

Kishorikant Jha, while valedictory address was given by Gunananth Jha. Mahendra Hazari, was the observer.

MUNDUR KRISHNANKUTTY AND HIS LITERARY WORLD KATHALOKAM

28 September 2013, Palakkad

Sahitya Akademi in association with Palakkad District Public Library organized a 'Symposium on World of Fiction of Mundur Krishnankutti' on 28 September 2013 at Palakkad. M. Thomas Mathew, veteran Malayalam critic and scholar, who inaugurated the symposium said that Mundur Krishnankutti could understand and record the pathetic plights of human lives.

C. Radhakrishnan, the Convenor, Malayalam Advisory Board, who chaired the inaugural session said that sincerity of the story-teller is the only thing that makes a story great. A sincere mind can only narrate a good story.

K.S. Ravikumar, General Council Member of Sahitya Akademi in his keynote remarks said that Mundur's stories gained prominence during the seventies when communist ideologies dominated the literary world. Mundur promoted these ideas long before the communist movements in India.

P.K. Parakkadavu, General Council Member of Sahitya Akademi in his chairperson's introductory address said Mundur created a unique path in story writing and that he cannot be categorized into any specific generation of writers.

K.P. Mohanan, presented his paper on the political undercurrents of Mundur Krishnankutti's writings.

Ganesh Mathur presented a paper on the "Regional Culture in Mundur's Stories".

G. Dileepan presented a paper on "Alternative worlds in Mundur Krishnankutti's Stories". Mundur's stories were always evocative

rather than simple depiction of middle class people's lives, he observed. K.P. Ramesh presented a paper on "Layers of the self". The prime meaning of the term 'layers of the self' is the feeling of becoming isolated, even standing in the middle of a crowd. These thoughts are reflected throughout in Mundur's stories.

Mundur Sethumadhavan chaired the second session on 'Tributes'. Ashokan Charuvil, while paying tribute to Mundur, said that though modernism ruled the literature of that age, Mundur's narrative style differed and moved in a pace, keeping certain distance from the modernistic views.

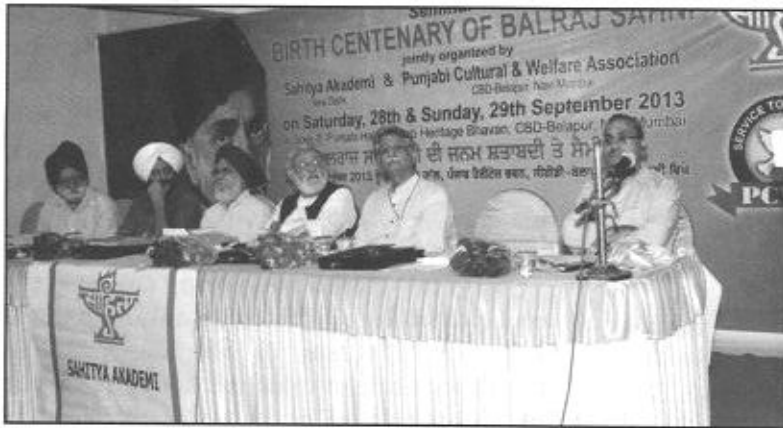
George Joseph K read his paper. He stated, "Mundur's story has the depth of love and women are positively porfrayed.

N. Radhakrishnan Nair presented his views on the personality of Mundur Krishnankutti. He stated that mundur's stories have a poetic touch, which makes it difficult to determine whether it is a story or a poem.

In the valedictory session, Ramachandra, IAS, District Collector and Chairman, Palakkad District Public Library welcomed the gathering. K.P. Sankaran, eminent critic chaired and in detail hailed Mundur Krishnankutti's literary achievements. Eminent fiction writer Vaisakhan delivered the valedictory address. Kasim, Secretary, District Library Council, Palakkad proposed a vote of thanks to conclude the symposium.

BIRTH CENTENARY SEMINAR: BALRAJ SAHANI 28-29 September 2013, Navi Mumbai

On the occasion of the birth centenary of veteran film actor and Punjabi writer Balraj Sahani, Sahitya Akademi and Punjabi Cultural Art and Welfare Association, Navi Mumbai organized two day seminar on his contribution to Indian Cinema and literature on 28 and



L-R: Rawail Singh, Surjit Patar, M.S. Sethyu, Jawed Siddqui and K. Sreenivasarao

29 September 2013 at Navi Mumbai.

M.S. Sathyu, veteran film director, chaired the inaugural session. In his presidential address, he said that Balraj Sahani played many challenging roles in cinema. He not only played these characters but lived them in real life by pulling rickshaw on the roads of Kolkata and staying among farmers for many days. Well-known script and dialogue writer, Jawed Siddqui inaugurated the seminar. He said that Balraj was an actor with talent and had passion for stage.

Seminar began with a welcome address by K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi who spoke briefly about the early life of Balraj when he left Rawalpindi to join Santiniketan as an English teacher, and then joined Mahatma Gandhi and later he went to London to join BBC, London's Hindi service.

Rawail Singh, Convenor, Punjabi Advisory Board of Sahitya Akademi in his introductory address talked about Sahni's contribution to Punjabi literature as well as Hindi Cinema. Well-known Punjabi poet, Surjit Patar in his key-note address said that on Tegore's suggestion he started writing in Punjabi and enriched Punjabi literature with more than

10 books. He also talked about his legendary Hindi film career with special mention to national award winning Punjabi film *Satluje de Kande*.

The seminar was divided into three sessions. Jagbir Singh chaired the first session on "Balraj Sahni and Indian Cinema". Well-known Punjabi writer and film maker Amrik Gill discussed in detail Sahni's contribution to Indian cinema. Manmohan Singh spoke on the life and

experiences of Balraj Sahni as mentioned in his autobiography *Meri Filmi Aatmakatha*. Anees Azmi, Secretary, Urdu Academy in his paper on "IPTA and Balraj Sahni" said that Balraj Sahni started his acting career with the plays of Indian People's Theatre Association (IPTA). And throughout his life he spared time for theatre.

Deepak Manmohan Singh chaired the second session on "Balraj Sahni and Punjabi Sahitya". In this session, Amarik Grewal spoke on Indo-Pak cultural relations with special reference to Balraj's *Mera Pakistani Safarnama*; and Jaspal Kaang presented a critical appraisal of Balraj's *Mera Roosi Safarnama* in context of Indo-Russian relations. She said that he had written the book after a tour of the erstwhile Soviet Union in 1969, and received 'Soviet-Land Nehru Award' for this book. Amarjeet Ghumman discussed in detail the poetry of Balraj with reference to the poems of *Waaitor di waar* and Raminder Kaur talked about his book *Yaadan da jharokha*.

The last session was chaired by H.S. Gill. Satish Kumar Verma spoke on the literary and cinematic outlook of Balraj Sahni. Rashpinder Rashim presented her paper on "*Gair Jazbati Diary*" and Sunita Dhir presented on "Punjabi Theatre and Balraj Sahni."

Sahitya Akademi organised a one-day symposium on 'Children's Literature in Maithili' in collaboration with Antarrashtriya Maithili Parishad on 29 September 2013 at Chimanlal Bhalotia Auditorium, Jamshedpur.

Symposium was inaugurated by S.N. Thaku, Chairman, ASEA, Jamshedpur. The inaugural session was chaired by Brajkishore Mishra, while keynote address was given by Bhagwan Chaudhary. Bina Thakur, Convenor, Maithili Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi gave her introductory speech.

First session was chaired by Vivekanand Thakur. Ravindra Kumar Chaudhary, Shivkumar 'Tillu' and Panchanan Mishra presented their papers in this session on the topics "State and Direction of Children Literature in Maithili", "Origin and Development of Children Literature in Maithili" and "Language and Craft of Children Literature" respectively. Ajay Kumar Ray also presented his views in this session.

Second session was chaired by Shanti Suman, veteran Maithili poet. Aruna Jha, Siyaram Jha 'Saras' and Shyamal Suman presented their papers in the session on the topics "Khisra, Fakhara and Paheli in Maithili Children Literature", "Maithili Rhymes, structure, state and possibilities" and "Language and Future of children's literature in Maithili". Sudhir Chandra Mishra also presented his views in this session.

Valedictory session was chaired by Girijanand Jha 'Arddhanarishwar'. Ashok Kumar Jha 'Avichal' delivered his speech as an observer of the symposium. Chief guest of this session was Jay Kumar and the guest of honour was Dilip Jha. R. K. Chaudhary compered this session. Bina Thakur, on behalf of Sahitya Akademi and Amlesh Jha, on behalf of Antarrashtriya Maithili Parishad, proposed the vote of thanks at the end.

The Akademi organised a "National seminar on Realism in Indian Fiction" on the occasion of the birth centenary of Thakazhi Sivashankara Pillai and S.K. Pottekatt in Delhi on 4 and 5 October 2013 at Rabindra Bhawan, Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi.

K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary Sahitya Akademi while delivering his welcoming address spoke on the two stalwarts in Malayalam literature. He said that Pottekatt was multifaceted personality and was dynamic as a writer. He bought his rich travel experiences to bear upon his eminently readable novels and was too bewitched by the spirit of place and life. He said that Pottekatt used to set his stories in the remote corners of the world and presented characters that appeared rather strange to the common man but theme was innovative and appealing to human society.

C. Radhakrishnan, Convenor, Malayalam Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi in his introductory remarks shared some commonalities between Thakzhi and Potekatt. Both were compassionate and honest. Both were fiction writers and practised paradigm-shift in craft and themes. They were practitioners of romantic realism and their dreams reflected reality as they had real dreams. He also pointed out some major differences between their inclinations, style and themes.

Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President Sahitya Akademi and veteran Hindi poet while chairing the inaugural session discussed the works of Thakazhi and Pottekatt. He also spoke on the realism in Hindi literature. Quoting the philosophers in the context of realism in world literature, Prof. Tiwari said that Premchand belonged to idealistic realism as he himself discussed about this concept of realism. A lot has been written on realism and we find several forms of it being practised

in literature in Indian and the world as well. While stating various forms of realism like critical realism, historical realism, magical realism etc, he reiterated that we should broadmindedly accept all types of realism.

The inaugural address was delivered by veteran Hindi critic Namwar Singh. In his inaugural address, he mentioned about the contribution of Malayalam language to the corpus of Indian literature and its writers G. Sankara Kurup, S.K Pottekatt and Thakazhi Shivashankara Pillai. He also quoted *Cheeman* by Thakazhi and regarded as a vital contribution which projects the true picture of Kerala of that era. He also discussed the impacts of writers he read from Kerala and his reverence for the state due to its remarkable contribution to Indian literature.

The keynote address was delivered by V. Rajakrishnan, eminent Malayalam writers. He discussed realism in the context to Indian fiction and also gave references of Western philosophers. Thakazhi's name is almost synonymous with the rise and growth of critical realism in Malayalam fiction and his early writings were some form of social documentation. According to Rajakrishnan, Pottekatt retained a romantic element in his

imaginative sensibility and he seldom allowed his art to subserve propaganda, even as he was closely associated with the Communist movement.

The first session was chaired by K. Satchidanandan, veteran Malayalam poet and critic and the topic was "Thakazhi, Pottekatt and Malayalam Literature." K.S Ravikumar, K.P Ramanunni and P.K. Parakkadavu presented their papers. K.S. Ravikumar spoke on the topic "Locating Thakazhi in the History of Malayalam Literature." K.P. Ramanunni spoke on "Pottekatt in his Socio-Historical Context" and P.K. Parakkadavu discussed on the impact of Thakazhi and Pottekatt on later fiction in Malayalam.

The second session, "Re-reading Thakazhi" was chaired by A.Sethumadhavan. Pradeepan Pampirikkunu and Anita Nair presented their papers on "Thakazhi: A Dalit Reading" and "On Translating Thakazhi", respectively.

The third session on the topic "Renaissance and Indian Fiction" was chaired by Damodar Mauzo. In this session, Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharjee spoke on realism in Bengali fiction. Pradeep Acharya discussed the Assamese reality and Assamese fiction. Prafulla Kumar Mohanty spoke on myth and reality in Odia



K. Sreenivasarao delivering welcome address.

L-R: V. Rajakrishnan, Namwar Singh, Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari and C. Radhakrishnan

fiction. Chandrakant Patil presented paper on "Marathi Fiction: The Realist Tradition."

The fourth session of the seminar started on 5 October 2013 on the topic "Renaissance and Indian Fiction" which was chaired by K. Chellappan. N. Manu Chakravarthy presented paper on "The Kannada Context" and N. Chandrasekhara Reddy discussed on renaissance and Telugu fiction. The fifth session was chaired by Avadhesh Kumar Singh extended the discussion on "Renaissance and Indian Fiction." Anamika discussed the renaissance in Hindi fiction. M. Asaduddin presented his paper on "Urdu Fiction: The Great Awakening." Akshay Kumar shared his views on the age of realism in Punjabi novels. The sixth session was chaired by C. Radhakrishnan on the topic "The Worlds of Pottekkatt." P.P. Raveendran presented his paper on "Pottekkatt, The Novelist." C.R. Prasad spoke on Pottekkatt's short stories and Shamsad Hussain discussed Pottekkatt as a travel writer.

The valedictory address was delivered by Om Cherry N.N. Pillai, well-known playwright and M. Mukundan, eminent fiction writer.

CENTENARY OF KALOJI NARAYANA RAO 9 October 2013, Hyderabad

Sahitya Akademi and the Department of Telugu, Osmania University, Hyderabad, jointly organized a symposium on the Centenary of Kaloji Narayana Rao 9 October 2013 at Seminar Hall, Arts College, Tarnaka, Osmania University.

The symposium was inaugurated by the chief guest of the event, S. Satyanarayana, Vice-Chancellor, Osmania University under the Chairpersonship of N. Gopi, Convenor, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi. K. Srinivas, Editor, *Andhra Jyoti* delivered the keynote address with thought provoking

observations on Telugu literature in general and on Kaloji Narayana Rao in particular. S. Mallesh, Principal, Arts College, Osmania University and C. Mrunalini, General Council Member, Sahitya Akademi were the guests of honour in the inaugural session, which was welcomed by S.P. Mahalingeshwar, officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru.

The first session was chaired by M. Chennappa. R. Chandrasekhar Reddy, Yendluri Sudhakar and Jyotsna Prabha presented well-researched papers on Kaloji. The second session was chaired by M. Bagaiah, Professor, Telugu Department, Osmania University Katyayani Vidmahe, N. Sidda Reddy, Banna Ilaiah, T. Malla Reddy presented papers and informed the gathering about Kaloji's works. The third session was chaired by V. Nityananda Rao, in which the eminent film director B. Narsinga Rao, and famous Telugu lyricist Andesri were the guests of honour. Sunkireddy Narayana Reddy, Naleshwaram Shankaram also presented papers and threw light on the life and works of Kaloji.

S.V. Satyanarayana, Head, Dept. of Telugu, Osmania University and General Council Member, Sahitya Akademi proposed the vote of thanks.

NATIONAL SEMINAR: DEVOTION AND POETRY 12-13 October 2013, Tirur

Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with Thunchan Memorial Trust, Tirur organized a seminar on 'Devotion and Poetry' on 12 and 13 October 2013. K.P. Ramanunni, Member, Malayalam Advisory Board welcomed the speakers and the gathering in the inaugural session on 12 October 2013. C. Radhakrishnan, Convenor, Advisory Board for Malayalam, who presided over the session said, "The reasons for all the miseries in the world are due to fear." Purushotham Agarwal,

who inaugurated the session, spoke on “Kabir and Tulasi Das - Philosophy and Poetry.” He said that Kabir and Tulasi Das understood themselves and found their path to God. No other poet than Tulasi Das spoke so elaborately about the miseries of others. Satchidanandan’s extensively quoted paper “Dynamics of Bhakti - Social and Aesthetic,” on the great bhakti poets of India, observed the Bhakti movement as a movement where voices were raised against supremacy.

The topic of the second session was ‘The North Indian Streams.’ Vidyanand Jha presided over the session and spoke on “Tradition of Vidyapati and Jayadev.” He said “Bhakti would assume a new dimension only when it reaches an interactive level.”

Satis Badwe dealt with the subject “Devotional Poetry in Marathi.” He said that Marathi poems stood for equality. The Marathi Bhakti movement though started through Dalits, it never criticized Brahmins. Upliftment of common people was the main aim of Marathi Bhakti poets.

The third session dwelt on the general topic ‘Bhakti Poetry in South India.’ The session was presided by Avvai Natarajan who spoke on the “Dissent and Protest in Tamil

Bhakti Poetry.” N. Guru Prasad Rao’s topic was “Social Contest of Telugu Bhakti Literature.” Nataraj Hulyiar dealt with the topic “Social Contest of Kannada Bhakti Literature.” Quoting from various Kannada literatures, he said that the important feature of Bhakti was inner purification.

The topic of the third session was ‘Bhakti Literature in Malayalam.’ Presiding over the session, Chathnath Achuthanunni said that Bhakti was not simply devotion; it should be viewed from the society’s perspective.

N.V.P Unithiri spoke on “Social Relevance of Poonthanam.” He said that Poonthanam was a creation of time.

“Cherusseri and Melpathur” was the subject of discussion for N. Ajaya Kumar. He explained the aspects of agreement and disagreements between the two writers.

P Venugopalan spoke on “Ezhuthachan and the Ithihasa Purana Tradition.” He explained the role played by Ezhuthachan to take Bhakti into the hearts of common people.

Kaladharan spoke on “Manifestation of Bhakti in Visual and Verbal Arts.” He said that Koothu and Koodiyattam questioned the inequalities and injustice prevailed in the society. Unfortunately no effort was made to popularize and improve the music in Koodiyattam and Koothu.

‘Bhakti Literature in Malayalam’ was the topic of the fourth session. M.R. Raghava Varier presided over the session. Scaria Zakaria spoke on the “Bible Bhakti Literature in Malayalam.”

P. Pavithran’s spoke on “Sree Narayana Guru and His Contemporaries.”

“Bhakti and Poetry - the Aftermath” was the subject for M. Krishnan Namboothiri.



L-R: K.P. Ramanunni, K. Satchidanandan, Purushotham Agarwal and C. Radhakrishnan

Shamsad Hussain spoke on “Bhakti in Arabi Malayalam.” She quoted from various Arabic poems and folk songs and explained that through the songs and poems society as well as the supremacy of religion and the prevailing unhealthy practices were criticised without any fear in a humorous way.

PANDITRAJ JAGANNATHA POET AND THINKER 17 October 2013, New Delhi



Namwar Singh delivering his address.
L-R: Brajendra Tripathi, Hari Ram Mishra, Radhavallabh Tripathi,
Harshdev Madhav and K. Sreenivasarao

The Akademi in collaboration with Dev Vani Parishad organised a symposium on ‘Panditraj Jagannatha: Poet and Thinker’ at Sahitya Akademi Auditorium, New Delhi on 17 October 2013. Eminent scholars while remembering him with reverence discussed his personality and poetic geniuses.

In the Inaugural session, K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, while welcoming the participants and guests shared his feeling of immense pleasure due to the interest shown by the scholars for this symposium. Namwar Singh, eminent Hindi writer and critic, presided over the inaugural session. In his presidential address he stressed on the need

of liberating Sanskrit poetics from its limitations. He also highlighted the possibility of creating *Sanrachnavadi Kavyashastra* through *alankara* by understanding limitations of Dhvani Siddhant.

Radhavallabh Tripathi, Convenor, Sanskrit Advisory Board, while delivering his introductory speech highlighted the importance of the works of Pandit Jagannatha. He said that his poetic genius is equivalent to scholars like Bhavbhuti and Shankracharya.

His works of criticism are of immense importance like that of Abinavgupta and Anand Vardhan.

Harshdev Madhav, eminent Sanskrit scholar delivered lecture on the topic “The Possibilities of New Poetics.” In his lecture while giving the references from the works of Prof. Abhiraj Rajendra Mishra, Dr. Shankardev Sharma, Prof. Reva Prasad Dvivedi, Prof. Radhavallabh Tripathi, he also discussed the contribution of self-composed *Vagishwarikanthsutram*.

In the first session under the chairpersonship of Mukundkam Sharma, Chancellor, Shri Lal Bahadur Sahstri Vidyapeeth, Ramakant Shukla, Bhagirathi Nanda, Keshav Joshi, Muniraj Pathak, Sunil Joshi, Ramya Shukla and students of Sharda Devi Sanskrit Vidyapeeth recited the verses by Pandit Jagannatha from his works like *Gangalahri*, *Bhamini Vilas*, *Rasgangadhar* etc. Mukundkam Sharma discussed in detail the historical background of Pandit Jagannatha and his relationships with Jahangir, Shahjahan and Darashikoh.

Harshdev Madhav was felicitated by Dev Vani Parishad, Delhi and Ramakant Shukla gave concluding remarks.

SYMPOSIUM: MAHMOOD AYAZ
18 October 2013, Bangalore

A day national symposium in Urdu was organized in Bangalore on 18 October 2013 on the life and work of Mahmood Ayaz, an eminent, poet, critic, editor and journalist. Chander Bhan Khayal, Convenor, Urdu Advisory Board presided over the function and Shafey Kidwai, Member, General Council was the chief guest. Khaleel Mamoon, Akademi award-winner and eminent Urdu poet delivered the key-note address.

Speaking on this occasion, Sri Khayal recalled the services rendered by him in bringing out literary journal *Soughat* and the daily *Salar*. Shafey Kidwai said that Ayaz brought out *Soughat* in three phases and that every phase was unique in its content and form while an issue dedicated to Modernism was a milestone in the first phase the discovery of the eminent writers of the past were eye openers to the younger generation.

Khaleel Mamoon delivering the key-note address stressed on the independent outlook of Mahmood Ayaz free of either progressive or modern thought having allegiance to only literary merit. He briefly mentioned the achievements of Mahmood Ayaz as a poet, editor and journalist. He said that in poetry he was a neo-classicist.

Azam Shahid in his paper, mentioned about the courage of Mahmood Ayaz in his literary expressions and also mentioned about his non compromising attitude in journalism. Maher Mansoor spoke about the contribution made by Mahmood Ayaz as the Chairman of Karnataka Urdu Academy, who mentioned that Ayaz never allowed any political interference in the functioning of the Academy. Suleman Khumar, in his paper, gave the details of the publications of *Soughat* and stated as to how Ayaz encouraged budding Urdu writers by publishing their works in

the literary edition of *Salar*. Shaista Yusuf mentioned that Ayaz was a guide to many people young and old. He reiterated that Ayaz's character and integrity need to be emulated. He stressed that there is a need to do research in the various aspects of the life and works of Mahmood Ayaz. Akram Naqqash, in his paper spoke about the new Western ideas of the west popularized by *Soughat*. Shahmadar Aqeel expressed about the perfectionism of Ayaz in accepting any literary work for *Soughat*. He also mentioned some of the great translations done by him.

Haleema Firdous dwelt on the editorials of *Soughat*. Manzoor Ahmed Daccani gave a critical appreciation on the prose written by Ayaz. Azeezulla Baig mentioned about the circumstances in which *Salar* was brought out and how was it aggressive in the formative years. N. M. Saeed discussed the literary merit of the poetry of Ayaz and mentioned that emotions and expressions relating to death dominate the poems of Ayaz. Farhat Ehsas in his concluding remarks mentioned about the unique character of his magazine *Soughat* and as to how it is a milestone in Urdu literature.

SYMPOSIUM: M.P. APPAN'S BIRTH CENTENARY
18 October 2013, Thiruvananthapuram

One day symposium in connection with Mahakavi M.P. Appan's birth centenary celebration was organised by Sahitya Akademi at Kesari Memorial Hall, Thiruvananthapuram on 18 October 2013. C.R. Prasad delivered the welcome speech.

