

Dr K.Sreenivasarao defined the contribution of Kashmiri poetry towards the growth and development of aesthetics in Indian literature. He said that Kashmiri literature has always been attention-grabbing in terms of its beauty and exuberance. He welcomed the distinguished guests, participants, students and Chief Guest, Vice Chancellor of Kashmir University Prof A.M.Shah.

In his key note address, Dr. Hajini expressed his reservations with the topic chosen for the seminar as it was quite philosophical and beyond the comprehension of a common man. He listed out rich and beautiful aesthetic traditions from Lal Ded to Rahman Rahi. He also enumerated the coordination between the universe and poetry on the higher canvas of aesthetics. He visualized the aesthetic excellence in Kashmiri poetry through the window of Kashmir Shaivite philosophy but ultimately owed its origin to centuries long oral and literary traditions.

Prof Rahman Rahi, in his presidential address, deliberated upon the significant role of Sahitya Akademi in the promotion and development of Kashmiri language and literature. Prof Rahi also acknowledged the painstaking efforts of Prof Zaman Azurdah in bringing Kashmiri literature to the limelight at national level as he enriched Kashmiri by getting its books published through NBT India. Prof Rahi elaborated how aesthetics can be contemplated as the organic whole of beauty. He also threw light on various philosophies and trends that have influenced Kashmiri literature till date.

In his inaugural speech, the Guest of Honour, Vice Chancellor, Prof A.M.Shah, underscored the importance of Sahitya Akademi to promote, inspire, propagate and encourage Kashmiri language and its writers. To wipe out mother tongue means to wipe

out our sense of self and identity. He said that we could preserve our language only through transformation of our cultural legacy to our upcoming generations. He impressed upon the academicians, scholars and civil society to come forward to upgrade and safeguard our cultural ethos and legacy without any compromise.

Prof Zaman enumerated a wide range of Kashmiri aestheticians who commendably contributed to the growth and development of aesthetic beauty in Kashmiri Poetry. He emphasized the scholars and intellectuals to discover aesthetics from Kashmiri literature with which they are less acquainted.

The first academic session was presided over by noted Kashmiri novelist and poet Sri G.N. Gauhar. Satish Vimal, Iqbal Nazki and Margoob Banhali presented their papers. Brijnath Betab reviewed and summed up the papers presented.

The second academic session was presided over by Shad Ramzan. Wali Mohammad Aseer, Gh. Nabi Aatish, Mahfuza Jan and Bashir Bashir presented papers on "Chinab wade Hindesahiretetehez Jamalyaat," "Kashriwanyunichj Ammalyaat," "Kashremasnavehinz Jamalyaat" and "Shaikhul-Alam isundjamalyaatehusun" respectively. Inayat Gul reviewed and summed up the papers presented.

The third academic session was presided over by Majrooh Rashid. Papers were presented by Farooq Fayaz, Ranjoor Telgami and Zameer Ansari. on "Fazil Kashmir sedansharanmanzjamalyaat," "Sufi Sharimanzjamalyaatiunsur" and "Marsimanzjamalyaatihusun." respectively. Shabir Ahmad Mir reviewed, summed up the papers and initiated the debate.

The last academic session was presided over by Mohammad Zaman Azurdah. Shad Ramzan presented a paper "Shash Rang"

while R.K. Bhat's paper "Lelayimanzjalyaat" was read out by the Chair in his absence.

Dr Mushtaq Sadaf, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON "SOUTHERN LANGUAGES SHORT STORIES: TRENDS"

June 10, 2014, Bengaluru

Sahitya Akademi organized a day long symposium on Southern Languages Short Stories on June 10, 2014, at Nayna Auditorium, Kannada Bhavana, Bengaluru. The symposium was inaugurated by Dr Chandrasekhara Kambar, Vice-President, Sahitya Akademi. Dr Kambara, speaking on the occasion said he was glad to see more and more short stories, not only from the south india but also from all over are being inspired by the folk literature. He commended the Akademi for organizing these kind of significant programmes. C. Radhakrishnan, a Malayali writer, talked at length about the theories of short story writing, place of rationality in the realm of fiction and the role of short stories in moulding the members of a given society and also about the present day Malayalam short stories. Sri S.P. Mahalingeswar, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya



Chandrasekhara Kambar delivers the inaugural address of Southern Short Stories: Trends

Akademi, Southern Regional Office, proposed vote of thanks.

In the first session S.R.Vijayashankar, Kannada Critic, read a paper "Contemporary Trends in Kannada Short Stories." Vijayashankar traced the ancientness of Kannada short stories to 'Vaddaradhane' of Shivakotyacharya of 9th century. Enumerating the development and evolution of Kannada short story, he listed out important features of each passage. He also listed out contemporary Kannada short story writers and their unique contributions. Dr. K. Sathyanarayana, a contemporary Kannada short story writer read his short story "The Doctor's Mad Child." The second, third and fourth sessions were devoted to Malayalam, Tamil and Telugu short stories respectively. E.P. Rajagopal, a Malayalam writer, read a paper "Contemporary Trends in Malayalam Short Stories" where he listed out anguish, silence, alienation and disillusionment as dominant themes of the contemporary fiction scene though he felt romanticism still exists. Sri Indra Manuel explained about the evolution of contemporary Tamil short stories and various stages of their development. He also deliberated upon the contribution of diaspora Tamil writers. Sri Azhagiya Periyavan, noted Dalit writer from Tamil Nadu, read out his short story "Veecham." In the fourth session, Dr Muktevi Bharathi listed social problems, patriotism, family system, occupational hazards, social evils and hegemony as dominant themes in the Telugu fiction world from 1985 to 2010. Sri Peddinti Ashok Kumar read his telugu short story "Bhoomi Minda Neelu Levu."

Sri S.P. Mahalingeswar, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, Bangalore proposed vote of thanks.

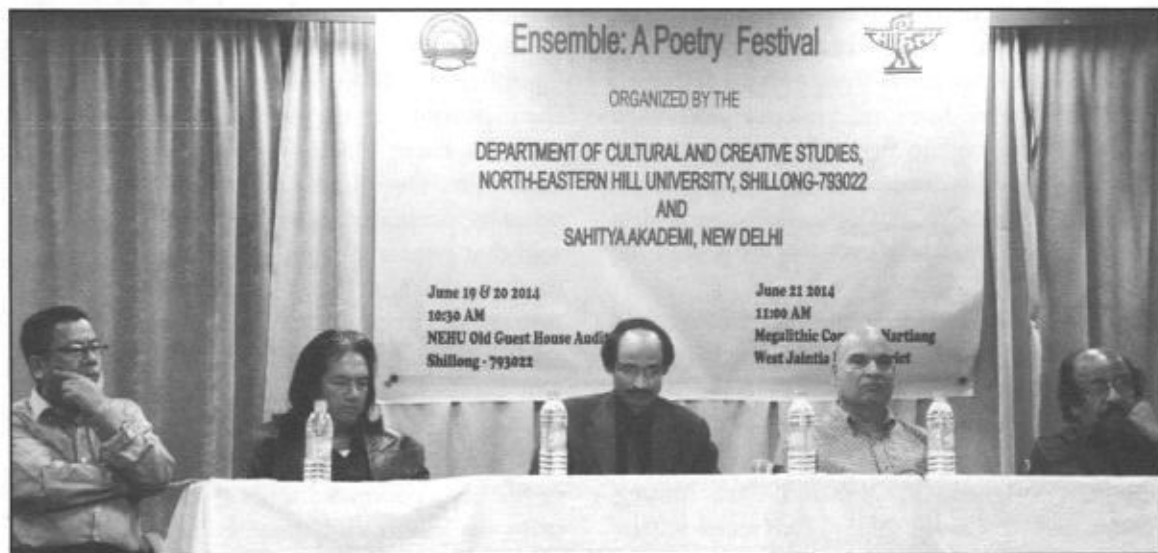
ENSEMBLE: A POETRY FESTIVAL
19-21 June 2014, Shillong

The Sahitya Akademi and the Department of Cultural and Creative Studies, NEHU, Shillong organized a three-day long poetry festival / conference “Ensemble” between 19 and 21 June 2014 NEHU, Shillong to showcase and celebrate poetry and oral traditions from North-East India.

The inaugural session was chaired by Prof S.K. Nanda, Head, Department of Cultural and Creative Studies. Sri Santanu Gangopadhyay, Assistant Editor at Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi welcomed the scholars, delegates, faculty, the students and literary connoisseurs for the three day long festival. He spoke about the fading popularity of poetry and also about how the oral traditions have contributed in rich vein to the traditional narratives, not only in the north-east but also throughout the rest of the country. Prof K Satchidanandan, Convener, English Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, introduced the aim and the central themes of the festival. He

delivered a speech on the ‘Challenges to Poetry’ and hoped that more concerted efforts will flow in to collect, preserve, translate and publish, in anthologies, these rich traditions. Prof Desmond L Kharmawphlang from the Department of Cultural and Creative Studies explained the aims and objectives of the three day conference further to the delegates and the audience. Sri Prabodh Shukla, Vice Chancellor, NEHU, formally inaugurated the programme and concluded his speech with a short poem, ‘Loneliness,’ that he wrote 34 years ago when he first moved to Shillong. Three poetry books, ‘A Map of Ruins’ by Nabanita Kanungo, ‘Midsummer Survival Lyrics’ by Mamang Dai and ‘Green Tin Trunks’ by Uddipana Goswami were released during the session. Prof Robin S. Ngangom proposed a vote of thanks.

In the panel discussion on Day 1 that was chaired by Mamang Dai, three panelists Uddipana Goswami, Nitoo Das and Lalnunsanga Ralte presented their views on the theme of the discussion “Is there a North-Eastern Sensibility?” While Uddipana Goswami



Robin S. Ngangom, Desmond L. Kharmawphlang, S.K. Nanda, Prabodh Shukla and K. Satchidanandan

said such a categorization as 'North-Eastern' is a false one and was a ploy of Colonial British to divide and rule, Nitoo Das said that such a simplified frame reeks of ignorance as north east has diverse cultural and literary traditions. Lalnunsanga Ralte presented a version that was more or less agreed with the second paper. Towards the end of Day 1, five poets, Nini Lungalang, Nitoo Das, Uddipana Goswami, Lalnunsanga Ralte and Bhagat Singha recited their poems.

Day 2 started with the second panel discussion that was chaired by Prof Robin S. Ngangom and the topic was 'Poetry in times of trauma.' The chair introduced the topic and said that while pain and trauma often lead to poetry, at the same time too much pain cripples the poet and leads to silence and not the expression of thoughts and anguish. Monalisa Changkija, the first panelist felt that poetry and trauma are intrinsic to each other. While she doesn't celebrate trauma, she celebrates all poetry including that which arises out of trauma. Next two panelists, Anurag Rudra and Nabanita Kanungo, talked about the pain of separation, partition and how such trauma gets reflected in their poems. Shreema Ningombam described the shapes and hues of violence and then proceeded to explain how the poetry can be a tool to express deepest of the feelings such as pain, trauma and depression stemming from being the victims or witnesses of violence.

In the poetry reading session that followed the panel discussion that was chaired by Prof Desmond L. Kharmawphlang, nine poets, Saloni Blah, Lumtimai Syiemlich, Renee Rai, Prof K. Satchidanandan, Monalisa Changkija, Shreema Ningombam, Nabanita Das, Anurag Rudra and Robin S. Ngangom recited their poems.

In the third panel discussion that was

moderated by Kynpham Sing Nongkynrih with the topic 'Living in the mother tongue Vs writing in English,' three panelists presented their papers. The moderator started the discussion by saying that while linguistic ambidexterity can be extremely helpful and may be even desirable, one can express better with a range of disposal at one's disposal when writing in one's own mother tongue. Shimanta Bhattacharya said that both are useful but problems arise when the two are confused and used without judicious and proper discretion. Sanamacha Sharma felt he did not feel rootless or disconnected just because he writes in English. Nuni Lungalang spoke about how one's choice of language of writing should not lead one being categorized, positively or negatively

In the final poetry reading session of Day 2 that was chaired by Prof Kynpham Sing Nongkynrih, four poets, Shimanta Bhattacharya, Sanamacha Sharma, Donboklang Ryntathiang and the chair recited their poems.

Day 3 started with a poetry reading session, Prof K Satchidanandan and four other poets, Esther Syiem, Mamang Dai, Tashi Chophel and Ibohol Kshetrimayum read out their poems. In the fourth panel discussion with the topic 'Poetry and Memory' that was chaired by Desmond L Kharmawphlang, four scholars presented their papers. Esther Siem said that poetry is memory itself and explained further that in the context of the region, poetry set free the memories and rich oral traditions of the people, hitherto untapped and prone to loss by capturing them on the written page, much like the histories etched on the stones. Ibohal Kshetrimayum said that in his own poetry he relies on memory, those from his youth and those etched in the land of the region and its people. Mamang Dai narrated how memory serves a vital part in

human life and how it is inextricably intertwined with poetry too. She said that both good and bad memories are equally important. Tashi Chophel spoke about how intertwining of poetry and memory falls into two aspects, namely, personal and shared. In the final poetry reading session, seven poets, Desmond L Kharmawphlang, Esther Syiem, Ibohal Kshetrimayum, Mamang Dai, Tashi Chophel, Nini Lungalang and Pynhun Miki Susngi recited their poems.

In the concluding remarks, Prof K Satchidanandan, convener of the festival summed up all the panel discussions, poetry readings, general discussion and thanked all the participants and organizers for making the festival a grand success. He concluded the festival with a short poem of his 'Poetry Will Come Back.'

SYMPOSIUM ON FICTION WRITER VINDHAN
June 25, 2014, Chennai

Sahitya Akademi organized a one-day symposium on Vindhan's Writings in collaboration with Department of Tamil University of Madras on 25 June 2014 at Chennai.

A.S. Ilangovan Officer in charge, Sahitya Akademi, Chennai welcomed the panelists, writers and students at the inaugural session. Smt. V. Geetha, Member, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi chaired the session. In her assessment, short stories of Vindhan, who was the follower of socialist path, amplified the wails and pleasures of the proletariat and his writings mirrored the contemporary

society in which he lived. His stories were more realistic in nature but he used ample amount of satire and irony to drive home his points and to make his stories accessible even to those readers who are not keen on realistic fiction. Prof V. Arasu delivered the keynote address. He traced the life history of Vindhan in elaborate detail. Vindhan's affinity towards working class permeates through his works right through his illustrious career. Dr K. Palani proposed the vote of thanks.

The first session was chaired by eminent writer and Sahitya Akademi award winner Sri Ponneelan.

Dr R. Sambath presented the paper on Vindhan's cinema writings. Vindhan wrote screen plays, dialogues and some lyrics for movies. Though movies added glamour to his repertoire, Vindhan never compromised on his principles both in his life and works. Dr R. Kamaraj informed that Vindhan's birth centenary is an appropriate time to revisit Vindhan's masterpieces. Dr. Kamaraj felt those



V. Geetha, V. Arasu, K. Pazhani and
A.S. Ilangovan

Vindhan's writings are relevant to the present day social scenario.

The second session was chaired C. Mahendran. He analyzed the local factors of the working class life and their contribution to the art and craft of storytelling of Vindhan. He described Vindhan as a writer with conscience who struggled hard for the progress of his fellow beings. Dr A. Sathish presented his paper on biographies written by Vindhan. One of them revolved around M.R. Radha, the controversial cinema actor who held non-traditional values. His biographical sketches were keenly followed by avid readers. Dr J. Sivakumar analyzed the anecdotes which were presented in the form of mini stories. They were a forerunners present day ministories published in about one page or half a page.

The third session was chaired by Prof Bharathi Puthiran. Keeranur Zakir Raja presented a paper on Vindhan's novels and presented a sensitive study of 'Palum Pazhamum,' the widely acclaimed novel. He felt that though the characters in the novel are poor and face troubles in life, they never lose confidence and optimism pervades through his writings. Sri Paravi spoke on the metaphors in Vindhan's writings. Sri. Radhakrishnan, IPS (Rtd.) Director General of police, Sri. K.A. Satchidanandhan, Pulavar Ve. Prabhakaran, Prof. Muhilai Rajapandian, Sri Azhagiyasingar, Sri Pa. Veeramani, the faculty of Madras University languages departments, research scholars and important writers attended the symposium.

SYMPOSIUM ON 'CONTEXTS OF LITERARY CULTURE'

June 28, 2014, Mumbai

Regional Office, Mumbai organized a symposium on "Contexts of Literary Culture"

on 28 June 2014 at Sahitya Akademi Auditorium. Prof. Kanti Patel, distinguished Gujarati writer and critic inaugurated the symposium. Prof. Bhalchandra Nemade, Convener, Marathi Advisory Board, chaired the inaugural session.

Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, in his welcome speech, said that literary text or literary work of art has ample contexts such as the writer, the times in which (s)he writes, its readers, presence / absence of a tradition, the ways in which culture/religion/state influence the literary work of art. In the inaugural address, Prof Kanti Patel said that the literary work exists in a certain time frame and it is appreciated and judged by its contexts. The contexts, he said that, may be aesthetic, social or historic. Prof Bhalchandra Nemade stated that aesthetic judgement of a literary work of art is a basic component of literary culture and the aesthetic judgement is not eternal and is decided by the moment of history. Particular aesthetic judgement helps one to understand the society and literary culture. Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Mumbai proposed vote of thanks.

Prof. Tanaji Halarnakar, Convener, Western Regional Board, chaired the first session, and Sri Hasit Mehta (Gujarati), Prof. S.M. Tadkodkar (Konkani), Ms. Aruna Dubhashi (Marathi) and Sri Namdev Tarachandrani (Sindhi) presented papers. Prof Tadkodkar said that Culture and Literature are two conceptual designs, which are inter-related and play a vital role in human life. Besides these designs, there are other centripetal forces, which like to play in the vicinity of culture and literature. Ms. Aruna Dubhashi stated that the writer is the most significant element of the literary culture and also an element of a particular society. The writer is generally influenced by the concepts of morality,



K. Sreenivasarao, Kanti Patel, Bhalchandra Nemade and Krishna Kimbahune

thought, values, and linguistic, literary traditions of the society. The writer accepts or rejects all these. From the writer's acceptance or rejection grows the literary tradition and literary culture. Sri Namdev Tarachandani expressed his deep concern for the death of readership, life of script of Sindhi in his paper.

Dr. Prem Prakash, Convener, Sindhi Advisory Board, chaired the second session, and Sri Vasant Joshi (Gujarati), Prof. Bhushan Bhawe (Konkani), Dr. Jagdish Patil (Marathi), Sri Mohan Gehani (Sindhi) presented papers. Prof. Bhushan Bhawe said that manifestation of literature occurs in different styles. Every literary work carries different contexts. Literature depicts period, history, geography, socio-economic and political life, emotional and intellectual side etc. All these get reflected in different forms, size and shapes. Dr. Jagdish Patil in his paper "Lilacharitra: A Retrospect" said that arts, literature, architecture, history, religion, customs and traditions, food, clothing, etc. are the constituents of culture. Needless to say that literature is a part of any culture and reciprocates the culture of that language group. However, literature

contextualizes a variety of factors which governs the culture. This context leads to the literary culture of that tradition and mirrors the society through literature. Sri Mohan Gehani said that literary culture in Sindhi language unlike the literary culture of other contemporary Indian languages moves on quite different trajectories and planes and explained apparent reasons for this.

Sri K. P. Radhakrishnan, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, Mumbai proposed a

vote of thanks.

SEMINAR ON 'CRITICISM IN BODO DRAMA AND BODO CHILDREN'S LITERATURE'
July 26, 2014, Langhin

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in association with Karbi Anglong District Bodo Sahitya Sabha on August 26, 2014 at Langhin, Assam.

In the inaugural session, Dr Premananda Machahary welcomed the participants and informed the audience about the significance of holding seminar of this kind in Karbi Anglong district one of the most difficult terrains of North East.

Sri Bhupen Ch. Narzary who chaired the inaugural session thanked the Akademi for coming forward to hold literary seminar in Langhin and hoped this will spur interest in literature among the young minds of the region. He also outlined the development of children's literature in Bodo language and in the region.

Sri Bisweswar Basumatary of Bodo Sahitya Sabha called for the development of Bodo

plays and events of this nature are perfect launch pads for the growth.

Dr Boro, in his keynote address called for the adoption of modern techniques and felt that development and growth of Bodo children's literature is very juvenile and felt that authors should focus on writing from children's perspective with the importance of simplicity in craft and language should be the center point in all children's literature.

In the first session, chaired by Sri Aurobindo Uzir, three scholars Sri Khagen Govary, Sri Promotesh Basumatary and Sri Santiram Basumatary presented papers delineating the evolution and growth of Bodo drama over the centuries. The papers also highlighted realism in Bodo drama but more importantly all the papers focused on the lacunae inherent in Bodo drama that is preventing it from evolving properly and adopting techniques and craft from other cultures and theatre traditions, even from within the North East region.

In the second session, which was chaired by Sri Lalit Ch. Basumatary, the focus was on Bodo Children Literature. Three Bodo scholars, Sri Bistu Daimary, Sri Nirmal Basumatary and Sri Rituraj Basumatary, presented critical evaluation of Bodo Children's literature from different perspectives – from the angle of history, from the point of view of psychology and from the points of view of crafts and tools used in Bodo Children's literature. Sri Lalit Ch Basumatary summed up the presentations with critical appreciations of each paper. Sri Madan Ch. Swargiary gave a valedictory speech. The vote of thanks was proposed by Sri Nirmal Basumatary.

SYMPOSIUM ON ANANDARANGA PILLAI,
31 July 2014, Puducherry

Sri A.S. Ilangovan, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya

Akademi, Chennai welcomed the participants and audience. He briefly explained to the audience present the importance and relevance of Anandarangapillai works and his legacy and why Sahitya Akademi is keen on preserving and promoting the literature of this polyglot and master litterateur.

Sri Ki. Nachimuthu, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board of Sahitya Akademi, who chaired the session, dwelt on the nature of Anandarangapillai's diaries, how they are in the form of colloquial language. He brought out before the audience the possible impact of Malayalam language on the literature of Anandarangapillai. Sri Nachimuthu opined that many universities should take up intense research on these aspects of Anandarangapillai's writings.

Sri S. Arockianathan, who delivered the key note address, spoke at length about multi-faceted personality of Anandarangapillai as seen through his journals and how perspectives from different angles and fields will help understanding and critically appreciating Anandarangapillai. He also brought forth some unknown and interesting facets of Anandarangapillai. He opined that though a number of scholars and institutions are taking up research on Anandarangapillai, more needs to be done for a better understanding and enhanced awareness of cultural and literary milieu found in Anandarangapillai's literature.

Sri R. Sambath, Member, General Council of Sahitya Akademi proposed a vote of thanks.

The first session was chaired by Sri E.M. Rajan, eminent professor and Principal-in-Charge, Tagore Arts College, Puducherry and he welcomed the participants with introductory remarks on Anandarangapillai's language.

Sri Silambu Na Selvarasu presented a paper on Anandaranga Kovai and Anandaranga Pillai *thamizh*, literature written in sub-genre of *Tamizh* poetry. His paper highlighted how

these verses are faithful to the grammar of poetry and yet at the same time how the poet innovated packing each line pleasures for the readers.

Sri S. Sathiyarayanan presented a paper on Anandaranga Viajaya Sambu and he listed out the classification of Anandaranga Pillai's writings. His paper brought out the greatness of Anandarangapillai and features of Ratchandamu and Sambu.

Sri Aranga Murugaiyan presented a paper on 'Vanam Vasapadum,' one of the important novels written in twentieth century. He explained how the novelist has brought the lives and times of people who lived along with Anandarangapillai. He opined that Vanam Vasapadum cannot be merely treated as a work of fiction but also as an important tool for understanding the past.

The second session was chaired by noted anthropologist and Puducherry researcher, Sri Bhaktavachala Bharathi and he welcomed the participants with pointed observations on picking up random references and building up a theory based on stray references and then validating them against the evidence, historical, archaeological, literary etc.

Sri Sankar presented a paper on the references of trade in Anandarangapillai's diaries and how these references enable the discerning readers to have peep into the trading practices of Anandarangapillai's time. More importantly they also highlight the trading practices of far off lands.

Sri Ezhil Raman presented a very interesting paper on the references to the Siddhars in Anandarangapillai's diary. He listed out and explained the presence of Baalayya Saami, Ambalathaadam Saami, noted siddhars of Pondicherry at that time but also numerous other pandaarams and swamis from the neighbouring areas. He opined that these references not only help one in understanding

religious thoughts of Anandarangapillai but also ritual and spiritual practices of the people of coastal Tamil Nadu at that time.

The valedictory session was chaired by Sri Sam Vijay who welcomed the participants and introduced the literature of Sri Prapanchan to the audience.

Sri Prapanchan, eminent novelist and Sahitya Akademi award winner, talked about how the very nature of Anandarangapillai's writings attracted him and how this attraction to Anandarangapillai led to him writing two seminal fiction works – Maanudam Vellum and Vaanam Vasapadum. He said unlike the journals of his contemporaries which kept the records of interactions with the royals and government officials, Anandarangapillai's diaries record and bring out the wails and pleasures of common people.

Sri Sundara Murugan, Member, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

The symposium was attended by journalists, academicians, research scholars and students in addition to hordes of literary connoisseurs from various walks of life.

BIRTH CENTENARY SYMPOSIUM ON CHAMAN NAHAL

2 August 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with the India International Centre, New Delhi, organized a day-long commemorative symposium, "Remembering Renaissance Writer Chaman Nahal (1927-2013) on his Birth Anniversary" on August 2, 2014 at India International Centre, New Delhi.

Dr Anita Nahal, Fellowship Program Administrator, The Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, Washington D.C. and youngest

daughter of Chaman Nahal, moderated the symposium.

Ms Gitanjali Chatterjee, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi spoke at length about how much Chaman Nahal meant for the Akademi, not merely because he was Akademi's award winner but because of the value system he presented as author. Ms. Deepa Bhatnagar, Nehru Memorial Library, New Delhi spoke about the contribution of Chaman Nahal in the art of manuscript acquisition and the help he rendered for the library.



Gitanjali Chatterjee speaking at the Symposium on Chaman Nahal

In the next session, Dr Roopali Sircar Gaur, Professor, Sri Venkateswara College, University of Delhi and Dr Suman Bala, SBS College, University of Delhi, presented papers focusing on *Silent Life*, biography of Chaman Nahal, bringing out many lesser known facets of Chaman Nahal. In the same session Dr Chandra Mohan, Advisor, International Higher Education, CUG and General Secretary, Comp. Lit. Association of India and Ms. Deepa Agarwal, Children's Books Writer, presented papers analysing Chaman Nahal's contributions to Children's literature in India.

In the third session that was chaired by Dr Vijay Sharma, Principal, Ram Lal Anand College, University of Delhi, Prof Harish Narang, former professor from JNU and Dr Roopali Sircar Gaur presented papers on the various facets of *Azadi*, Nahal's masterpiece and for which he won Sahitya Akademi Award.

The final session that was chaired by Prof R.W. Desai, former Professor and Head, Department of English, University of Delhi, witnessed a lively presentation of Nahal's short story *The Silver Lining* by a group of students from Venkateswara College, New

Delhi that was directed by Ms. Tulika Nygoi.

Concluding remarks were provided by Dr. Vijay Sharma who succinctly summed up the day's sessions with insightful and thoughtful comments. Dr Ajanta Kohli, Dr Chaman Nahal's elder daughter gave the vote of thanks, remembering Dr Chaman Nahal as a writer and a father. She thanked all the participants, Sahitya Akademi and India International Centre for their kind support and generosity in hosting the symposium.

SEMINAR ON VOICES IN VERSE August 6, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi, in association with LILA Foundation for Trans-social Initiatives, organized 'Voices in Verse,' a collaborative multilingual poetry event on August 6, 2014, at Sahitya Akademi conference hall, New Delhi.

