary Characters". Eminent Tamil fiction writer G. Thialakvathy chaired the session. She recounted important characters in the films of Satyajit Ray and Mrinal Sen. She extensively analysed *Pather Panchali* and *Flight of Pigeons* known as *Jugnu*.

Film actor Sivakumar commented on characterisation in the film *Uchiveyil* based on the novel by Indira Parthasarathy.

Abishek mentioned that the book *An Actor Prepares* by Stainslavski is a master piece and guide for upcoming actors. He spoke on the characters of *Mohamul* by T Janakiraman.

The panel discussion in the fifth session was on a controversial topic, "Does filming novel mar their original texture?" Ponneelan, veteran Tamil fiction writer acknowledged the difficulties of film makers in his remarks. Well-known writers and filmmakers participated in the session. S. Ramakrishnan, well-known fiction writer said that film making is a different art and the writer can only help in screenplay and dialogue. Bhagyaraj wanted full freedom for a director. R.C. Sakthi spoke about controversial actions portrayed by him and the reaction from the audience. Nanjil Nadan also advocated the need of freedom for film makers.

Indira Parthasarathy delivered the valedictory address.

**CENTENARY SEMINAR: KONDURU VEERARAGHAVACHARYULU**  
21 September 2013, Tenali

A two day seminar on the 'Centenary of Konduru Veeraraghavacharyulu' was organized on 21 September 2013 at Tenali.

Velaga Venkatappaiah, Member, Telugu



L-R: Sopinti Chandrashekarachari, A. Venkateswara Reddy, Kanneganti Venkatrao and Velaga Venkatappaiah

## MAITHILI JOURNALS AND ITS LITERATURE

22 September 2013, Kolkata

Sahitya Akademi organised a one-day symposium on 'The Contribution of Maithili Journals in the Development of Maithili Language and Literature' on 22 September 2013 at Akademi Auditorium, Regional Office, Kolkata. Symposium was inaugurated by Bhogendra Jha, while keynote address was given by Devendra Jha. N. C. Mahesh, Officer on Special Duty

Advisory Board inaugurated the session.

Dr. Konduru is not only a versatile poet, fiction writer and biographer but also a great scholar. P. Sridevi, daughter of Dr. Konduru presided over the session and narrated the great qualities and scholarships of her father. P. Dakshinamurthy, eminent physician and a man of letters presided over the academic session. Beeram Sundara Rao spoke about Dr. Konduru as a novelist. Alluri Venkata Narasimha Raju spoke on the literary talent of Dr. Konduru as a great author.

The second session on "Dr. Konduru as literary critic" was presided over by Sankaranarayana. K V Padmavathi, M. Ravikrishna and Jampani Purnachandra Prasad spoke on the occasion. In the evening session, Velaga Venkatappaiah presided over the session. Annapareddy, Venkateswara Reddy, Sopinti Chandrasekharachari, and Kanneganti Venkatrao spoke on the occasion. The valedictory session was presided over by KTV Prasad. K Kanakachari, who did research on Dr. Konduru, in his valedictory address explained the life and works of Dr. Konduru. Jampani Purnachandra Prasad proposed the vote of thanks.

(Programme), Sahitya Akademi welcomed the invited guests and the gathering. Beena Thakur, Convenor, Maithili Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi gave the introductory speech.

The first session was chaired by Rajnandan Lal Das, the editor of Maithili journal *Karnamirra* and also a renowned Maithili writer. Tarakant Jha, Ramlochan Thakur and Anmol Jha presented their papers in this session on the topics "Origin of Maithili papers and magazines", "Appearance of earlier Maithili papers and magazines" and "The contribution of Maithili papers and magazines in the development of literature in pre-Independence period" respectively.

The second session was presided over by Virendra Mallick, eminent Maithili scholar. Navin Chaudhary, Ashok Jha and Mithilish Jha presented their papers on the topics "The contribution of Maithili papers and magazines in the freedom movement", "The contribution of Maithili papers and magazines in the development of literature after independence" and "State and direction of Maithili papers and magazines in the current scenario" respectively.

Valedictory session was chaired by