C. Radhakrishnan, Convenor, Malayalam Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi presided over the who also said that the Kerala Renaissance was well built upon the foundations of literature and artistic lineage



C.R. Prasad, M.P. Ayyappan, Prabha Varma and C. Radhakrishnan

of Appan. Kumaranasan, the poet rightly said that through the poems of Appan.

Prabha Varma, a well-known poet inaugurated the event. He observed that “the poems of Sri Appan are the fine examples of nationalist sentiment and in them we can see patriotism and reverence towards the motherland. M.P. Ayyappan, son of poet Sri Appan, gave a few anecdotes from his life to show the genuineness of Appan’s life as well as in his poems.

The next session was chaired by M. Thomas Mathew, veteran Malayalam critic. Desamangalam Ramakrishnan who was also a Malayalam poet presented a paper, “Poet, Poetry & Poetic Language.”

“Didactic Elements in the Poetry of M.P. Appan” was the title of the paper presented by D. Benjamin. George Onankkoo presided over the last sessions.

N Mukundan presented a paper on the style of the translation by M.P. Appan. He mentioned that the apparing style of translation retains the cultural aspects of the original text.

“Kavithayile Prasadathmakatha” is the title of the paper presented by Viswamangalam Sundaresan where he observed that the

optimism in Appan’s poetry is the outcome of his own personality.

“M.P. Appan’s Kavyavyakthithwam,” was the next paper presented by G. Padma Rao who remarked on the styles of Appan’s poems and pointed out the simple and prophetic aspects as found in his poetry. M.N. Rajan’s paper was on “Appan’s Kavyasambhavana.” He talked about Appan’s poetic vision which expressed the truth and showed light to many in the time of darkness.

MAJHI RAMDAS TUDU, SANTALI WRITER 20 October 2013, Shillong.

Sahitya Akademi organised one day symposium on Majhi Ramdas Tudu, renowned Santali writer on 20 October 2013 at Shillong, Meghalaya.

Symposium was inaugurated by U. N. Majhi. Talking about the contribution of Majhi Ramdas Tudu, he expressed his views about Santal’s life and also Santali language for its betterment. Key-note address was given by Surya Singh Besra. He emphasised the fact that more and more literature would lift up our culture. Father Francis Hembram was the guest of honour. He called for more literacy among Santals to save their language and culture. This session was chaired by Gangadhar Hansda, Convenor, Santali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi.

The first session was focused on the topic “Life and Socio-religious Aspects of Majhi Ramdas Tudu”. Session was chaired by Rupchand Hansda. Papers were presented by Sobhanath Beshra, Ramchandra Murmu and Joba Murmu. Shobhanath Beshra spoke about the life and values of Ramdas Tudu. He said

that religion has great power. Ramchandra Murmu expressed about the religious front of the Santals during the colonial period with reference to the books of Ramdas Tudu as that how religion played important role at that time to shape the life of Santals. Joba Murmu spoke about episode of Karmu Dharmu and Karam as narrated by Ramdas Tudu. How Karam celebration come about in life and people.

In the second session on "Contribution of Ramdas Tudu to Santali literature" was chaired by Damayanti Beshra. Papers were presented by Mohan Chandra Baskey, Salkhu Murmu and Ramdhan Hembram. They spoke about the role of Ramdas Tudu as first Santal writer, literary value of *Kherwal Bonso Dhoram Puthi* and also about other books of Ramdas Tudu, a landmark of the Santali literature.

The last session was on the topic "Contribution to the Santal Society". The session was chaired by Jadumani Besra. Papers were presented by Madan Mohan Soren, Basrathi Soren and Raghunath Hembram. Madan Mohan Soren spoke about reflection of the society in the book of Ramdas Tudu. Dasarathi Soren's emphasis was on the preaching of Ramdas Tudu to the society to uphold Kherwalism. Raghunath Hembram spoke about aims and objectives of Ramdas Tudu in *Kherwal Bonso Dhoram Puthi*.

EPIC POETRY TRADITION IN MAITHILI 21-22 October 2013, Madhepura, Bihar

Seminar on 'Epic Poetry Tradition in Maithili' was organised by Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with Parvati Science College, Madhepura on 21-22 October 2013 at Madhepura, Bihar. The seminar was inaugurated by R. N. Mishra, Vice-Chandler, Bhupendra Narayan Mandal University, Madhepura. Bina Thakur, Convenor, Maithili

Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi delivered the introductory speech.

In his key-note address, Ramdeo Jha, renowned Maithili writer analyzed the genres of *Mahakavya* and *Prabandhakavya*. Referring to Kalidas, Sri Jha said that the epic writer can transcreate the content and character like Kalidas.

The inaugural session was presided over by Ramakant Mishra. In his speech, he presented a comparative study of English and Maithili epical poetry.

First session of the seminar was chaired by Mahendra Jha. Papers were presented by Raman Jha, Dev Narayan Sah and Harivansh Jha. The topic of their papers were "Metaphors of Maithili Epical Poetry", 'Mythological Epics in Maithili' and 'Maithili Epics based on the Story of Rama', respectively.

Second session was chaired by Madhuri Jha, while papers presented by Ranjit Kumar Singh and Rabindra Kumar Chaudhary on the topics "Maithili Epics Based on Krishna" and "History Based Maithili Epics".

Third and the last session of the day was chaired by Jagdish Narayan Prasad. Papers were presented by Abhay Kumar on the topic "Language of Maithili Epics" and by Kulanand Jha on the topic "Difference between *Mahakavya* and *Prabandhakavya*".

On the second day, and third sessions were combined and Presided over by Keshkar Thaku, papers were presented by Dharendra Kumar, Shiv Prasad Yadav, Lalita Jha, Vishvanath Jha, Ramnaresh Singh and Virendra Jha. Speakers discussed on the different aspects of the epical poetry of Maithili.

The next session was chaired by Dharendra Narayan Jha 'Dheer'. Ashok Singh Tomar, Kishore Kumar Singh, Kamal Mohan 'Chunnu' and Shankar Deo Jha presented their papers in the special context of famous Maithili epics *Gatyavati*, *Chanakya*, *Radha Virah* and *Pratijnya Pandav*.

The valedictory session was chaired by Lalitesh Mishra. In this session Dhirendra Nath Mishra expressed his observations on the seminar.

LITERARY TRENDS IN TAMIL NOVELS 23-24 October 2013, Chennai

Sahitya Akademi organized a two day seminar on 'Literary Trends in Tamil Novels' on 23 and 24 October 2013 in collaboration with Tamil University at Thanjavur. K. Kamaraj, eminent Tamil critic and Member, Sahitya Akademi General Council delivered the introductory address. Thilagavathy, well-known fiction writer delivered the felicitation speech. K. Nachimuthu, Convenor, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi who delivered the presidential address said that the early Tamil novels concentrated on family life and the issues of society became a theme later. M. Thirumalai, Vice-Chancellor, Tamil University was the chief guest who emphasized that the novels had brought about many changes in the society in a remarkable way. Sirpi Balasubramaniam, who delivered the

special address, lamented on the craze for English medium education among us which could be the reason of a decrease in readership of Tamil fiction.

The first session was chaired by Arasu. He informed that the Sangam literature described the life of subalterns which could be seen in modern novels. Hameem Musthapa presented an analysis of the novel *Marupakkam* which dealt with caste conflicts. Documentation of history, culture and ethnography in Tamil novels were also discussed by the speakers.

The next session was chaired by Rama Gurunathan. He presented a thought provoking analysis of space and existence of women. Padmavathy Vivekenandan spoke on the novel *Karukku* by well-known Dalit writer Bama. Sethupathi discussed the novel *Thuppukari* which dealt with the plight of the life of a sweeper and the odds in her career.

The third session was presided over by Vivekanandhan. She gave a classification of subaltern literature in Tamil novels from colonial, national and Marxist approaches. Murugesapandian concentrated on *Koola*



Sirpi Balasubramaniam delivering special address.
L-R: R. Kamaraj, A.S. Ilangovan, Thirumalai, Nachimuthu and others

Madhari, a novel by Perumal Murugan whereas Chandrakanthan spoke on the novel *Thol* by D Selvaraj.

The next session on “Resurgence of Eco Literature” was chaired by B Madhivanan. He quoted the opinion of K. Sivathambi that ‘*Kambaramayanam* has all the essential features of classical literature, but *Silapadikaram* is better than that as a “classical epic.” A. Gunasekaran read a paper on *Sozhagar Thoddi*, a novel that dealt with hill tribes and reflected the ‘Kurinji Thinai’ (life of hill tribes). Kasi Mariyappan discussed the novel *Korkai* which talked about life in sea and sea-coast. Arivuruvon spoke about the novel *Thandavam* by Solai Sundaraperumal which dealt with fertile paddy cultivation and farmer’s life.

The last session was on “New Wave in Tradition and Modernism in Tamil Novels” which was chaired by K. Panjangam. P. Anandhkumar and P. Ravikumar discussed the novels of Tamizhavan and Ramakrishnan respectively. The valedictory session was chaired by Se. Ganeshram, Registrar, Tamil University. Prabanjan, veteran Tamil fiction writer delivered the valedictory address. Even if cinema, T.V. and other media today advanced well, the books would always occupy an important place in the society, he said.

SYMPOSIUM: THE BODO AND THE LITERATURE: QUEST FOR SURVIVAL
25 October 2013, Kampup, Assam

Sahitya Akademi organized a symposium on ‘The Bodo and the Literature: Quest for Survival’ on 25 October 2013 at Rangia College, Kampup, Assam.

The keynote address was delivered by Premananda Muchahary, Convenor of Bodo Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi. In the speech, he highlighted some major issues of

Bodos relating to the survival of literature.

Jogesh Kakati, Principal, Rangia College, the guest of honour in his speech insisted on the learning of multiple languages in the state for better communication. He emphasized on the question of survival of some minority languages like Bodo in near future.

Swarna Prabha Chainary, Associate Professor, Bodo Department, Gauhati University in her speech highlighted some issues and challenges ahead of the Bodo society to keep Bodo language alive and in practice. She also chaired the first session and spoke elaborately on the topic.

The second paper of the session, “The Present Position of Bodo Literature in Indian Context” was presented by Laishri Mohilyar, Assistant Professor, Bodo Department, Bodoland University.

The topic of the third paper was “Beauty in Bodo Literature – An Overview” presented by Birhash Giri Basumatary. He referred to the aesthetic beauty in Bodo poetry and its usage of images and symbols.

The topic of the fourth paper was “Readers’ Response in Bodo Literature” which was presented by Somaina Basumatary.

P. C. Basumatary chaired the second session and the first paper, “Struggling of Bodo Literature for Survival,” was presented by Birupaksha Giri Basumatary. He dwelt on the survival of Bodo literature as seen from the literary and historical perspectives. Some critics consider that the contribution made by the missionaries to Bodo language is a valuable contribution to the literary development.

Rujab Muchahary presented a paper on “Trends of Bodo Literature in the Early 20th Century.” He observed that Bodo literature got its literary form in early 20th century. Prior to it, it was based on folk literature and was manifested in dramas.

The last paper of the symposium was

presented by Phukan Basumatary titled "Response to the Bodo Literature". He focused on the reader's response to Bodo literature in 20th century as well as the present day.

SYMPOSIUM: KANNADA LITERARY JOURNALS AND RESPONSE TODAY
26 October 2013, Bangalore



L-R: Nataraj Hulyar, Chandrasekhar Patil, Choodamani Nandagopal and P. Chandrika

Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru organised a Symposium on 'Kannada Literary Journals and Present Response' in collaboration with Jain University, Bangalore at Conference Hall, School of Graduate Studies, Jain University campus, Bangalore on 26 October 2013.

Choodamani Nandagaopal, UNESCO Fellow, in her inaugural address said that the literary journals have developed a sense of love and proudness for Kannada language.

Nataraj Hulyar, eminent Kannada writer and critic, delivered the keynote address. He remarked that literary theories formulated by the literary journals have become a subject of daily debate/discussion. Transitions and changing movements in society, politics, literature and culture have given birth to a large number of literary journals.

Chandrasekhar Patil, eminent Kannada

writer and Editor of a Kannada literary journal *Sankramana* was the guest of honour; he also presided over the inaugural session.

In the first session, Raghavendra Patil spoke on the topic "Literary Journals and Creativity." Shoodra Srinivas spoke on the subject "Cultural Scenario and Literary Journals".

Vijayamma presided over the first session and remarked that the duties and expectations from small journals are plenty.

L.N. Mukundaraj spoke on the "Importance of Literary Journals" in the second session. R.G. Halli Nagaraj spoke on the "Social Responsibilities of Literary Journals." Literary journals provide platforms for publications of plays that could rarely be seen in popular journals.

Aravind Malagatti, Akademi's General Council Member and an eminent critic and writer said that literary journals are also called "cultural journals." In his valedictory speech, Sri Malagatti reiterated that

media have totally destroyed the main focus or course of Dalit, Bandaya and other movements. The little journals have taught us that life and writings must go hand-in-hand.

Giraddi Govindaraj presided over the second session and also the valedictory session. He mentioned that Journals owned by individual can enjoy much freedom. The cultural and social ambiances give way for the birth of good and qualitative literary journals, he concluded.

SYMPOSIUM: CENTENARY OF PUTTAPARTHI NARAYANACHARYA

27 October 2013, Kadapa

A one day symposium on Puttaparthi Narayanacharya, a famous poet, critic and

researcher in Telugu, was organized jointly by Sahitya Akademi and C.P. Brown Research Centre for Languages, Yogi Vemana University on 27 October 2013.

N. Gopi, Convenor of Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi inaugurated the symposium. The first session was chaired by Vidwan Katta Narasimhulu in which M. Mallikarjuna Reddy presented a paper "*Janapriya Ramayanam and Pandari Bhagavatam*" and G.V. Sai Prasad presented on "*Meghadootam and Purogamanam*." The chair, Sri Narasimhulu described Dr. Puttaparthi as a perfect blend of tradition and experiment.

The second session was chaired by C. Govinda Raju. Three papers were presented by three erudite scholars, Bhutapuri Gopalakrishna Sastry on "*Penugonda Lakshmi, Shaji and Sipai Pituri*," Tappeta Rama Prasad Reddy on "*Gandhiji Mahaprasthanam and Agniveena*" and Yelamarty Madhusudan on "*Sivatandavam and Srinivasa Prabandham*."

The third session was chaired by P. Sanjeevamma, in which the first paper was presented by M. Narendra on "English literature of Puttaparthi" and the second one by M. Sampath Kumar on "Mythological criticism of Puttaparthi."

The valedictory session was chaired by T. Vasanti in which Puttaparthi Nagapadmini Devi, daughter of Puttaparthi, delivered the valedictory addresses.

SYMPOSIUM: UPENDRANATH ASHK 27 October 2013, Chandigarh

Sahitya Akademi organised a symposium on Upendranath Ask was organised at Park View Hotel auditorium, Chandigarh on 27 October 2013.

In inaugural session, Brajendra Tripathi while welcoming the guests and audience, he spoke on the literary works and personality

of Upendranath Ashk. He discussed different stages of Ashk's creative world quoting various interesting incidences. Surya Prasad Dixit, Convenor, Hindi Advisory Board, in his introductory address shared his views on the contribution of the writers to Hindi literature from Punjab with special reference to Ashk. He discussed about Ashk's literary journey and his dynamism. Ravindra Kalia, writer and editor in his inaugural address shared Ashk's family background and enlivened interesting memories spent with him. Ramesh Kuntal Megh, eminent critic presided over the inaugural session. In his presidential address, he critically evaluated the ideology in Ashk's novels.

The first session was chaired by Pushp Pal Singh and the topic for the session was "Fiction and One Act Plays of Ashk." Renuka Nayyar, Pushp Pal Singh, Suresh Seth and Sudarshan Vashist actively contributed in the discussion. Renuka Nayyar, Hindi writer, fondly remembered various instances of her discussions with Ashk. Fiction writer Suresh Seth commemoratively mentioned the specialty of Ashk's 'One Act Plays'. Fiction writer Sudarshan Vashist mentioned about the time, he spent with him while Ashk was residing in Dharmashala to complete his novel *Girti Devarain* and also highlighted his merit as writer. Pushp Pal Singh while chairing the session said that middle class people as the center of the story was his unique characteristic.

The second session was chaired by Virendra Mehndiratta and the topic was "Non-Fictional Prose and Poetry of Ashk." Madhav Kaushik, Mamta Kalia and Chandra Trikha discussed in-depth on various aspects of Ashk's literary works. Madhav Kaushik highlighted the dramatic elements in his poetry. Mamta Kalia in her lecture on his works of memoir and autobiography considered him a writer with remarkable skills. Chandra Trikha spoke on relevance of his writings today. Virendra Mehndiratta in his address said that

empowerment of Hindi language was the most important contribution of Upendranath Ashk. Chandra Trikha proposed the vote of thanks.

REPRESENTATIVE WORKS 21ST CENTURY & POET'S MEET 27-28 October, Srinagar

Northern Regional Board of Sahitya Akademi organised a two days seminar on 'Representative Works of 21st Century' besides holding of poetry reading sessions on 27th and 28th of Oct. 2013, at SP College, Srinagar.

In the inaugural session held on 27 October 2013. Gitanjali Chatterji, Deputy Secretary Sahitya Akademi delivered her welcome address. Zaman Azurdah Convenor Kashmiri Advisory Board introduced the programme and threw light on the on going activities of the Sahitya Akademi. G. N. Gowher, a noted poet and novelist delivered his inaugural address. He highlighted the challenges of technology influencing the contemporary literature. Axis Hajini presented the keynote address. He dwelt on the latest trends emerging in 21st century literature. He discussed the problems relating to the literature in the North Indian languages with specific reference to Kashmir literature. Yasin Shah, Principal S P College who was the chief guest in his address said that we must try to keep all literature available to all language groups, so that they have ample opportunities to have access to the essence of human development. Chandran Bhan Khayal, Convenor, Urdu Advisory Board and also the Convenor Northern Regional Board, in his presidential address discussed the objectives of the seminar and made a special reference to literature of Northern Indian languages in general and to Urdu literature in particular.

The first session was chaired by Lalit Magotra, Convenor, Dogri Advisory Board.

To his introductory speech from the chair, he highlighted the importance of an interaction of Indian languages in general and within northern regional languages in particular. He also stressed the need for literary translations to maintain continuity in Indian literary tradition. Qudus Javed of Urdu, Madhav Hada of Hindi and Rajesh Manhas of Dogri presented their papers and made the audience aware of the present scenario of the literature in their respective languages.

Arjun Dev Charan, Convenor, Rajasthani Advisory Board presided over the second session. In his address, he highlighted the interrelation between literatures of Northern Indian languages with special references to Rajasthani and Punjabi, Dogri and Punjabi, Punjabi and Urdu, Hindi and Urdu and Urdu and Kashmiri languages. Makrand Paranjape of English, Gulshan of Kashmiri, Kundanlal Mali of Rajasthani presented their papers depicting the present scenario of literary activities in their respective languages.

Radha Vallabh Tripathi, Convenor, Sanskrit Advisory Board presided over the third session. In his presidential address, he made people to recall the rich contribution of Kashmiris to Sanskrit literature and the influence of Sanskrit on Indian languages especially the languages of north India. Yograj Angrish (Punjabi), Purabi Panwar(English), Sushil Begana (Dogri) and Maula Bakash(Urdu) made presentations about the 21st century writings in their respective languages.

There was a Poets' Meet after the third session. G.N. Khayal, a noted Kashmiri poet presided over the meet. Deepak Arsi and Surjeet Hosh (Dogri), Makrand Paranjape (English), Leeladhar Jagoori(Hindi), Ali Shaida and Shahid Delnawi (Kashmiri) recited their poems.

The fourth session was chaired by Zaman Azurdah, Convenor, Kashmiri Advisory Board. In his presidential address besides highlighting the latest trends in Indian literature especially

in the northern region, he made a specific reference with special mention of Urdu and Kashmiri literatures getting influenced by the Western thought. Shad Ramzan (Kashmiri), R.S. Brar (Punjabi), Janardhan Hegde (Sanskrit) and Atul Kanak (Rajasthani) presented their papers that were followed by a long discussion.

The next poetry reading session was chaired by Chandra Bhan Khayal. Showkat Ansari and Ayub Sabir from Kashmiri, Darshen Butter and Jaswinder Singh from Punjabi, Shabnam Ashai and Mahtab Alam from Urdu, Mithesh Nirmohi and Om Purohit from Rajasthani and Sushil Begana from Dogri recited their poems and Sri Khayal besides his presidential address recited some stanzas from his poem "Laulak".

CENTENARY SEMINAR: KRISHNAMURTHY PURANIK

6 November 2013, Gokak

Sahitya Akademi, Regional office, Bengaluru organised a one-day centenary seminar on Krishnamurthy Puranik in association with Rotary Club, Gokak on 6 November 2013



Chandrasekhar Kambar lighting the lamp. Malikarjuna Kalloli, Anand Puranik, Somashekhar Magadumba and others

at Mangaladevi Tamvasi Auditorium, Rotary Club, Gokak.

In the inaugural session, Arjuna Golasangi, Member, Kannada Advisory Board delivered the introductory address. Mallikarjuna Kalloli, Chairman, Rotary Blood Bank, Gokak and Anand Puranik, son of Krishnamurthy Puranik were the guests of the occasion.

Chandrasekhar Kambar, Vice-President, Sahitya Akademi presided over the inaugural session. In his inaugural speech, Dr. Kambar said that Krishnamurthy Puranik's writings are an everlasting truth. He was a great man who upheld the writing and teaching career at a prodigious level. As a novelist, short story writer and playwright he had written nearly 100 books and contributed enormously for the Kannada literary world as a creative writer.

As a teacher of English and Sanskrit language, Sri Puranik contributed a lot as a translator translating from Sanskrit into Kannada.

Anand Puranik, son of Krishnamurthy Puranik, chaired session. He gave a biographical reading of his father.

The first session was presided over by C.K. Navalagi. Y.M. Bhajantri delineated "the social aspects of Krishnamurthy Puranik's novels" and the dalit sensibilities portrayed in the novel *Sanadi Appanna*. The second session was chaired by Vijay Kumar Katagihallimath and Gurupad Mariguddi spoke on the topic "Women's Role in Puranik's Novels." Dr. Prakash Deshpande presided over the third session. H.D. Kolkara presented a paper on "Puranik's Poetry and Short Fiction." Fourth session was chaired by Y.B. Himmadi in which T.S. Chougale spoke on the topic "Puranik's Lyrical Plays." Poems were read out at the end after the presentation of the papers.

Raghavendra Patil presided over the valedictory session. Sarjoo

Katkar delivered the valedictory speech. Satish Nadagouda, President, Rotary Club, Gokak was the guest of the occasion. Sri Katkar in his valedictory address said that Krishnamurthy Puranik was one of the powerful writers who created a unique readership. Narasimhaiah and Puranik were the leading writers of the age.

Raghavendra Patil said that Krishnamurthy Puranik's writings need not require any critic to respond since it has had a direct response from the people.

SEMINAR: NEW HARVEST OF ODIA LITERATURE

9 November 2013, Balasore

Sahitya Akademi organised a seminar on 'New Harvest of Odia Literature' in collaboration with Fakirmohan Sahitya Parisad on 9 November 2013 at Balasore Rotary Bhawan, Balasore.

At the outset Goutam Pal, Officer in charge, Sahitya Akademi Eastern region introduced the guests.