"For the dead and the living, we must bear witness..." The spirit of Elie Wiesel's words animated the air as the Sahitya Akademi hosted the unique poetry evening, with readings by seven major writers in various

languages, and a conversation among them, to mark the launch of the cultural banner of LILA Foundation, LILA Bearing Witness. The event, entitled 'Voices in Verse' celebrated the multicultural origins of the participants, and also served as an initial collective reflection on the possibilities of individuals and communities bearing witness to the times in general, and the on the multitudinous ways in which poets in particular tend to bear witness.

After the welcome address by Sahitya Akademi Secretary K Sreenivasarao, and initial remarks by LILA Executive Director Rizio Yohannan Raj, Malaysian poet, journalist, and puppetry conservationist Eddin Khoo opened the evening with the reading of an exclusive statement on the arduous agenda of poetry as a genre necessarily and urgently bearing witness. Reflecting on Auden's words, "Poetry might be defined as the clear expression of mixed feelings," Khoo reminded the audience how poetry always bears witness, but also welcomes creations not evidently or immediately political, ethical or even critical. It does so, principally in its power to regenerate language, to animate experience, to inspire chaos of feeling, to commemorate... When poetry bears witness, it becomes an ambivalent act that sidelines or subverts the classical paradigms of action. Khoo read his own poetry in English, and also a couple of poems by well-known poets in Indonesian and Malay poems, and his translations of the same.

The poetry reading and conversation that followed, *Voices in Verse*, was chaired by senior poet and critic K Satchidanandan, who responded to the questions Khoo raised. He said poetry transmuted history by creating lasting verbal monuments, and historical time became poetic time as a consequence. He added that witnessing is an act of volition and involves a choice unlike seeing which is automatic and involuntary. Witnessing is not

only seeing but also showing like Neruda saying: 'Come and see the blood in the streets!'

The other poets who read were Sudeep Sen, Anamika, Vanita, Michael Creighton and Rizio Yohannan Raj. They discussed how poetry raises its voice, often ironically inverted, in an effort to cope with times fraught with differences that are made to appear irreconcilable. The evening celebrated multiplicity through the presentation of poems from various languages and backgrounds, in which the audience participated with enthusiasm.

SYMPOSIUM AND BOOK RELEASE FUNCTION ON INDRANATH MADAN

8 August 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a symposium on eminent writer and critic Sri Indranath Madan on August 8, 2014 at the Sahitya Akademi Conference Hall in New Delhi. A monograph on Indranath Madan was also released during the programme.

Noted writer and scholar, Sri Ramesh Kuntal Megh chaired the symposium. Sri Phoolchand Manav, Sri Rakesh Kumar and Sri Shailendra Shail presented scholarly papers on the occasion.

Sri Rakesh Kumar, who also authored the monograph said that it was Indranath Madan who put the work at the centre replacing the creator at the centre in all Hindi literary criticism. This improvisation by Sri Indranath Madan helped Hindi criticism beyond all comparisons and remains immeasurable. Sri Phoolchand Manav and Sri Shailendra Shail, in addition to the analysis of Indranath Madan's writings, remembered their association with the celebrated author remarked that there was no distinction between him and his creations and what was not there in his works

we witnessed in his life. He was indeed a treasure trove of all those who sought knowledge.

Sri Brajendra Tripathi, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi co-ordinated the programme.

SEMINAR ON “SAHITYARATHI LAKSHMINATH BEZBAROA: A PIONEER OF MODERN INDIAN LITERATURE”

17-18 August 2014, Kolkata

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with Asam Sahitya Sabha, organized a Seminar on “Sahityarathi Lakshminath Bezbaroa: A Pioneer of Modern Indian Literature” at the Akademi auditorium on 17th and 18th of August, 2014.

Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and the literary connoisseurs present at the venue and said contributions of Lakshminath Bezbaroa should not be seen as contributions to Indian literature and not as contribution to one particular language. He also enumerated the simplicity of Bezbaroa’s language that endeared him to masses and also his versatility. Prof Karabi Deka Hazarika, Convener, Assamese Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked about



Karabi Deka Hazarika, Ranjit Kumar Dev Goswami, Paramananda Rajbangshi, K. Sreenivasarao

influences on Bezbaroa’s writing and described him as father of Assamese romanticism. Prof Ranjit Kumar Dev Goswami, who delivered keynote address analyzed Bezbaroa’s contributions in the framework of Bengal Renaissance. Dr Paramananda Rajbangshi of Asam Sahitya Sabha thanked the Akademi for organizing the seminar.

In the academic sessions chaired by Prof Ranjit Kumar Dev Goswami, five scholars, Smt Bibha Bharali, Sri Chandan Sarmah, Sri Gautam Prasad Barua, Smt Kalpana Talukdar and Dr Paramananda Rajbangshi presented papers “Bezbaroa and Contemporary Assamese Prose,” “Bezbaroa and the first Assamese Assamese Feature Film Joymoti,” “Bezbaroa and Contemporary Assamese Playwrights,” “Bezbaroa and Contemporary Assamese Lyrics” and “Bezbaroa and Contemporary Assamese Creative Prose with Special Reference to His Short Story” respectively offering interesting multiple perspectives on Bezbaroa’s versatile creations.

In the valedictory session, the valedictory address was delivered by Dr Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, Convener, Bengali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi. The chairperson of the session was Sri Kula Saikia, eminent Assamese scholar. Both the scholars spoke about the influence of Bezbaroa on not only the Assamese mind but on the Indian mind as a whole. He is one of the founders of modern Assamese literature, they opined. The vote of thanks was proposed by Sri Goutam Paul, Officer in charge, Sahitya Akademi.

SYMPOSIUM ON ‘MOHIUDDIN HAJINI’S CONTRIBUTION TO KASHMIRI LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE’

August 18, 2014, Bandipora

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, organized a



Participants speaking at the Symposium on Mohiuddin Hajini

symposium on Mohiuddin Hajini's Contribution to Kashmiri Language and Literature on August 18, 2014 at Bandipora.

The symposium was chaired and moderated by Mohammad Ahsan Ahsan, well known Kashmiri writer and he spoke at length about the nature and uniqueness of Kashmiri literature and about Mohiuddin Hajini's contributions to it. He concluded by saying, "Mohiuddin Hajini is an epitome of excellence in Kashmiri language and literature and his contribution will serve as a guide to the critics and writers in the foreseeable future."

Convener of Kashmiri Advisory Board of the Akademi, Prof Mohd. Zaman Azurdah said that his association with Kashmiri literature spanned over so many decades and his work will keep resounding his greatness through the ages.

In this Symposium Mohd. Ismail Ashna, Mehfoza Jan, Mishal Sultanpuri, Zameer Ansari, Shahbaz Hakbari and Mohd. Shafi Shakir presented their papers on the life and different aspects of his contribution. Dr Mushtaq Sadaf, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

SEMINAR ON 'NATIONAL LANGUAGE: FORM, CHALLENGES AND POSSIBILITIES' August 19, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a seminar on 'National Language: Form, Challenges and Possibilities' on August 19, 2014 at the Akademi Seminar Hall in New Delhi.

In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the writers, scholars, participants and the audience and explained the efforts of Sahitya Akademi to promote national language through various schemes and programmes. He spoke about the contribution of Hindi to Indian literature both in India and abroad. Sri V.P. Gaur, Director, Official Language Division, Ministry of Culture, Government of India, in his introductory remarks spoke about the effort of Indian government to preserve and promote and languages of India through Human Resource Ministry and efforts to preserve and promote literature contained in those languages through institutions like Sahitya Akademi. He said both are necessary and felt that although official recognition has been granted to Hindi as a national language more concerted efforts are needed to promote it in a vigorous manner both at home and abroad. Dr Girishwar Mishra, Vice Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, in his inaugural address said that though Hindi has been officially recognized as a national language it has been weak on the ground; the policies of the government of the day as well as weakness of the individuals and institutions concerned are also the reasons for this situation. Prof Achutanand Mishra, former Vice Chancellor, Makhanlal Chaturvedi University for Journalism, in his address as Chief Guest felt that it is the responsibility of Hindi to take along all other languages of the country



Participants speaking at the Seminar on National Language

and more efforts should be made to make people realize that Hindi is not antagonistic towards neither English nor other languages of India, failing which we will only see regress of Hindi as a national language. Sri Mahesh Chanra Gupta, in his address as a special guest, felt that bringing many regional languages under Eighth Schedule damages the stature of Hindi and it is not likely that these moves done of political compulsions will benefit those regional languages either. Sri Triloki Nath Chaturvedi, in his presidential address said that during the freedom struggle and independence movement Hindi played a vital role of uniting the people of India but today the situation has changed and there is a necessity for Hindi to take along other languages and cultural traditions of the country and this would be possible only if more and more works from other languages are translated and published in Hindi.

In the second session that was chaired by Sri Vimlesh Kanti Verma, five Hindi scholars, Sri Paramanand Panchal, Ms Thangamani Amma, Sri Narayan Kumar, Sri

Suryaprasad Dixit and Sri Rahul Dev presented their papers. Sri Surya Prasad Dixit, Convener, Hindi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, said that any national language should possess five main characteristics, namely, vocabulary, simplicity, accessibility, communicative ability and reception. Today there is a perception that Hindi's utility lies only within the academic and official domains and the challenge is to break this myth. Noted journalist, Sri Rahul Dev in his address said that Hindi developed mainly as a language love by the speakers. But today Hinglish, the mixture of English with Hindi [similarly in other Indian languages as well] has imposed itself as a main obstacle for the development of Hindi and this obstacle should be removed. All over India the primary and elementary education should be made compulsory in regional languages. While summing up from the Chair, Sri Vimlesh Kanti Verma said that serving Hindi is equal to serving the nation. We should not have any narrow perception in this regard.

SYMPOSIUM ON "IMPACT OF FOLK LIFE ON CONTEMPORARY ASSAMESE LITERATURE"

August 29, 2014, Dibrugarh

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Kolkata, in collaboration with Naharkatiya College, Dibrugarh, Assam, organized a symposium on "Impact of Folk Life on Contemporary Assamese Literature" at Naharkatiya College, Dibrugarh on August 29, 2014.

In the inaugural session, Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi Eastern Region, welcomed the participants and audience, pointed out the unique hybrid culture of Assam and how Assamese literature drew from many cultural and literary traditions, assimilated and evolved. Prof Karabi Deka Hazarika, Convener, Assamese Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in her inaugural address outlined the activities of the Akademi in the region, introduced the theme of the symposium and spoke about the intimate relationship between folk life and literature. Sri Harekrishna Dekam eminent Assamese poet, who delivered the keynote address, spoke about how literature cannot be totally separated from the folk life and traditional beliefs even when one accepts that modernity revolts against tradition and cited the example of modern field Cultural



Harekrishna Deka delivering the keynote address

Anthropology which reconstructs, using modern techniques, the ancient objects and civilizations. He said such an assimilation can be traced in South American Literature as well. Dr Kalyan Baruah, Principal of the college proposed the vote of thanks.

In the first academic session chaired by Prof Arpana Konwar, three scholars, Prof Prafulla Gogoi, Pallavi Deka Buzarbaruah and Dr Pranjit Bora presented papers "Folk Life as Reflected in the Literary Works of Bezbaruah," "Legend in Assamese Literature-its Use and Reconstruction" and "Reflection of Folk Life in Modern Assamese Prose Literature" respectively. Each paper drew out the folk elements contained in the modern Assamese literature and highlighted the areas that are to be pursued and researched upon. The paper presentation was followed by a lively interaction between the scholars and the audience. Prof Arpana Konwar moderated, summed up and presented a critical evaluation of the papers presented and positions taken.

In the second academic session chaired by Dr Hitesh Bordoloi, three scholars, Dr Arabinda Rajkhowa, Prof Arindam Borkotoky and Prof Mamoni Devi presented the papers "The Impact of Folk Life in Contemporary Assamese Short Stories," "The Impact of Folk Life in the Poetry of Nilmoni Phukan" and "The Folk Life of Assam as Reflected in Umakanta Sharmas' Novel "The Flight of Varanda Birds" respectively. The papers observed the changing patterns of Assamese literature and in some areas their movement away from the long-held trench of folklore and folk traditions. Prof Mamoni's paper also highlighted the lives of folk people in the novel under discussion.

In the valedictory session chaired by Sri Hitendranath Sarmah, prof Probin Chandra das, eminent folklorist, enumerated at length about the birth of folk studies as a discipline, romantic naturalism's origin in Europe and

appealed to the researchers to adhere to a particular theme and should be relevant. He concluded his lecture by observing that folk language and dialects are different. Prof Satyakam Borthakur of Dibrugarh University proposed the vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON "BHASHANTARA ANUBHAVA"
30 August 2014, Thiruvananthapuram

The Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi at Bangalore organized a one-day symposium on "Bhashanthara Anubhava" at Vypopilli Samskrithi Bhavan, Thiruvananthapuram on August 30, 2014 to celebrate the culture and tradition of translation and appreciating the sensibilities of expressions in other languages.

Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the participants, scholars and writers attending the event and spoke briefly about the nature of translation. He said translation is not merely a transformation of syntax and semantics from one linguistic form into another but rather a translation of one culture into another. He informed the participants and audience that the core activity of the Akademi is translation and if this event turns out successfully, the Akademi will be very happy to replicate the same in other languages and zones of India. Sri Puthusseri Ramachandran, eminent Malayalam poet and linguist, delivered the inaugural address and spoke at length about the techniques and nuances of translation. He said translation is the essence of all poetry and as such all translation is nothing but trans-creation. Sri K.

Nachimuthu, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board, enumerated in detail about the task of translators and listed out difficulties in translating even among the similar languages such as Malayalam and Tamil. Sri C. Radhakrishnan, Convener, Malayalam Advisory Board, who chaired the session, talked about the necessity of symposiums of this kind and enumerated the efforts of the Akademi in the field of translation and also how translation brings together diverse communities and cultures and thereby acts as a platform for unity, peace and national integration.

The first session was chaired by Sri Neela Padmanabhan, noted bi-lingual writer and translator who felt that translating poetry especially in a diverse country like India, with vastly different cultures and languages, is a serious task and a challenging one too. Prof H.S. Shivaprakash, eminent Kannada poet and playwright recited his poems in Kannada that was followed by the recitation of these poems in translation by Prof K. Satchidanandan, eminent writer and translator in Malayalam, by Sri Indran in Tamil and by Prof N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory



Puthusseri Ramachandran inaugurating the symposium
Bhashantara Anubhava

Board, Sahitya Akademi, in Telugu. In the second part of the session Sri Asha Raju recited his Telugu poems that were recited in translation by Sri Prabha Varma in Malayalam, by Smt Uma Maheshwari in Tamil and by Sri Narahalli Balasubramanya, Convener, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi in Kannada.

The second session was chaired by Prof N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory Board. Prof K. Satchidanandan recited two of his poems in Malayalam that were recited in translation by Smt Uma Maheshwari in Tamil, by Sri Asha Raju in Telugu, by Prof Aravind Malagatti in Kannada. In the second part of the session, Smt Uma Maheshwari recited her poems in Tamil that were recited in translation by Sri Prabha Varma in Malayalam, by Sri Narahalli Balasubramanya in Kannada and by Prof Gopi in Telugu.

The third session was chaired by Sri Narahalli Balasubramanya. Sri Indran recited his poems in Tamil that were rendered in translation by Dr C.R. Prasad in Malayalam, by Sri Asha Raju in Telugu and by Prof H.S. Shivaprakash in Kannada. In the second part of this session Prof Aravind Malagatti recited his poems in Kannada and the same poems were rendered in translation by Dr C.R. Prasad in Malayalam, by Smt. Uma Maheshwari in Tamil and by Prof N. Gopi in Telugu.

The valedictory session was chaired by eminent Malayalam poet and social activist Smt Sugathakumari. In this session Prof N. Gopi recited his Telugu poems that were rendered in translation by Sri Indran in Tamil and by Prof H.S. Shivaprakash in Kannada. In the second part of the session Sri Prabha Varma recited his Malayalam poems that were rendered in translation by Prof H.S. Shivaprakash in Kannada, by Smt. Uma Maheshwari in Tamil and by Sri Asha Raju in Telugu.

SYMPOSIUM ON SANTAL MOVEMENTS IN ODISHA AND THEIR REFLECTION IN SANTALI LITERATURE

August 31, 2014, Baripada

Sahitya Akademi organized a symposium on 'Santal Movements in Odisha and their reflection in Santali Literature' on August 31, 2014 at Baripada, Odisha.

Dr Devendra Kumar Devesh, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the participants and the audience and briefly outlined the initiatives and programmes of Sahitya Akademi to promote Santali literature. Sri Uday Nath Majhi, eminent Santali writer, in his inaugural address delineated the historical events concerning Santal community in Odisha and observed that large number of Santalis participated in the freedom movement. He alluded to Gunduria massacre in which thousands of Santalis were killed just after independence. Dr Damayanti Beshra in her keynote address talked about the enhanced level of awareness of Santali people of socio-cultural identities. Sri Gangadhar Hansdah, Convener, Santali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi talked about various santal movements in Odisha. Sri Dasharathi Soren, noted Santali poet and Member, Santali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi proposed a vote of thanks. In the first session that was chaired by Sri Mangal Charan Majhi, three Santali scholars, Sri Kandra Murumu, Sri Ratnakar Murmu and Sri Jagannath Murmu presented their papers. In the second session that was chaired by Sri Gobinda Chandra Majhi, three scholars, Sri Madhab Hansdah, Sri Ramray Majhi and Dr Naku Hansdah presented their papers. In the valedictory session that was chaired by Ms. Raimani Marandi, Sri Arjun Charan Marandi delivered a valedictory speech and Sri Gangadhar Hansdah, Convener, Santali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON KAMBADASAN
1 September 2014, Karaikal

Sahitya Akademi organised a day-long symposium on Kambadasan at Karaikal on 1 September 2014. In the inaugural session, Sri. A.S. Ilangovan, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Chennai welcomed the participants and scholars and spoke briefly about various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi in Tamil Nadu. Prof K. Nachimuthu, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his Presidential address talked about the literary milieu of Pondicherry which is rich in content and structure. He also briefly narrated Akademi's efforts to promote the 20th century Tamil poets and their noteworthy contributions. In his keynote address, Dr Sayabu Maraickayar, noted Tamil scholar spoke at length about the revolutionary ideals and socialist philosophy inherent in Kambadasan's poems which he actually imbibed from his master Bharatidasan. Through English translations Kambadasan's poems with social messages reached far off lands and drew critical acclaim. Dr Sambath, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi said that in terms of poetic outburst and quality of the rhythm and motion, Kambadasan's poems were next only to Subramania Bharati and Bharatidasan. He appealed to the youngsters to follow the ideals of his poems. Dr N. Ilango chaired the first session and recounted a poem of Kambadasan. Dr R. Kamarasu, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi, presented a paper on the short stories of Kambadasan. Sri Villiyannur Palani presented a paper on Kambadasan's epics and Smt. Avvai Nirmala presented a paper on social reflections in Kambadasan's poetry. In the second session that was chaired by Thirumeni Nagarasan, two scholars, Sri Bharathi Vasanthan and Sri Ellai Sivakumar, presented papers on movie lyrics and essays of Kambadasan respectively.

In the valedictory session, Prof Uthayasooryan, who delivered valedictory address, talked about the contribution of Kambadasan to variety of genres including plays and minor literature. Sri Sundara Murugan, Member, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked about the superiority of Kambadasan's songs and lyrics compared to the present times.

SEMINAR ON BHAVANI PRASAD MISHRA
September 5-6, 2014, Indore

Sahitya Akademi, to commemorate the birth centenary of Bhawani Prasad Mishra, and in association with Madhya Bharat Hindi Sahitya Samiti, organized a national seminar on the legendary poet on September 5-6, 2014 at Indore.

In the inaugural session, the noted critic Sri Prabhakar Shrotriya welcomed the participants and the audience and talked briefly about the reflections of Bhawani's time in his poems. Sri Suryaprakash Chaturvedi, President of Madhya Bharat Hindi Sahitya Samiti, in his inaugural address talked about Bhavani Mishra's poems and Gandhian values. Well known poet Sri Chandrakant Devthaale, who was the Chief Guest of the session, talked at length about the qualities of Bhawani Prasad Mishra's poems and observed that his poems' ability to encapsulate time instead of reflecting it made him a great poet of his time. Sri Avdesh Pradhan, in his keynote address, gave insights into the poet's creative process. Sri Suryaprasad Dixit, Convener, Hindi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his Presidential address, observed that Bhawani Prasad Mishra's poems contain in them not only the aspirations of one community or one country or societies of one time but the aspirations and stories of entire humanity.

In the first session that was chaired by Saroj Kumar, four noted scholars, Amarendra Singh, Kashmir Uppal, Rakesh Diwan and Dilip Chinchalkar, relived the memories of footprints left by Bhawani Prasad Mishra's poems. In the second session that was chaired by Goeshwar Singh, three noted scholars, Dinesh Kushvah, Arunesh Niran and Suresh Salil presented papers. The chair observed that Bhawani Prasad's poems cannot be discussed adequately within the boundaries which we have built for Hindi literature. In the third session that was chaired by Baldev Vanshi and which had theme of 'Nature in Bhawani Prasad Mishra's works,' four noted scholars, Shailendra Sharma, Madhav Hada, Krishna Kumar Singh and Lakshman Kediya, presented papers. The fourth session which focused on 'Bhawani Prasad Mishra and Gandhi Darshan' and was chaired by Devendra Dipak, three noted scholars Vyasmani Tripathi, Dhruv Shukla and Prabhu Joshi, presented papers. In the fifth session which focused on 'Saptak Parampara and Bhawani Prasad Mishra' and that was chaired by Ajay Tiwari, three noted scholars, Jitendra Srivatsav Niranjana, Shrotriya Arun Hota and Sudha Upadhyay, presented papers. In the valedictory session, Sri Satyadev Tripathi summed up the proceedings and noted critic Sri Vijay Bahadur Singh delivered the valedictory address wherein he provided valuable insights into the life and works of the poet. The seminar was coordinated by Sri Brajendra Tripathi, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi.

SEMINAR ON INDIAN LANGUAGES IN SCHOOL EDUCATION

6-7 September 2014, Bengaluru

Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with Kuvempu Bhasha Bharati Pradhikara,

organized a two day seminar on 'Indian Languages in School Education' on 6 and 7 September, 2014 at Nayana Sabhangana, Bengaluru.

The seminar was inaugurated by Dr Chandrasekhar Kambar, Vice President, Sahitya Akademi in his inaugural address felt that government should step in urgently to stem the loss of languages and dialects in the rapidly changing modern societies and especially in the wake of recent Supreme Court ruling on the language of education. Dr K.V. Narayana, President, Kuvempu Bhasha Bharati Pradhikara while speaking on the occasion called for urgent revamping of the present system of imparting of education and said a variety of languages and they are in hundreds, are not being represented in the education system at all. Dr Debi Prasanna Patnaik, Prof Ganesh N Devi, Prof N. Gopi and Prof K. Nachimuthu, speaking in the inaugural session called upon the government to adopt scientific methods to ensure the survival of Indian languages.

In the first academic session that was chaired by Prof O.L. Nagabhushana, Prof Annamalai, Prof Ushadevi and Prof Joseph Koipally presented their papers. In the second academic session that was chaired by Sri Bharat Inamdhar, Prof Joga Singh, Prof Kanji Patel, Prof Chandraprakash Deval, Prof O.N. Kaul and Dr Rajesh Sachdeva presented their papers. In the third academic session that was chaired by Dr Nataraj Huliya, Dr Balram Pande, Prof Prashant Nayak, Prof Vasdev Mohi and Dr K. Sethuraman presented their papers. In the fourth academic session that was chaired by Prof C. Naganna, Dr Mahabaleshwara Rao, Prof B. Mallikarjun and Dr Meti Mallikaruna presented their papers. Dr Narahalli Balasubramanya, Convener, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi and Sri K.A. Dayanand, Director, Kannada and Culture

Department, Government of Karnataka spoke at the valedictory session that was chaired by Sri C. Radhakrishnan, Convener, Malayalam Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi.

SYMPOSIUM ON SAINT LAXMINATH GOSAIN
7 September 2014, Parsarma

Sahitya Akademi in association with Sant Laxminath Sangeet Mahavidyalaya, organized a symposium on Saint Laxminath Gosain on September 7, 2014 at his birth place Parsarma, Supaul, Bihar. Sri Laxminath Gosain was one of the greatest saint sons of Bihar who was chiefly instrumental in carrying lofty philosophies of ancient literature, especially Vedas, to the masses in a direct and simple language.

In the inaugural session, Dr. Devendrakumar Devesh, Officer-on-Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and the audience and spoke briefly about the legacy of Sant Laxminath Gosain and outlined the various initiatives of the Akademi. The session was chaired by Dr. Kamalkant Jha, ex-chairman of Maithili Academy, the inaugural address was delivered by Dr. Tilaknath Mishra, keynote address by Dr. Dharendra Nath Jha Dhir and introductory speech was delivered by Dr. Bina Thakur, Convener, Maithili Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi. In the two academic sessions that were chaired by Sri Ravindra Rakesh and Sri Taranant Viyogi, six noted scholars, Sri Ramnaresh Singh, Sri Kulanand Jha, Sri Abhaykant Thakur, Sri Arvind Thakur, Smt. Sunita Jha and Sri Ram Chaitanya Dhiraj, presented papers covering various aspects of life and works of Saint Laxminath Gosain, the place of his works within Maithili literature and the impact his works had on the people of Mithila. The valedictory session was chaired

by Sri Buchru Paswan and valedictory address was delivered by Sri Khushilal Jha. Dr. Devesh proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON POST-INDEPENDENCE MARATHI CRITICISM
9 September 2014, Nanded

Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University organized a symposium on Post Independence Marathi Criticism on September 9, 2014 at Nanded. Sri Gangadhar Pantavne, eminent writer and critic, inaugurated the symposium.

In the inaugural session, Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, observed in his welcome note that considering the year of our independence and the major shift of literary trends that took place around 1960s, the symposium was divided into two sessions viz., Post Independence Marathi Criticism – 1947-1960 and Post Independence Marathi Criticism – 1960-until the date, and that in the period between 1947 and 2014 we certainly had a picture of Marathi literature that was created by our criticism, and the symposium had objective to evaluate this picture, to evaluate literary canons that were developed by our criticism. Sri Gangadhar Pantavne, in the inaugural address, stated that our criticism was equipped with several values, and was dominant during 1950s. D.K. Bedekar, S.K. Kshirsagar, D.B. Kulkarni were significant critics during this period, he observed. He said that the nature of Marathi criticism had gradually been changed, and criticism failed to withstand our literature after 1960 which we considered today was entirely of reformation. Further he observed that our criticism still was dependent on western

canons. Sri Digambar Padhye, eminent Marathi critic, delivered the keynote address. He said that the span of criticism begins at book reviews and reaches critical theory, and criticism was of two types basically, viz., applied and theoretical. He observed that it was possible earlier to categorize our criticism but it was not possible now, for criticism today was not oriented to look at literary work of art from merely a single point of view. Sri Pandit Vidyasagar, Vice-Chancellor of the University and Chief Guest at the event, heartily thanked Sahitya Akademi for offering opportunity to the University to collaborate in organizing such an event. Sri Ramesh Dhage, Director, School of Languages and Literature, SRTM University proposed a vote of thanks. The first session was chaired by Sri L.S. Deshpande, and Sri Ashutosh Patil, Sri Avinash Sapre and Ms. Aruna Dubhashi presented their papers. Sri Patil said that between 1947 and 1960 criticism of Marathi poetry was oscillated between artistic and realistic and there was no theoretical criticism. Amongst the significant critics during this period were Mardhekar, Karandikar, W.L. Kulkarni, Dilip Chitre and Kusamawati Deshpande. Ms. Aruna Dubhashi's paper discussed criticism of novels in Marathi from 1947 to 1960. She observed that this period was known for the impact of short stories and for the novel to come to the centre it took Nemade's Kosla to come. But still S.V. Ketkar and Vaman Malar Joshi contributed to a great extent to criticism of novel. Sri T.S. Kulkarni chaired the second session, Sri Neelakantha Kadam, Sri Satish Badve and Sri Ramchandra Kalunkhe presented their papers. All the three papers established that Sudhir Rasal, Bhalchandra Nemade, Dilip Chitre, Vilas Sarang, Sudha Joshi and M.D. Hatkanangalekar were the major critics in the period from 1960 to until the date. The last session was meant for a Poets' Meet. Sri Neelakantha Kadam, Sri Shridhar Nandedkar,

Sri Keshav Deshmukh, Sri P. Vithal and Sri Pritviraj Taur recited their poems at the meet. At the conclusion of the programme Sri Kautikrao Thale Patil, Member, Marathi Advisory Board, delivered valedictory address.