While inaugurating the seminar, veteran poet Brajanath Rath said that different writers have different voices. Even time has a voice. But it is important to search unity in diversity. Eminent writer and Convenor of Odia Advisory Board of Sahitya Akademi Gourahari Das delivered the introductory address. He stated that the gifted young writers have set glittering examples all over the world. If the trend is also reflected Odia literature, will be prosperous by the young writers' prolific output.

Arabinda Giri who presented the keynote address said that despite several hurdles, the young generation has caught hold of its commitment. Presiding over the session Rabinarayan Dash, President of Fakirmohan Sahitya Parisad said that literature is the alphabet of life.

In the first session, the chairperson was Bijayananda Singh, well-known writer and President of Utkal Sahitya Samaj. Dillip Swain presented his paper on modern poetry while Subhasri Lenka presented her paper on novels by the young writers. Anjan Chand dealt with the literature of translation by the new writers.

The second session was chaired by Sairindhri Sahu. Laxmikant Tripathy presented his paper on humour in Odia literature while Kabita Barik dealt with the modern stories. Sridev presented his paper on the scope for literature while Hemendra Mohapatra on existing situation of Odia drama.

The concluding session of the day was chaired by noted Odia writer Gopalkrushna Rath. Prallad Charan Mohanty, the chief guest, presented a panoramic view of Odia literature. Banoj Tripathy, the guest of honour of the valedictory session said that more and more such programme should be organized which would prepare platform for young writers. Biplab Kumar Mohanty, Vice President of Fakirmohan Sahitya Parisad proposed the vote of thanks.

POST-COLONIAL LITERATURE IN NEPALI

9-10 November 2013, Gangtok

A two day seminar on 'Post-colonial Literature in Nepali' was organised by Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with Sikkim University, Gangtok on 9-10 November 2013 at Gangtok.

The seminar was inaugurated by Tankabhadur Subba, Vice-Chancellor, Sikkim University. Pratapchandra Pradhan, well-known Nepali writer and the Dean, School of Social Sciences and Humanities, Sikkim University delivered his key-note address. The session was chaired by Sanu Lama, distinguished Nepali writer. Prem Pradhan, Convenor, Nepali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi gave the introductory speech. The

session was conducted by Kavita Lama, Head, Department of Nepali, Sikkim University.

First session was chaired by Mohan P. Dahal, while papers were presented by Diwakar Pradhan, Parasmani Dangal and Mahesh Pradhan.

Second session was chaired by Josh Yonzon Pyasi. Gyanbahadur Chettri, Krishnaraj Ghatani, Balaram Panday and Tekbahadur Chettri presented their papers in the session.

The third session was chaired by Pempa Tamang. Papers were presented by Devendra Subba, Padam Nepal and Bidhan Golay

Valedictory session of the seminar was chaired by Krishnasingh Moktan. Pradhuma Shrestha expressed his views on the seminar as the observer. Valedictory address was given by Jiwan Namdung.

SYMPOSIUM: GUNDELT – KERALAPANINI 19 November 2013, Thiruvananthapuram

Sahitya Akademi in association with Department of Malayalam, University of Kerala conducted a one day symposium on the occasion of Gundert-Keralapanini Birth anniversary celebration on 19 November 2013 at Senate Chamber, University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram.

The programme was inaugurated by K. S. Ravikumar, an eminent critic. Eminent critic and language scholar Scaria Zachariah gave the keynote address which centered around the theme “Heritage of Malayalam Language.” He told, “Malayalam is a language with many dialects which makes it versatile.” He advised the new generation to understand the history of our languages for the revival. Puthussery Ramachandran recalled the richness of 2500 years old *Ashtadhyayi* by Panini and the rich grammatical heritage of India. The presidential

address was given by C. R. Prasad who said that this is the golden period of Malayalam language as it has attained the status of classical language and we have to actively take part in reviving the language.

The first session was chaired by Venugopala Panicker who also presented a paper on “Historic Perspective of Grammar.” He pointed out that Dravidian languages have structurally developed when compared to other group of language. “Grammatical concepts of Keralapanini and Gundert” was the topic of V.P. Markose. He observed that *Keralapaniniyam* and Gundert’s grammar were both the by-products of colonial modernism. L. Sushamma’s paper “Keralapaniniyam- A Sociological reading.” was the study of nationalism in *Keralapaniniyam* in the perspective of Benedict Anderson’s ‘imagine community.’ She explained how a language acts as a catalyst for the formation of a ‘Linguistic nation.’

The second session was chaired by Puthussery Ramachandran and P.M Girish presented a paper on “Metaphor in Malayalam grammar: Concepts and Meaning.” He made cognitive analysis to the metaphor in Gundert’s grammar. He said that Gundert had the insight that the relation between syntax and grammar



L-R: Scaria Zachariah delivering keynote address
To his right C.R. Prasad and K.S. Ravikumar

was conceptual. P. Sreekumar presented a paper on “Modern Linguistics and *Keralapaniniyam*.” He pointed out the challenges being faced in language studies in South India by the researchers and linguistics. Joseph Scariah presented a paper on “Auxiliary Verbs and Stylistics of Language.” P. Jayakrishnan spoke on the “Influence of *Nannul* in *Keralapaniniyam*.” He pointed out that *Keralapaniniyam* followed the case study of Tamil grammar especially the *Nannul* and this kind of study was mainly found in Malayalam and Tamil.

The third session was chaired by B.V. Sasikumar. Seema Jerome presented a paper on “Formal and Informal Usages in Grammatical Texts.” The study was based on *Keralapaniniyam* and Gundert’s grammar. Harikumar Changampuzha delivered a speech on the integrity of Gundert’s grammar. He said that Gundert is the real master who showed the real path to *Keralapanini*. The last paper of the session was presented by C.R. Prasad. He described how *Keralapaniniyam* became the grammar of Dravidian languages.

SYMPOSIUM SHATABDI SMARAN PARVA 23 November 2013, Mumbai

A symposium – “Shatabdi Smaran Parva” was organized by Sahitya Akademi in association with Ramji Aasar School, Ghatkopar, Mumbai at the school’s auditorium on 23 November 2013.

It celebrated four eminent Gujarati authors, ‘Svapnastha’, a pre-Independence poet of social commitment, eminent critic Bhruguraj Anjanria, eminent educationist and essayist Prin. Amrutlal Yajnik,

and Prof. Bhupendra Trivedi, a scholar of medieval Gujarati literature.

The symposium had four eminent Gujarati writers as speakers Sitanshu Yashshchandra (Vadodara), Chandrakant Topiwala (Ahmedabad), Kanti Patel (Mumbai) and Sameer Bhatt (Rajkot). Kamal Vora, member of Gujarati Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the guests.

Dhirubhai Mehta, made introductory remarks and a Gujarati poet Udayan Thakkar narrated a fable indicating how mother-tongues were being erased in our educational system.

First session began with a reading of select paragraphs from Yagnik’s prose. Sitanshu Yashaschandra then presented his paper *Amrutlal Yagnik : Abhayaachaarynu Lokdharmi Gadya*. He analyzed A B Yagnik’s literary work in context of his great contribution to pedagogy and students’ psychology. He also evaluated the author-educationist’s work in the context of the place of Gujarati language in a cosmopolitan city like Mumbai.

The second speaker, Chandrakant Topiwala, spoke on *Bhruguraj Anjanria: Aapanaa Rasgyna Rakheval*. His paper examined in detail how deconstruction before it made headways in Gujarati literature was practised by Bhrugubhai Anjanria in his analytique of poems by eminent poet ‘Kant’.



L-R: Dhirubhai Mehta, Sitanshu Yashaschandra and Chandrakant Topiwala

Post-lunch session began with musical presentation of five poems by the poet Svapanstha. Sameer Bhatt presented his paper titled *Svapanstha: Pratibhdhatano Kavya Svara*. His paper gave a lucid and engrossing analytique of the poet's work and its larger context in Marxian and Gandhian ideologies. His critical analysis included a fair critique of the poet.

The students beautifully recited philosophical text before Kanti Patel presented his paper *Bhupendra Baalkrishna Trivedi: Advait darsha of Bhupendra Trivedi nanaa upaasak*. He noted the study undertaken by Bhupendra Trivedi of medieval poet Gyani-poet Akho and poet Narhari. He dwelt in the subtle relation between the philosophy and poetry.

The symposium ended with vote of thanks by Kamal Vora.

BIRTH CENTENARY SEMINAR HARUMAL SADARANGANI 'KHADIM'
23-24 November 2013, Indore

Sahitya Akademi, Regional Office, Mumbai, in collaboration with National Council for promotion of Sindhi Language, New Delhi & Sindhi Adbi Sangat, Indore, organized a Birth Centenary Seminar on Harumal Sadarangani 'Khadim', held on 23-24 November 2013, at Indore. Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Regional Office Mumbai welcomed the participants. Prem Prakash, Convenor, Sindhi Advisory Board, delivered inaugural address and Laxman Bhatia 'Komal' delivered keynote address. Ramesh Varlyani, was the guest of honour and Vasdev Mohi delivered presidential address. Nirmal Goplani, Director, NCP SL proposed vote of thanks.

ACHARYA MAHAVIR PRASAD DIWEDI
24 November 2013, Lucknow

The Akademi organised a seminar on Acharya Mahavir Prasad Diwedi on the occasion of his 150th Birth Anniversary at Nirala Auditorium, Rajashri Purushottam Das Tandon Hindi Bhawan, Lucknow on 24 November 2013.

Ramesh Chandra Shah, eminent Hindi writer and critic delivered inaugural address. He said that through *Saraswati* magazine, Sri Diwedi introduced the chapter of modern literature in Hindi language. Guest of honour Nand Kishore Acharya said that Diwedi's poetry created a balance between tradition and modernization. Surya Prasad Dixit, Convenor, Hindi Advisory Board of Sahitya Akademi while giving his introductory address said that Diwedi has extensively written on Science and Medicine and also inspired others to contribute to this field.

The first session was chaired by Achutyanand Mishra and the topic was "Diwediji and Literary Journalism." Vijay



Ramesh Chandra Shah delivering inaugural address.
L-R: Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, Nand Kishore Acharya and Surya Prasad Dixit

Dutt Sridhar, Akhilesh and Ashish Tripathi presented their papers.

The second session was chaired by Wagish Shukla and the topic was "Diwediji's Criticism and his Essays." Hari Mohan Sharma, Revati Raman and Jyotish Joshi presented their papers.

The third session was chaired by Gangaratan Pandey and the topic was "Diwediji's Potery, Translation and Language Policy." Naresh Saxena, Pawan Kumar Aggarwal and Satyadev Mishra presented their papers.

150TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY SEMINAR ON SWAMI VIVEKANANDA 25-26 November 2013, Kolkata

Sahitya Akademi organised a seminar on Swami Vivekananda on the occasion of his 150th birth centenary in collaboration with Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Golpark, Kolkata, on 25 & 26 November 2013 at Golpark, Kolkata.

After the Vedic chanting of the monastic members of Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, the welcome address was delivered by K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi. In his brief speech, he referred to the significance of the life, works and preachings of this great son of India. His whole life has been a source of burning of inspiration for us; he fought against blind conservatism and superstition. His stress on the basic roll of 'vivek' (the heart) is important as well as his constant striving for upholding the rich tradition and heritage of India.

While delivering the inaugural address of the seminar, Swami Mityamuktananda, stressed on different facets of Swamiji's life.

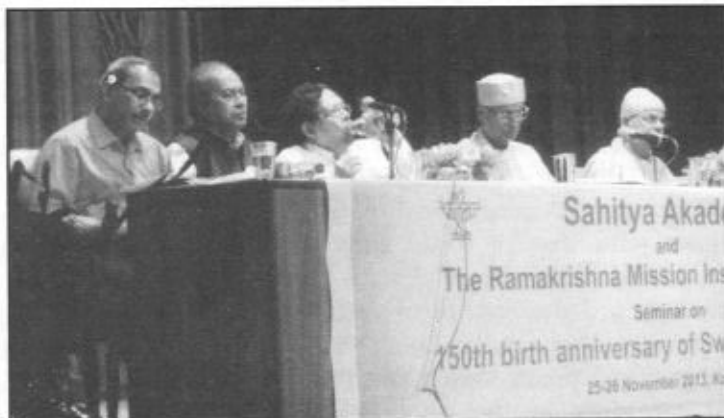
A towering figure of strength, an educationist par excellence and an ardent student of philosophy, he followed the path of divinity. He opined that any person who will follow his words would make his life perfect. Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, Convenor, Bengali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, was the chief guest of the inaugural session.

He described Vivekananda a reservoir of the great Indian tradition.

The key-note address was delivered by Sabyasachi Bhattacharya. In his speech, Sri Bhattacharya stressed on the four significant factors which played vital roles in shaping life of Swamiji. In the budding years, music was the guiding star for him. Later stressed on the religious tolerance. Then his hold in literature became stronger. Later he influenced the institutional as well as organisational structures of Buddhism. Lastly, he emphasized on him as an educationist.

While speaking from the chair, Swami Suparnanda said on the fact that the Ramakrishnites are a non-sectarian sect led by Swami Vivekananda. The vote of thanks was proposed by Goutam Paul, Officer in charge, Sahitya Akademi Eastern Region.

In the first session, papers were presented by Somnath Bhattacharya and Sandipan Sen



L-R: K. Sreenivasarao, Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, Sabyasachi Bhattacharya, Swami Suparnanda and Swami Nityamuktananda

with Alok Roy in the chair. The topic of this session was "Swami Vivekananda and His Time". Prof. Sen spoke on the contemporary cultural atmosphere of Swami Vivekananda and how he went beyond that. While speaking from the chair, Alok Roy compared the time of Swamiji with today's social atmosphere. He opined that Swamiji tried to bring a synthesis of the East and the West.

In the second session, papers were presented by Sitanath Goswami and Tara Chatterjea with Pravrajika Bhaswaraprana in the chair. The topic of this session was "Vedanta Philosophy and Religious Reformation". All of the speakers as well as the chairperson spoke on the main features of Swamiji's stance on the *Vedanta*. Swamiji emphasized on the teachings of *Advaita Vedanta*.

In the third session, papers were presented by Amitrasudan Bhattacharya and Subrata Mukhopadhyay with Sirshendu Mukhopadhyay in the chair. The topic of this session was "Swami Vivekananda and His Contemporaries". Bhattacharya spoke on the relationship between Swamiji and Rabindranath Tagore. In the paper of Sri Mukhopadhyay, a picture of the contemporary life was graphically brought out. While speaking from the chair, Sirshendu Mukhopadhyay opined that now-a-days lots are speaking about Swamiji but only a few are following. He also referred to great influential personality of Swamiji.

Sourin Bhattacharya in the chair, Nrisingha Prasad Bhaduri presented his paper. He compared the educational ideals of earlier times with that of today and also referred to sacred relationship existed between the student and the teacher in vedic ages. Prof. Soumitra Basu spoke about the nature of educational policy which the British wanted to introduce in the colonial India.

In the fifth session, papers were presented by Biswajit Roy and Rabishankar Bal with

Ujjalkumar Majumdar in the chair. The topic of this session was "Swami Vivekananda: Literary Contribution". In this session, both of the speakers stressed on the philosophical elements and insights in the writings of Swamiji. Majumdar also spoke on the influence of Swamiji's writings on the next generation of writers.

In the sixth session, papers were presented by Debasish Roy and Sarbananda Chaudhuri with Sudhir Chakrabarti in the chair. The topic of this session was "Swami Vivekananda: Contribution in the Field of Music". While Sri Roy spoke on the songs written by Swamiji, Sri Chaudhuri spoke on the use of *tals* in the songs of Swamiji. Roy focused on Swamiji as a performer, a musical theorist as well as a composer and as the composer. He presented a live demonstration accompanied by Nandan Sengupta on *esraj* and Gautam Roy on *pakhawaj*. While demonstrating, Sri Chaudhuri was accompanied by Nishaant Singh on *esraj*.

In the valedictory session, the address was delivered by Swami Tyagrupananda. Noted scholar Bharati Ray, while speaking from the chair, summed up the papers presented by the scholars in the two days.

CENTENARY SEMINAR: REV. PROF. THANINAYAGA ADIGALAR
25-26 November 2013, Tiruchirappalli

Sahitya Akademi held a two day seminar on the centenary celebration of Rev. Fr. Xavier Thaninayagam at St. Joseph College, Tiruchirappalli on 25 and 26 November 2013 in collaboration with Rev.Fr. Xavier Thaninayaga Adigalar Research Centre and St. Josheph's College. Krishnaswamy Nachimuthu called Adigalar a multifaceted personality as a clergy, humanist, traveller, a polyglot, a writer, educationist, a journalist, critic, editor and a language activist.

Adigalar brought to light unknown early valuable and rare Tamil texts deposited in various libraries abroad. His critical appraisal of modern Tamil writing is also notable. His enduring contribution lies in his taking Tamil studies and modern Indian studies to international universities and fora. His standing as a clergy and his scholarship in many languages of international standard helped him to reach the Tamil studies to a wider international arena.

The first session of the seminar was chaired by Y. Subbarayalu, well-known Tamil scholar. He lauded the efforts of Adigalar in reviving the research interest in Tamil antiquity and culture. Mu. Ramasamy, a scholar in Tamil theatre observed. V. Arasu spoke on "Adigalar's Research Methodology." A. Antony Cruz presented a paper on "Adigalar's *Tirukkural* Studies." Indira Manuel presented a paper on "Adigalar and Sangam Literature".

The second session was chaired by U. Rasu. Valan Arasu presented a paper on "Adigalar's Editions" and pointed out that Adigalar published the ancient works with competent editorial skills. B. Mathivanan presented a paper "Adigalar's Writings in Tamil." He dealt with Adigalar's contribution to Tamil culture quoting special references. U. Alibava presented a paper on "Adigalar's Perspectives on Sangam Literature and Personality." He presented a detailed portrait of the Sangam period as seen and analysed by Adigalar.

The third session was chaired by K. Ramasamy, who exhorted the Tamil scholars to unite under the banner of International Association of Tamil Research. K. Thirumaran, well-known Tamil scholar presented a paper on "Adigalar's Research Journals." R. Kamarasu presented a paper on "Adigalar's Thoughts on Education." He extensively discussed Adigalar's work, *Educational Thought in Ancient Tamil Literature*. He developed a new school of

thought named 'Comparative Education.' E. Soosai presented a thought provoking paper "Adigalar's *Tolkapiyam* Studies." Adigalar establishes that *Tolkapiyam* contains linguistic features and described the Tamil ethos in a beautiful style.

The fourth session was chaired by K.V. Balasubramaniam. He mentioned that Adigalar studied English, Latin, Portuguese, Spanish, French, German, Greek and Hebrew literatures and took his research in a global way. Adigalar mingled with people of Hawai Islands and saw that they wore flowers and leaves like Tamil people of Sangam age. He found out that *Thiruvembavai* was sung in festivals of Thailand. Japanese poetic tradition is similar to Tamil poetic tradition and Indonesians claim that they are related to Chola, Chera and Pandiya. R. Sambath presented a paper on "Adigalar's International Association of Tamil Research & Conferences. S. Albert spoke on "Rare Tamil Books Discovered by Adigalar" in museums in Europe. Rabi Singh also described Adigalar's contribution to the development of Tamil research.

The fifth session was chaired by S.S. Ramar Ilango. Maraimalai Ilakkuvanar presented a paper on "Adigalar's Comparative Studies" as he compared Greek and Latin poets to that of Sangam poets. He compared Thiruvalluvar's thoughts with Greek, Roman and Buddhist ethics. K. Nedunchezian commented on "Adigalar's Contribution to South Asian Studies". Since he lived in Malaysia and toured through South-East Asian countries extensively he produced valuable insights from his research and travelogues. Sam Vijay spoke on "Adigalar's Studies on Tamil Diaspora." He visited Reunion and places near South America where the Tamil migrants still cherished their Tamilian roots.

The valedictory session was chaired by P. Marudhanayagam, veteran Tamil scholar who mentioned that references in Solomon's songs

in the Old Testament, echo Tamil references. Seneca, the great thinker mentioned Tiruvalluvar as one of the great philosophers. Marudhanayagam quoted many important ideas and ideals of Tamil achievement as put forth by Adigal. S.V. Shanmugam, a well-known linguist presented Adigalar's techniques in literary appreciation. The seminar came to an end on a rich literary exchanges and interactive session.

BIRTH CENTENARY SEMINAR ON RAJKISHORE RAY

30 November 2013, Bhubaneswar

Sahitya Akademi organized a birth centenary seminar on eminent Odia litterateur Rajkishore Ray on 30 November 2013 at Bhubaneswar. Sri Janaki Ballav Pattnaik, the Honourable Governor of Assam inaugurated the seminar at IDCOL Auditorium

Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, in his welcome address opined that Rajkishore penned most of his stories against social evils like poverty and superstitions. Gourahari Das, Convener, Odia Advisory Board, gave a brief introduction on late Rajkishore Ray. He said that Rajkishore's journey in literature. Right

from romanticism to social reality his literature-journey was commendable. He touched all the facets of life. He was ahead of his time and could foresee the future.

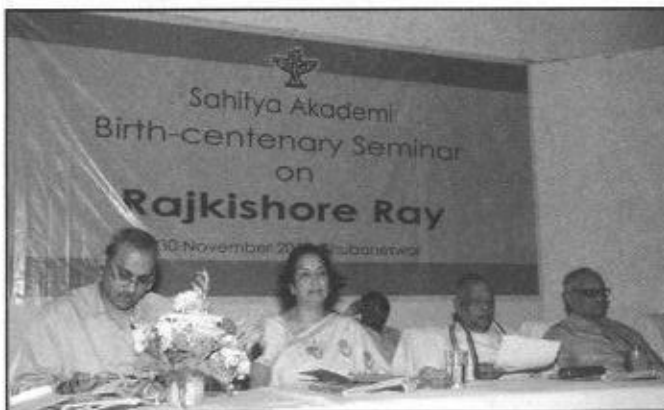
In his inaugural speech, J. B. Patnaik depicted Rajkishore as an artist of both literature and music. He exhorted the writers to portray and reflect the reality of the society in their literary works. Such works would remain masterpieces.

Malabika Ray, daughter of late Rajkishore Ray, in her key note address mentioned that till the last breath of his life he dictated pieces of literature, and matters for columns for newspapers, displaying his remarkable creative energy.

Bibhuti Pattanaik, eminent Odia novelist and story writer, presided over the function. In his presidential address, he briefly analyzed the masterpieces of Rajkishore *Nila Labari*, *Vana Jyotna*, *Ashok Chakra* and *Jeevan Sangeet*.

In the first session, Adhyapak Biswaranjan, Asit Mohanty, Kapileswar Gahan and Kishore Chandra Das presented papers and discussed the life and literature of Rajkishore. Mohapatra Nilamani Sahoo, eminent story writer of Odisha chaired the session.

Noted essayist and critic Dasarathi Das chaired the second session. Bijay Kumar Nanda, Sabita Pradhan and Pramod Kumar Parida presented papers that highlighted multifaceted talent of Rajkishore Ray. Saabitha Pradhan discussed the craftsmanship in Rajkishore's works. Malabika described him a genius who could bring synthesis of literature, music, acting all at a time. Bibhuti Pattanaik discussed his romantic thoughts, realistic approach, unique language style sensitivity of subjects. In the valedictory session, Shantanu Kumar Acharya, eminent Odia writer, depicted Rajkishore as the hero of his time. He tried to bring the renaissance

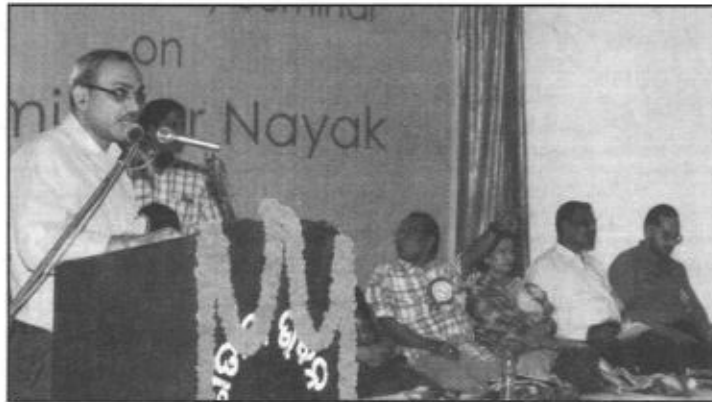


L-R: K. Sreenivasarao, Malabika Ray, Janaki Ballav Pattnaik and Bibhuti Pattanaik

through his literary works. Jatindra Kumar Nayak chaired the session and Banoj Tripathy proposed the vote of thanks.

BIRTH CENTENARY SEMINAR: LAXMIDHAR NAYAK

1 December 2014, Cuttack



K. Sreenivasarao delivering welcome address. Haraprasad Das, Pratibha Ray, Kamala Kanta Mohanty and others

Sahitya Akademi organized a birth centenary seminar on eminent Odia litterateur Laxmidhar Nayak in collaboration with Utkal Sahitya Samaj on 1 December 2014 at Satabdi Bhawan, Cuttack.

In the inaugural session, K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary Sahitya Akademi delivered the welcome address. The inaugural session was chaired by Bijayananda Singh, President, Utkal Sahitya Samaj. Devasnana Das, Vice-president, Utkal Sahitya Samaj, introduced the guests to the audience. The introductory address was delivered by Gourahari Das, Convener of Odia Advisory Board. Pratiba Ray, Jnanapith Awardee, inaugurated the seminar. Dr Ray, in her speech, said that for a writer educational qualification has no meaning when "Life is a school and the world is a book". At the age of 18, Laxmidhar Nayak wrote the novel *Udvranta*. He is a nationalist leader, social

reformer, playwright, lyricist and an editor. The chief guest Haraprasad Das called Laxmidhar Nayak, the father of Odia gazhal. He is a champion of humanism and a great social activist. On this occasion, the great children litterateur Nadia Bihar Mohanty was presented with Akademi's Bal Sahitya Puraskar. The key-note address was delivered by Kamalakanta Mohanty. The vote of thanks was proposed by Goutam Pal, Officer in charge, Sahitya Akademi Eastern Region, Kolkata.

The topic of the first session was "Life and Literature of Laxmidhar Nayak". Under the chairmanship of Ratnakar Chaini, Bijaya K. Satpathy, Kailash Pattnaik, Aparna Mohanty and Arun Mohanty, Bishnu Ch. Routray presented their papers.

The topic of the second session was "Multifaceted Talent and Laxmidhar Nayak". The session concentrated and discussed on the

multifaceted genius of Laxmidhar Nayak. The poems of Nayak were recited by Basant Mohanty and Dipti Dash and essays were read out by Krushna Ch. Bhuyan, Bhupen Mohapatra, Pulin Behari Nayak and Gobind Ch. Chand. This session was chaired by Bishnu Ch. Routray. Throughout the session, poems and essays were read out to reveal the multifaceted personality of Laxmidhar Nayak.

The valedictory session was chaired by Gopal Krushna Rath where Jayant Mohapatra, the internationally reputed English poet and Prafulla Mohanty, well-known Odia writer were present. Jayant Mohapatra, remarked that writers are born and seldom are made Laxmidhar Nayak is one such writer who motivated him. The vote of thanks was proposed by Jibananda Adhikary.

SEMINAR POST-INDEPENDENCE SINDHI DRAMA

5-6 December 2013, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi, Regional Office Mumbai, in collaboration with Sindhi Academy, Delhi, organized a seminar on 'Post-Independence Sindhi Drama' held on 5-6 December 2013 at Delhi. Lakhmi Khilani delivered the inaugural address and Prem Prakash, Convenor Sindhi Advisory Board, gave the keynote address. M.K. Jetley presented the presidential address and Bhanu Bharati was the guest of honour. Sindhu Bhagia Mishra, Secretary, Sindhi Academy, proposed vote of thanks.

BIRTH CENTENARY SYMPOSIUM MUTTATHU VARKEY

13 December 2013, Changanacherry

The symposium on Muttathu Varkey on the occasion of his birth Centenary which was held on 13 December 2013 at St. Berchmans' College, Changanacherry witnessed the presence of many eminent personalities from all over Kerala.

In the inaugural session, K.S. Ravikumar said that Muttathu Varkey's writings targeted the common man and his characters were moulded with great craftsmanship. In the presidential address, he said that Changampuzha popularized poetry, then Muttathu Varkey was the one who popularized prose".

The eminent critic, M. Thomas Mathew in his inaugural address, stated that Muttathu Varkey created a world of literature around him and his goal was to prosper the world, he said. The poetic rhythm which lied underneath Muttathu Varkey's mind was reflected in all his works, he said.

It was followed by the keynote address by the eminent critic Scaria Zacharia. He

described Muttathu Varkey's works as 'popular fiction'. Twenty-six novels of Varkey were made into films. The convergence between real world and virtual world could be seen in his novels.

The first session of the symposium was chaired by M.K. Madhavan Nair. C.R. Prasad presented his paper "Language of Popular Literature". The language of popular literature seeks to bring out the features of culture, power, politics, gender etc. Muttathu Varkey's works also depicted simplicity and versatility. The second paper was presented by Sunil P. Elayidam titled as "Popular and Populist Conceptual Reflections." The third paper was on "Politics of Popular Imagination" presented by Shaji Jacob. The fourth paper which was on "Muttathu Varkey and Malayalam Cinema" was presented by P.S. Radhakrishnan.

The second session was chaired by C.R. Omanakuttan. The first paper was presented by K.S. Jayashree titled as "The Local Culture in Muttathu Varkey's Novels." Varkey's life revolved only within a short area starting from his hometown. The settings of his novels were also within the area he moved along. The simplicity and clarity of thoughts made Muttathu Varkey well-known as a regional writer. The second paper by M.R. Mahesh presented over on "The Language and Narration of Muttathu Varkey's Novels" presented perspectives of human life and his style of narration incorporated the past, present and future to illustrate one's life. The final paper in the second session by A.G. Sreekumar focused on "Muttathu Varkey's Plays." All his plays testified great social relevance, Sreekumar justified.

In the valedictory session, George Joseph K. evaluated and summed up all the papers besides giving his own perspectives on the works of Varkey.

BIRTH CENTENARY SEMINAR: BASANT KUMAR SATPATHY

15 December 2013, Bhubaneswar

Sahitya Akademi organised a seminar on the occasion of the birth centenary celebration of eminent Odia litterateur Basant Kumar Satpathy on 15 December 2013 at IDCOL auditorium in Bhubaneswar.

Inaugurating the seminar, Sitakant Mahapatra, Fellow of Sahitya Akademi, said that Basant's stories are like the stories told by grand-mothers – simple and captivating.

Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari chaired the inaugural session. In his presidential address, Prof. Tiwari said that love and compassion are found in Basant's stories. Writer never writes for himself. He writes for the society. That is why society remembers the writer and celebrates his centenaries. Prof. Tiwari discussed Satpathy's story "Nidasrayee" from different perspectives.

Basant Satpathy should reach the larger audience beyond Odisha, said Harish Trivedi. The eminent critic and former Professor of Delhi University, Dr. Trivedi said that Basant

Satpathy was not only a fiction writer, rather a complete man of letters who had a commitment to humanity.

Sumanyu Satpathy discussed his father's contributions to literature in his key-note address. "At a time when poets in Odisha were in demand, Basant Satpathy started writing short stories," said Prof. Satpathy. Along with human lives, Basant Satpathy also wrote stories on birds and animals, showing empathy towards all living beings. Sumanyu indicted into the short story writings of Basant Satpathy and interpreted in different perspectives.

Introducing the guests, Gourahari Das, Convener of Odia Advisory Board said that Basant Satpathy was not only aware of Indian tradition, but also had a deep knowledge of Western culture. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary of Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

The programme was followed by paper presentations on life and literature of Basant Kumar Satpathy and about his multifaceted talent. Presenting a paper on the personality and literature of Basant Kumar Satpathy, Durgaprasanna Panda spoke about his

childhood and his environment, and also discussed about his stories "Ajaga Gha" and "Nidasrayee." Gouranga Charan Dash in his presentation said that Basant Satpathy was a man without an ego. Sanghamitra Mishra discussed about his short plays in her presentation whereas Bijayanand Singh discussed about the humorous aspect of his stories, citing illustrations from a few of his stories "Gotae Alu" and "Nanguli." Sourindra Barik chaired this session. In the second session, presenting a paper on multifaceted talents of Basant Kumar Satpathy,



Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari delivering presidential address.
L-R: K. Sreenivasarao, Sumanyu Satpathy and Sitakant Mahapatra

Jatindra Kumar Nayak discussed him as a translator. He translated a number of plays. Even his translations, reflect a tinge of Odia culture in them so as to make the writings pragmatic and acceptable to Odia people.

Krushna Chandra Pradhan discussed Satpathy's feature articles and analyzed the dimensions of Basant Satpathy's stories, i.e, social, cultural, political and aesthetics. Gopal Krushna Rath chaired the session.

Delivering valedictory address, Dash Behur discussed Satpathy's literary and personal life and observed that literature was a shelter for him to take rest while fighting his personal sufferings and difficulties. In his last days, literature was his only friend, Sri Behur added.

Pitabasa Routray chaired this valedictory session and Banoj Tripathy proposed a vote of thanks.

BIRTH CENTENARY SEMINAR: RAJENDRA SHAH 20-22 December 2013, Vadodara

Sahitya Akademi, Regional Mumbai, in collaboration with Dharmasinh Desai University, Naidad, Kapa-davanaj Svagat Samiti, Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar, U.T.S. Mahila Arts College, Naidad and Balvant Parekh Centre for General Semantics, Vadodara, the Rajendra Shah Birth Centenary Seminar, was organised from 20 to 22 December 2013 at Nadiad, Kapadavanaj, Vallabh Vidyanagar, Vadodara.

Eminent Gujarati authors including Niranjana Bhagat and eminent Indian writers from Hindi, Bengali and Oriya, Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President of Sahitya Akademi, Sitakant Mahapatra, eminent Oriya poet, Nabaneeta Deb Sen, eminent Bengali poet, and Jyotna Milan, eminent Hindi novelist and poet, interacted with other participants. Vice-

Chancellor Harish Padh of Sardar Patel University, Vice-Chancellor H. M. Desai of the Dharmasinh Desai University of Technology, Kulichandra Yagnik, former Vice Chancellor of North Gujarat University, and Mahavirsinh Chauhan, its former Pro-Vice Chancellor, participated in the seminar.

The seminar focused on three aspects of reception of the poet's work: *Pranati* (homage to the poet and his times), *Pariprashna* (critical inquiry into his work) and *Prastuti* (presentation of his lyrical and dramatic poems through music and dance). Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President of Sahitya Akademi and eminent Hindi poet, chaired the inaugural 'pranati' session on 20 December 2013 at Nadiad. He engagingly spoke on Indian ways of poetic communication. Sitakant Mahapatra, Jnanpith Awardee poet from Orissa, gave the key-note address. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the guests and Sitanshu Yashaschandra, eminent Gujarati author and Convenor of the Sahitya Akademi Gujarat Advisory Board presented the 'bhoomika' of the seminar. Niranjana Bhagat, distinguished modern poet of Gujarati, gave keynote address commenting on basic concerns of Rajendra Shah as a poet. On 22 December 2013, Mahavirsinh Chauhan, eminent Hindi critic, and Suman Shah, eminent Gujarati critic, discussed the larger context of Rajendra Shah's work. Harish Padh, Vice-Chancellor of the S. P. University and distinguished scientist, chaired the session. Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary of the Akademi's Western Region proposed a vote of thanks.

In 'Pariprashna' sessions over the three days, some of the foremost Gujarati critics and poets critically evaluated Rajendra Shah's work and its context. These included Chandrakant Topiwala, Chandrakant Sheth, Shirish Panchal, Dilip Jhaveri, Raman Soni,

Suman Shah. Dalpat Padhiar, eminent poet who also is a guiding guru of the rural Gujarati 'panth' of Ravi Bhan saints of the Kabir tradition, and Nirav Patel, an excellent Dalit poet, brought out relevant aspects of Rajendra Shah's poetry; while Hasit Mehta, Kamal Vora, Jaydev Shukla, Harish Minashru, Manilal Patel, looked at 'main-stream' aspects of his poetry.

SYMPOSIUM: CENTENARY POET VANIDASAN
31 December 2013, Puducherry

Sahitya Akademi held one day symposium on poet Vanidasan to mark his centenary celebrations on 31 December 2013 at Tamizh Sangam.

K. Nachimuthu who presided over the inaugural session said in his presidential address that Vanidasan waged a war for the sake of language. He served as spokesperson for C. N. Annadurai like Bharatidasan was for Periyar. He spoke about Vanidasan's relevance today during this time of unrest. Maraimalai Ilakkuvanar in his key-note address mentioned that Vanidasan was described as Wordsworth of Tamil language whereas Bharatidasan was described as Tagore in Tamil. He was inspired by Subramania Bharati for his love for nature and nationalism, and differed from Bharatidasan for his strong pro-dalitism. He has sung about slums which could be sung all over the nation. Kalladan, an eminent Tamil poet and a sibling to late Vanidasan presided over the first session. His presentation on Vanidasan's epic and its theme and texture in his songs for the children drew a rapt attention of the audience. Kalladan spoke with authenticity and clarity through his personal experience. Hussain, a Tamil poet, in his presentation praised Vanidasan's skill in composing poetry with modern themes. He spoke about the innate and ornamental

aspects of his poems. His epic poems possessed all the dramatic elements of great poetry. Kandasamy pointed out that though Vanidasan was a lover of peace and solitude, he always treated nature in a practical way.

Yugabharathi spoke about "Vanidasan's Poems for Children." Su. Velmurugan was the chairperson of the third session.

Manimegalai Kuppusamy, Bharatidasan's grand daughter spoke on the impact of Bharatidasan on Vanidasan's poems. Aranga Nadarasan spoke elaborately on Vanidasan's prosody.

Vanidasan's use of prosody and romanticism in his poetry were discussed in detail by Manoharan. He explained how romanticism came to vogue in Tamil literature through Subramania Bharati, the influence of Shelley on Bharatidasan and later on Vanidasan. Vanidasan's deep rooted sensibility of Sangam poetry blend with French romanticism of Rousseau and others was soaked in realism. A. Pandurangan, who wrote on Vanidasan delivered the valedictory address.

SYMPOSIUM : JAYADEVI THAYI LIGADE
2013

Sahitya Akademi, Regional Office, Bengaluru in association with Department of Kannada, Mumbai University organized a centenary symposium on Jayadevi Thayi Ligade, an eminent Kannada writer and freedom activist of the last century.

S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Officer in-Charge welcomed the guests and audience and also gave a brief account of Sahitya Akademi's activities. B.A. Sanadi, eminent Kannada poet lit the inaugural lamp and G.N. Upadhya, Member, Kannada Advisory Board gave his introductory remarks.

Narahalli Balasubramanya, Convenor,

Kannada Advisory Board gave tribute to Jayadevi Thayi Ligade who fought for the cause of Kannada language in Sollarapur. He made a comparative study of Sri Ligade with other centenarians who wrote in Kannada such as S.V Parameshwara Bhatta.

Arjun Golasangi, Member, Kannada Advisory Board, Janardhana Bhat, a well-known critic, Guru Lingappa Dabale, a scholar and Srinivas Jokatte, a popular journalist presented their papers on Ligade's contributions and the significance Jayadevi Thayi Ligade's literature.

CLASSICAL STATUS OF MALAYALAM: PRESENT AND FUTURE

6 January 2014, Thiruvananthapuram

Sahitya Akademi, in association with the Department of Malayalam, University of Kerala conducted a one day seminar on 'Classical Status of Malayalam: Present and Future' on 6 January 2014 at Malayalam Department Seminar Hall, Kariavattom Campus, Thiruvananthapuram.

C. Radhakrishnan, Convener, Malayalam Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi in his inaugural address stated that Malayalam should be made medium of instruction in the educational institutions in Kerala. Malayalam must strictly be used in day to day life especially in administration. Malayalam has to develop a new and advanced online dictionary for its translation. The keynote address was delivered by K. Jayakumar, Vice-Chancellor, Malayalam University. He said that the declaration of Malayalam as a classical language creates a great cultural feeling in our society.

The presidential address was delivered by C. R. Prasad, Member, Malayalam Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi who said that Malayalam language is capable of

accommodating any innovative literature without losing its essence.

Putussery Ramachandran and Joly Jacob gave felicitation address. "The primary objective of Malayalam University is to codify the various research works in Malayalam", said Putussery Ramachandran. Joly Jacob said that the teachers and researchers are responsible for the waning of Malayalam language and hence this is the time for self analysis. The welcome speech was delivered by S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru.

The first session of the programme was chaired by M. A. Siddique. Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan presented a paper on "Classical Status of Malayalam Language." "Kerala Culture in Sangham Period" was the topic discussed by Manoj Kuroor. He talked about the capability of Malayalam words with reference to Sangam Literature in Tamil.

Sheeba M. Kurian chaired the second session. C. R. Rajagopalan gave a brief note on "Cultural Perspective of Orality". His paper gave emphasis on digitalization of oral tradition and folk taxonomy. Later, Anil Vallathol presented a paper in "Rhetorics and Poetic Language in Ancient Literature". He pointed out that the rhetorics in ancient literature and imagery in modern literature go parallel. Vidhu Narayan made a power point presentation on "Future of Malayalam in Language Computing". He made the audience aware of the challenges and opportunities of Malayalam computing. Sunitha T. V. discussed about "Cyber Malayalam". She distinguished literature in cyber media and cyber media in literature.

P. Mohanachandran Nair chaired the valedictory session. The valedictory address was given by K. S. Ravikumar, General Council Member, Sahitya Akademi.

NATIONAL SEMINAR: 'REWRITING HISTORY OF LITERATURE'

10-11 January 2014, Jalgaon

A two day national seminar on 'Rewriting History of Literature' was organised by Sahitya Akademi, Regional Centre, Mumbai in collaboration with North Maharashtra University on 10-11 January 2014 at Jalgaon. Bhalachandra Nemade, Convenor, Marathi Advisory Board, inaugurated the seminar.

Bhalchandra Nemade, in his inaugural address, professed that history of any literature should be written and updated at regular intervals, and that the historian should keep in mind the entire culture of the period of time to be dealt with. Every generation should write history of literature, for no history could be complete in all respects, he stated. Yashwant Manohar delivered key-note address. A historian of literature should consider lifestyles, social-economic-cultural upheavals of the past, he said.

Pushpa Bhawe, well known Marathi writer chaired the session on "Research on History of Literature: New Dimensions". Satish Badwe

and Ramesh Warkhede presented their papers. Sri Badwe said that literary history is set chronologically in a literary point of view, and it could not be possible to write history of literature without studying social aspects in connection with the time to be dealt with. Sri Warkhede said that literary history is part of culture, and that it is in fact is history of human conscience. Satish Badwe chaired the second session "Research on History of Literature: New Dimensions II," and Bharat Shirsath on "History of Pali, Sanskrit, Prakrit, Magadhi, Ardhamagadhi Literature" and Sahikh Iqbal Minne on 'History of Muslim-Sufi Literature' presented papers. Shrisath said that the languages Pali, Sanskrit, Prakrit, Magadhi, Ardhamagadhi were related to particular religion and hence was chaired by Ramesh Warkhede, and papers were presented by Shailendra Lende on "Rewriting History of Literature: Phule-Ambedkar Prespective" and Ravindra Shobhane on "Rewriting History of Literature: Marxist Perspective."

The fourth session held on 11 January 2014 was chaired by Ravindra Shobhane. Papers were presented by Mrinalini Kamat on "Research History of Gujarati Literature," and



L-R: M.S. Pagare, Yashwant Manohar, Sudhir Meshram, Bhalchandra Nemade, Krishna Kimbahune and Shobha Shinde

by Shobha Naik on "Research History of Kannada Literature." The first disciplined history of Gujarati literature was written by the late Goverdhanram Tripathi in 1892, she informed. The mutual exchange between oral and written literature is highly significant in the history of Kannada literature, she added.

The seminar ended with the valedictory address delivered by Pushpa Bhawe.

SEMINAR ON DOGRI LITERATURE OF 21ST CENTURY

11-12 January, Jammu

A seminar on 'Dogri Literature of 21st Century' was organized by the Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with Dogri Sanstha, Jammu at K.L. Saigal Hall, Jammu. The inaugural session of the seminar was presided over by Nilamber Dev Sharma, who in his address spoke about the changing trends in dissemination of literature in the light of the fast growing modes of media communication.

Lalit Mangotra, Convener, Dogri Advisory Board, in his key-note address emphasized the need for writers to be sensitive to the socio-political and psychological impacts of the fast changing environments due to unprecedented growth of technology and media. On one hand old traditional ways are still being followed and on the other hand technology and consumerism, in contrast, is changing the ways and concept of people. The society is in a very fast changing dynamic mode creating many peculiar situations which should not escape the attention of the writers.

Veena Gupta, expressed in her speech that the publication of Dogri literature and also the literary programme organised by the Akademi greatly contributed to the growth of Dogri Contemporary Literature.

In the paper reading session, scholars who

presented papers included Sushil Begana, Prakash Premi, Surjeet Hosh, Shiv Dev Singh Manhas, Mohan Singh, Pratyooosh Guleri, Chhatrapal, Shashi Pathania, Bansilal Sharma, Sushma Sharma and Darshan Darshi. The paper reading sessions were chaired by Narasingh Dev Jamwal, Piyush Guleri and Lalit Mangotra. The valedictory address was delivered by Satyapal Srivats.

SYMPOSIUM: CONTEMPORARY NORTH-EASTERN LITERATURE AND POETS' MEET

16 January 2014, Mumbai

Symposium on 'Contemporary North-Eastern Literature and a Poets' Meet as part of Octave-2014, were organised on 16 January 2014 in Mumbai. Temsula Ao, eminent litterateur, inaugurated the symposium.

K.Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the audience. He observed that it is true that the North-East literatures have successfully depicted the painfully and terribly amorphous ethos of the North-East India maintaining an outstanding worldview and universal warmth.

Temsula Ao, in the inaugural address, stated that oral traditions in the North-Eastern literature are so very significant, and that 'orality' seems to have sustained literature of the North-Eastern region. It is essential to make attempts to transit oral literature to written form, she said further. The land of the North-East is the land of identity, originality, and it cherishes a strong sense of lost cultural past, she stated. She emphasised that literature of the North-East is not merely about violence, disorder and existential angst. On the other side of the North-East Indian life there is love and hope in the human spirit and universal warmth, so the contemporary North-East Indian literature is certainly as rich as the nation is, she said firmly.

After the inaugural speech, Pranjit Bora of Assamese, Dhirju Jyoti Basumatary of Bodo, Naorem Vidyasagar Singh of Manipuri and Siddhartha Rai of Nepali recited their poems. The Poets' Meet was followed by the symposium, and it was chaired by H. Behari Singh, Convenor, Akademi Manipuri Advisory Board. Satyakam Borthaur on 'Contemporary Assamese Literature,' Anjali Daimari on 'Contemporary Bodo Literature,' Pratapchandra Pradhan on 'Contemporary Nepali Literature,' presented their papers.. H. Behari Singh, concluded the sessions, sharing his views on contemporary Manipuri literature.