SEMINAR ON WOMEN WRITINGS IN INDIAN LANGUAGES: YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW

September 13-14, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi, in association with Praajaswamika Rachayitrula Vedika (PRARAVE) and Delhi Telugu Sahiti, organized a two day seminar on 'Women Writings in Indian Languages: Yesterday-Today-Tomorrow' on September 13-14, 2014 at Andhra Association Building, New Delhi.

In the inaugural session, Sri K. Satyanarayana, Andhra Association welcomed the participants and the audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of Andhra Association. In his Presidential address Sri R. Mani Naidu spoke about the necessity to encourage women writings not only in the main languages but also in minor languages. Sri Kambhampati Rammohan Rao, who was the Chief Guest spoke about women writing in 20th century and the direction it is taking in the 21st century. Prof. Katyayani Vidmahe, Akademi award winner, introduced the theme and concept of the seminar. Prof C. Mrunalini, Member, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that focused on the social changes and literature of women and was chaired by Prof. K. Satchidanandan, eminent poet and former Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, five papers representing five different languages were presented by Ms. Antara Dev Sen, Ms. Mridula Garg, Prof. K. Satchidanandan, Ms. Urmila Pawar and Ms. Olga. In the second session that focused on

women writers in classical literature and was chaired by Dr. K.N. Malleswari, four scholars, Prof. E.M. Rao, Ms. M.V. Lakshmi, Dr. M. Krishnan, Dr. Kolipaka Shobha Rani presented their papers. In the third session which focused on women writing in modern Telugu literature and was chaired by Ms. Anisetti Rajitha, three scholars, Dr. K.V. Ramalakshmi, Ms. M. Shyamala and Ms. V. Shantiprabodha presented their papers. In the fourth session which focused on women writing from 1960 to 2000 and was chaired by Ms. P. Rajyalakshmi, five scholars, Ms. Knondepoodi Nirmala, Ms. Veeralakshmi Devi, Ms. Nallori Rukmini, Ms. N. Ratnamala and Ms. Mersy Margarate presented their papers representing different genres. In the fifth session which focused on contemporary women writing in Telugu and was chaired by Dr. J. Bhagyalakshmi, four scholars, Ms. Kupili Padma, Ms. Vijayabhanu Kotte, Dr. Putla Hemalatha and Ms. M. Vimala presented their papers offering various perspectives. In the valedictory session that was chaired by Dr. K.G. Rao, Sri Kottireddy of Andhra Association welcomed the participants. Dr. S. Venugopala Chari who was the chief guest talked about women writing's role in nation building. Justice Ms. G. Rohini, who was the Guest of Honor, talked about women writing in jurisprudence and other allied fields and observed for all round development of societies women writing should be encouraged. Sri B.V.V.K. Rao, Sri D. Subrahmanyam and Dr. K.N. Malleswari talked and proposed a vote of thanks.

SEMINAR ON BHANUBHAKTA ACHARYA
September 13-14, 2014, Darjeeling

Sahitya Akademi in association with Gorkha Dukh Nivarak Sammelan, organized a two day seminar to commemorate the 200th birth

anniversary of Sri Bhanubhakta Acharya on September 13-14, 2014 in Darjeeling. Bhanubhakta Acharya translated one of the two Epics of India, Srimad Valmiki Ramayana, into Nepali and is celebrated as 'Nepal ka Adikavi.'

In the inaugural session, Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and guests and spoke briefly about various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi to promote Nepali literature. Sri B.B. Gurung, President, Gorkha Dukh Nivarak Sammelan, chaired the session, Sri Prem Pradhan, Convener, Nepali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the introductory speech, Sri Manbahadur Pradhan, President, Nepali Sahitya Adhyayan Samiti, delivered inaugural speech and Sri Jiwan Namdung, eminent Nepali poet and critic, delivered the keynote address. Sri B.K. Rai, General Secretary, Gorkha Dukh Nivarak Sammelan proposed a vote of thanks. In the three academic sessions that were chaired by Sri Nand Hangkim, Sri Narbahadur Rai and Sri Krishnaraj Ghatani, eight noted scholars, Ms. Radha Sharma, Ms Bina Hangkim, Sri Gangaprasad Bhattarai, Sri Karna Thami, Sri Gokul Sinha, Sri Navin Poudyal, Smt. Shanti Chhetri and Smt. Sujatarani Rai presented papers covering the life, works and legacy of Sri Bhanubhakta Acharya. The valedictory session was chaired by Sri Kedar Gurung and the valedictory address was delivered by Dr. Pratap Chandra Pradhan, Dean, Sikkim University.

SEMINAR ON PRANABANDHU KAR
September 13, 2014, Bhubaneswar

Sahitya Akademi in association with the Department of Odia, Utkal University, organized a daylong seminar on Pranabandhu

Kar to commemorate the birth centenary of legendary fiction writer and playwright on September 13, 2014 at Bhubaneswar.

In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants, dignitaries and scholars, spoke briefly about the activities of the Akademi and also on the impact of Pranabandhu Kar's works on other genres. Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi talked about the exalted place of Pranabandhu Kar in the landscape of Indian Literature. Prof Ashok Kumar Das, Vice Chancellor of Utkal University and Chief Guest thanked the Akademi for choosing the University and talked briefly about Pranabandhu Kar's influence in his own life. Noted critic and playwright Prof Narayan Sahu, in his keynote address, talked about how the blending of Marxism and Existentialism served as a significant tool at the hands of Pranabandhu Kar in portraying social reality. Sri Gourhari Das, Convener, Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked about the influence of Pranabandhu Kar on the subsequent generation of Odia fiction writer. Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, proposed a vote of thanks. Pranabandhu Kar's unpublished one act play "Chihna Mati Achihna Akasha" was released in the inaugural session.

In the first session devoted to Pranabandhu Kar's fiction and chaired by Prof Baishnab Charan Samal, five scholars, Dr Khirodd Behera, Dr Prakash Parida, Dr Santosh Ku Tripathy, Prof Udayanath Sahu and Prof Sanghamitra Mishra presented their papers focusing on inclusive portrayal of social reality in Pranabandhu Kar's short stories. In the second session devoted to Pranabandhu Kar's plays and chaired by Prof Hemant Kuman Dasand, four scholars, Smt. Bishnupriya Ota, Sri Narayan Sethi, Smt. Rajalaxmi Jena and Sri

Samar Mudali presented their papers focusing on the art and style of play writing of Pranabandhu Kar.

The valedictory session was chaired by Prof Niladri Bhusan Harichandan. Doyen of Odia theatre, Sri Ananta Mahapatra was the Chief Guest and shared interesting anecdotes from Kar's life. Sri Srimoy Kar, Pranabandhu Kar's son was the Guest of Honor. Sri Banoj Tripathy, Member, Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON KU. SA. KRISHNAMOORTHY September 14, 2014, Pudukkottai

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai held a daylong symposium at Pudukkottai on September 14, 2014 to mark the birth centenary celebrations of noted poet and lyricist Sri Ku Sa Krishnamoorthi.

In the inaugural session, Sri A.S. Ilangovan, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, Chennai, welcomed the participants, audience and scholars and spoke briefly about the life and legacy the poet Ku Sa Krishnamoorthi. Sri Ki. Nachimuthu, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the inaugural



K. Nachimuthu, Silamboli Sellappan
and Sethupathi

session and talked about the contributions of Krishnamoorthi to movies, dramas, poetry, history and criticism in addition to occasional journalistic ventures. He said he is proud to be part of this centenary celebrations held by Sahitya Akademi and said the Akademi will take up the centenary celebrations of all prominent literary personalities of Tamil Nadu. Silamboli Su Sellappan, who delivered keynote address said Krishnamoorthi was an all-round personality and it is unfortunate that the poet could not make a telling and sustained contributions to Tamil literature for variety of reasons. Sri C. Sethupathi, Member, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks. Sri Vijaya Triuvengadam chaired the first session in which three scholars, Sri P.Venkataraman, Sri Tamaraikannan and Sri M. Palaniappan presented papers enumerating various dimensions of the poet. Sri Venkataraman talked about how brilliant a poet Ku Sa Ki was from childhood and traced the Krishnamoorthi's inspirations that eventually turned him into a great poet. Sri Tamaraikannan referred to the reach and sweep of Ku Sa Ki's creative works and pointed out in addition to his poetry collections and movie lyrics, he has also made a weighty contribution to Tamil Literature in the form of "Tamil Nataka Varalaaru." Sri Palaniappan, the last speaker of the session recited the selected verses of Ku Sa Krishnamoorthi and also made critical observations on the poems recited. Sri S. Ramanujam chaired the second session that saw three scholars, Sri Ravi Subramanian, Sri K. Parthiba Raja and Sri R. Kurunjivendan, presented multi-perspective analysis of Ku Sa Krishnamoorthi's contributions to the field of films and music. Sri Ravi Subramanian referred to "Paruvamazhai" & "Isai Inbam" and said he was a rare genius who composed songs and setting music to them by himself and then

could sing out also. He mentioned a very popular song "Kutram Purindhavan" from the movie Ratha Kanneer as a testimony to Ku Sa Krishnamoorthi's versatility and talent. Sri K. Partiba Raja enumerated the list the plays written and staged by Ku Sa Ki and how that helped him in later life in his writing movie dialogues and scripts. Sri R. Kurunjivendan presented and analyzed the overall contribution of Ku Sa Ki to the world of movies. Sri Thangam Moorthy chaired the final and poetry reading session in which three promising poets, Sri Singamuthu, Ms Swathi and Sri Sembai Manavalan recited their verses.

SEMINAR ON SRADDHAKAR SUPAKAR

September 14, 2014, Sambalpur

Sahitya Akademi organized a birth centenary seminar on eminent Odia writer Sraddhakar Supakar on September 14, 2014 at Sambalpur.

In the inaugural session, Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, welcomed the participated and audience while briefly explaining various initiatives of the Akademi. Sri Hara Prasad Das, eminent writer and poet, inaugurated the seminar and in his inaugural speech talked at length about the life and works of Sraddhakar Suparkar, substance and style of his writings and the reflection of his personality on his writings as well perceivable influences on his writings. Prof Gopal Krushna Ratha, Member, Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, presided over the inaugural session and highlighted the passion and personality of Sraddhakar. Smt. Smita Devi, Principal of the College and Dr Shyam Sundar Dhar, noted scholar and critic paid glowing tributes to Sraddhakar Suparkar. Sri Naku Hansda proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session chaired by Prof Krushna Chandra Pradhan, Member, Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, four scholars, Dr Gouridas Pradhan, Sri Laxminarayan Panigrahi, Sri Shyama Bhoi and Sri Ganeshram Nahak presented papers focusing on autobiography of Sraddhakar, poetry of Sraddhakar, Travel Writing of Sraddhakar and leadership of Sraddhakar respectively. In the second session that was chaired by Prof Kumuda Ranjan Panigrahi, three scholars, Sri Bhagawat Prasad Nanda, Dr Dwarikanath Nayak and Dr Pradip Kumar Panda read out papers focusing on Sraddhakar Suparkar's plays, fiction and political activism. Sri Aurobinda Mahapatra chaired the valedictory session in which Sri Karunakar Suparkar presented valedictory address and Sri Goutam Paul proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON NEW HARVEST IN KANNADA LITERATURE

September 20, 2014, Mangalore

Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with Besant Women's College, Mangalore, organized a one-day symposium on 'New Harvest in Kannada Literature' at Mangalore on September 20, 2014.

Sri K.P. Radhakrishnan, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi Regional Office at Bengaluru, welcomed the participants, the scholars, the staff and students of the College. Dr B.A. Vivek Rai, noted Kannada scholar inaugurated the symposium and spoke at length about the role of technology in literature and forms of literature. He took the example of blog writing to analyze and elaborate the topic. Though blogs started off as medium

for those who did not find enough or sufficient opportunities in the mainstream media, soon it turned into the medium for all to express themselves including those who are already in the mainstream media. Though initially the blogs served as tools at the hands of political parties, it also helped to promote creative works and to share personal lives in due course. The advancement of blogs and social media has also resulted in what we can call as Badugalillada Holagalu ('Farm without separating wedges'). Dr Rai spoke about how this is not a new literary form and gave the examples of Bharata, Champu Kavya, Ragale etc. and felt that this form collage can be traced in modern Kannada novels of Purnachandra Tejaswi. Dr Rai then delved into negative aspects of use of technology and called for self-regulation as a most suitable method to deal with such negativity. Dr Rai also talked about the presence of multiple ideas, collision of ideas and combinatorial explosion of ideas and gave examples to deal with each of them. He called for traditional literary forms to embrace the new tools towards making literature without barriers and the world without borders in a true sense.



Vivek Rai delivering the inaugural address

Confluence of forms and expressions need not result in combinatorial explosion nor lead to sensibilities sans morality. Dr Narahalli Balasubramanya, Convener, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi thanked the college for agreeing to collaborate and organize the symposium. He listed out various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi and then pointed out the selfless nature of the Akademi which has not been indulging in profit making even in the present and rapidly changing society. Dr Narahalli Balasubramanya also pointed out that in the ever changing world, literature too has to adopt, for, archaic language cannot express modern sentiments. But, he felt changes are not easily accepted in the world and gave the example of how even Kuvempu did not accept Basava as a poet but only as a social reformer. He said in his opinion Basava Vachanas are typical examples of seamless literary forms and the emergence of such literary form without any surprise met with non-acceptance. He said literature cannot be written keeping in mind theories of literature. All literature is the reflection of experiences of life and the latter provides the basis for the former. So, changes in the environment have to be positively perceived, understood and articulated well for enriching literature. Prof B.K. Pushpalatha, Principal, Besant Women's College proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON TRANSLATION OF CHILDREN'S LITERATURE: FROM BENGALI INTO ENGLISH
September 20, 2014, Kolkata

Sahitya Akademi organized a symposium on "Translation of Children's Literature: From Bengali into English" on September 20, 2014, at the Sahitya Akademi auditorium, Kolkata.

In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and scholars and spoke at length about the advantages of translating literature, especially children's literature, into English as that will enable children of other languages can also read, enjoy and benefit from the stories of the original language. He also explained the difficulties involved therein and how Bal Sahitya Puraskar is helping this cause. Sri Samik Bandyopadhyay, eminent theatre personality talked about the problems of languages, culture and childhood in different times as major obstacles in translating children's literature. He also said despite all this, one cannot shy from the fact that the range of translation from Bengali to English remain poor. Prof K. Satchidanandan, eminent writer and former Secretary of Sahitya Akademi, talked about translation in general without going into specific genre, explained in detail the process of translation in different areas and cited various examples from different languages to drive home the points made. He also said the Akademi should be congratulated for organizing important seminars of this type. Sri Sirshendu Mukhopadhyay, eminent Bengali writer, said that though it is true that vast material remains untranslated, he had his own problems and doubt about translating all kinds of children's literature into English including his own, for he writes for children from rural background. Smt. Bharati Ray proposed a vote of thanks.

Dr Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay chaired the first session. Sri Partha Ghosh, Prof Sukanta Chaudhuri and Sri Sukhendu Ray presented papers. Sri Partha Ghosh talked about translating scientific essay in children's literature. Prof Sukanta Chaudhuri talked about problems of languages in translating children's

literature. Sri Sukhendu Ray gave example of his own troubles in translating children's literature and observed that translating rhythm is the most difficult in children's literature. In the second session that was chaired by Prof K. Satchidanandan, three scholars, Prof Ipsita Chanda, Smt. Shoma Chatterji and Prof. Anasuya Guha presented papers focusing on untranslatable elements in children's literature, translating magical realism in children's literature and adaptations of foreign writings in children's literature respectively.

Smt. Sujata Sen who delivered the valedictory address talked about market of translations from a publishers' perspective and analyzed the demands of intended readership. Sri Goutam Paul, Officer in charge, Sahitya Akademi Eastern Region, proposed the vote of thanks.

SEMINAR ON AYEKPAM SHYAMSUNDER September 21, 2014, Imphal

Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with Naharol Sahitya Premee Samiti, organized a seminar to commemorate the birth centenary of Ayeckpam Shyamsunder, noted Manipuri writers on September 21, at Dave Literature Centre, Imphal.

In the inaugural session, Sri A.C. Netrajit, Member, Manipuri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and thanked the Akademi for organizing important seminars like this at Imphal. Prof H. Behari Singh, Convener, Manipuri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked briefly about the importance and relevance of seminars of this type and about the life and works of Ayeckpam Shyamsunder. Sri Laishram Birendrakumar Singh, in his keynote address, talked about various dimensions of Ayeckpam Shyamsunder's

writings. Prof Polem Nabachandra Singh, in his Presidential address talked about the works of Ayeckpam Shyamsunder and urged the youngsters to take up research on old classics. Manipuri translation of *Chemmeen* by Laimayum Birendrakumar Sharma was released during the session. Dr Binodkumar Sharma, General Secretary, Naharol Sahitya Premee Samiti, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was chaired by Sri Laimayum Birendrakumar Sharma, three scholars, Dr Athokpam Kholchandra, Dr Gurumayum Bijoykumar Sharma and Dr Lamabam Gojendra presented papers on 'Life and Works of Ayeckpam Shyamsunder,' 'Ayeckpam Shyamsunder as a Creative Writer' and 'Ayeckpam Shyamsunder as an actor and director' respectively. In the second session that was chaired by Sri B. Jantakumar Sharma, three scholars, Dr Rajen Toijamba, Smt. R.K. Musuksana and Dr Chirom Rajkétan Singh presented papers focusing on Ayeckpam Shyamsunder as a dramatist and on translations. Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, spoke briefly about the works of Ayeckpam Shyamsunder during the session.

SEMINAR ON RAJKUMAR SHITALJIT September 22, 2014, Imphal

Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with Leimakol Khorjeikol (LEIKOL), organized a seminar on September 22, 2014 to commemorate birth centenary of eminent writer Rajkumar Shitaljit at Dave Literature Centre, Imphal.

In the inaugural session, Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about the life and works of Rajkumar Shitaljit, especially his

contributions towards cultural and literary ties between Bengal and Manipur. Dr Kh. Sarojini Devi, who presided over the session, gave interesting anecdotes from the life of the eminent writer and talked about how he inspired generations of writers. Dr S. Shantibala Devi, who delivered keynote address described Shitaljit as a father of modern Manipuri short stories and one of the founding fathers of modern Manipuri literature. Dr Shantibala also talked about diverse expressions of Shitaljit. Prof H. Behari Singh, who was the Chief Guest, described Shitaljit as a writer who was instrumental and Manipuri literature and society in the national map. Dr Maya Neprom proposed the vote of thanks.

In the first session that was chaired by Prof A.K. Sharma, three scholars, Sri Soram Kesho Singh, Sri Kakchingtabam Brajamani Sharma and Dr Arambam Ongbi Memchoubi presented papers focusing on life of Shitaljit, on the impact of Vaishnavism in his writings and Shitaljit as a poet respectively. In the second session that was chaired by Prof. Ph. Iboyaima Sharma, three scholars, Dr Heigrujam Sumbatibala Devi, Dr Heman Shilla Devi and Dr Khundongbam Gokulchandra Singh presented papers focusing on novels of Shitaljit, short stories of Shitaljit and Shitaljit's contribution to the emergence of modern Manipuri literature. A short interactive session followed the paper presentation.

SEMINAR ON DEVELOPMENT AND TRADITION OF MAITHILI GEET KAVYA

September 20-21, 2014, Darbhanga

Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with MRM College, Darbhanga, organized a two day seminar on 'Development and Tradition of Maithili Geet Kavya' on September 20-21, 2014 at Darbhanga.

In the inaugural session, Dr Devendra

Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and the audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi. Dr Ramdeo Jha chaired the session, Dr Saket Kushwaha, Vice Chancellor, LNM University, Darbhanga delivered the inaugural address, Dr Bina Thakur, Convener, Maithili Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, delivered introductory speech, Sri Tarakant Jha delivered a keynote address and Dr Vidyanath Jha, Principal, MRM College proposed a vote of thanks. Dr Bina Thakur's Maithili translation of 'Haat-Bajar,' a Bengali novel by Banphool and published by Sahitya Akademi was released during the session by Dr Saket Kushwaha. In the four academic sessions that were chaired by Dr Devkant Jha, Dr Indra Kant Jha, Sri Yoganand Jha and Sri Panchanan Mishra, twelve noted scholars, Sri Phoolchandra Mishra 'Raman', Dr Amarnath Jha, Dr Ashok Mehta, Dr Asha Mishra, Dr Neeta Jha, Dr Daman Kumar Jha, Dr Kamla Chaudhary, Dr Preeti Jha, Dr Shankar Deo Jha, Dr Raman Jha, Dr Mahendra Narain Ram and Dr. Muralidhar Jha presented papers covering different aspects of Maithili Geet Kavya. Dr Narayan Jha, Dr. Srishankar Jha, Dr Manzar Suleman and Dr Usha Chaudhary also shared their views as discussants during the sessions. Valedictory session was chaired by Dr Rupnarain Chaudhary and valedictory address was delivered by Dr Dhirendra Nath Mishra.

SYMPOSIUM ON RAJASTHANI ESSAYS

September 25, 2014, Sridungargarh

Sahitya Akademi, in association with Rashtrabhasha Hindi Prachar Samiti, organized a symposium on Rajasthani Essays on September 25, 2014 at Sridungargarh.

In the inaugural session, Sri Santanu Gangopadhyay, Assistant Editor, Sahitya



Academic session in progress

Akademi, welcomed the participants and the audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi to promote literature all over India. The session was chaired by Dr Arjun Dev Charan, Convener, Rajasthani Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, and he defined an essayist to as equivalent to a person who has control of one hundred horses. Prof Jahoor Khan Mehar, noted Rajasthani essayist, delivered the keynote address and talked about essay as a genre. In the two academic sessions that were chaired by Dr Madan Saini and Dr Chetan Swami, six noted scholars, Dr Mangat Badal, Dr Namamishankar Acharya, Dr Gajadan Charan 'Shaktisuta', Dr Arjun Singh Ujval, Sri Girdharidan Itanu and Sri Shankar Singh Rajpurohit, presented their papers covering various aspects of the evolution of essay in Rajasthani literature. The valedictory session was chaired by Sri Shyam Maharshi, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi and the valedictory address was delivered by Dr Kiran Nahta.

SEMINAR ON LITTLE MAGAZINES IN BODO AND ITS IMPACT ON SOCIETY
September 26, 2014, Sonitpur

Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with Bodo

Sahitya Sabha, organized a seminar on 'Little magazines in Bodo and their impact on society' on September 26, 2014 at Rangapara College, Sonitpur, Assam.

In the inaugural session, Dr Premananda Machahary welcomed the participants and scholars and talked about Bodo language, literature and the opportunities available to the young and aspiring. He thanked the Akademi for organizing such an important seminar. In his inaugural address, Dr Kameswar Brahma, President, Bodo Sahitya Sabha, talked about the importance of the seminars of this kind lies in their ability to mold social integrity and enhancing awareness about other cultures and traditions. In his introductory address, Prof Prasanta Boro, enumerated the current situation prevalent in several sections of the society and how little magazines impact them. Dr Anil Kr. Boro, in his inaugural speech traced the origin of little magazines of North East, especially Bodo and hoped that people would take advantage of opportunities like this seminar in a fruitful way. Sri Bisweswar Basumatary, in his keynote address, addressed the problems of little magazines and unless there is an overall participation their role in society will diminish. Sri Prasanta Boro, Secretary, Bodo Sahtiya Sabha, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was chaired by Sri Gopinath Brahma, two scholars, Sri Promod Ch. Brahma and Dr Tulan Mochahary, presented papers 'Little Magazines published from 1952 to 1972 and their impact' and 'Little Magazines published from 1974 to 2002' respectively. Dr Anil Boro commented that some of the magazines mentioned in the first paper do not come under the category of little magazine. In the second session that was chaired by Sri Nabin Malla Boro, two scholars, Dr Chinan Narzary and Dr Phaguna Barmahelia presented papers focusing on the publication of little magazines from 2003 till



Bisweswar Basumatary, Premananda Machahary,
Kameswar Brahma and Baneswar Talukdar

present. In the valedictory session, Prof Baneswar Talukdar said impact of little magazines should not be overlooked. Sri Kamala Kt. Mushahary of Bodo Sahtiya Sabha thanked the Akademi for organizing a seminar on important topic and its efforts to promote Bodo literature. Sri Dipak Kr. Basumatary, in his valedictory address urged enhanced participation for the success of little magazines and called for a healthy literary atmosphere.

SEMINAR ON MAHESWAR NEOG September 26, 2014, Guwahati

Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with the Department of Assamese, Gauhati University, organized a seminar to commemorate the birth centenary of eminent Assamese scholar Maheswar Neog at Phanidhar Dutta Auditorium, Gauhati University.

In the inaugural session, Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata welcomed the participants and scholars and spoke briefly about the life and works of Maheswar Neog. Dr Mridul Hazarika, Vice Chancellor, Gauhati University, thanked the

Akademi for choosing Gauhati University as a venue for the seminar and expressed his gratitude to the participants for their enthusiastic participation. Prof. Karabi Deka Hazarika, Convener, Assamese Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, released a book on Maheswar Neog, Prachyatatwavid Dr Maheswar Neog: Kriti aru Krititwa, during the session and spoke about the polymathic dimensions of Maheswar Neog's understanding and knowledge. Prof Dipti Phukan Patgiri, in her inaugural

address spoke about genres covered by Maheswar Neog. Prof Kamaluddin Ahmed and Prof Nagen Saikia who delivered keynote address talked about versatility of Maheswar Neog's writings.

In the first session that was chaired by Dr Malinee Goswami, three scholars Dr Pradipjyoti Mohanty, Dr Pona Mahanta and Dr Anjali Sharma presented papers 'The study of Assam theory of Maheswar Neog,' 'The prose style of Maheswar Neog' and 'Biographical Writings of Maheswar Neog' respectively. In the second session that was chaired by Dr Prabin Chandra Das, five scholars, Dr Tarani Deka, Dr Prafulla Kumar Nath, Prof Kamaluddin Ahmed, Prof Bimal Majumdar and Dr Pranjal Sharma Bashishtha, presented papers 'The role of Maheswar Neog in the Nationalistic movement of Assam,' 'The study of Vaishnab literature by Maheswar Neog,' 'The Maheswar Neog under one sky,' 'Maheswar Neog's contribution towards the study of Sankaradeva' and 'Maheswar Neog as a Historiographer of Religion' respectively. In the third session that was chaired by Dr Golokeswar Goswami, six scholars, Dr Pranita Devi, Dr Rekharani Devi, Dr Kalpana Sharma

Kalita, Dr Prasana Kumar Nath, Dr Arup Kumar Nath and Dr Lakshmi Hazarika, presented papers 'The language of Assamese poems by Maheswar Neog,' 'History of Assamese Literature by Maheswar Neog,' 'The editing of ancient manuscripts and Dr Maheswar Neog,' 'The Assamese poems of Maheswar Neog: A discussion,' 'The study of Lakshminath Bezbaroa by Maheswar Neog' and "Dr Maheswar Neog: Playwright and Fictionist" respectively. Prof Upen Rabha Hakacham delivered valedictory address and Prof Kanak Chandra Saharia proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON NEPALI TRANSLATION
September 26, 2014, Mirik, West Bengal

Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with Sahitya Sunaun Parivar, Mirik, organized a symposium on 'Nepali Translation' on September 26, 2014 at Mirik, West Bengal.