The programme ended with a vote of thanks proposed by Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Mumbai.

SYMPOSIUM: K. BHASKARAN NAIR'S BIRTH CENTENARY CELEBRATION
16 January 2014, Kerala

Sahitya Akademi in Association with Department of Malayalam, Sree Shankaracharya University of Sanskrit Kalady organised a one day symposium in connection with the birth centenary of the writer Dr. K. Bhaskaran Nair on 16 January 2014 at the university campus at Kalady, Kerala.

K.S. Ravikumar, General Council Member, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the gathering. M. Leelavathy, veteran Malayalam critic inaugurated the symposium. In her inaugural address, she said that K. Bhaskaran Nair maintained strong beliefs and convictions. As a literary critic he believed in the aesthetic aspects of literary works. As a science writer, he believed in the morality of science.

Thomas Mathew, veteran Malayalam critic in his key-note address said that the basic aspect of the literary criticism of Dr. K. Bhaskaran Nair was the conviction on the autonomy of art. At the same time, he made

the attempts to know the secretes of nature by the way of science. His science writings are very brilliant due to its scientific value and artistic style. Bhaskaran Nair's prose style is very unique and pleasant, he said.

In the first session on "Dr. K. Bhaskaran Nair's Literary Criticism", Valsalan Vathussery chaired. Eminent critic in Malayalam, K.P. Sankaran presented his paper. He illustrated the uniqueness of the prose style of Dr. K. Bhaskaran Nair. In his paper, M.R. Raghava Warier revealed the cosmic vision and scientific attitude of Bhaskaran Nair. In the next paper, S.S. Sreekumar well illustrated and analyzed the writings of K. Bhaskaran Nair on the novels of C.V. Raman Pillai. N. Ajayakumar presented the aspects of the poetic studies of Dr. K. Bhaskaran Nair in his brilliant paper.

The second session was chaired by K.V. Dileep Kumar. The session concentrated on the science writings of Dr. K. Bhaskaran Nair. In the first paper Kavumbai Balakrishnan told that, Dr. Bhaskaran Nair represents the second phase of the science writings in Malayalam. He added that Dr. Bhaskaran Nair gave seriousness and beauty to science writings in Malayalam.

In his paper K.B. Prasanna Kumar expressed the contradictions and complexities of the writings of Dr. K. Bhaskaran Nair as a literary critic and science writer. In his paper, Jeevan Job Thomas pointed out the vision and approach of Dr. K. Bhaskaran Nair as a science writer in the view of the science writer of 21st century.

CENTENARY SEMINAR ON CHAGANTI SOMAYAJULU CHASO
17-18 January 2014, Vizianagaram

The two day Chaganti Somayajulu (Chaso) centenary seminar was held on 17 and 18

January, 2014 in Chaso's hometown Vizianagaram. The inaugural session held on 17 January was chaired by N. Gopi, Convener of Sahitya Akademi. Rama Rao, eminent Telugu writer was the guest of honour. Kethu Vishwanatha Reddy, eminent Telugu writer and critic and Chaganti Tulasi, daughter of Chaso were invited as special guests.

In her introductory remarks, Chaganti Tulasi remarked that Chaso's centenary celebrations was an occasion to reaffirm and carry forward Chaso's vision on the function of literature and the writers' task. On these issues, Chaso was a true heir of Gurajada, the harbinger of modern literature in Telugu. Kalipatnam Rama Rao, the 90 year old eminent short story writer, who also hails from North Andhra, recounted his association with Chaso.

In his key-note address, Kethu Vishwanatha Reddy, eminent Telugu writer and critic made a masterly survey of Chaso: his background, his evolution as a writer, the pioneering role played by him in Progressive Writers' Movement in Telugu, his literary accomplishments, his influence and his lasting value.

The first session of the seminar was presided over by U. A. Narasimha Murthy a renowned scholar and teacher. In his introductory

remarks, he said that not a single word in Chaso's stories can be ignored.

K.K. Mohapatra, well-known translator and short story writer, spoke on the subject, "Understanding Chaso while Translating into English".

Eminent Telugu poet K. Siva Reddy eloquently spoke on "Chaso as a Poetical Short Story Writer" and kept the audience spell-bound. Chaso excelled in the art of weaving a short story like a complex lyric poem.

Chaganti Krishna Kumari, the younger daughter of Chaso, made an original presentation analyzing the use of sensory thematic elements and formal structuring in Chaso's stories, drawing on principles of music and visual arts, in her talk titled "Music and Art in Chaso's Stories".

The second session on 17 January was presided by A.N. Jagannatha Sarma, writer and editor of *Navya*, a popular Telugu literary magazine. Vakulabharanam Rajagopal, historian and Associate Professor at University of Hyderabad spoke on the topic "Sociological Background in Chaso's Writings".

While the predominant themes in the stories written in the first period are poverty, hunger and social injustice, in the second phase, he also critically dealt with social mobility and the pernicious role played by the state, the judiciary etc.

"Common Ideology and Different Takes: A Comparative Look at Chaso, Raavi Sastry and Kaa Raa" was the subject of the talk delivered by Sumanaspati Reddy, critic and radio broadcaster. Ramatheertha, well-known critic, writer and translator from Visakhapatnam spoke on "Chaso's Place in Telugu Literature" who said that he was one of the pioneers



N. Gopi delivering his speech. L-R: Chaganti Tulasi, Kalipatnam Rama Rao and Kethu Vishwanatha Reddy

of the progressive literary movement in Telugu in the 1940s.

The day concluded with a brief 'Retrospection' session in which Penugonda Lakshminarayana, Secretary of All India Progressive Writers' Association and President of its A.P. unit, reminisced Chaso's association with Progressive Writers' Association in Andhra in 1943 at Tenali.

K. Malleswari, story writer and well-known feminist critic from Visakhapatnam, presented the first paper on "The Regional and the Universal in Chaso's Writings" at the third session. The session was presided over by Suri Sitaramiah (or Ramasuri), a life-long student and admirer of Chaso, and a retired lecturer of Telugu literature.

"Aesthetic Outlook in Chaso's Stories" was the subject of Kakumaani Srinivasa Rao, a Telugu scholar and critic from Vijayawada. Chaso's unique merit was out rightly rejecting the notion of art for art's sake.

Suri Sitaramiah presented his study on "Portrait of Childhood in Chaso's Writings". He began by saying that Chaso is the kind of writer who engages with every new generation making them think, reminding them of the social purpose of literature and creates a better understanding of society.

The last session was presided over by Chintakindi Srinivasa Rao, well-known writer, journalist and editor of the newspaper Public, being published from Visakhapatnam.

Sasisri, writer and journalist from Kadapa, presented his paper on "Brevity: Chaso's Forte". Although the modern short-story was a genre Indian literatures imbibed from English, it soon became naturalized and very popular.

Aruna Kumari in her paper examined the stories of Chaso and pointed out how Chaso revealed with great precision, insight and critical irony, the immoral, exploititative, insensitive and seemingly perverse behaviour into which individuals find themselves thrown

or push those around them because of the pressures and motivations created by the social and economic situations they were caught up in.

A.N. Jagannatha Sarma, prominent short-story writer and editor of *Navya*, a popular Telugu literary magazine, recounted that Chaso's sense of humour was fearless and pungent.

Attada Appalanaidu, a leading short-story writer's paper, on "Language and Style in Chaso's Writings" described Chaso, a unique writer who rendered the beauty and ugliness and the joy and sadness in the lives of people of all sections and castes of a region.

Chaganti Tulasi, the coordinator of the seminar and N. Gopi, Convener of Sahitya Akademi proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM: UNUSUAL TRENDS IN KONKANI LITERATURE

19 January 2014, Mangalore

In collaboration with Konkani Bhas aani Sanskriti Pratishthan, Sahitya Akademi, Mumbai, organised a symposium on 'Unusual Trends in Konkani Literature' on 19 January 2014 in Mangalore. Basti Vaman Shenoy, President, Konkani Bhas aani Sanskriti Pratishthan, inaugurated the symposium. Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Mumbai welcomed the audience. Gokuldas Prabhu, noted Konkani writer, critic and Member, Konkani Advisory Board, delivered keynote address. His address dealt with changes, movements, and development that took place in Konkani literature. Tanaji Halarnakar, Convenor, Konkani Advisory Board, chaired the session.

First session was chaired by Ramesh Velsukar and included papers by Asha Mangutkar on "Spiritual Solitude in Prakash Padgaonkar's Poetry" and Paresch Kamat on

'Silent Themes in Madhav Borkars Poetry.' Mangutkar's paper on "Sri Aurobindo's and Bakibab Borkar's influences on the contemporary writers". Sri Kamat said that Madhav Borkar was a modern poet, and that his poetry had musicality and unconventional style without verbosity.

Mahabaleshwar Sail chaired the second session. Melvyn Roderigues on "Surrealism in *Sune Majar Hansata* by C.F. DeCosta" and Avinash Chari on 'Rebellion in Pundalik Naik's Plays,' presented papers. Sri Roderigues observed that surreal element existed in De Costa's work as creative demand, theoretical necessity, and literary ethics. Sri Chari stated that Pundalik Naik's plays ethically challenged social institutions.

The last session was chaired by Madhav Borkar, and Meena Kakodkar on 'Characters in A.N. Mhambro's short stories,' presented by Gurudath Bantwalkar on "Existentialism in *Hany Jiyetam* by Edwin JF DSouza," and Vrushali Mandrekar on "Cultural Dimensions in *Yuga Sanwar* by Mahabaleshwar Sail." The programme was concluded by the remarks by Pundalik Naik.

SYMPOSIUM ON KRISHAN CHANDER: SAHITYA AVAM CHINTAN

19 January 2014, Hyderabad

The symposium on Kishan Chander was held on 19 January 2014 at Hyderabad. Renowned poet and Convener, Sahitya Akademi Urdu Advisory Board, Chander Bhan Khayal said that Kishan Chander a distinguished Urdu fiction writer, wrote short stories, novelette, novel and dramas besides writing stories and dialogues for films. He wrote for children as well.

S.A. Shakoor, chief guest said that Krishan Chander was a major writer in the field of Urdu fiction. In the key-note address, Baig

Ehsas dwelt upon different facets of Krishna Chandra. There is a crisis of the artists like Krishna Chandra. He was like a legend who standardized the Urdu fiction. Krishna Chandra portrayed the plight of the lower state of the society in his stories. Waseem Begum called Krishna Chandra progressive writer in the fore front.

The second session was presided over by the famous fiction writer Jeelani Bano. She gave her views on the stories of Krishna Chandra. In this session, Syed Mustafa Kamal and Firoz Alam presented their papers.

CENTENARY SYMPOSIUM: TIRUMALA RAMACHANDRA

22 January 2013, Hyderabad

Sahitya Akademi organized a symposium on Tirumala Ramachandra at NTR auditorium of Telugu University, Hyderabad on 22 January 2013 to celebrate his birth centenary. Tirumala Ramachandra was a prominent writer, an eminent journalist and a profound scholar of Telugu. Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Officer-in-Charge, Bengaluru welcomed the august audience of writers and journalists of Hyderabad.

G.S. Varadachary, a veteran journalist and President of Journalists Association delivered the inaugural address. He described Ramachandra as a laureate and versatile genius in many Indian languages in addition to his mother tongue, Telugu.

Ravva Srihari, Former Vice-Chancellor of Dravidian University highlighted the contribution of Ramachandra to Telugu language and literature particularly to Telugu lexicography and linguistic development was elaborated by him.

N. Gopi, Convener of Telugu Advisory Board and an eminent poet chaired the inaugural session. He touched upon the

poignant narrative style of Ramachandra and his critical essays on Telugu authors. Lakshman Rao, veteran journalist was a guest of inaugural session.

In the first session, Chowduri Upender Rao presented a paper on Tirumala Ramachandra's research works in Pali and Prakrit. M. Narayana Sarma in his paper dwelt on Ramachandra's unparalleled contributions in the field of linguistics. A. B. K. Prasad described Tirumala's pen-portraits as 'unique' in modern Telugu literature. Kalluri Bhaskaran discussed at length the essays of the doyen and gave illustrations.

Bandaru Srinivasa Rao in his chairperson's remarks concluded that Tirumala's contribution to both journalism and literature are unique and distinct.

The second session was chaired by G.S. Varadachary in which R.V. Rama Rao presented his views on the biography *Hampinunchi Harappadaka* by Tirumala; J. Chennaiah in his paper unveiled the simplicity of the author and high values adhered to his life. The valedictory address was delivered by Nandiraju Radhakrishna, a senior journalist. He concluded that the doyen could be seen as a 'Cultural hero' and literary seer.'

VISHNU PRABHAKAR BIRTH CENTENARY SEMINAR

24-25 January 2014, Bikaner

On the occasion of birth centenary of Vishnu Prabhakar, Sahitya Akademi organised a two-day seminar on 24-25 January 2014 at Bikaner, Rajasthan. In the beginning of inaugural session, Shrilal Mohta, eminent scholar said that Vishnu Prabhakar inherited the sensitivity of Saratchandra, humanism of Mahatma Gandhi and Tolstoy, the judgement of Maharishi Dayanand's logic and the language Jainendra.

Nand Bharadwaj, eminent Hindi writer, in his keynote address opined that Prabhakar meaningfully lead the tradition of idealistic realism after Premchand. Surya Prasad Dixit, Convenor, Hindi Advisory Board in his inaugural address said that Vishnu Prabhakar learned Bengali language and researched for 14 years to write *Awara Masiba*, a biography of Saratchandra. This biography enriched Hindi literature.

The first session was chaired by Malchand Tiwari. Both Anita Navin and Bulaki Sharma presented their papers on "Short-Stories of Vishnu Prabhakar." In the next session under the chairmanship of Suresh Salil; Atul Prabhakar, Sudhir Vidyarthi, Ramkumar Krishak and Shyam Maharshi shared their memories and experiences with Vishnu Prabhakar. "Novels of Vishnu Prabhakar" was the topic for the third session. Pankaj Parashar, Anirudha Umat and Vatsala Pandey presented their papers under chairpersonship of Kaushalnath Upadhyay. The fourth session was chaired by Ramshankar Diwedi and Ramesh Rishikalp, Radheysham Tiwari and Brajratan Joshi discussed "Biographies, Reminiscences and Poetry of Vishnu Prabhakar."

Fifth and sixth sessions were devoted to "Children Literature" and "Plays and One-act Plays/Travelogues of Vishnu Prabhakar." Prakash Manu and Pratap Sehgal chaired the respective sessions. Surendra Vikram, Divik Ramesh, Rashmi Bhargava, Pratyush Guleri, Phoolchand Manav, Sureshwer Tripathi, Ramji Bali and Rajendra Joshi presented their papers.

SYMPOSIUM: BHAGWAT SHARAN UPADHYAY 28 January 2014, New Delhi

A symposium on Bhagwat Sharan Upadhyay, famous archaeologist, historian, thinker, critic and fictionist was organised by Sahitya Akadmi

on 28 January 2014 at Sahitya Akademi Auditorium, New Delhi.

In the inaugural session K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the audience and Surya Prasad Dixit, Convenor, Hindi Advisory Board, delivered introductory speech. Khagendra Thakur, eminent critic, in his inaugural address stated that, not much is written about Bhagwat Sharan Upadhyay though his valuable contribution enriched Hindi literature. He added that Upadhyay's commitment towards the general public is remarkable and his thoughts should be acknowledged and justified.

Nirmala Jain, eminent critic, in her presidential address said, "Bhagwat Sharan Upadhyay's approach comprises of logic, sanity and experiment. His outlook for history and literature was scientific."

The chief guest Bhagwan Singh, veteran Hindi writer, while commenting on the cultural consciousness of Bhagwat Sharan Upadhyay, opined that his studies in the context of culture relate us with humanity, sociology and science.

In the second session chaired by Manager Pandey, Usha Kiran Khan, Uday Prakash Arora, Gopeshwar Singh and Arun Verma presented their papers.



Khagendra Thakur, K. Sreenivasarao, Surya Prasad Dixit, Nirmala Jain and Bhagwan Singh

SEMINAR ON INDIAN LITERATURE: THE CHANGING CONCEPT OF FAMILY AND KINSHIP 2-3 February 2014, Tirur

A national seminar on "Indian Literature: the Changing Concept of Family and Kinship" was organised jointly by Sahitya Akademi and Thunchan Memorial Trust on 2-3 February 2014.

K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi who delivered the welcome address said that it is family that brings together in a meaningful and mutually enriching relationship with people with diverse mindsets and interests.

Amiya Dev, scholar and writer from Kolkata who presided over and inaugurated the session said that perhaps, of all genres, the novel deals most immediately with family and kinship. He narrated in detail the works of Bankim Chandra Chatterjee, Tagore, Sarat Chandra, Jean Paul Sartre, Albert Camus, Nathalie Sarraute and Tolstoy and explained how they approached the family and relations.

P.P. Raveendran who delivered the keynote address said that family history and customs prevailed long back can be understood from literature. The subject of the first session was "The Changing Concept of Family and Kinship in Regional Languages". M.R. Raghava Varier, chaired the session.

Vaasanthi, Tamil fiction writer in her presentation enumerated Sangam literature, and *Silappadikaram*, and explained the influence of Dravidian Movement under the leadership of Periyar (anti Brahmin and anti God) and reached at the present day writers views on human relations.

Damodar Mauzo Konkani fiction writer said, "In the early sixties of the past century, the writings in

Konkani were focused mainly on the changing political scenario and its impact on the society. Later, it was in tune with the themes that appeared in other languages. The departure from joint family structure to the nuclear family system reflected in our writings where arguments were, both, for and against. This was effectively depicted in poetry and one-act plays too.”

N. Manu Chakravarthi, Kannada writer said that there is a compulsion to re-institute the family tradition due to the pressure of modern times. He admitted that the younger generations of writers are at cross roads — whether to accept the change in family relations or not.

Varsha Das from Gujarati said that the “Modern and post-modern Gujarati literature speaks more about man and woman relationship, feud and freedom is treated implicitly and also explicitly. This may be the case in other languages also. A modern Gujarati novelist is not averse to social or historical realities.

The topic of the second session was “Malayalam Poetry: Transformation of the Concept of Family” and was chaired by Trust Vice-President, Chathanath Achuthanunni.

Speaking on the family concept in traditional poetry, S.K. Vasanthan said that family concept was never there in big canvas in the traditional poetry. K.M. Bharathan speaking on colonial interventions on the family concept said that the English educational system and print media influenced the thinking of Indians, but the influence was not unilateral. It gave birth to a new type of family concept.

The session was chaired by Chathanath Achuthanunni. ‘Family and Malayalam Theatre’ was the topic discussed in the third session.

Speaking on theatre and social changes, T.M. Abraham, Vice-president, Sangeet Nataka Akademi, Kerala said that changes are happening, but you cannot imagine a drama without a family plot.

The subject for the discussion in the third session was “Fiction and Family”. Anil Kovilakam welcomed the guests and gathering and K.P. Ramanunni chaired the session. Valsan Vathussery speaking on nuclear family — concept and practice, said that India is designed in a family concept. Pradeepan Pambirikunnu whose subject was “Family a Confinement” was of opinion that women are treated as slaves in families even now.

CENTENARY SYMPOSIUM: S.V. PARAMESHWARA BHATTA

8 February 2014, Mangalore

Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with S.V. Parameshwara Bhatta Centenary Memorial Committee, Mangalore organized a one day Centenary Symposium on S.V. Parameshwara Bhatta, one of the doyens of modern Kannada literature on 8 February 2014 at Sri Dharmasthala Manjunatheshwara B.B.M. College Auditorium, Mangalore.

Eminent writer Erya Lakshminarayana Alva chaired the inaugural session. T.V. Venkatachala Shastry, eminent scholar and Akademi’s Bhasha Samman Awardee inaugurated the symposium. B.A. Vivek Rai, eminent folklorist and former Vice-Chancellor of Kannada University, Hampi delivered key-note address.

S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi Bengaluru welcomed all the dignitaries and the audience who came from all over the Karnataka. T.V. Venkatachala Shastry in his inaugural address gave huge tributes to his guru, S.V. Parameshwara Bhatta. He said Prof. Bhatta did not tread the path by others but he made a distinct way of his own through his creative writing, translation and speeches. Though he looked simple, however, he was the most popular and an extraordinary personality.

Vivek Rai in his key-note address described

how Prof. Bhatta became a cultural ambassador in the coastal district where he came as Director of Kannada Post-Graduate Centre in 1968. His continuous experimental ventures are unique in modern Kannada literary history. He also highlighted the immense contribution of Prof. Bhatta as a poet. He was a guiding force to Kannada literary lovers of his time.

Damodara Shetty, Member, Kannada Advisory Board in his introductory remarks profusely thanked Akademi for organising such a literary fest on rare celebrity of modern Kannada who was so popular among common folk.

In the following session C.N. Ramachandran chaired while AV Navada and Rajashekharappa presented their papers.

SEMINAR ON CONTEMPORARY SANTALI PLAY 9 February 2014, Vishakhapattanam

Sahitya Akademi organised a seminar on 'Contemporary Santali Play' on 9 February 2014 at Vishakhapattanam.

The tradition of written literature including Santali drama began with Pandit Raghunath Murmu, who has also the invented Santali script "Olchiki". Drama not only provided entertainment and it also creates consciousness among the people to identify the issues in life.

Seminar was divided into four sessions including inaugural session. The seminar was inaugurated by N. N. Hembram, well-known Santali writer. Jadumani Beshra was the guest of honour on the occasion. Inaugural session was chaired by Gangadhar Hansdah, Convenor, Santali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi.

First session was chaired by Kherwal Soren, while Jamadar Kisku, Dasrath Hansda, Singrai Murmu, Gangadhar Hembram and Ramesh Hansda presented their papers on 'Themes of Santali plays', 'Stage decoration in Santali theatre', 'Dress and Make up of Actors in Santali plays', 'Management of Santali Theatre' and 'Santali Plays on screen' respectively.

Second session was chaired by Ravilal Tudu. Mahesh Murmu (on acting), Pitambar Hansda (on dialogue), Durgapada Hembram (on direction) and Krishna Prasad Hansda (on social impact) presented their papers.

Third session was chaired by Gangadhar Hansda. Jitray Hansda, Shyam Charan Mandi, Saroj Kumar Soren and Sushil Hansda presented their papers on 'Santali Theatre', 'Audience response', 'Commercial aspect' and 'Trends of Santali plays and theatre'. There was a good response from the audience.

SYMPOSIUM: HARISH WASWANI 11 February 2014, Adipur

Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with National Council for Promotion of Sindhi



L-R: Prem Prakash, Moti Prakash, Lakhmi Khilani and Pritam Wariyani

Language and Indian Institute of Sindhology, organized a symposium on Harish Waswani on 11 February 2014 at Adipur.

Moti Prakash, eminent Sindhi writer, inaugurated the symposium. Prem Prakash, Convenor, Sindhi Advisory Board, pointed out that his career as poet, writer and journalist was also remarkable. Ramesh Warliyani was the guest of honour. Lakhmi Khilani, Chairman, Indian Institute of Sindhology, chaired the inaugural session. Pritam Wariyani proposed a vote of thanks.

Moti Prakash chaired the first session. Kala Prakash presented her paper on "Life and Times of Harish Waswani" Shefali Vasudev presented a paper on "Harish Waswani: My Father, My Friend." Ms Vasudev frankly discussed several dimensions of Waswani as a creative writer and as a person. She said that he possessed many personalities in him contradictory to one another. Amit Bodani presented his paper on "Harish Waswani as a Genius." Bodani elaborated on bipolar element in Waswani's genius personality.