In the inaugural session, Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and guests and spoke briefly about Akademi's initiatives in the field of literary translations. Smt. Kamla Rai chaired the session, Sri Sachin Rai delivered inaugural address, Sri Prem Pradhan, Convener, Nepali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the introductory speech, Sri Rajbahadur Rai, distinguished Nepali writer, delivered the keynote address and Sri Satish Rasaili was the chief guest and he talked at length about Nepali translations. Sri Madhav Buhathoki, Convener, Sahitya Sunaun Parivar, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the only academic session that was chaired by Sri Yajn Nidhi Dhakal,

three noted Nepali scholars, Sri Jeevan Rana, Sri Yuvraj Kafley and Smt. Srijana Subba, presented papers on 'Translations of Poetry in Nepali', 'Translations of Prose in Nepali' and 'Challenges of Nepali Translations from other languages' respectively.

SYMPOSIUM ON SIGNIFYING WOMEN IN BODO LITERATURE

September 27, 2014, Guwahati

Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with the Department of Bodo, Gauhati University, organized a symposium on 'Signifying Women in Bodo Literature' on September 27, 2014 at the Department of Bodo, Gauhati University, Guwahati.

In the inaugural session, Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-charge, welcomed the participants and the audience. In the inaugural address, Dr Dipti Phukan Patgiri, appreciated the theme and concept of the seminar. Prof Swarna Prabha Chainary, in her introductory address briefly dwelt on the topic of the symposium and remarked that symposiums of this type



Goutam Paul, Premananda Machahary,
Phanindranath Narzary and Dipti Phukan Patgiri

are the need of the hour. Dr Premananda Machahary, Convener, Bodo Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, briefly talked about the role and contributions of women writers in enriching Bodo literature. Dr Swarna Prabha Chainary proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first academic session that was chaired by Dr Premananda Machahary, four scholars, Smt. Maikan Basumatary, Smt. Dipali Kherkhatary, Smt. Rupali Swargiary and Smt Mallika Basumatary presented papers, 'Reflection of Women in Old and Modern Literature,' 'Uneducated and Educated Women Reflected in the Five Short Story Books of Nilkamal Brahma,' 'Signifying Self by Women Poets' and 'Women Character as Reflected in the Novels of Chittra Ja Muchahary' respectively. In the second academic session that was chaired by Sri Birupaksha Giri Basumatary, four scholars, Smt. Champa Khakhalary, Dr Pratima Brahma, Smt. Bhairabi Boro and Smt Rahel Mochari presented papers, 'Women character in the Ovel Gwrwbn Radal,' 'Female Character through the Lens of Female Short Story Writers,' 'Boro Women in the View of Boro Male Writers' and 'Female Character in Ma Ora Jan Lahary's Novels' respectively. Dr Swarna Prabha Chainary proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON SOCIAL AMBIENCE IN LITERATURE

September 27, 2014, Mumbai

Sahitya Akademi organized a symposium on 'Social Ambience in Literature' on September 27, 2014 at Sahitya Akademi Auditorium in Mumbai. Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, welcomed the participants and audience. In order to understand the orientation of literature in the four western languages today, one must needs study their

traditions and the literature in as many dimensions as possible, and at this symposium one would get to understand social ambience in literature, he said. The symposium was inaugurated by Sri Kirit Doodhat, distinguished Gujarati fiction writer. In the inaugural address Sri Kirit Doodhat elaborated on the tradition of Gujarati short stories and said that social ambience reflected in the works of Himanshi Shelat, Bindu Bhatt, Mahendra Parmara, Kanji Patel, Ajit Thakore and Mohan Parmara is noticeable. Sri Tanaji Halarnakar, Convener, Konkani Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the inaugural session. He said that social ambience varies from writer to writer even in same language, and as social ambience can influence literature, a literary work of art also can influence our social ambience.

Sri Prem Prakash, Convener, Sindhi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the first session. The papers were presented by Sri Kantibhai Malsattar (Gujarati), Sri Edwin JF DSouza (Konkani), Smt. Kamala Goklani (Sindhi), and Sri Krishna Kimbahune read out Sri Ranadhir Shinde's (Marathi) paper. Sri Kantibhai Malsattar said that social ambience could be studied in a more appropriate way in Gujarati folk literature than in the main stream Gujarati poetry. Contemporary dalit literature in Gujarati also competently reflected Gujarati social ambience. Sri Edwin JF DSouza's paper discussed the issues of scripts – Kannada, Devanagari and Roman – Konkani was written in. This paper also discussed as to how religion intervene literature. Sri Ranadhir Shinde's paper brought out the fact that the socio-cultural atmosphere was competently dealt with by Marathi fiction writers. Smt. Kamala Goklani said that the Sindhi poetry before the 20th century was influenced by Arabic and Persian literature. Social ambience in Sindhi literature could be

felt considerably after 20th century Sindhi literature and today's literature reflected the issues of globalization and capitalization. Sri Balchandra Nemade, Convener, Marathi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the second session. Sri Pravin Pandya (Gujarati), Sri N. Shivdas (Konkani), Sri Mahendra Bhavare (Marathi) and Sri Jetho Lalwani (Sindhi) presented their papers. Sri Pravin Pandya pointed it out that politics, market, entertainment the so called "isms" had been overpowering human mind and the real social issues got skipped, but still a number of Gujarati writers and poets such as Govardhanam Tripathi, Mahatma Gandhi, Zaverchand Meghani, Jayanti Dalal, Sitanshu Yashaschandra and Rajendra Shah wonderfully reflected social ambience. N. Shivdas said that social ambience in Konkani literature in Goa also reflected among communities of Goa, i.e., Hindu and Catholic, so to some extent as told earlier due to Portuguese influence of nearly 450 years, religious writings mainly was done in Roman script later on even some fictions too were written in Roman scripts. Mahendra Bhavare's paper discussed social ambience in terms of tradition of dalit literature in Marathi. He said that this literature reflected dark and brutal side of the society and evoked the deep sense of the need of liberation and revolt. Sri Jetho Lalwani said that contemporary Sindhi literature mostly dealt with human life in metropolitan cities hence it represented metropolitan ambience which was too incompetent to be termed as social ambience.

CONVENTION ON KUMAONI LANGUAGE September 27-28, 2014, Almora

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in collaboration with the Department of Hindi, Kumaon

University and Kumaoni Bhasha, Sahitya evam Sanskriti Prachar Samiti, Almora, organized a two day convention on Kumaoni language on 27th and 28th of September at Seminar Hall, Visual Art Faculty, Kumaon University, Almora.

In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and scholars and said the purpose of the convention was to deliberate upon the past, present and future of Kumaoni language. He announced that Sahitya Akademi intends to incorporate Kumaoni language into the fold of minor languages for which Bhasha Samman and briefly explained about the nature and scope of Bhasha Samman. Sri R.S. Pathni, Director, Kumaoni University Campus, Almora, in his inaugural address appreciated the initiative of the Akademi in organizing the convention and hoped this would go a long way in enriching Kumaoni literature. Dr Sher Singh Bisht, in his keynote address, spoke at length about the rich heritage of kumaoni language, oral traditions and published works. Ms. Renu Mohan Bhan, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the convention spread over seven sessions, scholars, writers and poets like Smt. Chandrakala Ravat, Sri Bhawanidutt Kandpal, Smt. Daya Pant, Smt. Diva Bhatt, Smt. Neeraja Tondon, Sri Lalit Joshi, and Smt. Deepa Gobadi presented papers covering, Kumaoni language, dialects, Kumaoni prose, fiction, poetry, journalism, oral traditions and folk literature. Kumaoni cultural programmes comprising folk songs and dances were also performed during the convention. There was a poets' meet too and 12 poets recited their poems in Kumaoni. Ms. Manjeet Kaur Bhatia, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON NEPALI CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

September 28, 2014, Gangtok

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in collaboration with the Sikkim Akademi, organized a symposium on 'Nepali Children's Literature' on September 28, 2014 at Gangtok, Sikkim.

In the inaugural session, Dr Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and guests and spoke briefly about various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi to preserve and promote Children's literature across the country. Padmashri Sanu Lama chaired the session, Sri Pempa Tamang, President, Sikkim Akademi, delivered the inaugural speech, Sri Rudra Paudyal was the chief guest, Sri Prem Pradhan, Convener, Nepali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the introductory speech and keynote address was delivered by Dr. Pratapchandra Pradhan, Dean, Sikkim University. Dr. Pratapchandra Pradhan talked about problems in writing children's literature and challenges faced by Nepali literary community. Sri Pradhuma Shrestha, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the only academic session that was chaired by Dr. Shanti Chhetri, three noted scholars, Sri Bhim Pradhan, Dr. Kavita Lama and Smt. Snehlata Rai, presented their papers focusing on current status of and problems faced by writers of Nepali Children's literature. Sri Parasmani Dungal, President, Nepali Sahitya Parishad, Sikkim, coordinated the programme and also proposed a vote of thanks.

BIRTH CENTENARY SYMPOSIUM ON SANJIVDEV
September 28, 2014, Tenali

Sahitya Akademi organized a day long birth centenary symposium on the celebrated writer

Dr Sanjivdev on September 28, 2014 at Tenali.

In the inaugural session, Sri K.P. Radhakrishnan, Programme Officer, welcomed the participants and guests and briefly spoke about the activities of the Akademi and its efforts to popularize literature all over the country. Dr Velaga Venkatappaiah, Member, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his inaugural address talked about the place of Tenali in Telugu literature and recalled some of the doyens who hailed from there. He thanked the Akademi for choosing Tenali as the venue for the symposium and requested the officials to install a statue of Dr Dev and also publish a reader on Dr Dev. Dr N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, who chaired the session, paid tributes to Dr Sanjivdev and talked at length about the qualities of Dr Dev's writings and how his writings captivated large sections of the society. Dr Gopi observed that Tummapudi, a small village has been immortalized by Dr Sanjivdev's writings. Dr V. Kondalarao, former Director, Telugu Akademi, talked about the writings and paintings of Dr Dev and felt that they have everlasting value. In the first session that was chaired by Sri Singamaneni Narayana, noted short story writer, five scholars, Dr T. Ravichand, Dr Laxman Chakravarthi, Sri Muthevi Ravindranath, Dr Kadiyala Ramamohan Roy and Dr C. Nagabhushanam presented papers. All the papers focused on the beauty and elegance of Dr Dev's writings and poetry and is reminiscent of alltime great litterateurs of Andhra Pradesh. In the second session that was chaired by Sri Somepalli Venkata Subbaiah, President, Guntur Dt. Writers' Association, five noted scholars, Dr B. Sundararao, Sri Kottapalli Ravibabu, Sri Modugula Ravikrishna, Sri N.R. Tapaswi and Sri Mungara Jashua presented papers focusing on the prefaces, criticisms, letters, English writings

and philosophies of Dr Sanjivdev respectively. Sri Ravela Sambasivarao presided over the Valedictory session and delighted all with interesting anecdotes from Dr Dev's life. Sri Vadrevu China Veerabhadru presented a valedictory address focusing on the personality of Dr Dev and Sri Inala Malleswararao proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM AND POETS' MEET ON SWACHH BHARAT

October 1, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a symposium and poets' meet on Government of India's Swachh Bharat initiative on October 1, 2014 at the Akademi auditorium in New Delhi.

Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and the guests and spoke briefly about the presence of environmental concerns in ancient and medieval literature in almost all the languages of India. He quoted anecdotes from Sangam literature and the works of Kalidasa and Valmiki. Sri Anupam Mishra, environmentalist and author was the Chief Guest and spoke at length about the dangers of neglecting environment. He observed that the deteriorating relationship between people and nature is primarily due to lack of concern and absence of value systems that can be traced in scores of vernacular literature of India. Prof. K. Satchidanandan, eminent author and poet and former Secretary of the Akademi chaired the session and spoke at length about the presence of nature in the writings of poetry in both modern and post-modern literature of the world. He observed that literature reflects the reality and absence of nature in literature is just a reflection of massive apathy of humans towards nature and environment. Sri Bindeshwar Pathak, founder of Sulabh

International and Guest of Honor, spoke briefly about the origin of Sulabh and various initiatives of the organization towards Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. Noted writers Anamika and Apoorvanand also spoke on the occasion. At the poets' meet, five noted poets, Manglesh Dabral, H.K. Kaul, Subroto Bondo, Som Dutt Sharma and Mohanjit, recited poems revolving around the theme of people and nature.

SYMPOSIUM ON CHILDREN'S LITERATURE IN PUNJABI

October 5, 2014, Barnala

Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with Komantri Punjabi Ilam, organized a symposium on 'Children's Literature in Punjabi' on October 5, 2014, at Seminar Hall, Gobind Bansal Charitable Trust, Barnala, Punjab.

In the inaugural session, Ms. Manjeet Kaur Bhatia, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and guests and briefly outlined various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi in promoting Children's literature in 24 languages and throughout the country. Dr Rawail Singh, Convener, Punjabi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his introductory address, talked at length about the present scenario and future possibilities of Punjabi Children literature and also about the challenges before the writers of Children's literature in Punjabi. Dr Deepak Manmohan Singh, in his Presidential address remarked that since many writers are coming forward of late to write children's literature in Punjabi, the future of Punjabi Children's writing looks bright though they must cope with the ever changing scenario and try also to adapt from other languages.

In the first session chaired by Col. Jasbir

Bhullar, two noted scholars, Dr Sarabjit Bedi Ms. Jaskanwaljit Kaur presented papers. In the second session that was chaired by Dr Darshan Bhutter, four noted scholars, Darshan Singh Ast, Sri Manmohan Singh Doun, Kamaljit Neelon and Sri Tarsem read from their works. A large number of writers and scholars participated in the programme.

SYMPOSIUM ON MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES OF TAMIL POETRY

October 11, 2014, Viluppuram

Sahitya Akademi in association with Deivanai Ammal College, Viluppuram, organized a day long symposium on 'Multiple Perspectives of Tamil Poetry' on October 11, 2014 at the college auditorium.

In the inaugural session, Sri A.S. Ilangovan, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Chennai welcomed the participants, scholars, faculty and students of the college and spoke briefly about the multiple perspectives available in Tamil milieu itself and also through comparative analysis of poetry available in numerous other languages of India. He said that Akademi provides the latter and urged all to embrace the initiatives of the Akademi. Prof K. Nachimuthu briefly explained the structure, initiatives and programmes of the Akademi help one and all in gaining multiple perspectives, not only in poetry but also in other genres. He informed the audience about numerous schemes and programmes of the Akademi. Sri T. Radhakrishnan, I.P.S., in his address drew parallels from ancient Sangam poetry and compared them with the 20th century Tamil poetry and also made comparisons to English poetry. Sri E. Samikannu, Sri S. Senthil Kumar and Dr Kasthuribhai Dhanasekaran of the college

praised the initiatives of the Akademi and thanked the Akademi for organizing a symposium in their premises. Dr R. Sambath, while proposing a vote of thanks, talked briefly about various perspectives of Tamil poetry. The first session was chaired by Prof Muhilai Rajapandian and three scholars, Dr Porkalai, Sri K. Ganesan and Smt. Premalatha presented papers focusing on feminist perspectives of modern poetry, poetic traditions of 20th century Tamil poetry and post-modern perspectives respectively. The second session was chaired by Sri Pazhamalai and three scholars, Ms. Saroja Babu, Sri Sundara Murugan and Sri Chella Perumal presented papers focusing on contemporary social reality, especially that of Dalit and other oppressed communities' aspirations. In the valedictory session Prof Rama Gurunathan summed up the perspectives presented in the symposium and offered critical appreciation, while Dr Mangaiarkarasi proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON CONTEMPORARY TELUGU STORY

October 12, 2014, Nellore

Sahitya Akademi in association with Nellore Zilla Rachayatala Sangham, Nellore, organized a day long symposium on 'Contemporary Telugu Story' on October 12, 2014 at Vikrama Simhapuri Conference Hall, V R High School Ground, Nellore.

In the inaugural session, Sri K.P. Radhakrishnan, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi RO, Bengaluru, welcomed the participants, writers and scholars and spoke briefly about the purpose and objectives of symposia of this type. Prof N. Gopi, who presided over the session said in his speech that stories are reflection of changes that any

society undergoes and therefore it is inevitable the nature of the story is the nature of the society. He said globalization has produced more negatives than positives and hence this is bound to get reflected in the stories. Sri Vihari, noted writer, in his keynote address, presented an overview of Telugu stories especially in the period between 2009 and 2014. He generally agreed with the views of the Presidential address delivered by Prof Gopi on the ill effects of globalization and the larger marginalization of the poor. In the first session that was chaired by Dr Pellakuru Jayaprada, four noted story writers, Ms Indraganti Janakibala, Sri V. Raja Ram Mohan Rao, Sri Vennalakanti Rajeswara Prasad and Smt. Chandralatha presented papers. The papers focused on the dominant themes of modern short stories in Telugu - effects of globalization and problems of urban living, changing narratives in storytelling, effect of movies on methods of storytelling and vanishing creativity in contemporary storytelling respectively. In the second session that was chaired by V. Raja Ram Mohan Rao, three scholars, Madhurantakam Narendra, R.M. Umamaheswar Rao and Ms. Muktevi Bharathi presented papers. The papers focused on reflection of effects of globalization in Telugu short stories, diversity of themes in contemporary Telugu short stories and the contemporary Telugu stories with sea / ocean as a back drop respectively. Ms. Pathuri Annapurna chaired the valedictory session and talked about the interlinking of human life and story and observed that life itself is a story. Prof N. Gopi, presented different dimensions of contemporary Telugu Short Story writing and also spoke briefly about Telengana society and its story. Sri Nanduri Raja Gopal, editor of Chinku, in his valedictory address, summed up the day's events and presented a critical appreciation of the

symposium. Sri Mateti Ratna Prasad of Nerasam proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON BHARATIDASAN

October 16, 2014, Pollachi

Sahitya Akademi, in association with the Department of Tamil Studies, N.G.M. College, Pollachi, organized a daylong seminar on October 16, 2014 at N.G.M. College, Pollachi, to commemorate 125th birth anniversary of Bharatidasan.

In the inaugural session, Sri A.S. Ilangoan, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Chennai welcomed the participants, scholars, faculty and the students of the college and talked about the relevance and importance of Bharathi and Bharatidasan. Prof K. Nachimuthu, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his Presidential address, briefly narrated various initiatives of the Akademi in promoting literature. He also enumerated the literary achievements of Bharatidasan. Dr Krishnaraj Vanavarayar, President of the College was the Guest of Honor. Dr Sirpi Balasubramanian, eminent poet, presented a critical appreciation of Bharatidasan's poetry and also provided numerous interesting anecdotes from Bharatidasan's life and his friends. Mannar Mannan, son of Bharatidasan and grandsons Bharathi and Selvam were felicitated during the session. Dr Sambath, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi, talked about the literary milieu in which Bharatidasan flourished while proposing a vote of thanks. In the first session that was chaired by Sri R. Sundaramurugan, Member, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, three scholars, Dr. R. Kamaraj, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi, Sri Y. Manikandan and Ms. Yazh Chandra presented papers focusing on nationalism, humanism, diverse

genres and feminism in Bharatidasan's poetry. In the second session that was chaired by Sri Puviyarasu, noted writer and translator, two scholars, Sri Sethupathi and Sri Gowthaman presented papers focusing on Philosophy of Nature and Comparative Analysis of Bharathi and Bharatidasan respectively. Sri Erode Tamizhanban chaired the valedictory session and compared Bharatidasan with Shelley and Byron. Dr K. Chellappan delivered the valedictory address, Prof Badri Narayanan, Principal of the College, delivered felicitations and Sri P.M. Palanisamy proposed a vote of thanks.

SEMINAR ON HUNDRED YEARS OF PUNJABI THEATRE

October 16-17, 2014, Patiala

Sahitya Akademi, and the Department of Theatre and Television, Punjabi University, Patiala, organized a two day seminar to commemorate the centenary of Punjabi theatre on October 16 and 17, 2014 at Patiala University.

In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the participants and guests and talked at length about the evolution of Punjabi theatre over the past 100 years, the challenges they faced and possible avenues for future growth. Dr Jaspal Singh, Vice Chancellor, Punjabi University, in his address talked about the creative medium of theatre and announced the creation of Fellowship in the name of Norah Richards, a pioneer in Punjabi theatre, to be conferred on best theatre artist of Punjab every year. Dr Rawail Singh, Convener, Punjabi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, explained the purpose and objective of the seminar. Dr Mohinder Kumar, in his keynote address, recalled the contributions of stalwarts of

yesteryears in Punjabi theatre and thanked the Akademi for organizing a timely seminar in this regard.

In the first session that was chaired by Ajmer Singh Aulakh, five noted theatre experts, Navnidra Behl, Kamlesh Uppal, Gurcharan Singh Channi, Jaspal Deol and Pritam Singh Rupal presented papers covering various facets of Punjabi theatre. In the evening a play by students of the department was staged. In the first session of the second day that was chaired by Sri Kamlesh Uppal, six theatre experts, Ravi Sharma, Navdeep Kaur, Mukesh Gautam, Manpal Tiwana, Amrik Gill and Sunita Dhir presented papers. In the valedictory session that was chaired by Sri Deepak Manmohan Singh, three scholars, Jaspal Kaur Deol, Dr Jaspal Singh, and Amrik Gill spoke. Ms. Manjeet Kaur Bhatia, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON THE LIFE AND WRITINGS OF H.V. SAVITHRAMMA

October 18, 2014, Bengaluru

Sahitya Akademi organized a one day symposium on 'Life and Writings of H.V. Savithramma' on October 18, 2014 at Krishnaraja Parishanmandira, Bengaluru.

In the inaugural session Sri K.P. Radhakrishnan, Programme Officer, welcomed the participants and other scholars. He spoke briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi to promote Indian literature across the country. Dr C. Sarvamangala, eminent Kannada writer, in her inaugural address, described Savithramma as one of the pioneers of women's literature in Kannada along with Kodagina Gowramma. She also pioneered translations into Kannada by translating giants like Tagore, Chekhov among others. Dr Sarvamangala also

explained the Gandhian effect in her later writings can be attributed to the dominance of Congress in the Princely state of Mysore from 1930s. Smt. P. Chandrika, Member, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in her keynote address, spoke about how Savithramma's partition stories are different from that of those appeared in other languages at that time and she was an original thinker par excellence. She commended Sahitya Akademi for organizing symposium on the writings of Savithramma. Dr Narahalli Balasubramanya, Convener, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his presidential address, talked about the peculiar qualities and strands of Savithramma's writings. He felt that directness and simplicity and ensuing lack of philosophical complications were the strengths of Savithramma's writings. Smt. Vasundhara Bhoopathi, President, Karnataka Lekhakiyara Sangha, Bengaluru, proposed a vote of thanks. Dr B.N. Sumitra Bai chaired the session and she spoke about the evolution of H.V. Savitramma as a writer and as she evolved more and more genre attached themselves to her repertoire. Two noted scholars Smt. Vinaya Vakkunda and Smt. C.D. Manjula presented papers on 'Savithramma's Life and Writings' and 'Savithramma's world of fiction-aspects' respectively. Smt. R. Poornima chaired the second session and three scholars, Smt. Preethi Subhachandra, Dr Sabiha Bhoomigowda and Smt. K. Shairfa presented papers on 'Novels translated by Savithramma: Question of Nationalism and Modernism,' 'Family and Society portrayed by Savithramma' and 'Savithramma: A Creative Response' respectively. Smt. Vijaya, noted Kannada writer, in her valedictory address talked about variety of topics in Savithramma's writings and her interactions with the legendary writer. Dr Vasundhara Bhoopathi proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON SHIVNATH October 19, 2014 Jammu

A one day symposium on Shivnath was organised in Jammu on October 14, 2014. In the inaugural session, Sri Santanu Gangopadhyay, Assistant Editor, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the audience and the participants and spoke briefly about the legacy of late Shivnath. Prof Lalit Magotra, Convener, Dogri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his inaugural speech, talked at length about significant contributions of Shivnath to Dogri literature. His pioneering work on Dogri Literature is a bench-mark for future scholars and researchers. His personal essays and memoirs are very popular and are relished not only by Dogri readers but others also.

In the paper reading sessions that were chaired by Prof. Nilambar Dev Sharma and Nar Singh Dev Jamwal, four scholars, Prof Veena Gupta, Dr. Om Goswami, Dr. Bansi Lai and Dr. Nirmal Vinod presented papers covering life and various aspects of Sri Shivnath's writings.

BIRTH CENTENARY SYMPOSIUM ON PRASANNAKAVI SANKARAMBADI SUNDARACHARI October 20, 2014, Tirupati

Sahitya Akademi in association with Telugu Bhashodyama Samiti, organized a symposium on Prasannakavi Sankarambadi Sundarachari to commemorate his birth centenary on October 20, 2014 at Sri Padmavathi Women's Degree and P.G. College, Tirupati.

Dr. K. Sreenivasaro, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants, scholars and others who attended the event and spoke briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi to promote Indian literature all over India. He said he was very happy to attend the birth

centenary symposium of the poet who gave Telugu people their state anthem. Prof N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the session and explained how the song 'Maa Telugu Talliki ...' represents all of Sundarachari's writings and though he had been writing over 40 years, Sundarachari received due recognition only in 1975. Prof W. Rajendra, Vice Chancellor, S.V. University, Tirupati, hoped the legendary poet's poems and writings should inspire all Telugus to unite though the state might have been divided. Sri Mannava Bhaskara Naidu, Guest of Honor, who looked after the poet till his death narrated interesting anecdotes. Prof R. Chandrasekhara Reddy, Member, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi talked about the simplicity of Sundarachari's poems. Dr N. Venugopal, AIR, Chennai appealed to the people to publish Sundarachari's complete works so that the gems contained in those works can be passed onto the future generations without any loss. Dr Gnanakumari, Principal of the College thanked the Sahitya Akademi to host the symposium in the college premises.

In the first session that was chaired by Sri Kota Purushotam, President, Aarasam, two noted scholars, Prof. M. Narendra and Prof M. Sampath Kumar presented papers on Geetanjali and Bhudha Geeta respectively focusing on the aesthetic element of the poems. Prof G. Balasubrahmanya, Sri Krishnadevaraya University, chaired the second session and presented a paper on Sundara Sudha Binduvulu. In the session, three scholars, Dr Srimannarayana, Dr M. Mallikarjuna Reddy and Sri A. Murali presented papers on 'Sundarabharatham,' 'Sundara Sangraha Ramayanam' and 'Sundarachari's use of Thetageethi' respectively. In the third session that was chaired by Prof K. Madhujyothi, two papers were presented. Ms. G. Sreedevi

presented a paper on 'Naa Swami' and Prof. Madhu Jyothi on 'Samvedana of Sundarachari.' Sri Sakam Nagaraja, a noted scholar chaired the valedictory session and spoke in detail about the Telugu language protection movement in Chittoor District. Dr R.A. Padmanabha Rao, Retired Additional DG of Doordarshan, in his valedictory address spoke about the multifaceted beauties of Sundarachar's poems. A resolution was passed at the symposium requesting Sahitya Akademi to publish a monograph on Prasannakavi Sankarambadi Sundarachari. Many professors and scholars from S.V. and Dravidian Universities along with the local writers participated in the symposium.

SYMPOSIUM ON KHWAJA AHMAD ABBAS October 24, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akdemi, to commemorate the birth centenary of Khwaja Ahmad Abbas, eminent Urdu writer, organized a symposium at Sahitya Akademi conference hall in New Delhi on October 24, 2014.

Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and talked briefly about Khwaja Ahmad Abbas' contribution to various genres of Urdu literature. Prof Gopi Chand Narang, Fellow, Sahitya Akademi, in his Presidential speech, said that Khwaja Ahmad Abbas was a multi-faceted scholar, writer, journalist and film script writer and we should make all efforts to remember and preserve his writings that were hallmark of secularism. Prof Syed Ehtesham Hasnain, former Vice Chancellor of Hyderabad Central University, who was the Chief Guest of the evening, described Khwaja Ahmad Abbas as a visionary, socialist, writer par excellence and a journalist committed to secularism. During the symposium, a

monograph on Khwaja Ahmad Abbas, written by Khalid Ashraf was released.