Arjan Hasid chaired the second session, and papers were presented by Vasdev Mohi on "Harish Waswani's Poetry: An Appreciation," Kamla Goklani on "Harish Waswani's Short Stories," Namdev Tarachandani on "Harish Waswani's Criticism," presented papers. The last session was chaired by Assan Waswasni. Mohan Himthani on "Harish Waswani's Laboratory Test of Poetry," Vimmi Sadaranganion "Harish Waswani's Dhara Column," Kirti Khatri on "Harish Waswani as a Columnist," Hero Thakur on "Harish Waswani's Edited Works," Jetho Lalwani on "Harish Waswani's Plays," presented papers. Sahib Bijani rendered his friendship with Waswani.

Prem Prakash made concluding remarks.

NATIONAL SEMINAR: INDIAN RENAISSANCE AND ITS IMPACT ON CONTEMPORARY WRITINGS

12-13 February 2014, Dibrugarh

Sahitya Akademi organized a national seminar on 'Nineteenth Century Indian Renaissance and Its Impact on Contemporary Writings' on the occasion of 150th birth anniversary of Laxminath Bezbaroa in collaboration with Department of Assamese, Dibrugarh University, on 12 and 13 February 2014 at the University campus, Assam.

In the inaugural session, the welcome address was delivered by Gautam Paul.

Introductory address was delivered by Arpana Konwar, who said that Bezbaroa contributed a lot for establishing the modernity in nineteenth century Indian literature.

The seminar was inaugurated by Bhalchandra Nemade, veteran Marathi fiction writer. He spoke on certain parameters that help to analyze the colonial period in India and their impact on Indian psychological set-up.

The key-note address was delivered by Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, Convenor, Bengali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi. Nagen Saikia, eminent Assamese scholar and the chief guest analyzed the manifold characteristics of the great personality Laxminath and his greatest contribution towards Assamese literature, culture and society. Karabi Deka Hazarika, Convenor, Assamese Advisory Board, while speaking from the chair, stressed on the importance of the comparative study of the impact of renaissance in various Indian languages.

In the first session, paper readers were Ashoke Kumar Jha 'Avichal', Irom Rabindra Singh, Manorama Biswal Mahapatra and Smt. Chakravarty with Nandita Basu in the chair. Sri Jha's paper dealt with renaissance in India as a whole and influence on the Maithili literature. The topic of Sri Singh's paper was

“Nineteenth Century Indian Renaissance: Its Impact on the Development of Manipuri Literature”. Smt Mahapatra’s paper entitled “The Nineteenth Century Renaissance and Its Effect on Contemporary Literature” gave the perspectives of renaissance trends in three languages, in Assamese, Bengali and Odia, mainly influenced by the European Renaissance. The title of Dr Chakravarty’s paper was “Nineteenth Century Indian Renaissance and Contemporary Bengali Literature”.

In the second session, paper readers were Khemraj Nepal, Mamoni Gogoi Borgohain (jointly with Swati Kiran), Pallavi Deka Buzarboruah and Paporri Goswami with Nava Kumar Handique in the chair. The topic of Sri Nepal’s paper was “Bezbaroa and His Contemporary Nepali Journalism”. The topic of the paper jointly presented by Smt Borgohain and Smt Kiran was “Romanticism in Laxminath Bezbaroa’s Poetry”. The topic of Smt Buzarboruah’s paper was “Laxminath Bezbaroa: A Spirit of the 19th Century Assamese Literature (Rooted in the Autobiography of Laxminath Bezbaroa)”. Paporri Goswami’s paper was on “Indian Renaissance and Its Impact on Contemporary Indian Society”.

In the third session, Arindam Borkataki, Arpana Konwar, Jayanta Kumar Borah and Subasana Mahanta Choudhury with H. Behari Singh, in the chair. Sri Borkataki in his paper “Nineteenth Century Indian Renaissance and Its Impact on Assamese Mind,” spoke on the writers who were influenced by Indian Renaissance, referring to Anandran D. Phukan, Gunabhiram Baruah and Hemchandra Baruah. Arpana Konwar’s paper on “Indian Renaissance in the Nineteenth Century: The Question of Social Reform and Contemporary Assamese Literature”, presented the historical perspectives of Indian Renaissance. Jayant Kumar Borah’s paper on “Social Movement of Iswarchandra Vidyasagar in the Backdrop of the Nineteenth Century Indian Renaissance

and Its Reflection in the Contemporary Assamese Drama” made a survey on Assamese plays right from its first Assamese social drama entitled *Raam Navami*. The fourth paper of the session was jointly presented by Subasana Mahanta Choudhury and Nabakumar Chamua. The topic of the paper was “Impact of Indian Renaissance on 19th Century Assamese Journals”.

The valedictory address was delivered by Ananda Bormudoi and the chairperson was Kailash Patnayak.

SYMPOSIUM: TRIBAL WRITER AND ASSAMESE LITERATURE

14 February 2014, Namphake, Assam.

Sahitya Akademi organized a symposium on ‘Tribal Writer and Assamese Literature’ in on 14 February 2014 at Namphake village, Naharkatia, Assam.

Inaugural address was delivered by Kandarpa Kumar Deka, former Vice-Chancellor of Dibrugarh University. Introductory speech was delivered by Atanu Bhattacharyya, Akademi Assamese Advisory Board Member. He highlighted the scripts and perspectives of the literary traditions of the tribal languages.

Jyanapal Mahathero, the guest of honour traced the history of tribal Assamese literature. In his speech, Phanindra Kumar Dev Choudhury, opined that Tai Phake writers’ contribution open a new horizon of new socio-cultural possibilities, beauty and the happiness of the tribal world.

The key-note address was delivered by Paim Thee Gohain, noted writer and journalist. Karabi Deka Hazarika, while speaking from the chair, referred to the social customs, culture and literary tradition of Tai Phake.

In the first session paper readers were Ong Sing Shyam. He presented a paper on Tai language from a linguistic point of view. Ngi Pethon Gohain presented his paper on the

Tai Phake language and its diverse cultural traditions and Banwang Losu spoke on Wangsho language and its script which was developed by their own people and also the orthography of the language. Bhimkanta Baruah was in the chair.

In the second session, paper readers were Chikari Tiss, Phozet Nong Wa and Maniram Sonowal with Aicheing Hun Weing Ken in the chair. Sonowal, in his paper spoke on the writings of the Sonowal Kachari tribe as well as their culture and tradition. Sri Wa, in his paper, spoke on the problems and difficulties of survival of the culture, tradition and language of the Nokte community which is oral and not written. Sri Tiss spoke on the oral tradition of Karbi community of Karbi Anglong. Another speaker Am Chon Gohain spoke on the folk literature of the Tai Phake community. She also demonstrated some folk songs of this genre. In the valedictory session, the valedictory address was delivered by Santanu Tamuli.

NATIONAL SEMINAR: YOGAVASISHTHA AND INDIAN THOUGHT TRADITION
18-20 February 2014, Varanasi

Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with Jnana-Pravaha organised a three-day national seminar on 'Yogavashishtha and Indian Thought Tradition' from 18 to 20 February 2014 at Auditorium, Jnan-Pravaha, Centre for Cultural Studies and Research, Varanasi. Sudhanshu Shekhar Shastri presided over the inaugural session and Kamlesh Datta Tripathi delivered the inaugural address. Wagish Shukla presented the key-note address and Radhavallabh Tripathi, Convenor, Sanskrit Advisory Board gave the introductory address.

Vote of thanks was given by Brijendra Tripathi.

On the second day of the seminar the first two sessions were devoted to "The Textual Tradition of Yogavasishttha and Textual Criticism" and "Yogavasishttha and Nigamagam Tradition." Pierre-Sylvain Filliozat chaired both the sessions. Chandrakant Shukla, Hareram Tripathi, Vasundhara Filliozat, Wagish Shukla, Omprakash Pandey, A.S Narsimha Murthy and Sachchidanand Mishra presented their papers.

The third day of the seminar "Philosophical Tradition of Yogavasishttha" was the topic for the third session. Under the chairpersonship of Mark Dizkovaski, Bettina Bacumar, Krishnakant Sharma and Rajendra Prasad Sharma presented their papers.

The fourth session was chaired by Ram Nath Sharma and the topic was "Yogavasishttha and different Traditions." Vindhyeshwari Prasad Mishra examined "Narratives of Yogavasishttha." Chandan Pandey and Ila Kumar also presented their papers.

The valedictory session was chaired by Yugal Kishore Mishra and Radhavallabh



Kamlesh Datta Tripathi, Brajendra Tripathi, Radhavallabh Tripathi, Wagish Shukla and Sudhanshu Shastri

Tripathi gave the valedictory address. Acharya Neelakantha Purshottam Joshi delivered the vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM: CHILDREN'S LITERATURE IN MALAYALAM

19 February 2014, Changanacherry

Sahitya Akademi in association with Department of Malayalam, N.S.S. Hindu College, Changanacherry conducted a symposium on Children's Literature in Malayalam on 19 February 2014. C.R. Prasad, welcomed the participants and gathering. K.S. Ravikumar, inaugurated the symposium, which was presided by the N. Jagadish Chandran, Principal of the N.S.S. College. K.S. Ravikumar explained the historical importance of children's literature from the period of the work *Balaramayanam* to the modern era, in his inaugural speech. Prabhakaran Pazhasi, in his key-note address said that the psychological approach is essential for the works for children of various age groups,.

This was followed by five important papers. K. Sreekumar said that the children's literature should be presented in way to satisfy the change of society in an electronic era. Sipply Pallipuram presented a paper on children's poetry through reciting some poems by notable writers. He selected some poems from Kerala's folk tradition also. Radhika C. Nair talked about certain errors in some translated works. She introduced famous translations of children's literature also. Ushasri explained the possibilities of blogs and other electronic media in the field of children's literature. She noted that these possibilities are widely used by Malayali women in various parts of the world. S.R. Lal presented a paper on novel and children's literature. He explained the themes and styles in important novels for children in Malayalam.

C.R. Prasad and George Joseph K. were the moderators of the symposium which was divided into two sessions. Vote of thanks was given by S. Rajalakshmi, Head of the Department of Malayalam.

SYMPOSIUM : C.L. ANTONY BIRTH CENTENARY CELEBRATION

20 February 2014, Kalady

A symposium on 'Grammatical Studies in Malayalam' was organized by Sahitya Akademi in Association with the Department of Malayalam, Sree Shankaracharya University of Sanskrit at Kalady on 20 February 2014 in connection with the Birth Centenary Celebration of C.L. Antony.

Eminent Malayalam writer and literary critic M. Leelavathy inaugurated the symposium. In her inaugural address Dr. Leelavathy mentioned that C.L. Antony's works in the field of grammatical studies in Malayalam are very significant. Among them the interpretations on *Keralapanineeyam*, the most accepted Malayalam grammar book written by A.R. Rajaraja Varma is the most prominent one.

M. Thomas Mathew a student of C.L. Antony at Maharajas College, Ernakulam



Sipply Pallipuram presenting his paper

expressed his personal memories with him. He told that C.L. Antony was very meticulous and analytical in his works on grammatical studies and also in the day to day life. Scaria Zacharia delivered the keynote address. He mentioned that C.L. Antony made a new approach to the grammatical studies in Malayalam by his studies on *Keralapanineeyam*.

The first session was chaired by K.S. Ravikumar. T.B. Venugopala Panicker presented the paper on "Notes on *Keralapanineeyam* to *Keralapanineeya Bhasbyam*". In the next paper presented by N. Srinathan, he emphasized that C.L. Antony developed the way of study in grammar from that of the facts to theory. K.V. Sasi in his paper argued that C.L. Antony is basically footed in the social aspects of language in his grammatical studies.

In the second session, Sunil P. Elayidam chaired the session. C.R. Prasad presented the paper on "Word and Meaning". He pointed out that the basic character of the language is its changeability. C.L. Antony's studies are always based on this aspect. Joseph K. Job mentioned that C.L. Antony's studies are based on the social dimension of language. In his theory of Transition of Language, C.L. Antony had emphatically noted the self of Malayalam language.

NATIONAL SEMINAR: CONTEXTS AND CONCERNS, PUNJABI LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND CULTURE

20-21 February 2014, Chandigarh

A national seminar on 'Contexts and Concerns: Punjabi Language, Literature and Culture' of first Decade of 21st Century, was organized by Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with Department of Guru Nanak Sikh Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh on 20 and 21 February 2014 at Chandigarh.

The seminar was inaugurated by Arun Kumar Grover, Vice-Chancellor, Panjab University, Chandigarh. Earlier, Rawail Singh, Convenor, Punjabi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi delivered the introductory address.

Dwelling on the theme of the seminar Satinder Singh, in his key-note address said that along with the existing emphasis on historic and developmental dimensions of Punjabi writing, philosophy and cultural dimension could not be ignore in the 21st century. D.D.S. Sandhu, in his presidential address emphasized that it was necessary to recognize the fact that Punjabi language, literature and culture may become endangered species in the wake of exponential growth of new challenges of globalization of communication technology.

Jaspal Singh, chief guest of the seminar, said that the Punjabi language was accredited with international recognition largely due to liberal, dynamic and enterprising outlook of Punjabis which was receptive to pluralities and diversities. Deepak Manmohan Singh, Member Punjabi Advisory Board was the guest of honour. First session of the seminar was chaired by Jaswinder Singh. Jadish Singh, Joga Singh, Buta Singh Brar, Sukhdev Singh, Uma Sethi and Gurnaib Singh presented papers on different genres of fiction written during the first decade of twenty first century. Second session was chaired by Rainer Singh Bhatti and Harsimrant Singh Randhawa, Gural Singh Sandhu, Dhanwant Kaur, Raminder Kaur, Yograj Angrish and Kulbir Singh presented papers on poetry written during the first decade of twenty first century. Third session was based on drama and role of electronic equipments in the promotion of Punjabi literature in the first decade of twenty first century. It was chaired by Harbhajan Singh Bhatia and papers were presented by Satnam Singh Jassal, Manjit

Singh, Surjit Singh Bhati, Rajinder Brar, Jaspal Kaur Kaang, Surinder Kumar Daweshwar and Gurmukh Singh. In the valedictory session, Ravi Ravinder expressed his observations on the seminar. Satish Kumar Verma gave his valedictory address.

CHANGING SOCIAL AND HUMAN VALUES IN DOGRI LITERATURE

21 February 2014, Jammu

A symposium on 'Changing Social and Human Values in Dogri Literature' was organised by the Sahitya Akademi on 21 February 2014 at K.L. Saigal Hall, Jammu.

Lalit Mangotra, Convener of the Dogri Advisory Board of Sahitya Akademi, welcomed gathering and introduced the topic. He said that literature needs to be reviewed and evaluated from time to time to assess its progress and direction.

The symposium was inaugurated by Rajiv Gupta, Pro Vice-Chancellor of Central University of Jammu. In his inaugural address, he said that Dogri language has come up through a long struggle and discussed how social and human values are being represented in Dogri literature.

Veena Gupta, eminent Dogri writer in her key-note address said that though literature apparently appears subjective. It always has a universe appeal.

The inaugural session was followed by the paper reading session. The first paper was presented by Sunil Sharma "Changing social and human values in Dogri poems." He said that the control of society has now come into the hands of uncivilized, cruel and corrupt people leading to the deterioration of the society. This degradation affects the emotional and sensitive section of the society whose pain is reflected and represented in their poetry. The next speaker was Yash Raina who spoke

on "Changing human and social values in Dogri stories." He said that our individual values define our social behaviour and social relations. Dogri stories and particularly contemporary stories tell us about the positive and negative values and thoughts existing in the society and the changing roles of women in the society.

The last speaker of the session was Rattan Doshi, who gave his views on the topic "Changing human and social values in Dogri drama." He said that in Dogri drama, all social evils and issues are portrayed and act as a medium of awareness for the society.

Nilambar Dev Sharma, chairperson of the paper reading session, threw light on the issues related to the topic of the symposium.

NATIONAL SEMINAR ALI SADAR JAFRI

22-24 February 2014, Delhi

A three day national seminar was organized by the Sahitya Akademi on 'Ali Sardar Jafri' from February 22-24, 2014 to mark the century celebration of the author. The inaugural session of the seminar was presided over by the president of the Sahitya Akademi Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari while Gopi Chand Narang, noted scholar and veteran critic of Urdu was the chief guest of the session. The seminar was inaugurated the pro-Vice Chancellor of the Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad Khwaja Mohammad. Shahid while Ali Ahmad Fatmi delivered the key-note address. The Secretary of the Sahitya Akademi K.Sreenivasarao welcomed all the guests, scholars and lovers of literature. Chanderbhan Khayal, Convenor Urdu Advisory board, called Ali Sardar Jafri a legend of Urdu literature and poetry.

Prof. Narang, in his address, said "Ali Sardar Jafri was the captain of the Progressive writers. He benefitted from the company of

Sajjad Zaheer, Mulk Raj Anand, Faiz Ahmad Faiz, Ehtesham Hussain and Makhdam Mohiuddin. Josh was his hero. The style of direct addressing which is found in the poetry of Sardar was because of the impression of Josh. He proved himself a great writer in poetry and prose as well.” He further added, “I had always seen Sardar Jafri active in socially and politically but creative genius in him made him great.

Prof. Tiwari said in his presidential speech that Ali Sardar Jafri was equally popular in Hindi as he was in Urdu. He also said that he was the one who introduced Ghalib to the Hindi literary circle. He also published the selection of Mir Taqi Mir, Meera Bai, and Kabir with full introductory foreword.

In the inaugural speech Khwaja Mohammad Shahid said Jafri was a highly talented writer, a poet, a critic, a playwright, and a story writer who brought in new trends in contemporary Urdu literature.

In the key-note address, Ali Ahmad Fatmi said that Sardar Jafri had unique vision who tried to dispel the barriers. He dealt with high seriousness on the issues like social exploitation and inequality.

After the inaugural session, the first session

was presided over by Syed Taqi Abidi. In his presidential speech, he said that Jafri wrote allegorical poems, and also experimented in different forms of poetry. Nezam Siddiqui presented a paper on the critical excellence of Sardar Jafri. Beig Ehsas presented the critical analysis of “Asia Jaag Utha”, a poem by Sardar Jafri. He called this poem an important creative experiment and a great narrative. Afaq Ahmad presented his paper on the topic on “Sardar Jafri and Iqbal” while Rakhshanda Jalil presented the critical study of “Lucknow ki Paanch Ratein.” Third session was a poetry session in which Farhat Ehsaas presented his experience and inner feelings in an innovative way, Jayant Parmar presided Dalit issues, Asad Raza stated his feelings of social and political waves, Rashid Anwar Rashid presented the romantic and love poetry and Iffat Zarrin recited her poems about the decreasing values.

In the second day of the seminar the first session was presided over by Abul Kalam Qasmi. In his presidential speech, he said that in his dramas, poetry, fiction and criticism he exhibited the revolt besides human kindness and patriotism. In this session Atiqullah, F.S. Ejaz, Athar Farooqi and Umar Raza presented their papers. Atiqullah explained the layers

of meaning in the poems of Sardar Jafri. Fey Seen Ejaz has presented his paper “Sar-e-Daar Ghazlein” in which he focused on ghazals of Sardar Jafri. Umar Raza presented the paper in which he analyzed the dramas of Sardar Jafri.

The second session of the day was presided over by Sahfey Kidwai. In this session Khalid Alvi presented his paper on Kabir and Sardar Jafri. Raza Haider chose his topic



L-R: Khwaja Mohammad Shahid, Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, Ali Ahmad Fatmi and Chander Bhan Khayal

“Paighambaran-e-sukhan” while Ejaz Ali Arshad’s topic was “Sardar Jafri and Iqbal”.

The third session was presided over by Anis Ashfaq. In this session, Waseem Begum’s presentation encompassed the personality and contribution of Sardar Jafri. Humayun Ashraf discussed *Pairahan-e-Sharar* a collection of poems by Sardar Jafri and Fazal Imam Rizvi discussed the style of Jafri in *Lahu Pukarta Hai*.

The fourth session was a poetry session, presided over by eminent Urdu poet Sheen Kaaf Nizam. Khalil Mamoon, Syed Taqi Abidi, Aazim Gurvinder Singh Kohilee and Moin Shadaab recited their poems.

In the third and last day of the seminar the first session was presided over by Sadiq ur Rahman Kidwai who called Sardar Jafri a representative poet of the period. In this session Ibn-e-Kanwal discussed the different aspects of Sardar Jafri’s short stories. Saifi Sironji covered Jafri’s literary journalism while Jamil Akhtar presented the analytical study of “Aman ka Sitara” a long poem by Sardar Jafri.

The second session of day was presided over by Akhtarul Wasey. Sardar Jafri contributed so much to the corpus of Urdu literature that can never be forgotten. In this session, Shamim Tarique presented his paper based on Sardar Jafri’s poetry on special genre. Maula Bakhsh paper was on the topic “Nai Duniya ko Ssalam: a Post Colonial Advocacy.”

In the third session of the seminar, Fazal Imam Rizvi presided over. In this session Anwar Pasha presented his paper based on “Sardar’s revolutionary style” and discussed his revolutionary poems. Nusrat Zaheer presented his paper on “Sardar Jafri and Films” while Saleha Zarrin presented analytical study of Sardar Jafri’s poem “Mera Safar”.

The last session was a poetry reading session. It was presided over by Chandra Bhan Khayal. The poets Shahid Mahuli, Shaista

Yousuf, P.P. Shriwastav Rind, Shakeel Azmi, Shams Ramzi, and Moid Rashidi recited their poetry. Mushtaq Sadaf, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, proposed the vote of thanks.

SEMINAR ON SUFI WRITINGS 25-25 February 2014, Lucknow

The Akademi organised a seminar on Sufi Writings on behalf of the Akademi’s Western Regional Board on 25 and 25 February 2014 at Hindi Sansthan Auditorium, Lucknow.

Geetanjali Chatterjee, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi delivered her welcome address. Zaman Azurdah, reputed Kashmiri writer and Convenor of Sahitya Akademi Kashmiri Advisory Board delivered his erudite keynote address. In his address he said, “The solution to all the problems that we face in a society lies in love for fellow human beings irrespective of caste, colour, religion or nationality. And that is exactly what sufism preaches. It teaches human beings to love the creation of God.” He further added, “As long as relationship between God and human exists, sufism would stay relevant and appeal to the masses”.

Earlier, former Lucknow University academician Surya Prasad Dixit outlined how Hindi and Urdu poets alike had been propagating the messages of love through their Sufi writings.

NARENDRA SHARMA BIRTH CENTENARY SEMINAR

27 February 2014, Mumbai

On the occasion of birth centenary of veteran poet and lyricist Narendra Sharma, Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with Hindi Department of Mumbai University organised

a seminar on him from 26 to 27 February 2014 at Shahir Amar Shekh Auditorium, University Club House B Road, Churchgate, Mumbai. Programme was presided by Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi. Naresh Chand, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Mumbai University and Harimohan Sharma, well-known Hindi writer delivered the keynote address.

Surya Prasad Dixit, Convenor, Hindi Advisory Board presented the introductory address. The first session was devoted to the memories of Narendra Sharma and was chaired by Govind Mishra, eminent writer. Achla Nagar, Paritosh Sharma, Lavanya Shah and Udbhrant shared their experiences with Narendra Sharma. In the second session under the chairmanship of Ramji Tiwari, Amarnath, Pushpita Awasthi, Alok Gupta, Bharti Gore and Prakash Shukla presented their papers on "Uttarchayavadi Poetry and Narendra Sharma."