In the paper reading session, five noted Urdu scholars, Dr Zoya Zaidi, Musharraf Alam Zauqi, Dr Khalid Ashra, Suresh Kohli and Dr Sohail Anjum, presented papers covering Khwaja Ahmad Abbas' short stories, Abbas' fiction writing, life and works of Abbas, Abbas' film writing and Abbas' journalism, respectively. Sri Chander Bhan Khayal, Convener, Urdu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks and Dr Mushtaque Sadaf, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, coordinated the programme.

SYMPOSIUM ON PERCEPTIONS OF NATIONALISM October 26, 2014, Chitradurga

Sahitya Akademi in association with Abhiruchi Literary and Cultural Forum, Chitradurga, organized a one day symposium on 'Perceptions of Nationalism' on October 26, 2014 at Mayura Yatri Nivas Auditorium, Chitradurga.

In the inaugural session, Sri Suresh Kumar, of Sahitya Akademi welcomed the participants and scholars and spoke briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi. Dr K. Marulasiddappa, noted Kannada writer, inaugurated the symposium and in his inaugural address presented various perspectives of 'nationalism.' He said Gandhi's vision of gram swaraj or Nehru's vision of nation building through villages or the vision of Tagore or Gokhale – all are perspectives of nationalism only. He traced the roots of 'nationalism' in modern era and also presented an analysis of the development of auxiliary concepts at the same time. Sri Veerendra Kumar, noted Kannada writer, in his introductory address, talked about the development of nationalism in local roots and also the influences therein. Dr Rajendra Chenni, in his key-note address, talked about how

perceptions of nationalism reached the crescendo in consonance with the rage against the rulers hitting the peak and also how the current perceptions of nationalism are components of modernism. Dr Narahalli Balasubramanya, Convener, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, who chaired the session, talked about various perspectives of nationalism and also talked about various activities of the Akademi. In the first session that was chaired by Dr Rajaram Hegde, two scholars, Dr T. Avinash and Dr Vageeshwari presented papers 'Multidimensional aspects of nationalism' and 'Nationalism and Gender contested notions' respectively. Dr Siraj Ahmed and Dr Meti Mallikarjuna presented their analysis. In the second session that was chaired by Dr Chandrasekhara Talva, two scholars, Smt. Tarini Subhadayini and Dr Rahamat Tarikere presented their papers 'Nationalism-problems and challenges ahead' and 'Perceptions of Nationalism and Religious beliefs' respectively. Dr Mahesh Harave and Dr Eranna presented their analysis of the papers presented. In the valedictory session that was chaired by Dr Doddamalliah, Abhiruchi Forum, Dr Banjagere Jayaprakash delivered a valedictory address and talked about nationalism vis a vis language, state and nation.

SYMPOSIUM ON HUMANISM: AN ENQUIRY October 27, 2014, Nagaon

Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with Prof Nagen Saikia Saraswat Trust Board and Mahapurush Srimanta Sankaradeva Viswavidyalaya, organized a symposium on 'Humanism: An Enquiry' on October 27, 2014 at Nagaon, Assam.

In the inaugural session, Dr Satyakam Barthakur delivered a welcome address and spoke briefly about the objective of the symposium and thanked the Akademi for



Satyakam Barthakur speaking in the inaugural session

organizing it. Prof K.K. Deka, Vice Chancellor, Mahapurush Srimanta Sankaradeva Viswavidyalaya, thanked the Akademi for organizing the symposium and said that 'humanism is relevant in all theories and subjects. Sankaradeva was also a great humanist. Though 'humanism' is a modern idea, Sankaradeva, Chandidas and later on the Romantic poets also wrote poetry about humanism.' Prof Madan Sarma, in his keynote address, talked about various issues pertaining to humanism and the humanistic tradition and talks about the recent developments such as a 'post-humanism' and 'trans-humanism.' Chair of the session, Prof Karabi Deka Hazarika talked about how common people became the subject on literature during the Romanic period and gave examples of humanistic writings of Sankaradeva and Lakshminath Bezbaroa.

In the first session that was chaired by Prof Pradip Saikia, two scholars, Prof Girish Barua, Prof Arindam Barkataky and Prof Pradip Saikia, spoke about 'Idealism and Humanism' and 'Literature and Humanism' respectively. In the second session that was

chaired by Prof Dayananda Pathak, three scholars, Prof Dinesh Ch. Goswami, Sri Prabhat Bora and Sri Ratul Ch. Bora, presented papers 'Science, Technology and Humanism,' 'Liberal Humanism' and 'Sankaradeva and Humanism' respectively. In the valedictory session Prof Mahendra Ahom and Prof Nagen Saikia talked about history and various aspects of humanism. Prof Bhaskarjyoti Sarma proposed a vote of thanks.

MILAREPA: GREAT YOGI AND POET
AN INTRODUCTION TO MILAREPA'S SONGS OF AWAKENING
27 October 2014 at New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a seminar on 'Milarepa: Great Yogi and Poet' in collaboration with International Buddhist Confederation on 27 October 2014 at New Delhi to discuss the classical work *Songs of Awakening of Tibet's great yogi and mystic, Milarepa*. The Guest of Honour on the occasion was His Holiness the 17th Gyalwang Karmapa, Ogyen Trinley Dorje spoke about the universal relevance of Milarepa's life and songs. Besides being the Supreme Head of the Karma Kagyu Lineage (one of the four main schools of Tibetan Buddhism), he is an eminent scholar, meditation master, painter, poet, songwriter and playwright.

The day-long event was chaired by eminent Hindi poets, Dr Kedarnath Singh and Professor Varyam Singh. The panel included renowned Buddhist scholars Dr. Tashi Paljor, poet, storywriter, editor and critic Dr. Tulsi Raman, and Assistant Professors from Varanasi, Ms Neerej Dhankar and Dr Satya.

**SYMPOSIUM ON LIFE AND WORKS OF DR
BIRENDRA KUMAR BHATTACHARYYA**

October 28, 2014, Guwahati

Sahitya Akademi organized a symposium on 'Life and Works of Dr Birendra Kumar Bhattacharyya' on October 28, 2014 at Vivekananda Kendra, Guwahati, Assam.

Prof Karabi Deka Hazarika, Convener, Assamese Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, presided over the session. The inaugural address was delivered by Dr Lakshminandan Bora and the keynote address by Prof Nagen Saikia. The Guests of Honor during the session were Sri Sailen Bharali and Smt. Binita Bhattacharyya.

In the first session that was chaired by Prof Govinda Prasad Sarma, three scholars, Sri Bimal Mazumdar, Sri Deepali Bhattacharyya Baruah and Sri Jayanta Kumar Borah, presented papers 'Novels of Birendra Kumar Bhattacharyya,' 'Humanism in the Writings of Birendra Kumar Bhattacharyya' and 'Short Stories of Birendra Kumar Bhattacharyya' respectively. In the second session that was chaired by Prof Dipti Phukan Patgiri, three scholars, Smt. Lutfā Hanum Salima Begum, Smt Namita Deka and Sri Satyakam Barthakur

presented papers, 'Poems of Birendra Kumar Bhattacharyya,' 'Birendra Kumar Bhattacharyya as an Editor' and 'Songs of Birendra Kumar Bhattacharyya' respectively. The valedictory address was delivered by Sri Malaya Khound with Sri Nabin Barua in the chair.

**SYMPOSIUM ON MAHAVIDWAN
MEENAKSHISUNDARAM PILLAI**
October 29, 2014, Thiruvavur

The sub-regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Chennai, in association with the Central University of Tamil Nadu, organized a daylong symposium on Mahavidwan Meenakshisundaram Pillai's writings to commemorate his 200th birth anniversary at Thiruvavur.

In the inaugural session, Sri A.S. Ilangovan, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Chennai, welcomed the participants, scholars, faculty and the students of the University and briefly talked about the significance of Mahavidwan's writings. Prof K. Nachimuthu, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, explained various initiatives of the Akademi to preserve and promote literature and literary

traditions in the country and hoped both the Akademi and CUTN would organize more such seminars and symposia in the future. Dr Sengathir, Vice Chancellor of the University, praised Akademi's role in promoting literature, especially in translations and children's literature and offered full support and co-operation for all programmes especially any inter-lingual meets and seminars. Sathya Gnana Mahadeva Desika Paramacharya Adigalar, Pontiff, Velakkurichi Adheenam,



(L-R) Nalinidhar Bhattacharyya, Sailen Bharali, Nagen Saikia, Lakshminandan Bora, Karabi Deka Hazarika, Binita Bhattacharyya and Malaya Khound



A.S. Ilangoan, K. Nachimuthu, SGM Paramacharya, T. Sengathir

Thirupukalur delivered an erudite speech on the role of literature and religion in molding and motivating young minds for a better future. Sri K. Jawahar proposed a vote of thanks. In the first session that was chaired by Dr. Y. Manikandan, three scholars, Dr. R. Sambath, Sri Kovai Mani and Sri Kunjithapatham presented papers on Mahavidwan's art and poetry, Mahavidwan's contemporaries and minor epics of Mahavidwan respectively. Sri V.R. Madhavan chaired the second session and Sri Solai Sundara Perumal and Sri Sathish presented papers on descriptions from Chola Kingdom and Seerkazhi Kovai respectively. The valedictory session was chaired by Dr. R. Kamaraj, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi and Sri P. Velmurugan welcomed the gathering. Sri T.N. Ramachandran, eminent scholar delivered a passionate thoughtful valedictory address. Sri V. Rajasekaran delivered felicitation. P. Kumar proposed the vote of thanks.

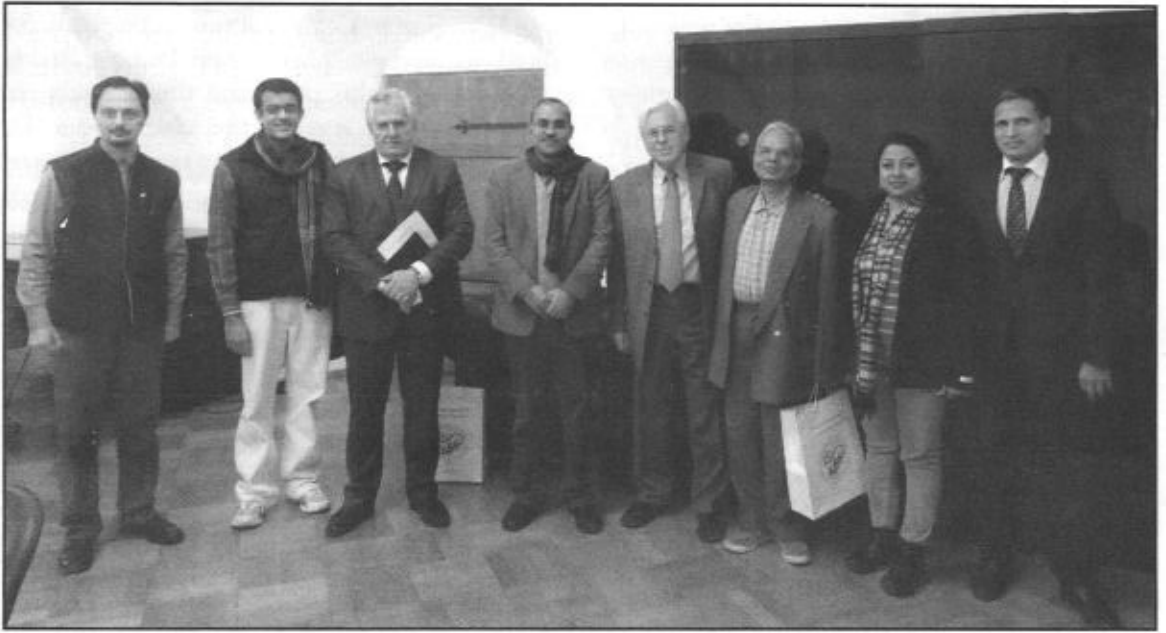
SYMPOSIUM ON INDIA AND RUSSIA: LITERARY EXCHANGES AND INFLUENCES
October 30, 2014, Moscow

Writers' Delegation of Sahitya Akademi visited

Russia as part of the Cultural Exchange Programme on which occasion the Indian Embassy arranged a symposium at the MGIMO, Moscow. The theme was "India and Russia: Literary Exchanges and Influences". The delegation was warmly welcomed by Dr Elena Gladkova, Head of the Indo-Iranian and African languages Chair and attended by members of the faculty- Dr Klara Drukyova, Dr Alexander Sigorsky, Dr Marina Alexandrova and Dr Yulia Golubkina, enthusiastic students and research scholars. Dr

Gladkova felt exchanges like these and hearing first-hand from scholars and writers of India would add a new dimension to the understanding of the country for the students. In his opening remarks, Dr K Sreenivasa Rao, Secretary Sahitya Akademi mentioned that the visit was being planned and coordinated for almost a year between the Akademi and the Indian Embassy in Russia and stressed the need for reigniting the cultural ties between the two countries. The cultural association between India and Russia, he noted, dates back to several centuries and post Indian Independence these ties only got stronger. He spoke of the multi-lingual nature of India and how the writers' delegation too reflected this very plurality that India prides in.

Prof Varyam Singh, who has been pioneering scholar and researcher on Indo-Russian studies spoke in Russian, succinctly tracing the entire history of this association between the two countries and the eagerness with which several texts and literary works in Indian languages, as also subaltern voices of Dalit writing had been translated into Russian. He also recounted his own experiences at the Jawaharlal Nehru University where he was part of the Russian Studies Department. Indology studies in Russia are characterized by the holistic perspective to India embracing



Akademi delegation at Moscow

her history, economics, literature, arts, linguistics and culture. It is noteworthy that the study of Sanskrit has always caught the attention of Russian scholars and right from the late 18th Century, Kalidasa's works, the Epics of Ramayana and Mahabharata and the Gita were translated to Russian. It was hence apt that the next speaker, the renowned Sanskrit scholar, Prof Radhavallabh Tripathi reminisced about these influences and exchanges. As early as in 1851, the Chair of Sanskrit was established in Moscow University and in St. Petersburg in 1855. Prof Tripathi spoke about the many scholars who have contributed to the growth and study of Sanskrit in Russia and his own association with all of them. Odia poet Dr Paramita Satpathy then spoke about her childhood memories related to Russia and its language and culture. She recalled having easy access to works of several writers of Russia like Tolstoy and Gorky, the letters of Rabindranath Tagore from Russia and the

exchanges between Mahatma Gandhi and Tolstoy which showed how deeply the latter understood the problems of the Indian people struggling for freedom then. The influence of Bollywood and Raj Kapoor films too was stressed on by Dr. Satpathy. Speaking from his personal experiences related to Russia, English author and historian, Dr. Vikram Sampath mentioned two individuals who shaped his understanding of Russia- eminent painter Svetoslav Roerich and Kathak exponent Dr. Maya Rao who spent 2 years in Moscow to learn Russian ballet. He also spoke about the genre of Indian Writing in English, which unlike Indian language traditions dating back several centuries, is about 150 years old. While its writers have a wider reach and market, they have few cultural registers to draw from.

Sri Rahul Shrivastava, Counsellor (PIC) delivered the vote of thanks. During the visit, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya

Akademi also held a wide ranging meetings with publishers of Russia to promote modern Indian classics in Russian language under Akademi's flagship programme, Indian Literature Abroad (ILA).

BIRTH CENTENARY SYMPOSIUM OF VATTIKOTA ALWARUSWAMY

October 30, 2014, Hyderabad

Sahitya Akademi organized a day long symposium to commemorate the birth centenary of eminent Telengana writer Vattikota Alwaru Swamy on October 30, 2014 at the Andhra Saraswatha Parishath Hall, Hyderabad.

Chairing the inaugural session, Prof N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and scholars, spoke briefly about the initiatives of the Akademi and at length about the life and works of Vattikota Alwaru Swamy. Chief Guest, Sri K. Srinivas, Andhra Jyothi, talked about the necessity to understand the social and literary aspects of Alwaru Swamy's writings matching with his life. Dr Ammangi Venugopal, Member, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his keynote address brought out several hitherto unknown facets of Alwaru Swamy's life. Sri Vattikota Srinivasulu, son of the legendary writer participated as a guest of honor and Dr Bala Srinivasamurthy proposed a vote of thanks. In the first session that was chaired by Dr S.V. Satyanarayana, Member, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, four scholars, Sri Sunkireddy Narayana Reddy, Sri Venu Sankoji, Sri Sangisetty Srinivas and Dr G. Bala Srinivasamurthy presented their papers focusing on various aspects of Alwaru Swamy's life and works. In the second session that was chaired by Ms. Mudiganti Sujatha Reddy, five scholars,

Sri B.S. Ramulu, Sri Rapolu Sudarshan, Sri Yendluri Sudhakar, Sri Kasula Pratapa Reddy and Sri S. Raghu presented their papers. In the valedictory session, the chief guest, Dr C. Narayana Reddy, eminent writer, reminisced about the days of his association with Alwaru Swamy and provided interesting anecdotes. Ms. C. Mrinalini, Member, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi and Ms. Nandini Sidha Reddy also spoke during the session.

SEMINAR ON CONSTITUTIONAL MORALITY AND POST-INDEPENDENCE TELUGU LITERATURE

November 1-2, 2014, Hyderabad

Sahitya Akademi in association with Asmita Resource Centre for Women, organized a two day seminar on 'Constitutional Morality and Post-Independence Telugu Literature' on November 1-2, 2014 at Potti Sreeramulu Telugu University, Nampally, Hyderabad.

In the inaugural session, Sri K.P. Radhakrishnan, Programme Officer, Bengaluru, welcomed the delegates, participants and audience and spoke briefly about various activities and initiatives of the Akademi. Prof N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, who chaired the session, introduced the participants and theme of the seminar to audience and talked at length about nature of constitutions and morality. He observed that the present seminar can be categorized as application oriented seminar whose deliberations are meant to be implemented to justify the concept and term 'constitutional morality.' In her introductory address, Ms. Volga, Member, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked at length about the relationship between constitution and literature. She underlined the role of writers and intellectuals in keeping the stream

of constitutional values flowing incessantly and not letting it stagnate at any point. Dr Kalpana Kannabiran, Director, Council for Social Development, who delivered a keynote address, recalled Dr Ambedkar's proclamation that constitutional morality is not a natural sentiment but something that has to be cultivated. She distinguished constitutional morality from the mores of the society and observed that constitutional morality is not a law but a statement of values. She



Volga, Kalpana Kannabiran, Director, Council for Social Development, Hyderabad, Dr. N. Gopi, K.P. Radhakrishnan

stressed on the need to promote scientific temper in the country, giving voice and visibility to issues of inequity, and ridding the country of obscurantism and impunity.

In the first session that was chaired by Ms. Volga, five noted scholars, Dr Katyayani Vidmahe, Dr Sammeta Nagamalleshwar Rao, Dr Seetaram, Dr Medipally Ravi Kumar and Dr. A. Srinivas, presented their papers focusing on morality in the stories of Allam Rajaiah, constitutional disparities as available in Vasireddy Seetadevi's novel *Mattimanishi*, portrayal of moral values and presence of Dr Ambedkar's wisdom in K. Sivareddy's poems, portrayal of caste hierarchies and moral dilemmas in Chilukuri Devaputra's *Panchamam* and labor issues and unrest in Kethu Vishwanath Reddy's works respectively.

In the second session chaired by Dr C. Mrunalini, six noted scholars, Ms. Volga, Dr Malleswari, Dr K. Madhu Jyothi, Sri Narayana Sarma, Dr K. Sreedevi and Dr Dasari Amarendra, presented papers focusing on laws of colonial era and stories surrounding them, dilemma between public values and

constitutional values in the stories of Kalipatnam Rama Rao, prevalence of caste system, child labour and assertion of women's rights in the stories of Kolakaluri Enoch, exploitation and degradation of natural resources, depiction of violation of rights in Attada Appalnayudu, portrayal of social hierarchies and caste domination in Ramundadu Rajyamundadi written by Keshava Reddy respectively.

In the third session chaired by Prof S.V. Satyanarayana, five noted scholars, Dr K.P. Ashok Kumar, Dr A.K. Prabhakar, Dr J. Neeraja, Dr Raju Naik and Dr Sahajhana, presented papers focusing on the depiction of relationship between humans and animals and portrayal of moral issues in the plot in *Jigri* by Sri Peddinti Ashok Kumar, *travaills of labourers in Bathukuporu* by Sri B.S. Ramulu and constitutional queries they raise, portrayal of freedom, constitutional values and related issues in *Swetcha* by Volga, constitutional guarantees for adivasis and nomadic tribes who have long tradition of oral literature and narratives and

marginalization of minorities and constitutional protection etc respectively.

In the fourth session chaired by Dr Ammangi Venugopal, five noted scholars, Dr Surya, Dr Koyi Koteshwar Rao, Dr Yakoob, Dr Vinodini and Dr Seetharatnam, presented their papers focusing on the presentation of dalit and devadasi systems in the works of Gogu Shyamala, depiction of violation of constitutional norms, especially oppression of dalits, in the works of Satish Chender's poetry, dominant rejection of parliamentary democracy while upholding constitutional morality in Dr Vimala's poetry, freedom and equality in Yendluri Sudhakar's works and analysis of Kuppli Padma's short stories respectively.

In the valedictory session Prof N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired and talked at length about the thoughtful presentations in the seminar and observed that the seminar has succeeded in equipping the writers with new ideas and tools. Ms. Volga delivered concluding remarks and presented a bird's eye view of the two day seminar. Sri K.P. Radhakrishnan, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

SEMINAR ON LITERARY TRANSLATION BETWEEN LANGUAGES OF SOUTH INDIA AND HINDI : STATUS, CHALLENGES AND EVALUATION
November 3-5, 2014, Wardha

Sahitya Akademi in association with Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, Wardha, organized a three day national seminar on 'Literary Translation between languages of South India and Hindi: Status, Challenges and Evaluation' from November 3, 2014 to November 5, 2015 at Habib Tanvir auditorium in Wardha.

In the inaugural session, Sri Brajendra Tripathi, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi in the field of translation. Sri Surya Prasad Dixit, Convener, Hindi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his introductory speech talked about the history and the present status of translations between languages of South India and Hindi. In his inaugural address, Prof Kapil Kapoor, Chancellor of the University, talked about various types of translations and emphasized on the transportation of cultural elements over translation of mere sounds and words. Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, was the chief guest of the seminar and talked at length about various functions of translation and how it can help bringing communities of south and north together in a peaceful manner. In his keynote address, Sri G. Gopinathan talked about how seminars of this type go a long way in helping translators improving their efficiency. Prof Girishwar Mishra, Vice Chancellor of the University, presided over the session. Dr Anwar Ahmed Siddique proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was chaired by Prof Kattimani, five noted translators, Sri Siddhaling Pattanshetti, Prof Nagalakshmi, Ms. Padmavathi, Sri J.L. Reddy and Prof Achuthan, presented papers focusing on translations between Kannada and Hindi literature, translations between Tamil and Hindi literature, translations between Telugu and Hindi literature and translations between Malayalam and Hindi literature respectively. In the second session that was chaired by Sri V.D. Krishnan Nambiar, a comparative analysis of translation in one south Indian language and Hindi. Sri Sarraju, talked about specific Telugu translations while Hindi perspective on translation of the same was presented by

Sri Ramprakash Yadav. In the third session that was chaired by Sri Balashauri Reddy, three translators, Ms. Lalithamba B Vai (Kannada), Sri Sudhanshu Chaturvedi (Malayalam) and Sri H. Balasubramaniam (Tamil), talked about the translations from those languages reaching Hindi literary milieu and their impact. In the fourth session that was devoted to 'Challenges in Literary Translations' and chaired by Sri Vai Venkatraman, four prominent translators, Sri Balchand Jayashetty, Sri V.T.V. Mohan, Sri Sourirajan and Dr Sumanlatha, presented papers focusing on the challenges in 'Kannada - Hindi Translations,' 'Malayalam - Hindi Translations,' 'Tamil - Hindi Translations' and 'Telugu - Hindi Translations' respectively. Prof Gopalram of the university also presented a paper. In the fifth session that was devoted to 'Evaluation of Literary Translations,' four noted translators, Sri T.R. Bhatt, Ms. Alamelu Krishnan, Dr. Manjula and Sri E.V. Surya, presented papers focusing on the status and challenges in the evaluation methods and techniques in 'Kannada-Hindi Translations,' 'Tamil - Hindi Translations,' 'Telugu - Hindi Translations' and 'Malayalam - Hindi Translations' respectively. Valedictory session was jointly chaired by Prof Girishwar Mishra and Sri Suryaprasad Dixit and Sri N. Sundaram, the chief guest, spoke about the purpose, usefulness and relevance of translation activities. Sri

Prabhashankar Premi also spoke in the session. Dr. C. Annapoorna of the university proposed a vote of thanks.

BICENTENARY SEMINAR ON CALDWELL November 5-6, 2014, Thanjavur

Sahitya Akademi in association with the Tamil University, organized a two day national seminar to commemorate the two hundredth birth anniversary of Bishop Robert Caldwell at Tamil University, Thanjavur on November 5-6, 2014.

In the inaugural session, Sri A.S. Illangovan, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, Chennai, welcomed the participants and introduced them to the audience. Prof. K. Nachimuthu, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his Presidential address, briefly spoke about the contribution of Caldwell to Tamil literature and also about various initiatives of the Akademi to promote Tamil literature. Sri R. Kamarasu, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi, introduced the



L-R: Kamarasu, K. Thilagavathi, James R. Daniel, Prof. K. Nachimuthu, Prof. M. Thirumalai, J. Arangasamy and A.S. Illangovan

theme of the seminar and outlined the objective of the seminar. Prof. N. Thirumalai, Vice Chancellor, Tamil University, talked at length about Caldwell's pioneering contributions to Dravidian linguistics and to the culture of the land during his time. Dr. James R. Daniel, noted scholar, delivered a keynote address.

In the first session that was chaired by Sri Sundara Murugan, Member, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, three noted scholars, Sri N. Ramachandran, Sri A. Sivasubramanian and Sri G. Stephen presented their papers, 'Caldwell's depiction of Shanars,' 'History of Missions and Historiography in Caldwell' and 'Caldwell and evolution of Idayankudi.'

In the second session that was chaired by Sri S.V. Shanmugam, three noted scholars, Sri R. Sambath, Sri P. Mathaiyyan and Sri K. Arangan presented their papers, 'Orientalism of Caldwell,' 'Tamil linguistics in the eyes of Caldwell' and 'Caldwell and Dravidian linguistics.' Sri S.V. Shanmugam also presented a paper 'Linguistics before and after Caldwell.'

In the third session chaired by Sri V. Arasu, two noted scholars, Sri P. Velsamy and Fr. Amuthan Adigal presented their papers, 'Caldwell and the 19th century Tamil' and 'Caldwell's perception of Kayal and Korkai.' Sri V. Arasu read the paper 'History and Principles of Dravidianism.'

In the fourth session chaired by Sri R. Sambath, three noted scholars, Sri Rama Gurunathan, Sri M. Vedhasagayakumar and Sri G. Balasubramanian presented their papers, 'Poligars in the eyes of Caldwell,' 'Obstacles in publishing the works of Caldwell' and 'Footnotes in the second edition of Caldwell.'

In the valedictory session, Sri A.S. Ilangovan welcomed the scholars and audience. Dr. Sirpi Balasubramanian presented the valedictory address. Dr Apoorva Jenny proposed the vote of thanks.

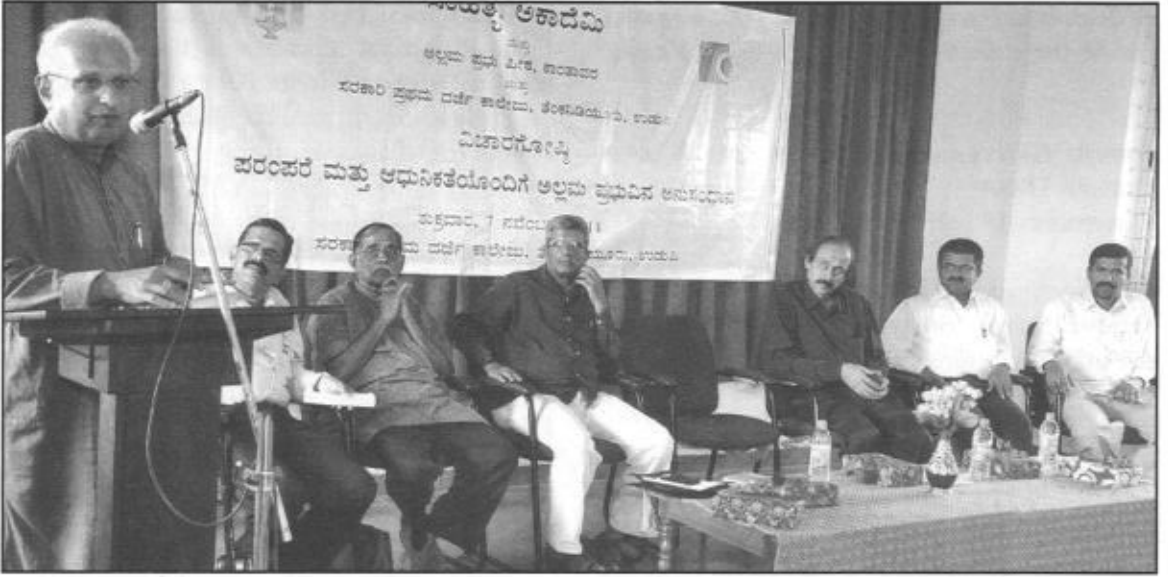
SYMPOSIUM ON INQUISITION OF ALLAMA WITH TRADITION AND MODERNISM

November 7, 2014, Udupi

Sahitya Akademi in association with Allama Prabhu Peetha, Kanthavara and Government First Grade College, Udupi, organized a symposium on 'Inquisition of Allama with Tradition and Modernism' on November 7, 2014 at First Grade College, Udupi.

Sri L. Suresh Kumar, of Sahitya Akademi welcomed the participants and audience. Dr Basavaraj Kalgudi, noted Kannada writer and critic, in his inaugural address talked about the life, works and influence of Allama Prabhu on the poetic traditions in Kannada over centuries. Dr Narahalli Balasubramanya, Convener, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his Presidential address talked about the prevailing social circumstances during Allama Prabhu's time and the nature of dialectics. Dr Balasubramanya talked at length about the degrading belief systems and increasing dominance of authority and institutions in the belief systems and compared them to twelfth century Kannada traditions and how they avoided these. He observed that Allama Prabhu was the achiever in this regard and that is why his values are relevant in the 21st century too. Dr Na Mogasale, Director, Allama Prabhu Peetha, in his introductory address talked about the contributions of Allama Prabhu. Dr Jayaprakash Mavinakuli, Member, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, also talked during the session.

In the first session, Dr Chandrasekhara Nangali and Dr H. Shashikala presented papers on 'Allama Prabhu and Natha Cult' and 'Mystical Forms in Allamma.' In the second session, Dr Nataraj Budal and Sri Lakshmitha Tholpadi talked about 'Allama Prabhu and Buddhism' and 'Influence of Allama Prabhu.'



Narahalli Balasubramanya, Muddu Mohan, Na. Mogasale, Basavaraja Kalgudi, Jayaprakash Mavinakuli, Yogananda and L. Suresh Kumar

Dr Jayaprakash Mavinakuli, Member, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, presided over the valedictory session. Malathi Pattanshetty delivered the valedictory address. Vachana recitation by Sri Muddu Mohan, I.A.S., took place in the evening.

SYMPOSIUM ON TRANSLATION THEORY AND PRACTICE

November 12, 2014, Deoghar

Sahitya Akademi, in association with Rama Devi Bajla Women's College, Deoghar, organized a day-long symposium on 'Translation Theory and Practice' on November 12, 2014 at Deoghar.

In the inaugural session, Dr. Rita Roy, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi in the field of translation. Prof Qamar Ahsan, Vice Chancellor, Sido

Kanhu Murmu University, Dumka, in his inaugural address, talked at length about the importance and relevance of translation. He thanked the Akademi for organizing the symposium in Jharkhand. Dr. Subhir Kumar Dhar, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata, in his keynote address, talked about various aspects of translation, challenges in translating and divergence between theories and practice.

In the first session that was chaired by Prof Amitava Roy, two noted scholars, Mohit Kumar Ray and Prof Kalidas Mishra, presented their papers "Tagore as a poet translator" and "Stuffed Bird or Singing Muse: The pleasures and Perils of Translation" respectively. In the second session that was chaired by Prof Mohit Kumar Ray, two noted scholars, Prof Amitava Roy and Prof Amrit Sen, presented their papers, "Translation Theory and Praxis: A case study in Shakespeare's Translation from English to Bengali and Hindi" and "Translation and Performance Text: The Shapmochan (The

Redemption)" respectively. Prof Arvind Kumar Jha of the college proposed a vote of thanks.

BIRTH CENTENARY SEMINAR ON KUNJA BIHARI DASH

November 15, 2014, Cuttack

Sahitya Akademi in association with Utkal Sahitya Samaj, organized a birth centenary seminar on eminent folklorist of Odia, Sri Kunja Bihari Dash on November 15, 2014 at Satabdi Bhawan, Cuttack.

In the inaugural session, Dr. Gourhari Das, Convener, Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi. Dr. Bijayananda Singh, who chaired the session and Sri Jagannath Prasad Das, who was the chief guest, spoke about various contributions of Dr. Kunja Bihari Dash and about the uniqueness of some of his contributions in the field of folk literature. Prof. Nityananda Satpathy, who delivered the keynote address, talked about the poetic contributions of Kunja Bihari Dash. Sri Debasana

Das, Vice President, Utkal Sahitya Samaj, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was devoted to the life and works of Kunja Bihari Dash and chaired by Dr. Adikanda Sahoo, four noted scholars, Smt. Sabita Pradhan, Sri Lakshmikant Tripathy, Smt. Binapani Singh and Sri Manoj Pattnaik, presented their papers. In the second session that was chaired by Prof. Gaganendranath Dash, four noted scholars, Dr Basanta Kumar Panda, Smt. Shruti Dash, Dr Sricharan and Dr Gobinda Chandra Chand, presented their papers focusing on Kunja Bihari's contributions to folklore and history of folk traditions, travelogues, poetry and fiction of Kunja Bihari Dash. Prof. Khageswar

Mahapatra chaired the valedictory session. Prof. Rambahal Tiwari was the chief guest and Dr Krushnachandra Behera was the Guest of Honor. Sri Jibananda Adhikari proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON C.N. SREEKANTAN NAIR AND PONJIKKARA RAFI

November 21, 2014, Aluva

Sahitya Akademi in association with the Department of Malayalam, Union Christian College, Aluva, organized a symposium on 'C.N. Sreekantan Nair and Ponjikkara Raff' on November 21, 2014 at Union Christian College, Aluva.

Sri A. Benny Cheriyan, Principal of the college, introduced the theme of the symposium and the participants to the audience. Inaugurating the symposium, Sri Sethumadhavan, eminent Malayalam writer and alumni of the college, talked at length about the contributions of Sreekantan Nair and Ponjikkara, richness of the language they used and fertile imagination visible in the stories they weaved. Sri E.P. Rajagopalan delivered the keynote address and talked about the similarities in the thought patterns between western and eastern concepts of modernism. Muse Mary George proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was devoted to the works of Sreekantan Nair and chaired by Sri C.R. Omanakuttan, two noted scholars, N. Gramaprakash and Sri Munjinadu Padmakumar, presented their papers 'The Forms of Power in the Plays of C.N. Sreekantan Nair' and 'The Ramayana Plays and Temporal Consciousness' respectively. In the second session that was devoted to the works of Ponjikkara Rafi and chaired by Sri K.G. Poulouse, two papers, 'Swargadoothan:

Narration and History' and 'Understanding Kaliyugam: The Text, History and Historiography' were presented.

Sri K. George Joseph, Member, Malayalam Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the valedictory session. Sri P.F. Mathews, noted author and screenplay writer, delivered the valedictory address. Prof Vidhu Narayan, Department of Malayalam, Union Christian College, proposed a vote of thanks.

SEMINAR ON GADAR LEHAR AND PUNJABI SAHITI

November 22-23, 2014, Kolkata

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with the Punjabi Sahit Sabha, organized a two day seminar on 'Gadar Revolution and Punjabi Literature' on November 22 & 23, 2014 at the Khalsa English School auditorium in Kolkata.

In the inaugural session, Ms. Manjeet Kaur Bhatia, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi. Dr Rawail Singh, Convener, Punjabi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, introduced the participants and spoke about the purpose and objectives of the seminar. Sri S. Trilochan Singh, former chairman of National Minority Commission of India, in his inaugural address, talked at length about Komagata Maru landing, the Gadar movement that ensued and vast influence that literature had on the movement in raising the awareness of geographically dislocated people. Sri Swaraj Vir, noted Punjabi scholar and playwright, in his keynote address talked about the impact of Gadar movement on the mindset of Punjabi writers and their writings. He quote extensively from the poetry written during the era to drive home his point and

also highlighted Gadar movement's lasting influence on immigrants. Dr Jaspal Singh, Vice Chancellor, Punjabi University, Patiala, presided the session and talked about the life which Gadaris led and the spirit they showed in overcoming the odds and obstacles. Sri S. Jodh Singh Narula talked about his personal experiences of the movement and the impact of movement in enhancing the awareness among people about the necessity of freedom.

The seminar was divided into three sessions and these sessions were chaired by Mohan Kahlo, Deepak Manmohan Singh and Rawail Singh respectively and papers were presented by Himadri Banerjee, Jaswinder Singh, Balbir Madhopuri, Hardev Singh Grewal, Manjeet Singh, Gurbhajan Singh Gill, Harjodh Singh, Raminder Kaur, Ravinder Ravi, Jagmohan Singh and Sitaram Bansal.

SYMPOSIUM ON JAN NISAR AKHTAR: LITERATURE AND THOUGHTS

November 22, 2014, Mumbai

To commemorate the birth centenary of renowned Urdu poet, Sri Jan Nisar Akhtar,



Chandra Bhan Khayal, Javed Akhtar, Zahir Qazi, Shabana Azmi and Shamim Tariq

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, organized a symposium, 'Jan Nisar Akhtar: Literature and Thoughts' on November 22, 2014 at Ahmad Zakaria Hall, Mumbai.

In the inaugural session, Dr Mushtaq Sadaf, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed and introduced the participants to audience. In his inaugural address, renowned poet, Sri Javed Akhtar talked at length about the style, imageries, lyrical intensity and simplicity of the language in Jan Nisar Akhtar's poetry. Dr Zahir Qazi, President, Anjuman E Islam, was the chief guest and he spoke about the epistles of Jan Nisar Akhtar and his wife Mrs. Sufiya Akhtar. Sri Shamim Tariq, noted Urdu writer and critic, in his keynote address, talked about the relevance and importance of Jan Nisar Akhtar's poetry in today's world.

Sri Chandra Bhan Khayal, Convener, Urdu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, who presided the session talked about placing Jan Nisar Akhtar's poetry in Urdu literature.

The two sessions which followed were presided by Sri Javed Akhtar and Sri Shamim Tariq. Sri Abdul Ahad Saz, Prof Baig Ehsas, Dr Kalim Ziya and Sri Hamid Iqbal Siddiqui presented papers on various aspects of Jan Nisar Akhtar's poetry.

**SYMPOSIUM ON LIFE AND WORKS OF
KHEIRUDDIN CHOUDHURY, SAUGAJAM
BROESWOR SINGHA AND SAGOLSEM DHABAL
SINGHA**

November 23, 2014, Cachar

Sahitya Akademi in association with the Naharol Khorinol Shillup, organized a symposium on "The Life and Works of Poets Kheiruddin Choudhury, Saugajam Brojeswor Singha and Sagolsem Dhabal

Singha" on November 23, 2014 at Cachar, Assam.

In the inaugural session, Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi. Sri L. Atol Singha, President, Naharol Khorinol Shillup, inaugurated the symposium. Prof. H. Behari Singh, Convener, Manipuri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, presided over the session and talked briefly about the life and works of the poets.

Sri Ng Basanta Kumar Singha chaired the first session in which three noted scholars, Dr. N. Bidyasagar Singha, Prof. H. Nani Kumar Singha and Sri A. Dwijendra Kumar Singha, presented their papers on 'Life and works of Sagolsem Dhabal Singh,' 'Poet Kheiruddin' and on the life and works of 'Saugajam Brojeswor Singha' respectively. In the second session that was chaired by Sri Oinam Nilakantha, nine noted poets, Sri Abdus Sahid Choudhury, Sri Taurangbam Sanamacha, Sri Yumnam Ilabanta, Sri Kshetrimayum Nobin, Sri Thokchom Biswanath, Sri S. Tahir Ali, Sri Laukham Nandakumar, Sri Abdul Hamid and Smt. Oinam Usharani, recited their poems in Manipuri and English. Sri Ch. Bidit Kumar, Naharol Khorinol Shillup proposed a vote of thanks.

SEMINAR ON KHALDAS BEGAWANI 'FANI'
November 23, 2014, Bhopal

Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with the Sindhi Sahitya Academy and Madhya Pradesh Samskriti Parishad, organized a seminar on Khialdas Begwani 'Fani', on November 23, 2014 at Swaraj Bhavan, Bhopal.

Sri Prem Prakash, Convener, Sindhi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed

the participants and audience. Sri Vishnu Gehani, eminent Sindhi academician, inaugurated the seminar. He said that Fani was keenly practical and ideal teacher. He discussed many significant aspects of Fani's personality related to theatre and education. Sri Prem Prakash, delivered keynote address. He said that Fani was the poet of the common man, and he stated that Fani's poetry from the partition of India to 1995 is highly significant in the tradition of Sindhi poetry. Ashok Bulani, Director, Sindhi Sahitya Academy, Madhya Pradesh Samskriti Parishad, proposed a vote of thanks.

First session was chaired by Sri Vasdev Mohi, and Sri Jhamu Chugani, Sri Khiman Mulani and Sri Mohan Gehani presented their papers at this session. Sri Jhamu Chugani said that Fani's life and poetry invariably established ideals and inspiration for others. Sri Khiman Mulani said that Fani's poetry was so energetic and humane that it encapsulated numerous dimensions of human life. Sri Mohan Gehani's paper discussed Fani's worldview and philosophy as reflected in Fani's poetry. Second session was chaired by Sri Mohan Gehani, and Sri Chunilal Wadhawani, Sri Vasdev Mohi, and Sri Ashok Bulani presented their papers at this session. Sri Chunilal Wadhawani discussed the artistic element in Fani's poetry. Sri Vasdev Mohi said that Fani's poetics had offered number of genuine elements to Sindhi poetry. Sri Ashok Bulani's paper discussed the contribution of Fani to the Sindhi theatre. Sri Nari Lachawani recited some of Fani's poems.

SEMINAR ON FOLKLORE AND LITERATURE
November 24-25, 2014, Silchar

Sahitya Akademi in association with the Department of Manipuri, Assam University, organized a seminar on 'Folklore and Literature'

on November 24-25, 2014 at Rabindra Milonayatan, Assam University, Silchar.

In the inaugural session, Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi. Prof. He. Behari Singh, Convener, Manipuri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the session. Prof. H. Nanikumar Singha, delivered the keynote address. Prof. Somnath Dasgupta, Vice Chancellor, Assam University, was the chief guest of the session.

In the first session that was chaired by Prof. N. Sarat Chandra Singh, four noted scholars, Smt S. Anju Devi, Smt Ch. Kamala Devi, Sri N. Bidyasagar Singha and Sri S. Robindra Singh, presented their papers. In the second session that was chaired by Prof. W. Raghumani Singh, five noted scholars, Smt Usha Rani Sharma, Smt Anita Singha, Sri Abul Khair Choudhury, Sri L. Mushindra Singh and Smt Menoka Singh, presented their papers. In the third session that was chaired by Prof. H. Behari Singh, six scholars, Sri Y. Rasbihari Singh, Dr Anil Boro, Sri S. Sarat Singh, Smt Th. Ranjana Devi, Smt S. Merina Singh and Sri Dilip Singh, presented their papers. Prof. H. Nanikumar Singha proposed a vote of thanks.



Goutam Paul, Ramendra Bhattacharya and H. Bihari Singh

SYMPOSIUM ON NEW TRENDS IN MALAYALAM CRITICISM

November 28, 2014, Kasargod

Sahitya Akademi in association with the Department of Malayalam, Kannur University, organized a symposium on 'New Trends in Malayalam Criticism' at Kasargod on November 28, 2014.

In the inaugural session, Dr. A.M. Sreedharan, of Malayalam Department of the University welcomed the participants and audience. Inaugurating the symposium Dr Khader Mangad, Vice Chancellor, Kannur University, observed that evolution and growth of literature is as essential as the growth of science and the former helps to eradicate social ills. In his Presidential address, C. Radhakrishnan, Convener, Malayalam Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, outlined various initiatives of the Akademi and spoke briefly about contemporary trends in Malayalam criticism. Dr K.P. Mohanan, noted critic, delivered the keynote address. Sri Purushotham, Staff, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the two paper reading sessions which were chaired by Sri K.P. Ramanunni and Sri P.K. Parakadavu, Sri E.P. Rajagopal presented a paper on Kerala-ness and criticism; Dr Valsalan Vadussery on importance of re-reading the texts; Dr M.B. Manoj on feminism and dalit studies and Dr P. Sivaprasad presented a paper on cultural studies and criticism. Smt. P. Surya proposed a vote of thanks.

SEMINAR ON WAR LITERATURE IN NEPALI
November 28, 2014, Dehradun

Sahitya Akademi, in association with Akhil Bhartiya Nepali Bhasha Samiti, organized seminar on 'War Literature in Nepali' on

November 28, 2014 at Dehradun.

In the inaugural session, Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of Akademi in the promotion of Nepali literature. Sri Jiwan Namdung, noted Nepali poet and critic inaugurated the seminar. Sri Pahal Singh Chhetri, President Akhil Bhartiya Nepali Bhasha Samiti, chaired the session. Sri Asit Rai, Fellow of Sahitya Akademi, delivered keynote address. Sri Buddhi Nath Mishra, eminent Hindi and Maithili poet, was the Guest of Honor.

In the first session that was chaired by Sri Prem Pradhan, Convener, Nepali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, two noted scholars, Sri Lok Nath Upadhyay and Sri Yogibir Shakya presented papers. In the second session that was chaired by Sri Laxman Shrimal, three noted scholars, Sri Sachin Rai, Sri Tejman Baraily and Sri Damber Mani Pradhan, presented their papers. All the papers focused on the portrayal of war in Nepali prose, fiction, poetry and plays. Songs eulogizing the bravery of Gorkhas were also recited. Sri Bhupendra Adhikari, General Secretary, Akhil Bhartiya Nepali Bhasha Samiti, proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON MEDIA AND LITERATURE
28 November 2014, Ravenshaw University,
Cuttack

Symposium on "Media and Literature" in collaboration with Department of Odia, Ravenshaw University on 28 November 2014 in Heritage Hall, Ravenshaw University, Cuttack 753003.

Dr Mihir Kumar Sahoo, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the welcome address. He elaborated media's role in making literature accessible to the masses.

Sri Manoj Das said that there has been a gradual erosion of trust in the mind of the newspaper reader. While stressing on the need for objective reporting, the speaker gave examples to show how newspapers create news when there are none and can make governments fall. Sri Manoj Das also narrated the plight of young unpublished writers who seek space for their works in the newspaper. The newspaper's obsession with stories has led to the demand for writers who can create stories out of news, he said and called for more space to literature in the newspaper. Sri Soumya Ranjan Pattnaik argued that leisure is a precondition for the development of literature. In a market oriented economy, leisure is a rarity. Reportage has to respond to the demands of the time. He refuted the notion that newspapers do not give space to writers. He said writers believe the newspaper is not an appropriate medium for the dissemination of high art and hence consider it *infra dig* to publish their works in a newspaper. He also focused on media and literature as institutions which depend on state patronage. In such a situation, it is natural for the media to take sides. The media cannot use its status as the 'fourth estate' to stay away from affairs of the state. Media and writers have to be a part of the state to change it from within. Gouranga Charan Dash put the spotlight on the communicative value of literature. In an age of technoculture literature still endures, he said. A Book entitled *Adura Andhasara* was released on the occasion. Sahitya Akademi invited manuscripts to be published by Sahitya Akademi as part of its scheme called "Navodaya Prakalpa".

Sri Mrinal Chatterjee drew attention to the premium that media places on dissemination of information. This leaves little scope to fiddle with facts. While literature plays with language for an aesthetic effect,

journalism needs to use such language which can be understood by the masses. Sri Asit Mohanty drew on *Utkal Oeepika* to remind the audience about the powerful role that newspapers have played in history in popularizing literature and in the development of literary taste. Sri Rabi Kanungo focused on the perennial conflict between literature and journalism regarding usage of words. Literature has to be alive to the demands of a reading public which needs to talk about problems that come with cultural change. The reading public should allow new additions to the existing lexicon without crying itself hoarse on the corruption of language. Sri Santanu Rath drew attention to the noteworthy participation of poets and writers in Akashvani programmes, post Independence. Literary and critical discussions tend to assume a sense of casualness when aired on 'talk' forums. Nonetheless, radio has done a commendable job in the preservation, dissemination and popularization of local literature.

In the second session, Sri Pradyumna Satpathy focused on the responsibility of media to maintain the dignity of Odia with its new status as a classical language. The media needs to guard against politicking to be able to publish good literature. Sri Subhash Chandra Satpathy dwelt on the importance of translation in making literatures accessible. Sri Dipak Samantaray called for the use of Odia in all social and political forums. It is necessary to make relevant information available across all kinds of media in Odia language.

Sri Satakadi Hota called for the inclusion of new words from science and technology in the Odia language and suggested the preparation of a dictionary which shall include such words. Smt Jayanti Path said that the popularity of folk and pre-modern literature

has increased because of their inclusion in the programmes on electronic media. Sri Dasarathi Das drew attention to the area of overlap in journalism and literature. Using literary prose could be one of the ways by which media can help in developing a taste for literature.

SEMINAR ON LOCATING INDIAN WRITING IN ENGLISH: AESTHETICS, HISTORY AND FUTURE
November 28-30, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a three day national seminar on 'Locating Indian Writing in English: Aesthetics, History and Future' from November 28, 2014 to November 30, 2014 at the Sahitya Akademi auditorium in New Delhi.

Dr K Sreenivasaro, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about the perception of Indian English writing in India as well as abroad. He observed that though in native English countries, Indian English Writing is still considered a marginal literature, it has helped to put Indian literature on the global arena.

A panel discussion followed, moderated by Prof K. Satchidanandan. Four noted scholars, Prof Malashri Lal, Ms. Namita Gokhale, Prof. Ipshita Chanda and Prof Harish Trivedi, participated. Key issues of the discussion were popular and literary writing, standardization of Indian writing in English, choice of language in writing the fiction and role of critical theories in understanding Indian writing in English, among others.

In the first session that was chaired by Prof P. P. Raveendran, two noted scholars, Prof. Saugata Bhaduri and Prof. Vrinda Nabar, presented papers focusing on the fiction writing in the history of Indian writing in English and locating Indian writing in English as part of Indian literature. In the second session that was chaired by Prof. Ipshita Chanda, three noted scholars, Prof. Nishat Zaidi, Prof. M.T. Ansari and Prof R. Raj Rao, presented their papers focusing on post post-colonial approach to Indian writing in English, translation as a substitute for the originals in the context of Indian writing in English and the polemics concerning the legitimacy of Indian writing in English. In the third session that was chaired by Prof Tütun Mukherjee, two noted scholars, Prof. G.S. Jayasree and Prof. Akshay Kumar, presented their papers focusing on the emergence of new trends in prose and poetry genres in Indian writing in English. Indian writing in English as a periphery around the Empire at the center and absence of it along with complex cultural profile of Indian poets were also discussed. Fourth and fifth session were chaired by Prof. E.V. Ramakrishnan and Prof. M.T. Ansari respectively. In these sessions



K.Sreenivasarao, Harish Trivedi, K. Satchidanandan, Malashri Lal, Namita Gokhale & Ipshita Chanda

two papers focusing on the feminist poetry written in Indian English were presented by Prof. Anamika and Prof Shashi Khurana. Three noted scholars, Prof. P.P. Raveendran, Prof. Aruni Kashyap and Prof. Tutun Mukherjee, also presented their papers focusing on the linguistic conflict of Indian English writers, shifting of focus from national to regional and multiple system-network of texts to create a new paradigm. In these sessions focus was also on the objectives of Indian writing in English. In the panel discussion that followed the five sessions and moderated by Prof. Anisur Rehman, four noted scholars, Rizio Yohanan Raj, Prof. E.V. Ramakrishnan, Utkarsh Amitabh and Prof Ipshita Chanda participated and discussed poetry, critical appreciation of IWE and translations. Prof. K. Satchidanandan presented a bird's eye view of the seminar and proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON CURRENT TRENDS IN TELUGU LITERATURE

November 30, 2014, Ongole

Sahitya Akademi in association with Prakasam District Writers' Association, organized a symposium on November 30, 2014 at Acharya Ranga Bhavan, Ongole.

In the inaugural session, Sri K.P. Radhakrishnan, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi. Sri B. Hanuma Reddy, President, Prakasam District Writers' Association, in his inaugural address, spoke briefly about the activities of the Association, thanked the Akademi for organizing the seminar in Ongole and compared several literary trends of the past. Prof N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, presided

over the session and talked about the relationship between literature and society. He observed that literary movements reflect and also influence the societies and in the current scenario social awakening should be the goal of all literary movements.

In the first session that was chaired by Dr U. Devapalana, three noted scholars, Prof. V. Satyanarayana, Sri Nikhileswar and Sri Manthri Krishnamohan, presented their papers focusing on 'Abhyudaya Kavita or Progressive Movement in Telugu literature,' 'Digambara Poetry Movement' and 'Contemporary Poetic trends in Telugu Literature' respectively.

In the second session that was chaired by Dr Velaga Venkatappaiah, three noted scholars, Prof. Yendluri Sudhakar, Dr V. Nagarajalakshmi and Sri Shaik Karimulla, presented their papers focusing on 'Dalit literary movements in Telugu literature,' 'Feminist literary trends in contemporary Telugu literature' and 'Minority Poetry' respectively.

Sri Ponnuri Venkata Srinivasulu chaired the valedictory session. Prof. N. Gopi, Dr Dhara Ramanadha Shastry and Sri Hanuma Reddy spoke. Dr Beeram Sundara Rao, Joint Secretary, Prakasam District Writers' Association, proposed a vote of thanks.

SEMINAR ON MODERN SANTALI POETRY

December 6-7, Medinipur

Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, in association with the Akhil Bhartiya Santali Writers Association, organized a seminar on 'Modern Santali Poetry' on December 6-7, 2014 at Medinipur (West Bengal).

In the inaugural session, Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi to promote Santali

literary traditions. In his inaugural address, Sri Nityananda Hembram, Member, Santali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, spoke about the long and rich Santali poetic traditions and observed that about eight percent of Santali literature is in the form of poetry and appealed to the Santali scholars to classify them like they have been done in other languages. Sri Jadumani Besra, who was the chief guest, spoke at length about the contemporary Santali poetry. Sri Rupchand Hansda, in his keynote address talked about varied nature of Santali poetic traditions and richness of folk literature of Santals. Sri Gangadhar Hansda, Convener, Santali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, presided over the session. In the session a collection of modern Santali poems between 1950 and 2010 was released.

In the first session that was chaired by Dr. Damayanti Besara, three noted scholars, Sri Madan Mohan Soren, Sri Dasarathi Soren and Sri Shyamcharan Soren, presented their papers focusing on the myth, symbolism and imagery in Santali poems. In the second session that was chaired by Sri Jagannath Soren, two scholars, Sri Shobnath Besara and Sri Gurucharan Hembram, delivered lectures on the classification of Santali poems and romanticism in Santal poems. In the third session that was chaired by Sri Aditya Kumar Mandi, three scholars, Sri Mahadev Hansda, Sri Ramkrishna Murmu and Sri Sanat Hansda, presented papers focusing on the themes and trends of modern Santali poetry, the impact of folklore and comparative studies between Santali and other traditions. Sri Ramdhan Hembram chaired the valedictory session. Sri Arjun Charan Hembram, eminent Santali poet, delivered the valedictory address. Sri Mangal Soren proposed a vote of thanks.