On the second day of the seminar the third session was chaired by Arunesh Nillan. Tribhuvan Nath Rai, Ajit Rai and Rajendra Upadhaya expressed their thoughts on "Poet-Lyricist Narendra Sharma". The topic "Proses of Narendra Sharma" was discussed in the fourth session of the seminar chaired by Narendra Mohan. Nandkishore Pandey and Vinod Tiwari presented their papers. Topic for the fifth session was "Narendra Sharma: As a Flim Lyricist and Screenplay writer." Maya Govind, Irshad Kamil, Bodhisatva and Ravikant read their papers and Raj Kumar Keswani chaired the session.

SEMINAR ON PANDIT JEEVAN JHA 27-28 February 2014, Patna

Sahitya Akademi organised a two-day seminar on 27-28 February 2014 at Patna to mark the death anniversary of Pandit Jeevan Jha, eminent Maithili playwright. The seminar was

inaugurated by Kamal Nath Singh Thakur, former M.L.C., Bihar. At the beginning, Devendra Kumar Devesh, Sub-Editor, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the guests and gathering.

In her introductory speech, Bina Thakur, Convenor, Maithili Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, spoke about the life and works of Pandit Jeevan Jha. Ratneshwar Mishra, chief guest of the occasion, dealt on the works of Jeevan Jha in the context of his contemporary social, cultural, educational, economic and political situations.

Mohan Bhardwaj, presiding over the session, marked Pandit Jeevan Jha as a epoch-making playwright. He said that plays of Pandit Jha were more prominent than his poetry.

First session of the seminar was chaired by Devendra Jha, well-known Maithili writer and critic. Yoganand Jha, Madhukant Jha and Indira Jha presented their papers in the session, which were focussed on contemporary literary and national perspectives and the life and works of Pandit Jeevan Jha. Second session was presided over by Premlata Mishra Prem, eminent theatre artist. Naresh Mohan Jha and Shankar Deo Jha presented their papers in the session. Bhagya Narayan Jha discussed on the presented papers. Third session was chaired by Ashok, while Vecna Karna, Tarannand Viyogi and Aruna Chaudhary presented their papers. Papers focused on characters, dialogue and the language of the plays of Jeevan Jha. In his presidential address, Ashok said that the modernity begins with the writings of Jeevan Jha in Maithili Literature.

Second day, on 28th February, Vasuki Nath Jha, Secretary, Chetna Samiti, Patna, chaired the fourth session. Ramanand Jha Raman, Panna Jha and Kamal Mohan Chunnun presented their papers in the session.

Fifth session was chaired by Lekhnath Mishra, while papers were presented by Ajit Azad and Khushi Lal Jha. Lekhnath Mishra

spoke about the tradition of Maithili play and modernity. Sixth session was presided over by Vivekanand Thakur. Panchanan Mishra, Ashok Avichal and Amlendu Shekhar Pathak presented their papers in the session.

Valedictory session was chaired by Ushakiran Khan, while Virendra Jha expressed his views as an observer of the seminar.

**SYMPOSIUM: SHASTRA IN SANSKRIT AND
CREATION OF NEW SHASTRAKAVYAS**
4 March 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organised a symposium on 'Shastra in Sanskrit and Creation of New Shastrakavyas: with Special Reference to Gangadhar Shastri' on 4 March 2014 at Sahitya Akademi Conference Hall, New Delhi. K. Sreenivasarao welcomed the guests and the audience. Ramakant Pandey, renowned Sanskrit scholar gave keynote address. Radhavallabh Tripathi, Convenor, Sanskrit Advisory Board, delivered the introductory address.

Papers were presented by Parmanand Jha and Pankaj Mishra. Kalanath Shastri chaired the session. Brajendra Tripathi, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi conducted the programme.

**150TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY SEMINAR:
RAMENDRASUNDAR TRIVEDI**
6 March 2014, Kolkata

Sahitya Akademi organized a one-day seminar on Ramendrasundar Trivedi on the occasion of his 150th birth anniversary on 6 March 2014 at its office auditorium in Kolkata.

The inaugural address was delivered by Alok Ray, a noted Bengali thinker and scholar who mentioned that Trivedi wrote poems in

the early stage of his life, the major part of his works consisted of science-based writings.

In his key-note address, Partha Ghosh, a noted researcher and scientist, informed that Trivedi's major interest was in literature and history, though he later chose science. He also worked on physiological and geographical terminology. Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, while speaking from the chair, informed the audience about some of the key events of Trivedi's time.

In the first session, Bidyendu Mohan Dev and Ashish Lahiri presented papers on the topic of "In Search of the Origins of Science and Philosophy of Ramendrasundar Trivedi" and "Ramendrasundar Trivedi: Perception of Science" respectively.

In the second session Abhra Ghosh and Pabitra Sarkar, noted Bengali scholars presented papers on the topics on "Ramendrasundar Trivedi as a guide of Parishad" and "Ramendrasundar Trivedi: Linguistics and Grammar" respectively. Prof. Sarkar, laid emphasis on the thoughts of Ramendrasundar regarding grammar and terminology.

In the third session, Mou Dasgupta presented a paper on 'Ramendrasundar Trivedi: Sanskrit Works.' Prof. Dasgupta, Professor of Sanskrit, University of Calcutta, explained the context of the translation of 'Oitoreya Brahman' by Ramendrasundar. In this translation, Ramendrasundar's scientific bent of mind is traceable. He used simple, short and logical sentences in this translation. Prof. Dasgupta also read out some samples of this translation and compared this translation with other such attempts by European scholars.

Prof. Bhattacharya in his paper on 'Ramendrasundar Trivedi: A Synthetic Interpretation' emphasized on the way Trivedi wrote on topics related to science. Ramendrasundar tried to explain the nature of truth as explained in scientific writings.

**NATIONAL SEMINAR CUM WORKSHOP ON
“TRANSLATION AND ASSAMESE LITERATURE:
HISTORY AND THEORY”**
7-8 March 2014, Guwahati

Sahitya Akademi organized a national seminar cum workshop on ‘Translation and Assamese Literature: History and Theory’ on 7-8 March 2014 at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati, in collaboration with Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi and the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology.

Welcome address was delivered by Rohini Mokashi Punekar, from IIT. M. Asaduddin, from Jamia Millia Islamia gave the introductory remarks saying that the history of literary translation has hardly been given its due importance. The session was chaired by Basudev Chatterji, Chairman, ICHR and the key-note address was given by Ranjit Kr. Dev Goswami, Gauhati University.

The first session was chaired by Krishna Barua, IIT Guwahati. The speakers of the session were Madan Mohan Sarma, Professor, Tezpur University, Manjeet Baruah, Assistant Professor, JNU, New Delhi, and Shalim Hussain, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. Prof. Sarma delivered his talk mainly on his observation on the strategies followed by the translator on his course of translation. Manjeet Baruah focused mainly on the translated works of Bishnu Prasad Rabha, a multifaceted artist and revolutionary singer of Assam. The third and the final speaker of the session was Shalim M Hussain. The speaker mainly tried to pose some questions through his research work regarding the

authentication of some translated works whose publication dates and the authorship of the same.

The theme of the panel discussion of first day was “Translation in Assamese: History and Practice – II”. The session was chaired by Madan Mohan Sarmah, Tezpur University. There were three speakers in the session Tilottama Misra, formerly of Dibrugarh University, M. Asaduddin of Jamia Millia Islamia and Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharjee, former Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi Kolkata.

On the second day of the national seminar started on the topic entitled “Translating Culture” with M. Asaduddin in the chair. Sanjib Kr. Baishya, Professor from University of Delhi, presented his paper entitled “Translation of Shakespeare’s Plays into Assamese: a Brief Survey.” Arzuman Ara, from the English and Foreign Languages University, Shillong, presented the paper “Inter-semiotic and Cultural Translation in Media”. Komoruzzaman Ahmed presented his paper on “Translations of Islamic Texts to Assamese” which looks into the beginning of Islamic writings in Assamese and its history of translation. Prasun Barman’s paper focused on Bengali to Assamese translation from 1877 to 2000, the historical contexts of translations



Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharjee speaking. M. Asaduddin, Bamdev Chatterjee and others

from colonial to post-colonial era and the translations by Government cultural agencies and independent efforts.

The second session of the day was chaired by Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharjee. The speakers of the session were Pradip Acharya, former Professor of Cotton College and Bibhash Choudhury, Associate Professor, Gauhati University. Prof. Acharya mainly concentrated his discussion in the main purpose of the translation work. He considered the purpose of translation as purely 'evangelical' and 'ethical', which he again refutes back as an 'export' 'import' business. Bibhash Choudhury remarks on Ajit Baruah, who has to his credit Sahitya Akademi and the Assam Valley Literary Awards. His talk on translation is that 'translation from translation is not acceptable.'

The third session of the day was on the topic of "Translation and Politics of Gender." Three speakers presented papers on the theme – Garima Kalita (Cotton College), Banani Chakravarty (Gauhati University) and Hemjyoti Medhi (Tezpur University). Garima Kalita talked about translation as translocation. She brought in the translated work of Tilottama Mishra's *Ram Navami* which was extensively criticized and did not reach the common readers due to lack of awareness and venturing attitude. The second speaker Banani Chakravarty referred to the Assamese magazine *Ghor Jenti* which made a special note on shaping a 'contemporary woman'. Hemjyoti Medhi talked about Chandraprabha Saikia and her revolutionary zeal to build a platform for the woman of her time. Rohini Mokashi-Punekar was in the chair of this session.

The fourth and the last session of the second day of the seminar were entitled "Translation and Colonial Interventions", the theme of the session. The session was chaired

by Basudev Chatterji (IIT, Guwahati). There were two speakers for the session, Arupjyoti Saikia of the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT, Guwahati, and Chandan Kumar Sarma from Dibrugarh University. The concluding remarks were given by M. Asaduddin.

SYMPOSIUM: SINDHI SUFI POETRY

22 March 2014, New Delhi

A symposium on 'Sindhi Sufi Poetry' was organised by Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with Sindhi Academy, Delhi on 22 March 2014 at Vishwa Yuvak Kendra, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi.

K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the guests. Laxman Bhatia 'Komal', eminent Sindhi writer delivered the inaugural address. Key-note address was delivered by Prem Prakash, Convenor, Sindhi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi. C.J. Daswani, eminent Sindhi scholar was the guest of honour. Murlidhar Jetley, Vice-Chairman, Sindhi Academy, Delhi gave the presidential address and Sindhi Bhagla Mishra, Secretary, Sindhi Academy, Delhi delivered vote of thanks.

The first session was chaired by Laxman Bhatia 'Komal'. Paper were presented by Jagdish Lachhani, Mohan Gehani, Nand Zaveri, Vasdev Mohi, Veena Shringi, Meena Rupchandani and Khiman Mulani.

In the second session, Arjan Hasid chaired the session. Kamla Goklani, Jaya Jadwani, Laxman Dubey, Mohan Himthyani, Vinod Assudani and Arjan Chawla presented their papers. The third session was chaired by Murlidhar Jetley. Papers were presented by Goverdhan Sharma 'Ghayal', Hundraj Balwani, Asha Rangwani and Kaladhar Mutwa. Prem Prakash gave the concluding remarks.

ONE DAY SEMINAR ON THE 'NON-FICTIONAL PROSE IN BODO'

22 March 2014, Kokrajhar, Assam

Sahitya Akademi organized a seminar on non-fictional prose in Bodo at Kokrajhar Girls' College, Kokrajhar, Assam on 22 March 2014 in collaboration with Bodo Department Teachers' Association.

The inaugural session of the session is chaired by Sri Nareswar Narzary, President of the Association. Anil Kumar Boro delivered the key-note address.

First technical session: First technical session was chaired by Sri Brajendra Kr. Brahma, Rabindranath Taqar Awardee. Dr Ada Ram Basumatary, Associate Professor of Janata College, presented his paper on 'Brajendra Kr. Bramha's Non-Fictional Writings: An Analysis'. Chittaranjan Muchahary, Assistant Professor, Barama College, also read his paper on biographical literature. Loknath Goyary, Assistant Professor of Kokrajhar Govt. College, presented his paper on the book *Hatha Khurnai : Boroni Dwrwngary Haba* written by Ada Ram Basumatary.

Second technical session: The second technical session was chaired by Sri Nareswar Narzary, Pranabjyoti Narzary, Assistant Professor of Pandu College, Guwahati presented his paper on Bwisagi Shikhlani Sholo Batha. Dr Rajendra Kr. Basumatary, Assistant Professor of Udalguri College also presents his paper on *Laithun*. He discussed the literary importance of the *Laithun*. Sri Motison Daimary, discussed on female non-fictional Bodo writers.

The last session is chaired by Janil Kr. Brmha, the Sahitya Akademi Awardee of Bodo literature. The paper presenters are were Sri Mihir Kr. Bramha, Assistant Professor of Janata College, Sri Anil Kr. Basumatary, Sri Indrajit

Bramha and Sri Phukan Basumatary. The paper of Sri Mihir Kr. Bramha is on *Fwrwnglai*. Sri Anil Kr. Basumatary presented his paper on Sri Brajendra Kr. Brahma. Both Sri Indrajit Bramha and Sri Phukan Basumatary presented their papers on text books of lower and upper primary classes.

Dr Ada Ram Basumatary proposed the vote of thanks.

ONE DAY SYMPOSIUM ON 'CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF BODOS (MECHES) OF NORTH BENGAL'

23 March 2014, Jalpaiguri, West Bengal

Sahitya Akademi organized a symposium on 'Cultural and Historical Background of Bodos (Meches) of North Bengal'in collaboration with Paschim Banga Bodo Sahitya Sabha on 23 March 2014 at Basti Bazar, P.O. Paschim Satali, Jalpaiguri District BSS Office Premises, West Bengal.

SYMPOSIUM: KONKANI DRAMA IN KERALA

23 March 2014, Ernakulam

A symposium on 'Konkani Drama in Kerala' was organised by Regional Office Sahitya Akademi, Mumbai, in association with the Konkani Sahitya Akademi Kerala, on 23 March 2014, at Swarna Bhavan, Ernakulam. It was inaugurated by Padmabhushan Kavalam Narayana Pannikar, celebrated theatre persona, who, in the inaugural address, mentioned that the Konkani community is rich with experiences of the past like migration, suppression and multiple language skills, which can contribute a lot towards building up a strong theatrical wealth.

Delivering the key-note address, Pundalik Naik, President, Goa Konkani Akademi

exhorted the artists and writers from Kerala to enrich the Konkani drama with serious plays.

Jayaprakash Kulur, guest of honour was the noted playwright. Tanaji Halarnkar, welcomed the gathering and T R Sadananda Bhat, proposed a vote of thanks.

The symposium witnessed deliberations on "Mythological Themes in Konkani Drama," chaired by G. Krishna Rao in the first session.

L. Krishna Bhat mentioned in his paper that several plays with mythological themes were staged all around and the women characters were acted by only men actors. K.K Subramanian said in his paper that plays like *Chandrabasa*, *Bhakta Markandeya*, *Satyavan Savitri* and *Dhruva Charitram* left indelible impacts on the audience in those days. Discussant S. Ashok was the discussant

The second session on "Social and Comic Themes" was chaired by M Krishnanand Pai. R. Ramananda Prabhu, in his paper presented gist of some dramas enacted in and around Ernakulam during 1970s.

R.S. Bhaskar recalled some social dramas like *Mbantari Aiji* and *Anusandhan* that were unique in handling the themes. S. Ramakrishna Kini took part as discussant.

The third session on "Songs and Music in Konkani Dramas" was chaired by K. Anantha Bhat.

V. Suresh Shenoy in his paper quoted several drama songs that were composed by him. N. Prasen Kumar Mallya, presented a few songs in his melodious voice.

Payyanur Ramesh Pai presided over. Kasargod Chinna delivered the valedictory address.

Another theatre personality, Sridhar Kamat Bambolkar, also spoke on the occasion.

NATIONAL SEMINAR: MULTILINGUALISM AND THE LITERARY CULTURE OF INDIA 27-29 March, 2014, Hyderabad

The Centre for Comparative Literature, University of Hyderabad, in collaboration with the Sahitya Akademi, organized a three day national seminar on "Multilingualism and the Literary Culture of India" from 27 to 29 March, 2014 at the School of Humanities Auditorium, UoH, Hyderabad.

The welcome address was given by K. Sreenivasa Rao, Secretary of Sahitya Akademi. E. Haribabu, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of University of Hyderabad, implied the need for preserving the multilingual character of India. Noted poet Shiv K. Kumar chaired the session while K. Satchidanandan, a well known figure in Malayalam literature, gave a concise history of India with regard to its multilingual character and the threats to it. Two noted scholars, Amiya Dev and Harish Trivedi, slightly differed with K. Satchidanandan and pointed out that the concept of multilingualism needed closer inspection.

The inaugural session was followed by a Reading Session which was chaired by Sowmya Dechamma. Shiv K. Kumar had a short story of his read out and recited a few lines of Urdu poetry. He was followed by Shashi Deshpande, noted Indian English novelist, who read out an excerpt from her novel *Shadow Play*. Hoshang Merchant, former Professor of English and poet followed Deshpande and he read a range of poems from his latest collection *Sufiana*. The final reading was by K. Sridhar, Physicist and writer of fiction who read out excerpts from his novel *Twice Written*. This ended the event on 27 March, 2014.

On 28 March, 2014 there were three sessions. Session I was chaired by Shashi

Deshpande. The first paper of the day was presented by the well known scholar M. Sridhar. His paper titled, "Between Languages, Writing Creativity and Translation" explored his reasons for not preferring to be translated by others and through it he asked questions of authorship, creativity and bi-lingual creativity. Being a bi-lingual creative writer himself, he posed engaging questions like what is the language of thought? And which of the two languages shape the thoughts of a bilingual speaker? Scaria Zacharia, presented the next paper. He talked about his theoretical understanding of multilingualism and creativity, his research project on Jewish Malayalam that focused on Jewish-Malayalam folk songs written and translated by Jewish women in Kerala and justified the use of such an academic exercise. Damodar Mauzo, one of best known Konkani writers, traced the complicated history of Konkani and while acknowledging multilingualism as a tool for enrichment of languages, also alerted us on its dangers of suppressing regional languages.

Second Session was chaired by Avadhesh Kumar Singh and the papers presenters were Shivarama Padikkal, both respected scholars of Kannada literature. Padikkal's paper talked about translation vis-à-vis the growth of nationalism. The role of translation in building up a Kannada identity was argued for. Vanamala Vishwanath presented her paper on two women Muslim writers, Sara Aboobacker and Banu Mushtaq, who although wrote in Kannada, have their cultural and linguistic roots elsewhere. She talked of their success in carving spaces and voice for

Muslim and women in the Kannada literary scenario.

Session II was followed by the second Reading Session. It was chaired by J. Bheemaiah, K. Sachidanandan, E.V. Ramakrishnan who read out a number of his poems first, both Malayalam and English. He was followed by E.V. Ramakrishnan, Dean, School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies, Central University of Gujarat, and he read out his translations of Malayalam literary texts. Finally, Vanamala Vishwanath read out from her translations of thirteenth century Kannada poetry and called herself a re-creator rather than a creator.

After this session, a play 4.48 *Psychosis* was performed by the Theatre Arts students of Sarojini Naidu School, UoH, in association with CCL. The introduction to the play was given by B. Ananthakrishnan. The actors, backed by a wonderful stage work, enacted a commendable performance.

One the last day of the seminar, 29 March, 2014, there were three sessions. The first session was chaired by the renowned Konkani writer Damodar Mauzo. Sachidananda Mohanty, Department of English, UoH and



K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi speaking at the inaugural session

V.B. Tharakeshwar, presented their papers on the different scenarios of multilingualism. Mohanty's paper focused on multilingual travel narratives from the eastern India of the nineteenth century. Tharakeshwar in his paper proclaimed that Indians were always multilingual, but there are problems with the way the Indian pedagogy is operating and does not completely support multilingualism. He argued that even an illiterate can be a multilingual but the serious problem is with academicians who were turning out to be monolingual.

The second session was chaired by Tutun Mukherjee and the paper presenters were E.V. Ramakrishnan and Avadesh Kumar Singh. E.V. Ramakrishnan argued that multilingualism in India had not come by itself and was a result of the will of the various people speaking those many languages. The second part of his paper was a criticism of Sheldon Pollock's analysis of the two great movements that transformed South Asia. Avadesh Kumar Singh talked about multilingualism, an attitude that fosters multilingualism. Rather than scholars who were actually monolingual he argued it was the common people that practised multilingualism.

The concluding session was chaired by M.T. Ansari and the valedictory address was given by Udaya Narayan Singh. Uday Narayan Singh gave a detailed presentation on the multilingual characteristics of India, bringing the three day seminar to an apt end.

SYMPOSIUM: NARI CHETNA IN PUNJABI LITERATURE

31 March 2014, Chunni Kalan, Punjab

Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with University College, Chunni Kalan, Punjab organised a symposium on Nari Chetna

programme on 31 March 2014, in Punjabi Literature at University College, Chunni Kalan, Punjab.

Manjeet Kaur Bhatia, Publication Assistant, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the guests and audience. V.K. Tiwari, Principal, University College, Chunni Kalan, in his introductory speech endeavoured for a social change by empowering women and also addressing complex issues concerning left wing extremism. Reading session was chaired by Jaspal Kaur Kaang, Member, Punjabi Advisory Board

and chairperson, Guru Nanak Sikh Studies, Punjab University, Chandigarh and papers were presented by Charanjeet Kaur Brar, Kamaljeet Kaur, Amarjeet Ghumman, Sarbjeet Kaur Sohal, Balbahudur Singh and Davinder Singh on contribution of Punjabi women writers in the field of poetry, prose, short story, novels, research work respectively.

Jaspal Kaur Kaang who spoke from the chair, said that a women distributes love, will power and sanctity to make the society advanced and throws light on the path of wisdom. Referring to the powerful writings of Punjabi women writers like Amrtia Pritam, Dalip Kaur Tiwana, Ajeet Kaur, Manjit Tiwana etc., she said that their works are no less in any sense in comparison to the works written by Punjabi male writers as women and their writings are unfortunately underrated.

SYMPOSIUM: CENTENARY OF PALA VENKATASUBBAIAH

N. Eswara Reddy welcomed the gathering and said the idea of organizing this symposium is to respect and evaluate a dalit writer, who was ignored all these days. He introduced the

life of the author through the recitation of his poems. G. Balasubrahmanyam delivered a thought provoking key-note speech on the writer. He said though the writer was an ideologist, he never forgot ground realities of his contemporary society and he could easily intertwine the content and form in a suitable manner. He urged the public to pay attention at least now to study the valuable literature of 'Pala'.

Rachapalem Chandrashekhara Reddy who delivered his address exhorted the publishers to publish the writing of Pala Venkatasubbaiah to make them available to the Telugu readers.

The first session was chaired by M. Sampathkumar, M.M. Vinodhini and M. Mallikarjuna Reddy submitted papers on his works "Paramadarshini", "Malliswari" and "Anila Sandesam" respectively. Sampath Kumar analyzed "Paramadarshini" (1945) as a didactic poem and opined that one can see the influence of Vemana and Jashuva on the poet. Vinodhini described "Malliswari" (1956) as a historical tragic poem and explained the concept of beauty of the poet. Dr. Reddy introduced "Anil Sandesam" as a poem of message. This was the result of the influences by Kalidasa and Jashuva. He felt sad that the poet and

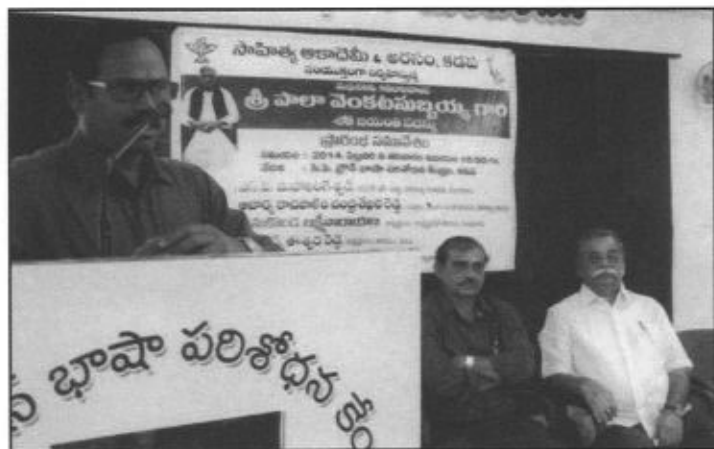
his writings are miserably neglected all these years.