SEMINAR ON HALI AND SHIBLI December 7-9, 2014, New Delhi

To observe the centenary of Altaf Hussain Hali and Shibli Nomani, renowned Urdu writers, Sahitya Akademi organized a seminar from December 7, 2014 to December 9, 2014 at the Sahitya Akademi auditorium in New Delhi.

In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about the achievements and literary contributions of Hali and Shibli. Prof. Gopi Chand Narang, former President of Sahitya Akademi, in his Presidential address talked at length about the presence of elements of social change in their poetry and also how both Hali and Shibli's creations created new identities. Lt. Gen. Zamiruddin Shah, who was the Chief Guest, talked about the aspirations of women's education and nation building in the poetry of Hali and Shibli. Prof Talat Ahmad, Vice Chancellor, Jamia Millia Islamia, talked about the duo's efforts to rejuvenate and invigorate the stagnating muslim population. Dr. Syeda Saideen Hameed, Chancellor, Maulana Azad National Urdu University, talked at length about the



K. Sreenivasarao, Gopi Chand Narang,
Talat Ahmad, Lt. Gen. Zamiruddin Shah,
Syeda Saideen Hameed, Atiqullah
and Chandra Bhan Khayal

struggles and achievements of the duo in educating and empowering women, especially muslim women. Prof Atiqullah, noted critic and writer, in his keynote address, brought forth various aspects of the writings of Hali and Shibli. Sri Chandra Bhan Khayal, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was chaired by Prof Akhtarul Wasey, three noted scholars, Nezam Siddiqui, Prof. Shafey Kidwai and Dr. Rashid Anwar Rashid, presented their papers. In the second session that was chaired by Prof. Sharif Hussian Qasmi, three noted scholars, Prof Quddus Javed, Dr. Shams Badayuni and Dr. Waseem Begum, presented their papers. In the third session that was chaired by Prof Shafey Kidwai, three scholars, Prof. Maula Bakhsh, Dr. Saifi Saronji and Dr. Wasim Rashid, presented their papers. In the fourth session that was chaired by Prof Ali Ahmad Fatmi, three scholars, Prof Irteza Karim, Dr. Manzar Ijaz and Dr. Abu Bakar Abad, presented their papers. In the fifth session that was chaired by Prof. Siddiqur Rahman Kidwai, three scholars, Dr. Aziz Prihar, Dr. Raza Haider and Dr. Hasan Raza, presented their papers. In the sixth session that was chaired by Prof. Nezam Siddique, three scholars, Prof. Ali Ahmad Fatmi, Prof. Shahzad Anjum and Dr. Ajay Malvi, presented their papers. In the seventh session that was chaired by Prof. Mohammed Zakir, three scholars, Dr. Yahya Nashit, Dr. Jamil Akhtar and Dr. Mohammed Hadi Rahbar, presented their papers. In the seventh session that was chaired by Prof. Anees Ashfaq, three scholars, Prof. Aseem Kavyani, Dr. Shahina Tabassum and Dr. Danish Ilahabadi, presented their papers. In the eighth session that was chaired by Sri Sheen Kaaf Nizam, three scholars, Prof. Anwar Pasha, Dr. Iqbal Masood and Dr. Hasan Raza, presented their papers. In the final session that was chaired by Prof Ibne Kanwal, two scholars,

Dr. Ashfaq Ahmad Arfi and Dr. Mushtaq Ahmad Vaani presented their papers. Dr. Mushtaq Sadaf proposed a vote of thanks.

SEMINAR ON PUNJABIAT: VARTMAN ATE BHAVIKH DI TALASH

December 12-13, 2014, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi, in collaboration with Bhai Veer Singh Sahitya Sadan, organized a seminar, "Punjabi: Vartman ate Bhavikh di Talash" on December 12, 2014 and December 13, 2014 at Bhai Veer Singh Sahitya Sadan, New Delhi.

In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed and introduced the participants to audience and spoke briefly about varied contributions of Punjabi literature. Dr. Rawail Singh, Convener, Punjabi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his introductory address, talked about the rich heritage of Punjabi folk culture. In his inaugural address, Sri Kuldip Nayyar, eminent writer and journalist, talked about the necessity preserve and promote Punjabi language, literature and cultural traditions. In his keynote address, Dr. Jaswant Singh Neki, well-known Punjabi poet, presented various dimensions of Punjabi. Dr. Jaspal Singh, Vice Chancellor, Punjabi University, Patiala, was the chief guest and Sri Mahinder Singh, Hon Director, Bhai Veer Singh Sahitya Sadan, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the four sessions that followed and were chaired by Prof Mridula Mukherjee, Sri Swarajbir, Sri Satyapal Gautam and Sri Pran Niwle, twelve noted scholars, Swarajbir, Suchcha Singh Gill, Joginder Singh Kairon, Gurpreet Kaur, Harpal Singh Pannu, Gurbachan Singh Bachchan, Rajkumar Hans, Joga Singh, Manmohan, S.S. Sangha, Satnam

Singh Chana and Rawail Singh, presented various perspectives on Punjabi. Sri Pran Nivley chaired the valedictory session, Sri Pritam Singh delivered the valedictory address observing how Punjabi culture is more alive elsewhere than in India and Sri Ravinder Ravi presented the report of the seminar. Ms. Manjeet Kaur Bhatia, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON KOVVALI LAKSHMINARASIMHA RAO

December 14, 2014, Hyderabad

Sahitya Akademi in association with Kinnera Art Theatres, organized a symposium on the life and works of Kovvali Lakshminarasimha Rao, one of the eminent Telugu novelists of 20th century on December 14, 2014 at Ravindrabharathi Conference Hall, Hyderabad.

In the inaugural session, Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru, welcomed the participants and audience and talked briefly about various initiatives and publication schemes of Sahitya Akademi. Prof N. Gopi, Convener, Telugu Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked briefly about the life and works of Kovvali Lakshminarasimha Rao and observed that most of the main characters of his fiction belong to middle and working class. He observed that Kovvali was singularly responsible for cultivating the reading habit among the women folk of Andhra Pradesh. Sri A.N. Jagannatha Sharma, Chief Guest, spoke at length about various aspects of Kovvali's fiction. He observed that fiction based on folklore is very difficult to master and present but Kovvali did that with plenty of ease and grace. He also talked about various unique features of Kovvali's writing especially style

of presentation. Sri Lakshminarayana, Kovvali's son and a special invitee to the symposium talked at length about his father's works and enlivened the proceedings with interesting anecdotes, both from Kovvali's personal and professional life. Sri R. Prabhakar Rao, President, Kinnera Art Theatres, introduced the theatres to the audience and said remembering great personalities of the past and celebrating their contributions is one of the unique features of the theatre. Sri Dwana Sastry, who delivered the keynote address, said that simplicity of the language and non-promotion of oneself were the main reasons for Kovvali's popularity. He presented feministic angle of Kovvali's fiction.

In the first session that was chaired by Sri Satyanarayana, three noted scholars, Ms. Muktevi Bharati, Sri Voleti Parvateesam and Sri Lingala Ramateertha, presented papers focusing on 'unique themes in Kovvali's novels,' 'readability in Kovvali's novels' and 'writing style of Kovvali' respectively.

In the second session that was chaired by Sri Gumma Sambasiva Rao, two noted scholars, Ms. C. Bhavani Devi and Sri B.S. Ramulu, presented their papers focusing on 'family system in Kovvali's novels' and 'folk elements in Kovvali's Jagajjana' respectively. Sri GummaSambasiva Rao also talked at length about portrayal of social issues in Kovvali's fiction.

In the third session, three noted scholars, Ms. M. Sujatha Reddy, Sri Nagamalleswara Rao and Ms. B. Syamala, presented their papers focusing on 'portrayal of women characters in Kovvali's fiction,' 'humor and message in Kovvali's novels' and 'captivating style of Kovvali.'

Prof N. Gopi chaired the valedictory session, summing up and evaluating the day's proceedings. Sri Rallabandi Kavitha Prasad was the chief guest of the session and talked

briefly about the popularity of Kovvali and the values his works inculcated among the readers. Sri Dhenuvukonda Sri Ramamurthy, who was the guest of honour, talked briefly about the life of Kovvali. Sri Kovvali Nageswara Rao, legendary fiction writer's son, talked about the element of reforms in his works. He appealed to Sahitya Akademi to get his father's works in other Indian languages. Sri Maddali Raghuram, Kinnera Art Theatres, proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON WOMEN LITERARY TRADITIONS

December 15, 2014, Thirunnavaya

Sahitya Akademi in association with Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, organized a symposium on Women Literary Traditions on December 15, 2014 at University auditorium, Thirunnavaya.

In the inaugural session, Sri K.P. Radhakrishnan, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi to promote literature across the country. Sri C. Radhakrishnan, Convener, Malayalam Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his inaugural address talked at length about the role and value of women in the development of society and the relevance of literature in promoting education of women. Prof Savithri Rajeevan, Member, Malayalam Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in her keynote address observed that women find freedom by expressing themselves and in the recent times there has been a steady attempt to marginalize them by categorizing their writings as 'women writings' and appealed

to the literary community to stop this practice. Dr T.P. Raveendran, Registrar of the University, in his introductory remarks thanked Sahitya Akademi for choosing the university to host the symposium. Dr L. Sushama, Director at the University proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was chaired by Dr P. Geetha, four noted women writers, Dr S.Janaky, Dr K.R.Sajitha, Dr Ushakumari and Dr Reshma Bharadwaj, presented their papers focusing on theoretical back ground in women writing, dalit women writing, contemporary women poetry and female friendship, respectively.

In the second session that was chaired



C. Radhakrishnan, T.P.Raveendran, Savithiri Rajeevan, (Behind) K.P. Radhakrishnan, L.Sushma

by Dr K. T. Shamshad Hussain, four noted scholars, Dr Muse Mary George, Dr Jissa Jose, K.Sajitha, Ratheesh Kumar and L.Sushama, presented their papers focusing on inalienability of feminist literature, contemporary women fiction in Malayalam, women and nature, new trends and developments and contemporary women criticism. Many noted writers and scholars participated in the programme.

CENTENARY SEMINAR ON CHERUKAD
December 16, 2014, Pattambi



M. Leelavathy, M. Thomas Mathew, C. Radhakrishnan
and P.M. Raghavan

To commemorate the birth centenary of eminent Malayalam writer Cherukad Govinda Pisharodi, Sahitya Akademi, in association with the Department of Malayalam, Sree Neelakanta Government Sanskrit College, Pattambi, organized a seminar on December 16, 2014 at the college auditorium in Pattambi.

In the inaugural session, Sri K.P. Radhakrishnan, Programme Officer, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru, welcomed the participants and audience. In her inaugural address, Dr M. Leelavathy, noted critic and chief guest of the seminar, talked about the poetic style and craft of Cherukad. She observed that dignity of human beings formed the core of Cherukad's writings. Sri C. Radhakrishnan, Convener, Malayalam Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his presidential address, talked about unique features of Cherukad's writings. Prof M. Thomas Mathew, in his keynote address, talked about portrayal of social reality in Cherukad's writings and wondered why Cherukad did not receive the recognition he deserved. Dr. P. Geetha, Head, Department

of Malayalam, SNGS College, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was chaired by Sri Palakeezhu Narayanan, four noted scholars, Sri K. E. N. Kunjahammed, Sri E.P. Rajagopalan, Dr G. Ushakumari and Prof M.R. Mahesh, presented their papers focusing on the historical and political perspectives of Cherukad's works, relevance of Cherukad's works in the contemporary society, feminist readings of Cherukad and the confluence of power and tradition in Cherukad's works.

In the second session that was devoted to 'Cherukad and Malayalam Drama' and chaired by Dr P. Geetha, two noted

scholars. Smt. P.C. Devaki and Sri P. Gangadharan, talked about the craft and techniques employed by Cherukad and they also presented anecdotes from their lives. Two noted scholars, Dr K.V. Sreeja and Dr E. Pa. Sonia, presented their papers focusing on the plight of women in Cherukad's plays and analysis of female characters in Cherukad's plays respectively. The valedictory session was chaired by Sri C.P. Chitrabanu. In his valedictory address, Prof K.P. Sankaran, noted Malayalam critic, talked about life and works of Cherukad. Sri H.K. Santhosh proposed a vote of thanks.

SEMINAR ON LITERARY CRITICISM IN BODO LITERATURE AND PRESENT STATUS OF BODO CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

December 16, 2014, Guwahati

Sahitya Akademi in association with the Bodo Sahitya Sabha, organized a seminar on 'Literary Criticism in Bodo Literature and Present

Status of Bodo Children's Literature' on December 16, 2014 at Bathopuri, Guwahati.

In the inaugural session, Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, welcomed the participants and audience. Sri Premananda Machahary, Convener, Bodo Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the inaugural address. The keynote address was delivered by Sri Bisweswar Basumatary, Vice President Bodo Sahitya Sabhad. Dr Anil Kumar Boro chaired the session. Sri Kameswar Brahma, President, Bodo Sahitya Sabha, was the chief guest and Sabha's General Secretary, Sri Kamala Kt. Mushahary, proposed a vote of thanks. The first session of the seminar devoted to 'Literary Criticism in Bodo Literature' was chaired by Sri Dharanidhar Wary and three noted scholars, Phukan Ch. Basumatary, Sri Birhashgiri Basumatary and Sri Sunil Phukan Basumatary, presented their papers. The second session of the seminar devoted to 'Present Status of Bodo Children's Literature' was chaired by Sri Premananda Machahary and three noted scholars, Sri Nabin Malla Boro, Smt Swarna Prabha Chainary and Sri Prasanta Boro, presented their papers. Sri Taren Boro chaired the valedictory session.



Kamarasu, Sambath, R.Venkadesan, Dawood Batcha, A.S. Ilangovan, Seethakathi, Natharsha, Naseema Banu

SYMPOSIUM ON KA MU SHERIFF December 18, 2014, Papanasam

Sahitya Akademi organized a symposium to commemorate the birth centenary of noted poet Ka Mu Sheriff on December 18, 2014 at the R.D.B. College for Women, Papanasam.

In the inaugural session, Sri A.S. Ilangovan, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, Chennai,

welcomed the participants and audience and talked briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi. Dr. R. Kamarasu, Member, General Council, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the session and recounted numerous achievements and contributions of Sri Ka Mu Sheriff during his long and illustrious careers as a Tamil Poet, film lyricist, freedom fighter and as an activist who fought for the rights of Tamils all over the world. He observed that Ka Mu Sheriff was one of the rare statesmen of India who were also great poets. Sri Kumari Abu Bakker delivered the keynote address and Sri Dawood Batcha, Founder, R.D.B. Women's College offered the felicitations and thanked the Akademi for choosing the college to host this centenary symposium. Sri Sundara Murugan, Member, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was chaired by Dr. R. Sambath, three noted scholars, Dr. H.M. Natharsha, Sri Rathina Venkadesan and Prof. Naseema Banu, presented their papers focusing on the film lyrics of Ka Mu Sheriff, Travelogues of Ka Mu Sheriff and ideals in Ayesha Nachiyar Pillaitamizh, respectively. In the second session that was chaired by

Sri Ramasamy, four noted scholars, Sri V. Prabhakaran, Pulavar Sri Prabhakaran, Dr. Alibava and Sri A. Mani, presented their papers focusing on the socialistic ideals of Ka Mu Sheriff, writing style of Ka Mu Sheriff, spiritual roots of Ka Mu Sheriff and Ka Mu Sheriff's commentary on Seerapuranam, respectively.

In the valedictory session, Sri Ka. Mu. She. Seethakathi delivered the valedictory address and Dr. C. Thangamalar, Vice Principal of the college proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON DEVELOPMENTS IN MODERN KANNADA LITERATURE

December 19, 2014, Ujire

Sahitya Akademi in association with Sri Dharmasthala Manjunatheswara College, Ujire, organized a symposium on the 'Developments in Modern Kannada Literature' at the college premises on December 19, 2014.

Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru, welcomed the participants and audience and talked briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi to promote Kannada literature. Dr Narahalli Balasubramanya, Convener, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, inaugurated the symposium and highlighted important contemporary and emerging trends in Kannada literature. Noted Kannada critic Prof. H.S. Raghavendra Rao delivered keynote address. Dr. B. Yashovarma, Principal of the college, presided over the session and Dr B.P. Sampath Kumar, co-ordinator of the symposium, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session, two scholars, DrBalasaheb Lokapur and Dr Venkatagiri Dalavai, talked about 'Katha Sahitya Rachane Mattu Vinyasa' and 'Hosa Talemarina Kathanada Tatwika Nelegalu' respectively. In

the second session, two noted scholars, Dr Nataraj Boodal and Dr Kavita Rai, talked about 'Kaviya Sahitya Rachane Mattu Vinyasa' and 'Hosa Talemarina Kavyada Tatwika Nelegalu' respectively. In the third session, Sri K. Satyanarayana and Dr Mahalinga Bhat talked about 'Ankana Sahityada Rachane MattuVinyasa' and 'Hosa Talemarina Ankana Sahityada Tatwika Nelagalu' respectively. In the fourth session Prof Avinash delivered a lecture on 'Hosa Shatamanada Vimarshe.' Six parallel sessions were organized during the fifth session and papers on variety of topics were presented. Noted scholars Dr. Sathyanarayana Mallipatna, Dr. Narendra Rai Derla, D. Nagappa Gowda, Dr. Sharat Kumar, Dr. Bharathi Devi, Dr. Dhananjaya Kumble and Dr. Varadaraja Chandragiri, participated and chaired different sessions. Prof Aravinda Malagatti, Member, Kannada Advisory Board, delivered the valedictory address.

SYMPOSIUM ON MODERN TRENDS IN POETRY AND FICTION IN EASTERN REGIONAL LANGUAGES

December 23-24, 2014, Imphal

Sahitya Akademi organized a two day symposium on 'Modern Trends in Poetry and Fiction in Eastern Regional Languages' on December 23-24, 2014 at the Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy auditorium in Imphal.

In the inaugural session, Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-Charge, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, welcomed the participants and audience. Prof Karabi Deka Hazarika, Convener, Assamese Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, delivered the inaugural speech and highlighted the purpose and objectives of the symposium. Noted Manipuri scholar, Prof N. Khagendra

Singh, delivered the keynote address, talked about the modern trends and observed there is a distinction between modern and contemporary and scholars should keep this in mind while approaching the subject. Prof H. Behari Singh, Convener, Manipuri Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the session and Sri Goutam Paul proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was chaired by Dr Gourhari Das, Convener, Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, three noted scholars, Smt. Jyotirekha Hazarika, Sri Srijata and Smt. Damayanti Beshra, presented their papers focusing on modern trends Assamese poetry, Bengali poetry and Santali fiction respectively. In the second session that was chaired by Sri Gangadhar Hansda, Convener, Santhali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, four noted scholars, Sri Ashok Abichal, Sri Gopinath Brahma, Sri L. Joychandra Singh and Sri Pratap Chandra Pradhan, presented their papers focusing on the modern trends in Maithili poetry, Bodo poetry, Manipuri fiction and Nepali poetry respectively. In the third session that was chaired by Dr Anil Boro, three noted scholars, Sri Afzar Ahmed, Sri K. Radhakumar Singh and Sri Yogbir Sakya, presented their papers focusing on the modern trends in Bengali fiction, Manipuri poetry and Nepali fiction respectively. In the fourth session that was chaired by Sri Prem Pradhan, Convener, Nepali Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, four noted scholars, Sri Toren Boro, Sri Tarakant Jha, Sri Pradip Kumar Biswal and Sri Badal Hembram, presented papers focusing on the modern trends in Bodo fiction, Maithili fiction, Odia fiction and Santhali fiction respectively.

Dr. Bina Thakur chaired the valedictory session and Sri Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharya, noted writer and scholar delivered the valedictory address.

SYMPOSIUM ON JAI NARAIN MALICK, VAIDYANATH MALICK VIDHU AND ANAND JHA NYAYACHARYA

December 27-28, 2014, Kolkata

Sahitya Akademi organized a two day birth centenary symposium on eminent Maithili scholars Jai Narain Mallick, Vaidyanath Mallick Vidhu and Anand Jha Nyayacharya, on December 27-28, 2014 at the Akademi auditorium in Kolkata.

In the inaugural session, Dr Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer on Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the participants and audience. In her introductory address, Dr Bina Thakur, Convener, Maithili Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, briefly outlined various initiatives of the Akademi to preserve and promote Maithili literature. In his inaugural address, Sri Rajnandan Das, Editor, Karnamruth, talked about rich contributions of the trio. In his presidential address, Sri Vidyanand Jha, eminent Maithili scholar, talked about richness of cultural and literary traditions of the land and thanked the Akademi for hosting a symposium in honor of these literary giants. Sri Kamalkant Jha spoke about the place and importance of the trio in Maithili literature.

The first two sessions of the symposium were devoted to the life and works of Sri Jai Narain Mallick and Sri Kamdev Jha and Sri Kamalkant Jha chaired them. Four noted scholars, Dr. Ravindra Chaudhury, Sri Naresh Mohan Jha, Sri Yoganand Jha and Sri Kushilal Jha, presented their papers focusing on Jai Narain Mallick's life and personality, locating his works in Maithili literature, varied contributions of Jai Narain Mallick to Maithili language and literature and reform he brought in, respectively. Third and fourth sessions of the symposium were devoted to life and works of Vaidyanath Mallick Vidhu and were chaired by Dr. Bina Thakur and Sri Mohan Anand

Mishra. Six noted scholars, Sri Alok Pathak, Sri Buchru Paswan, Sri Phoolchandra Jha Praveen, Sri Anmol Jha, Sri Taraknath Jha and Sri Navin Chaudhuri, presented papers focusing on various aspects of Sri Vaidyanath Mallick Vidhu's life and works. Fifth and sixth sessions of the symposium were devoted to the life and works of Sri Anand Jha Nyayacharya and were chaired by Sri Ashok Avichal and Sri Sripathi Tripathi. Six noted scholars, Smt. Revathi Mishra, Sri Amalendu Shekhar Pathak, Sri Ashok Jha, Sri Panchanan Mishra, Sri Mahanand Thakur and Sri Ramlochan Thakur, presented papers covering various aspects of life and works of Sri Anand Jha Nyayacharya.

Sri Kishore Kant Mishra chaired the valedictory session. Sri Brahmendra Jha delivered the valedictory address and Sri Vinod Kumar also spoke in the session. Dr. Bina Thakur proposed a vote of thanks.

SEMINAR ON COMMUNALISM AND MARATHI LITERATURE

December 27-28, 2014, Mumbai

Sahitya Akademi organized a seminar on 'Communalism and Marathi Literature' on December 27-28, 2014 at the Sahitya Akademi auditorium in Mumbai.



Rajan Gavas, Govind Pansare, Rangnath Pathare and Krishna Kimbahune

In the inaugural session, Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, welcomed the participants and audience. In his inaugural address, Sri Govind Pansare, noted scholar, talked about the evolution of idea of resisting communalism and traced its root in the modern period to independence movement in the country. He also talked about the relevance of literature in combating communalism. Sri Rajan Gavas, in his keynote address, talked about the false identities that communalism creates and also the resultant oppression of certain sections of society. He highlighted the plight of labour in communalist schemes. Sri Ranganath Pathare, who chaired the session, talked about the role of literature in identifying the causes of communalism and in the combat against it. In the changing world, communalism too changes its façade and literature plays a very vital role in identifying the facades.

Sri Vinayak Tumram chaired the first session. The papers were presented by Sri Cecilia Carvalho, Sri Mahaveer Prabhachandra Shastri and Sri Azeem Nawaz Rahi. Sri Azeem Nawaz Rahi presented paper on 'The minorities and the Marathi literature'. He observed that after independence the perspective of thinking of the minorities was radically changed. The oppressive tone of their literature is striking.

The feeling of insecurity is at the center of the literature of the minorities. Father Francis D'brito chaired the second session. The papers were presented by Sri Satish Badve and Ms. Surekha Shah. Sri Satish Badve said that Marathi novels after independence could be termed affluent in terms of encapsulating issues regarding almost every social stratum. The novels after independence of India deal with several neglected castes and tribes. Ms. Surekha Shah divided her paper in two sections that are Marathi novels before independence and Marathi

novels after independence. She observed that the writers who wrote before independence belong to only some of the casts but after independence the picture was changed and the writers from several casts, tribes began writing, this change was welcome, she stated. Sri Digambar Padhye chaired the third session. The papers were presented by Sri Ashok Babar, Sri Yogiraj Bagul and Sri Mahaboob Sayyad. Sri Ashok Babar observed that communalism in India got associated with western nationalism in 19th century. But the fact was neglected that the theory of the western nationalism could not be implemented in Indian context. Sri Mahaboob Sayyad said that any literature should not nurture communal values, and it should firmly establish in favour of social harmony. Sri Satish Badve chaired the fourth session. The papers were presented by Sri Eknath Pagar, Sri G.K. Ainapure and Sri Kumar Anil. Sri Eknath Pagar observed it is a welcome fact that writers from the castes and tribes such as Kaikadi, Kudmude Joshi, Pathrut, Kolhati, Gondhali, Banjara, Paradhi, Mawachi and Belder began writing enthusiastically representing their genuine and neglected until now. Sri G.K. Ainapure observed that autobiographies in Marathi attempted to merely change the literary taste of the readership but not the perception of literature. The fact is that the perception of literature is more important and today the genre of autobiography is merely restricted to memory.

Sri Anil Awachat delivered valedictory address. He said that having seen number of incidents that took place in last few years we can say that communalism is associated with human being since his birth. Mankind even violates rules of the nature and his entire history is blood stained. Mankind cannot live without looking down upon others. It is difficult for him to get read of casts and races, and literature should stand against this kind of inhumanity.

SYMPOSIUM ON GOALPARIA FOLK SONGS December 28, 2014, Guwahati



Atanu Bhattachayya delivering the welcome address

Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with Sadou Asom Lekhika Samaroh Samiti, Tezpur, and Kamrup Mahanagar Zilla Parishat, Guwahati, organized a symposium on 'Goalparia Folk Songs' on December 28, 2014 at Cotton College, Guwahati.

In the inaugural session, Sri Atanu Bhattacharyya welcomed the participants and audience. Smt. Sukha Barua chaired the session. Sri Phanindra Kumar Debchoudhury delivered inaugural address and Sri Nabin Chandra Sarma, in his keynote address, talked at length about various types of Goalparia folksongs. In the first session that was chaired by Sri Ganga Shankar Pandey, three noted scholars, Sri Amitabha Ranjan Kanu, Smt Pratima Neogi and Sri Upen Rabha Hakasham, presented their papers focusing on content of Goalparia folksongs, tunes and nature in them and language and meter of these folksongs respectively. In the second session that was chaired by Smt. Bineeta Dutta, two noted scholars, Smt. Geeta Sarkar and Sri Anil Saikia, presented papers focusing on depiction of rural life and presence of relative locale respectively. Sri Satyakam Borthakur chaired the valedictory session and talked at length

about richness of these folksongs and necessity to preserve and promote them. Smt. Gita Das delivered the valedictory address.

SEMINAR ON MEDIEVAL BHAKTI LITERATURE
January 2-3, 2015, Bhubaneswar

As part of its diamond jubilee celebrations, Sahitya Akademi organized a two-day national seminar on 'Medieval Bhakti Literature' focusing on medieval bhakti schools of the eastern parts of India on January 2-3, 2015 at the Kalinga conference hall in Bhubaneswar.