The second session was chaired by Katta Narasimhulu in which three papers were presented. M. Ravi Kumar, G. Parvathi and G. Ravi Kumar presented their paper on "Anuthapam", "Mushtivadu", "Seclavathi" and "Amarajeevi Bapuji" respectively. Katta Narasimhulu explained the poetic excellence of the poet and his personal experiences with him. Prof. Kumar described "Anuthapam" a philosophical and "Mushtivadu" as a realistic poem. He saw the self criticism in the first poem and social criticism in the second. Dr. Parvathi analyzed "Seclavathi" as a reflection of women who fought against dacoits, once upon a time in Kadapa district and said this is a poem on a particular incident.

The third session was chaired by Hari Krishna. The papers were presented by T. Venkataiah and P. Nagaraju on "Pipasi", "Bhagyamathi" and "Navayugam", respectively. Krishna defined "Pipasi" as a poem of self purgation based on Gandhian philosophy. Dr. Venkataiah defined "Bhagyamathi" as a reformative and progressive poem since it has proposed inter-caste marriage and eradication of caste system. Nagaraju introduced the novel

Navayugam on socio-political grounds and defined as a dalit novel. He said that the novel has strongly propagated the education as a solution for dalit problem.

P. Sanjeevamma chaired the valedictory session in which Sasi Sri delivered valedictory address and P. Vijayalakshmi Devi, the daughter of Pala invited as special guest. Sanjeevamma appreciated the organizers for honouring a dalit writer through a symposium and said that the writer was a dignified personality both as a politician and as a writer and never begged



L-R: G. Balasubramanyam, Penugonda Lakshminarayana and Rachapalem Chandrashekhara Reddy

anybody for anything. Sri Sasi Sri shared his experiences with 'Pala' and explained some of his literary beauties like construction of plot, characterization in novels and poetic style.

SYMPOSIUM: 'BEING A WOMEN, BEING A WRITER' & WRITERS' MEET
New Delhi

Akademi organised a symposium on 'Being

a Woman, Being a Writer' on the occasion of International Women's Day. K.Sreenivasarao Secretary, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the audience. The symposium was inaugurated by Namita Gokhle, eminent English writer. Rajee Seth, eminent Hindi writer was the chief guest in the inaugural session.

The speaker in the inaugural session were Ramnika Gupta, Urvashi Butalia, Anita Agnihotri, Nirmala Pillai, Varsha Adalja, Urmila Pawar, Santi Chhetri and Salma. Vote of thanks was delivered by Renu Mohan Bhan, Deputy Secretary Sahitya Akademi.

The Short Story Reading session was chaired by Chandrakanta. Neelakshi Singh, Adyasha Das, Chandan Negi and Chandra Latha presented their stories.

For the Poetry Reading session, Padma Sachdev, eminent Dogri writer chaired. Lutfa Hanum, Salima Begum, Sebanti Ghosh, Lakshmi Kannan, Gagan Gill, Laxmishree Banerjee, Sujata Chaudhuri, Shabana Nazeer and Rizio Raj read out their poems.



Sujata Chaudhuri, Padma Sachdev and Brajendra Tripathi

HINDI WEEK CELEBRATION

17-23 September 2013, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized 'Hindi Week' from 17 to 23 September 2013 in Akademi's auditorium. Guest Editor of *Samkaleen Bhartiya Sahitya*, Ranjit Saha was the chief guest of the programme. Hindi writer Mridula Garg said in her speech that languages were born out of necessity. Learning new languages enriches us. Language provides confidence, compassion and also to develop love among human society. Ranjit Saha and Brajendra Tripathi also spoke on the occasion.

K. Sreenivasa Rao, Secretary of the Akademi expressed the need to celebrate 'Hindi Week' since Hindi connects the entire nation as a popular language of communication.

At the end of the programme, Shanta Grover gave a vote of thanks. A number of competitions were held during the week among the staff to prove their efficiency in the use of Hindi language.

In the valedictory function, after observing the 'Hindi Week' programme, held on 23 September 2013 in the Sahitya Akademi



Mridula Garg with the Akademi officials

auditorium, New Delhi, famous Hindi critic and playwright Prof. Prabhakar Shotriya was invited as the chief guest for the occasion. A new issue of Akademi's Rajbhasha journal *Aalok* was released. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary and Prof. Shotriya gave away prizes to the winners of various competitions. In his valedictory speech, Prof. Shotriya said that the language spoken by the common man is growing. We should include Hindi in our day to day life which would ultimately enrich the language itself.



Staff of the Akademi with the chief guest Prabhakar Shotriya

HINDI DIVAS CELEBRATIONS IN REGIONAL CENTRES

BENGALURU

Regional Office, Bengaluru organized the 'Hindi Saptah' at its premise on 24 and 25 September 2013. Santhosh Kumar Mishra, Hindi Poet from Bengaluru was invited to deliver inaugural speech. He spoke on the need to learn Hindi so as to translate and promote the rich literary works of the South Indian languages and thereby bringing fame to the South Indian literature. Competitions in dictation, handwriting, translation and essay writing were conducted among the staff. Distribution of prizes to the winners of the competition winners were given on the same day. Prof. Mishra gave away the prizes. Maher Mansoor, Urdu poet and translator was also present during the occasion and delivered his concluding speech.

KOLKATA

On 23 September 2013 Regional Office, Kolkata celebrated Hindi Divas. There were competitions on handwriting, essay writing, translation and shrutilekhan. Shyamal Bhattacharya said about the role of Hindi in binding crores of Indian together. He also said about some basic features of Hindi language. Smt Poddar said about the importance of Hindi in daily office activities and pervasive effect of it on the Indian culture

as a whole. The winners of the competition were felicitated at the end of the programme.

CHENNAI

'Hindi Day' was celebrated in Sahitya Akademi's Chennai Office on 23 September 2013. Veteran Hindi expert Sourirajan delivered a lecture on the importance of Hindi today. Prizes were given to winners of the competition in translation, essay writing, handwriting and dictation.

MUMBAI

Sahitya Akademi's Regional Office, Mumbai organised 'Hindi Saptah' from 14 to 20 September 2013. During this week several competitions like essay-writing, translation, hand writing and dictation were organised. The staff of regional office actively participated in all the competitions. Eminent Hindi poet Gyanendra Pati was the chief guest. Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi Mumbai, welcomed the chief guest and all the staff-members. He introduced Sri Pati to the audience. In his precise speech, Gyanendra Pati focused on the usage of the languages. Prizes were distributed to the winners of the competitions by the chief guest.

LITERARY PROGRAMME SERIES

MEET THE AUTHOR

Sahitya Akademi periodically arranges 'Meet the Author' programmes in which a distinguished writer is invited to speak on his life and works so that other writers, scholars and readers have a deep and personal understanding of the writer and his writings. The following distinguished writers participated in this programme this year.

Rashid Nazki (Kashmiri poet and critic)
5 May, 2013, Srinagar

Reva Prasad Dwivedi (Hindi writer)
Varanasi

Damayanti Besra (Santali writer)
1 September, 2013, Chakulia

K.B. Nepali (Nepali writer)
15 September, 2013, Shillong

E. Dinamani Singh (Manipuri writer)
16 September, 2013, Imphal

Sureshwar Jha (Maithili writer)
22 September, 2013, Kolkata

Bhogla Soren (Santali writer)
28 September, 2013, Kolkata

Anuradha Patil (Marathi)
29 September, 2013, Mumbai

Nida Fazli (Urdu poet)
30 September, 2013, Gwalior.

Jaswant Singh Kanwal (Punjabi writer)
2 October, 2013, Punjab

Deshbandhu Dogra Nutan (Dogri writer)
10 November, Jammu

Rajendra Kishore Panda (Odia writer)
23 November, 2013, Bhubaneswar

Nirupama Borgohain (Assamese writer)
29 December 2013, Guwahati

Shrish Panchal (Gujarati writer)
31 December, 2013, Bhavnagar

Vasudev Mohi (Sindhi)
23 February 2014, Ahmedabad

Arun Sadhu (Marathi writer)
23 February 2014

Manmohan Bawa (Punjabi writer)
26 February 2014, Amritsar

THROUGH MY WINDOW

In this series, an eminent writer presents his or her impression on the life and works of another eminent contemporary writer. The following writers were invited to participate in this programme series.

E. Dinamani Singh on E. Sonamani Singh
(Manipuri)
19 August, 2013, Manipur

Prafulla Kumar Tripathy on Purnananda
Dani (Odia)
30 August, 2013, Sambalpur

Vishwanath Tripathi on Acharya Hazari Prasad
Dwivedi (Hindi)
6 September, 2013, Delhi

Ranjit Dev Goswami on Lakshmi Nandan Bora (Assamese)
9 September, 2013, Assam

C.M. Adhikari spoke on D.T. Zimba (Nepali)
15 September, 2013, Shillong

Amarnath Jha on Harimohan Jha (Maithli)
29 September, 2013, Jamshedpur

Shafaqat Altaf on Mohd. Ayub Betab (Kashmiri)
5 October 2013,

Sitaram Kafley on Dev Bhandari (Nepali)
5 October, 2013, Kalimpong

Gokuldas Prabhu on Pundalik Naik (Konkani)
17 October, 2013, Goa

Kamla Goklani on Dholan Rahi (Sindhi)
10 November, 2013, Ajmer

Haqqani-ul Qasmi on Salahuddin Pervez (Urdu)
29 November, 2013, Delhi

Chhatrapal on B.P. Sathe (Dogri)
21 February 2014, Jammu

KAVISANDHI

The aim of this series is to give poetry lovers an opportunity to hear poetry being read out by the poet himself herself. Fifteen programmes were organised in different languages in different parts of the country this year:

Sri Prasanna Kumar Mishra
17 July 2013, Bhubaneswar

Madan Mohan Soren (Santali poet)
1 September 2013, Chakulia

H.S. Shivaprakash (Kannada poet)
23 September 2013, New Delhi

Nabaneeta Dev Sen (Bengali poet)
24 September 2013, Mumbai

Jadumani Besra (Santali poet)
28 September 2013, Kolkata

Shehnaz Rashid (Kashmiri poet)
3 October 2013, Srinagar

S.G. Siddaramaiah (Kannada Poet)
16 October 2013, Bengaluru

Nutan Sakhardande (Konkani poet)
18 October 2013, Goa

Rashmi Ramani (Sindhi poet)
27 October 2013, Nagpur

Mohan Himthani, Khiman Mulani and Swati Kewlani (Sindhi writers)
9 November 2013, Bhopal

Gyaneshwar Sharma (Dogri writer)
11 November 2013, Jammu

Hirendra Nath Dutta (Assamese poet)
30 November 2013, Assam

Sunita Raina (Kashmiri poet)
16 December 2013, New Delhi

Bhavani Devi (Telgu poet)
22 December, 2013, Hyderabad

Shefalika Verma (Maithili poet)
26 December 2013, Delhi

Chakrapani Bhattarai (Nepali poet)
16 February 2013

KATHASANDHI

Under this series, fiction writers read excerpts from their recent novels or read out short stories and then interact with the readers. The following writers participated this year:

Amar Mitra (Bengali writer)
22 July 2013, Kolkata

Ramdhan Hembram (Santali writer)
1 September, 2013, Chakulia

Nagen Saikia (Assamese writer)
6 September 2013, Jorhat

M. Nabakishore Singh (Manipuri writer)
14 September, 2013, Kakching

Padmja Paul (Odia Writer)
28 September, 2013, Bhubaneswar

Chilukuri Devaputra (Telgu writer)
28 October, 2013

Attada Applanaidu (Telugu writer)
17 January 2014, Vizianagaran

Sunkoji Devendrachari (Telugu writer)
7 February 2014, Kadapa

Nirmal Verma (Dogri writer)
22 February 2014, Jammu

Chandini Charan Kisku (Santali writer)
2 March 2014, Malda, West Bengal

ASMITA

This programme is meant for writers who write in search of a collective identity. Following writers participated in this popular series and read out their works before their readers.

Sukrita Paul Kumar (English), Paramila Satpathy (Odiya), Mridula Behari (Hindi writer)
7 May, 2013, Delhi

Odia women writers
Ranjita Panda, Sucheta Mishra, Ratnamala Swain, Angurbala Parida, Swagatika Swain, Pratikhya Jena and Gourahari Das (in chair)
17 July, 2013, Bhubaneswar

Santali writers
Shakuntala Tudu, Supriya Hansda, Rukmini Tutu and Swapna Hembram
1 September, 2013, Chakulia

Kashmiri Women writers: Naseen Shafai, Fordous Rana Rafiq Majeed, Shama Sahiba, Sumera Hameed and Nighat Shahiba
28 September 2013, Sapore

Varsha Das (Gujarati writer) and Manisha Kulshreshtha (Hindi writer)
6 November, 2013, Delhi

Kannada women poets on the occasion of National Book week:
P. Chandrika, M.R. bhagavathi, Vidya Rashmi, Chaya Bhagavathi and D.C. Geetha

Nepali Women writers
Shanti Chettri, Kavita Lama, Binashri Kharel, Lalita Sharma and Sudha M. Rai
10 November, 2013, Gangtok

Assamese women writers
Nirupama Borgohain , Toshoprabha Kalita,
Nirupama Misra and Malini
1 December, 2013, Kajiranga, Assam

Kashmiri women poets
Santosh Shah Nadaan, Bimla Aima and Dolly

Bengali Women writers
Krishna Basu, Papri Gangopadhyay, Sebanti
Ghosh and Tripti Santra
24 February 2014, Kolkata

Bengali women writers
Binata Raychoudhuri, Chaitali Chattopadhyay,
Kaberi, Mitul and Tilohama Majumdar
8 March 2014, Kolkata

LOKA: THE MANY VOICES

Programmes on folklore consisting of lectures
as well as demonstrations are organised under
this series. The following programmes were
organised.

On Pena and Literature
14 September, 2013, Manipur

Horse Dance of Odisha by Guru Utsab Charan
Das
28 September, 2013, Bhubaneswar

Bhojpuri Folk Songs

Loka : The Many Voices (Drum Dance –
Thappattam)
11 October, 2013, Tamil Nadu

On the musical tradition of Mardala in Odisha
8 November 2013, Balasore, Odisha

Assamese and Bodo Dances etc. at Srijan Utsav
17-19 November, 2013, Purulia

Folklore Performance
Yeelo Troupe Cuddalore
19 November 2013

Rava Dance and Reibenshe Dance
17-18 January 2014, Durgapur

Kutchi Folk Songs
15 March, 2014, Delhi

MULAKAT

This programme provides special platform for
younger writers from different languages who
hardly have any chances of exposure of their
literary calibre. The programme consists of
reading from the creative works, talks and
exchanges. Following programmes were held
this year.

Rajeshwar Raju, Sunita Bhadwal, Deepak Arsi
and Joginder Kumar (Dogri Writers)
31 August, 2013, Delhi

Young Tamil writers
12 October 2013, Salem

Tamil writers
Vaimainadhan, Solai Sundaraperumal,
Ezhilmynthan and Mannarkudi Viswanathan
19 October, 2013, Gopalamuthiram,
Mannargudi

Assamese writers
Manalisha Saikia, Sanjiv Pal Deka, Bijoy Sankar
Barman and Kamal Kumar Medhi
27 October 2013, Guwahati

Odia young poets
Amaresh Biswal, Pragna Prabartika Das,
Aditeswar Mishra, Pabitra Mohan Dash,
Narendra Bhoi, Sasmita Sarangi
8 November 2013, Balasore, Odisha

Tamil writers
Pallavi Kumar, Kavi Nano and Jayasri
18 November 2013, Duccalore

Malayalam and Kannada Writers
Sudhakaran Ramanthalli, Narahalli
Balasubramanya and Venkatapu Sathyam
20 November, 2013, Bangalore

Tamil short story writers
N. Viswanathan (Telgu writer)
28 December, 2013, Mannarkudi

Young Hindi writers
Prabhat, Vipin Chaudhury and Pranjali Dhar
21 January, 2014

Bengali young writers
Binod Ghoshal, Chandrani Bandyopadhyay,
Debajyoti Mukhopadhyay, Jhumur Pande and
Swagata Dasgupta
27 February 2014, Kolkata

Santali writers
Arjun Majhi, Asit Soren Pran Soren, Birsant
Hansdah and Presejit Murmu

KAVI ANUVADAK

Poems translated into Hindi by Beena Khat of
Manprasad Subba and Bina Kshatriya (Nepali
Poets)
30 August 2013, New Delhi

Gnyanendra Pati, Hindi poet with Praful
Shiledar, his Marathi translator
28 September 2013, Mumbai

Manohar Jadhav (Marathi) with Pawan Karan's
(Hindi)
17 January 2014, Pune

Sridharam Hansda and Kalpana Kisku (Santali)
2 March 2014, Malda, West Bengal

AVISHKAR

Meenakshi Prasad (Hindustani vocalist)
26 June, 2013, Delhi

Rekha Surya (Classical Singer)
25 October, 2013, Mumbai

With Hindustani Light Classical Singer Rekha
Surya
1 March 2014, Kolkata

NARI CHETNA

Vanita (Punjabi), Subash Shamaji (English)
and Suman Kiran (Hindi)
6 August, 2013, Delhi

Tamil Women writers
Vetrivelvi, Shummuganu, Kethariw,
Padmabharathe and Indira

Tamil women Writers:
Vallarasi and M. Gomathi
13 October 2013, Salem

Vimmi Sadarangani, Bharati Sadarangani,
Pushpa Bhambhani, Seema Bhambhani, Anita
Tejwani, Champa Chetnani, Manju Mirwani,
Komal Dayalani, Rita Chhatpar, Tiru Bhatia
and Sangeta Khilwani (Sindhi Poets)
27 October, 2013, Adipur

Tamil Women writers
Era Meenakshi, Srividhya, Shyamala and
Porkalai
28 October, 2013, Puducherry

Dogri Women Writers
Shashi Pathania, Veena Gupta, Santosh
Khajuria, Hemla Aggarwal, Usha Kiran Khan
and Shakuntala Birpuri
11 November, 2013, Jammu

Porkalai, Aranga Mallika, Murugan, Kalpana
(Poets)
18 January, 2014, Chennai

Tilottama Majumdar, Kaberi Raychoudhuri,
Chaitali Chattopadhyay, Gopa Dutta Bhowmik,
Binata Raychoudhuri and Mitul Dutta (Bengali
Women Writers)
8 March, 2014, Kolkata

Uma Devi, Amarantha and C.V. Geetha
8 March, 2014, Madras University, Chennai

YUVA SAHITI

Yuva Sahiti
25 July, 2013, Delhi

Jatinder Parvez (Urdu), Gursharan (Punjabi),
Kumar Anupam (Hindi)
25 July, 2013, Delhi

Yuva Sahiti Maithili Poets
27 August, 2013, Delhi

Devpriya Roy (English), Mritunjay Prabhakar
(Hindi), Kulvir (Punjabi) and Parvez Shahrayar
(Urdu)
New Delhi

PEOPLE AND BOOKS

Eminent Manipuri Personalities
N. Rajmohan Singh, M. Kirti Singh and M.
Nara Singh, J.C. Sanasam and R.K. Bidur
18 August, 2013, Manipur

Amrit Bodani (Psychiatrist)
1 September 2013, Ahmedabad

Ketan Mehta (Celebrated director)
5 October, 2013, Vadodara

Sitaram Yechury (Political Leader)
October, 2013, Delhi

G.B. Patnaik (Justice)
24 November, 2013, Bhubaneswar

Mahim Bora (Eminent Assamese writer)
29 November 2013, Guwahati

J.B. Patnaik
4 January 2014, Bhubaneswar

THROUGH MY WINDOW

Elangbam Dinamani Singh spoke on Elangbam
Sonamani Singh
19 August 2013, Kiekol, Manipur

MEETINGS OF THE GOVERNING BODIES

Executive Board

22 March 2013, Guwahati
23 August 2013, Chennai
24 September 2013, New Delhi
18 December 2013, New Delhi
10 March 2014, New Delhi

General Council

18 February 2013, New Delhi
23 August 2013, Chennai
11 March 2014, New Delhi

Finance Committee

17 June 2013, Delhi

REGIONAL BOARD MEETINGS

Eastern Regional Board

29 July 2013, Kolkata

Northern Regional Board

23 July 2013, Delhi

Western Regional Board

27 June 2013, Mumbai

Southern Regional Board

11 August 2013, Bengaluru

LANGUAGE ADVISORY BOARD MEETINGS

Assamese : 3 June 2013
Bengali : 15 June 2013
Bodo : 11 May 2013
Dogri : 25 June 2013
English : 15 May 2013
Gujarati : 18 May 2013
Hindi : 7 June 2013
Konkani : 9 June 2013
Kannada : 25 May 2013
Kashmiri : 1 June 2013
Maithili : 26 June 2013
Malayalam : 28 May 2013

Manipuri : 15 June 2013
Marathi : 8 June 2013
Nepali : 26 June 2013
Odia : 3 June 2013
Punjabi : 5 June 2013
Rajasthani : 29 May 2013
Sanskrit : 12 June 2013
Santali : 15 June 2013
Sindhi : 19 May 2013
Tamil : 4 May 2013
Telugu : 26 May 2013
Urdu : 10 May 2013

SAHITYA AKADEMI LIBRARY

Sahitya Akademi Library occupies an important place in the library map of the capital, with a rich collection of books on Literature, Criticism, Philosophy, History, and related subjects in 24 languages. The library enjoys an active and appreciative readership. During 2013-2014, the library enrolled 612 new members and 1763 new books were added. The total collection has 1,66,000 (approx.).

Bodo, Dogri, English, Hindi, Kashmiri, Maithili, Manipuri, Nepali, Odia, Punjabi, Rajasthani, Santali, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu Sections can be searched online through web- OPAC on internet. The Retro-conversion of Bengali and Sanskrit books are in progress. Current acquisitions of all the language books are being catalogued online. Automation of these sections has enabled the library to provide bibliographic service on demand at short notice. The prestigious projects such as revision of Who's Who of Indian Writers, and Digitization of photographs of writers using digital software are being handled by the library staff.

Indexing of English language articles on Indian Literature, based on its journal receipts is also done by the library. This database is also available to library users.

The library has also started some new services for the benefits of the readers such as News Clips, Book Reviews and Current Contents.

Sahitya Akademi maintains libraries at its regional offices (Kolkata, Bengaluru, and Mumbai) too. Books are added regularly in regional offices' libraries every year. Regional office libraries (Kolkata, Bengaluru and Mumbai) have also started retro-conversion/computerization of their collections.

TRAVEL GRANT TO WRITERS

The following authors availed of travel grants during the year 2013-2014

Marathi : Namdev Koli visited Madhya Pradesh
Vishnu Pawle visited Rajasthan

Sindhi : Roshni Rohra visited Rajasthan
Champa Chelani visited Maharashtra