In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi welcomed the participants and audience and spoke at length about the role Bhakti movements during the medieval period played in communities across India. He observed that these movements acted both as a tool of social critique aimed at countering hegemony and at the same time offering countless ways to go beyond the daily oppressions. Sri Gourhari

Das, Convener, Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his introductory remarks, talked about social changes which the medieval bhakti schools brought about across the country and the positive role they played in the uplifting of the poor and oppressed. In his inaugural address, Sri Ramakanta Rath, Fellow, Sahitya Akademi, talked about the role of medieval bhakti movements in the eastern parts of India. In his keynote address, Sri Pradip Jyoti Mahanta, noted scholar, talked about the role medieval bhakti movements played in raising the standards of literature and life across east and north-east. Sri Ashok Chandra Panda, Hon'ble Minister of Culture and Tourism, Government of Odisha, who was the chief guest, congratulated Sahitya Akademi for organizing such an important seminar in Bhubaneswar. Sri Satakadi Hota, President, Odisha Sahitya Akademi, in his Presidential address, talked about medieval Bhakti literature of Odisha. Sri Arabinda K Padhi, I.A.S., Secretary, Culture & Tourism Ministry, Government of Odisha and Dr. Bina Thakur, Convener, Maithili Advisory Board, Sahitya



Inaugural Session of the Seminar

Akademi were guests of honor. Sri Bishnu Prasad Mishra, Secretary, Odisha Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session devoted to 'Confluence of medieval Bengali and Maithili Bhakti literature' and chaired by Dr Bina Thakur, two noted scholars, Anjana Sen (Bengali) and Amlendu Shekhar Pathak (Maithili) presented their papers focusing on the impact of saint-poet on Vidyapati on medieval Bengali Bhakti literature and also the impact of medieval Bengali Sakta poets on the medieval Sakta literature of Maithili. In the second session devoted to 'Social Ramifications of Medieval Bhakti Movements of Odisha' and chaired by Sri Harekrishna Satpathy, three noted Odia scholars, Sri Jatin Nayak, Sri Kalidas Mishra and Sri Surendra Kumar Mishra, presented their papers focusing on the impact of Odia Bhakti literature during the medieval period starting from Sarala Dasa's Sarala Mahabharata and later saint-poets' works on communities across Odisha and their role in the social upheaval. In the third session devoted to 'Sankaradeva and North Eastern Medieval Bhakti Literature' and chaired by Sri Lakshminandan Bora, two noted scholars, Kanak Chandra Saharia (Assamese) and C. Jamini Devi (Manipuri) presented their papers focusing on the impact of Sankaradeva in the rise and spread of Vaishnava Bhakti movements across North-East and their role in social re-engineering there. In the fourth session devoted to 'Socio-Cultural Impact of Odia Bhagabat of Atibadi Jagannath

Das' and chaired by Sri Raj Kishore Mishra, three noted Odia scholars, Braja Kishore Swain, Asit Mohanty and

Sunil Kumar Rath presented their papers. In the fifth session that was devoted to 'Impact of Vidyapati, Jayadeva, Saraladas, Sankaradeva and Sri Chaitanya in Indian Literature' and chaired by H. Behari Singh, five noted scholars, Sanjeev Nath (Assamese),

Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharjee (Bengali), Buddhinath Mishra (Maithili), N. Khagendra Singh (Manipuri) and B.N. Patnaik (Odia) presented their papers.

In his valedictory address, Dr. Sitakant Mahapatra, distinguished scholar and writer, talked about the role Bhakti movements across India played during the time of decline of authority of Hindu Kingdoms. Sri Gopal Krushna Rath chaired the valedictory session and proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON YASHWANT CHITTAL January 4, 2015, Mumbai

Sahitya Akademi in association with the Kannada Department, Mumbai University, organized a day long symposium on the life and works of noted Kannada writer, Yashwant Chittal at the Mysore Association, Mumbai on January 4, 2015.

Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and briefly spoke about various activities of Sahitya Akademi. He observed that Yashwant Chittal was a unique writer and humanitarian story teller of repute. In his inaugural address, Dr H.S. Raghavendra Rao, noted Kannada writer and critic, talked about Chittal, the modern novelist and short story writer and highlighted the tale of two places – Hanehalli (where Chittal was born) and Mumbai (where Chittal lived). Dr M.S. Ashadevi, noted Kannada writer, talked about distinctive nature of female characters in Chittal's works. Smt. P. Chandrika, Member, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked about Chittal's fiction in comparison with certain international films and observed that both are creative and vibrant in nature. Dr G.N. Upadhya, Member, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi and Head, Kannada Department, University of Mumbai,

who chaired the session talked about the contributions of Chittal and his association with the writer.

Dr Raghunath, Dr Suresh Naik, Dr Poornima Shetty, Smt. Kamala, Dr Vishwantha Karnad, Sri Srinivas Jokatte, Dr Vyas Rao Ninjoor and Sri Omdas Kannangar participated in the deliberations.

Sri Shekar Ajekar, noted journalist, exhibited rare photographs of Yashwant Chittal with annotations. Sri Narayan Navilekar of Mysore association proposed a vote of thanks. The programme was well attended by writers, scholars and students and was covered prominently in the local media.

SYMPOSIUM ON VIJAY DAN DETHA, ANNA RAM SUDAMA, YADVENDRA SHARMA CHARAN AND LAKSHMI KUMARI CHUNDAVAT
4 January 2015 at Bikaner, Rajasthan

Sahitya Akademi in collaboration with Mukti Sansthan, held a one day Symposium of four fiction writers in Rajasthani – Vijay Dan Detha, Laxmi Kumari Chundavat, Anna Ram Sudama and Yadvendra Sharma 'Charan'. The inaugural session was chaired by Dr Arjun Dev Charan, Convener Rajasthani Advisory Board and well known Rajasthani playwright. The Chief Guest on this occasion was Bhanwarlal Bhawar. He lauded the Sahitya Akademi for holding this Symposium. He requested the Sahitya Akademi to bring out the unpublished work of these writers.

Dr Arjun Dev Charan said that anybody who wants to learn more about our culture and history, then one must read their works.

In the second session chaired by Sri Kailash Kabir papers were read by Malchand Tiwari, Bulaki Sharma and Rajendra Joshi. The session was moderated by Anand V. Acharya.

The third was session chaired by Meghraj Sharma. In this session Neeraj Daiya, Gaje

Singh Rajpurohit and Bharat Ola spoke about the contribution of Anna Ram Sudama and Rani Laxmi Kumari Chundawat to literature.

The concluding session was chaired by Madhu Acharya 'Aashabadi'. The Chief Guest on this occasion was eminent writer Malchad Tiwari.

SEMINAR ON KONKANI YUVA LITERATURE
January 10, 2015, Goa

Sahitya Akademi in association with Fr. Agnel College of Arts and Commerce, organized a seminar on "Konkani Yuva Literature: an Introduction, Evaluation and Future Journey" on January 10, 2015 at Fr. Agnel College Auditorium, Pilar, Goa.

Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Mumbai, welcomed the audience and writer participants. While making introductory remarks Fr. Fedrik Rodrigues, Principal, Fr. Agnel College of Arts and Commerce, Pilar, thanked Sahitya Akademi for holding a seminar on Konkani Yuva Literature: an introduction, evaluation and future journey in collaboration with the Fr. Agnel College of Arts and Commerce. He said that the college rejoiced in collaborating with Sahitya Akademi in organizing such a significant seminar.

Sri Vishnu Surya Wagh, noted Konkani poet, delivered keynote address. He said that it was essential to evaluate and reevaluate what is current in literature any genuine inventive experimental creative writing could be termed young irrespective of the age of the writer. So, genuine readership should always be keen on and after what is new and genuine in literature, he opined. Dr. Tanaji Halarnakar, Convener, Konkani Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the inaugural session, he said that it was needed to observe what the current Konkani generation was writing about,

what were there areas of concerns and how they dealt with it through the medium of language and it was possible at the platform of the seminar. Ms. Biula Parekh, Head, Department of Sociology, Fr. Agnel College of Arts and Commerce, proposed a vote of thanks.

Sri Sham Varenker chaired the first session – ‘Konkani Yuva Literature: yesterday, today and tomorrow’. Sri Prakash Parinekar, Ms. Anvesh Singbal and Fr. Francis Rodrigues presented their papers at this session. All the three papers observed that there were number of new writers in Konkani today and they were attempting wonderfully to master almost every genre of literature and this was quiet satisfactory literature scene for the day.

Sri Madhav Borcar chaired the second session – ‘Evaluation of Konkani Yuva Literature: necessity and present scenario’, at this session Sri Mukesh Tali, Ms. Sneha Varenker and Smt. Hema Naik presented their papers. The three papers discussed that although numbers of significant issues were left to be dealt with by young writers, their linguistic skills, experimentation in style, imagination were remarkable.

Ms. Rajashree Sail chaired the third session – ‘Yuva Sahityakaro ki Dharanayein’, at this session up and coming Konkani writers Sri Naman Sawant Dhawaskar, Sri Naresh Naik and Ms. Jofa Gonsalavis shared their views about their experiences in creative writings.

The fourth session included reading by young writers and the session was chaired by Ms.

Quinnie Viegas, and this session Ms. Antara Bhide read out her essay, Ms. Smita Prabhu read out her short story, and Sri Suraj

Nagekar, Sri Jaison Sequeira, and Ms. Purva Gude recited their poems. Sri John Mendonsa, Member, Konkani Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, made concluding remarks and Fr. Mousinho Ataide, Member, Konkani Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, chaired the valedictory session.

SYMPOSIUM ON WOMEN WRITING IN THE WESTERN INDIAN LANGUAGES

January 11, 2015, Panaji

Sahitya Akademi in association with the Institute Menezes Braganza, Panaji organized a symposium on “Women Writing in the Western Indian Languages” on January 11, 2015 at Conference Hall, Institute Menezes Braganza in Panaji.

Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Mumbai, welcomed the audience and writer participants. Mrs. Jayashree Roy Harmalkar, Chief Guest at this symposium observed that our society had stepped up itself because of the qualitative writings by women. Women writing also reflected the downtrodden side of our society she opined. Dr. Tanaji Halarnakar, Convener, Konkani Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi,



Aruna Dhere, Usha Upadhyay, Pundalik Naik, Harishchandra Nagvenkar and Vimmi Sadarangani

chaired the inaugural session. He said that it was a very welcome scene that the number of women writers had been increasing. He stated that until the date the contribution of women writings in any of the literatures had been extremely remarkable.

Ms. Kiran Budkuley chaired the first session 'women in women writing'. Ms. Indu Joshi of Gujarati, Ms. Sonia Sirasat of Konkani, Smt. Anupama Uzgare of Marathi and Mrs. Meena Roopchandani of Sindhi presented their papers.

Sri Pundalik Naik chaired the second session - 'men in women writing'. Ms. Usha Upadhyaya of Gujarati, Sri Harishchandra Nagavenkar of Konkani, Ms. Aruna Dhare of Marathi and Ms. Vimmi Sadarangani of Sindhi presented their papers.

Sri Uday Bhembre chaired the third session - 'society in women writing'. Ms. Parul Desai of Gujarati, Ms. Priyadarshini Tadakodkar of Konkani, Ms. Shobha Naik of Marathi and Ms. Maya Rahi of Sindhi presented their papers.

NATIONAL THEATRE FESTIVAL AND NATIONAL SEMINAR ON CONTEMPORARY INDIAN DRAMA January 16-21, 2015, Bengaluru

Sahitya Akademi, as part of its diamond jubilee celebrations, organized a six-day National Theatre Festival between January 16, 2015 and January 21, 2015 and a two-day National Seminar on Contemporary Indian Drama on January 19, 2015 and January 20, 2015 at Guru Nanak Bhavan, Bengaluru.

In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao,

Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and talked at length about the relationship between literature and theatre and highlighted how both differ in various ways. He stated that Sahitya Akademi has been keen on promoting the plays as it is one of the genres of Literature. Akademi has been publishing plays - from ancient treatises like Bharata's Natya Shastra to modern plays of Tagore and others. He unveiled the theme of the festival and seminar and briefly outlined the plays to be staged every evening.

Dr Narahalli Balasubramanya, Convener, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, in his introductory address observed that the concept 'theatre' is a mass art and has been fading away in the recent times and hoped that the theatre festivals of this nature would give opportunities for the theatre experts and critics.

Dr Bhanu Bharti, distinguished theatre personality and scholar, inaugurated the theatre festival and in his inaugural address he stated that literature and performing arts grew up from oral tradition. Later, both of these were assumed to be different. But, literature and performing arts are always interwoven. Such an affiliation should be fortified. He



Theatre Festival being inaugurated

commended the Akademi for hosting a theatre festival of this scale.

Dr Chandrasekhar Kambar, Vice President, Sahitya Akademi, who presided over the session, observed that quite a lot of innovative experiments are taking place in the field of theatre. He stated that sadly in this age of information such innovations are not being shared properly among the practitioners of the art and hoped that the theatre personalities, critics and artists would benefit from the festival and share the developments and innovations in their domains with their counterparts.

During the National Theatre Festival, seminal plays Tamasha Na Hua (Hindi by Bhanu Bharti), Jamleela (Rajasthani by Arjun Dev Charan), Maranayaka (Kannada by H.S. Shivaprakash), Mohe Piya (Hindi by Waman Kendre), Karimayi (Kannada play by Chandrasekhara Kambara rendered in Hindi translation) and Jangtur Pangtur (in Assamese based on a folktale) directed by eminent theatre directors Sri Bhanu Bharti, Dr. Arjun Dev Charan, Sri Hulugappa Kattimani, Prof. Waman Kendre, Sri Lokendra Trivedi and Ms. Rayanti Rabha were staged on the evenings applying traditional and modern stage technologies.

SEMINAR ON SATRAMDAS SOBHASINGH JURIASINGHANI 'SAYAL'

January 18, 2015, Ahmedabad

Sahitya Akademi in association with the Sindhu Sewa Samaj, Ahmedabad, to commemorate the birth centenary of Sri Satramdas, organized a seminar on Satramdas Sobhasingh Juriasinghani 'Sayal' at Sindhu Bhavan, Ahmedabad on January 18, 2015.

Dr. Prem Prakash, Convener, Sindhi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed

the guest participants and audience. In his keynote address, Sri Jetho Lalwani, praised 'Sayal' as teacher, professor, poet and writer, and said that he would be remembered for long for his contribution to Sindhi poetry and education. Sri Amar Doultani, Director, Sindhu Sewa Samaj, while proposing vote of thanks stated that he took pride in being a student of 'Sayal' and a passionate reader of his poetry too.

First session was chaired by Sri Hundraj Balwani. Sri Jagdish Shahadadpuri presented his paper on 'Sayal: jeevan evam sahitya'. He said that after partition, Sayal's life turned for worse, but he overcome all the obstacles. Sri Vasdev Mohi's paper discussed the significant contribution of 'Sayal' to lexicography. Sri Bhagwan Nirdosh's paper elaborated upon stories of the Mahabharat, the Ramayan, retold in poetic form by 'Sayal'.

Sri Vasdev Mohi chaired the second session. He observed that Sayal's career as teacher and poet was like a light house. Sri Hundraj Balwani, Ms. Meena Shahadadpuri and Sri Jairam Chimnani presented their papers at this session and Sri Chandrakant Sayal, Sri Kanayalal Goplani, and Sri Balraj Jumani shared interesting anecdotes of 'Sayal'. Dr. Prem Prakash, Convener, Sindhi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, provided concluding remarks.

SEMINAR ON CONTEMPORARY INDIAN DRAMA 19-20 January 2015

Sahitya Akademi as part of its diamond jubilee celebrations, organized a two-day national seminar on 'Contemporary Indian Drama' on 19 and 20 of January 2015 at Gurunanak Bhavan in Bengaluru.

In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi,

welcomed the participants and audience. He spoke about the relationship between literature and theatre and highlighted how both complement each other in various ways. He stated that Sahitya Akademi has always been keen on promoting the plays as they are also a form of literary genre. Akademi has been publishing plays – from ancient treatises like Bharata's Natya Shastra to modern plays of Tagore and others. Sahitya Akademi is keen on helping and promoting the aspiring playwrights across India and in all the 24 languages and this seminar is one in the series to encourage playwriting in the country. In his inaugural address, Dr Girish Karnad, eminent Kannada writer and playwright, talked about the nature of 'contemporary' and its relativity. He observed that 'contemporary' in his initial days belonged to the golden epoch dominated by doyens of Indian theatre. Compared to that, the 'contemporary' of present playwrights would highlight only the decline in the quantity and quality of plays. Plays reflect reality and chaotic nature of city life aptly reflects, on the other hand this decline. This explains dwindling audience and poor number of staged plays. Audience for plays are from rural areas whereas money and sponsors are in the cities. Dr Girish Karnad also highlighted the divide between creative writers and the cities. Dr Karnad also talked about the dominance of colour, music and dance in the contemporary Indian drama. Dr Samik Bandyopadhyay, eminent art and theatre critic, in his keynote address, talked about the relationship between the text, the literature and theatre. He observed that the origins of play may come from various forms of life – rural or folk or urban – but nevertheless it is still a text, a form of literature reflecting reality and presenting analytical tool to dissect reality reflected. He highlighted the fact that contemporary play has become a spectacle and agreed with Dr Karnad that colour, dance

and music has taken over the plays and hence the decline of text. He observed that in some societies plays are nothing more than an entertainment. He said that text of play has the capacity to be a visually charged literature. He appealed to the established and eminent playwrights to guide and mould the younger generation of playwrights and also asked them to take up the task of reinterpreting the older texts. Dr Chandrasekhar Kambar, Jnanpith Awardee and Vice President of the Akademi, presided over the session, talked briefly about the complementary nature of literature and play and mentioned that he would present a detailed analysis at the valedictory function slated for January 20th. Dr Narahalli Balasubramanya, Convener, Kannada Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was devoted to 'Writing for Stage' and chaired by Prof. Nandkishore Acharya, four eminent scholars and theatre personalities, Sri Pundalik, Dr Arjun Deo Charan, Sri Debhasis Majumdar and Prof Datta Bhagat, presented papers offering various perspectives on writing for stage and highlighted similarities between writing for stage and play as a literary production.



Girish Karnad delivering the inaugural address

In the second session that was devoted to 'Exploring Stage Possibilities' and chaired by Sri Bhanu Bharti, four eminent scholars and theatre personalities, Dr. Neelam Mansingh, Prof. K.S. Rajendran, Sri Chandradasan, and Prof K.V. Akshara, presented papers offering new, contemporary issues in stage management and innovations in production and management techniques.

In the third session devoted to actors speak and was chaired by eminent theatre personality, Dr Mohan Agashe, two eminent scholars, Sri Y. Sadananda Singh and Ms. Avereer Chaurey presented papers. Dr Agashe initiated the proceedings with a pithy remark 'life is a play' and talked about actors' role in that. In a lec-dem, Sri Sadananda Singh presented the paper on 'Role of Manipuri Traditional Arts in the making of contemporary Indian Mime.' Sri Singh elaborated on the use of body as a medium of expression and gesture as a language in encapsulating the words through acting. There was a brief video presentation as well. Ms. Avereer Chaurey talked about acting as a form of expression and elaborated on how mere body movements can encapsulate the text or play or literature without sounds. She also explained how actors, through the use of space, can transcend the words and texts at times and also contribute in a rich way to the literature at hand also.

In the fourth session devoted to 'Making Sense of Drama Historically and Politically' and was chaired by Dr Lokendra Arambam, three noted scholars, Sri T.P. Ashoka, Sri Rojio Usham and Sri Brahma Prakash, presented their papers. Sri Ashoka focused on the scenario of Kannada theatre and drama in the post-colonial era. Sri Rojio Usham presented an overview of practices and perception of theatre in India and abroad and remarked that every event or action can be brought within the domain of performance

and acting. Sri Brahma Prakash focused on the feminist perspective in the Manipuri theatre and also highlighted the institutionalization of plays in the post-colonial Manipuri theatre.

In the fifth session that was chaired by Sri K.D. Tripathi, four eminent scholars, Sri K.G. Paulose, Sri Nirmal Selvamony, Sri R.S. Nandakumar and Sri Karmegam presented papers on 'Presenting Past: Theories and Practices.' Sri Tripathi talked from the point of view of Sanskritic theatre and presented a bird's eye view of the entire tradition of Sanskrit theatre and also talked about contemporary practices in that sphere. Sri Paulose's paper focused on the relevance of rasa. Sri Nirmal Selvamony's paper focused on the possibility of tracing seeds of drama in Tolkappiyam. Sri Nandakumar presented a critical appreciation of Dramaturgical/Musicology texts. Sri Karmegam presented a paper on the dramatic idioms in folk / tribal literature.

In the sixth session that was devoted to the 'Languages of Drama' and was chaired by eminent art and theatre critic, Sri Sadanand Menon, four noted scholars, Ms. Urmimala Sarkar, Ms. Anjana Puri, Sri Dilip Kumar Basu and Sri Kumaran Valavan, presented papers focusing on 'Dance and Choreography,' 'Music,' 'Poetry' and 'Stage Technologies' respectively.

Jnanpith Award Winner and the Vice President of Sahitya Akademi, Dr Chandrasekhar Kambar chaired the Valedictory session. Dr Kambar observed that with the passage of time, Indian plays and dramas are adopting western techniques, western methods of evaluation and western style of acting and presentation. He observed that it is high time we 'bring' our plays back home. Eminent poet and playwright, Prof H.S. Shivaprakash, presented a paper on 'Playing Drama and Theatre.' Prof Shivaprakash observed that amidst all the fragmentation and categorization,

'Play' is the thing. From the text to the stage to the acting and presentation it is the play which has to be in the centre of focus.

SYMPOSIUM ON COMPARATIVE STUDY OF CREATIVE AND JOURNALISTIC WRITINGS IN ASSAMESE LANGUAGE AND THE MEDIA OF ASSAM

January 20, 2015, Guwahati

Sahitya Akademi in association with the Department of Communication and Journalism, Gauhati University, organized a symposium on "Comparative Study of Creative and Journalistic Writings in Assamese Language and the Media of Assam" on January 20, 2015 at the seminar hall of the varsity.

In the inaugural session, Dr. Kamaluddin Ahmed, Member, Assamese Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi in Assam. Prof Hari Prasad Sarma, Rector of the University and who was the chief guest, talked about the creative writers being journalist and gave examples of Khushwant Singh, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Birendra Kumar Bhattacharyya and host of others. Dr. Ramesh Pathak, noted columnist and scholar, delivered the keynote address and talked about the confluence of creative writing and journalistic writings. Sri Chandan Kumar Goswami proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was chaired by Dr Ramesh Pathak, four noted scholars, Prof Dilip Bora, Prof Bibhash Choudhury, Sri Nava Thakurja and Prof Abhijit Bora, presented their papers focusing on 'Challenges in Assamese journalistic writings,' 'Assamese Journalistic Language,' 'Journalism and Literature' and 'Journalism as a form of creative writing' respectively.

In the second session that was chaired by Prof Umesh Deka, two noted scholars, Sri Samudra Gupta Kashyap and Dr Prafulla Kumar Nath, presented their papers focusing on the acquisition of requisite knowledge prior to writing and creative and journalistic writings of Assam, respectively. Prof Chandan Kumar Goswami proposed a vote of thanks.

BIRTH CENTENARY SEMINAR ON HEM BARUAH
January 22, 2015 Sibsagar

Sahitya Akademi in association with Sibsagar Commerce College, organized a birth centenary seminar on the legendary Assamese writer, Sri Hem Baruah on January 22, 2015 at Sibsagar Commerce College.

In the inaugural session Sri Pankaj Jyoti Hazarika welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about the life, legacy and works of Sri Hem Baruah. Dr. Saumar Jyoti Mahanta chaired the session and talked about the multifaceted personality of Hem Baruah. In his inaugural address, Sri Imraan Shah shared interesting anecdotes involving Hem Baruah and talked at length about Hem Baruah's numerous travelogues. In her keynote address, Dr. Karabi Deka Hazarika, Convener, Assamese Advisory Board,



Inaugural Session of the Seminar in progress

Sahitya Akademi, talked about various contributions of Hem Baruah and also spoke briefly about Akademi's various initiatives to promote Assamese literature. Smt. Nirupama Mahanta also spoke on the life and works of Hem Baruah and Prof Lakhimi Dutta proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session devoted to 'Hem Baruah and his literature' and chaired by Sri Basanta Goswami, three noted scholars, Sri Ajit Bharali, Dr. Jyotiprasad Saikia and Dr. Rashmi Gogoi, presented their papers focusing on the Poetry of Hem Baruah, Realism and Romance in Hem Baruah's works and travelogues of Hem Baruah.

In the second session that was devoted to Hem Baruah and his other activities and chaired by Sri Sonaram Baruah, two noted scholars, Sri Chandan Sharma and Sri Sanjib Poul Deka, presented their papers focusing on the revolutionary politics of Hem Baruah and Gandhian and Marxian ideals of Hem Baruah.

Sri Khagendra Nath Bhuyan chaired the valedictory session. In his valedictory address, Sri Dilip Chandan, editor of Asom Bani, talked about journalism of Hem Baruah and his work towards the development of Assam and Assamese literature. In his concluding remarks, Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, Kolkata, talked briefly about various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi to promote north-eastern literature and also spoke at length about literary works of Hem Baruah.

SEMINAR ON DEVAKANTA BAROOAH AND EMERGING TRENDS IN ASSAMESE POETRY
January 23-24, 2015, Nagaon

Sahitya Akademi in association with A.D.P. College, Nagaon, organized a two-day seminar

on 'Devakanta Barooah and Emerging Trends in Assamese Poetry' at the college premises on January 23-24, 2015.

In the inaugural session, Sri Goutam Paul, Officer-in-charge, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about the life and works of Sri Devakanta Barooah. In her inaugural address, Prof Karabi Deka Hazarika, Convener, Assamese Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked about different styles of Devakanta's works. Sri Mahim Bora, who chaired the session, talked about multi-faceted contributions of Devakanta Barooah. Sri Pradip Acharya, in his keynote address, talked about the impact created by Devakanta's writings in different spheres of life. Dr. Rajita Kalita, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was devoted to poetry reading and chaired by Prof Karabi Deka Hazarika, fifteen noted poets, Sri Anis Uz Zaman, Sri Gnyan Pujari, Sri Rafikul Hossain, Sri Sameer Tanti, Sri Anubhav Tulsi, Sri Bipuljyoti Saikia, Sri Nilim Kumar, Sri Binayak Bandyopadhyay, Smt. Nilima Thakuria Haque, Sri Biman Kumar Doley, Sri Kushal Dutta, Sri Prayag Saikia, Sri Bijoy Sankar Barman, Sri Pranab Kumar Barman and Sri Mridul Haloi, recited their recent compositions.

In the second session that was devoted to 'Devakanta Barooah and Emerging Trends in Assamese Poetry' and chaired by Sri Pradip Acharya, four noted scholars, Dr Kamaluddin Ahmed, Smt Monojyotsna Mahanta, Sri Pranjal Sharma Basistha and Sri Sanjeev Poul Deka, presented their papers.

In the third session that was chaired by Sri Gnyan Pujari, four noted scholars, Dr Satyakam Borthakur, Dr Pranjit Bora, Sri Debabhushan Bora and Sri Binayak Bandyopadhyay, presented papers. In the fourth session that was chaired by Sri Anubhav Tulsi, four noted scholars, Sri Sameer Tanti,

Sri Gnyan Pujari, Sri Bipuljyoti Saikia and Sri Nilim Kumar, presented their papers. The valedictory address was delivered by Dr. Nityananda Pattanayak and Dr. Karabi Deka Hazarika chaired the valedictory session.

BIRTH CENTENARY SEMINAR ON MANUBHAI PANCHOLI 'DARSHAK'

January 27-28, 2015, Sanosara

Sahitya Akademi in association with Darshak Foundation and Lokbharati Gram Vidyapeeth, organized a birth centenary seminar on Manubhai Pancholi 'Darshak' at Saraswat Bhavan, Sanosara, on January 27-28, 2015.

While welcoming the audience and guest participants Sri Krishna Kimbahune, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Mumbai, highlighted that the significant contribution of 'Darshak', the reward thinker, educationist, historian, novelist, writer and playwright would be understood and its contemporary relevance would be thought of at this seminar. In his introductory remarks Prof Sitanshu Yashaschandra, Convener, Gujarati, Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, stated that Darshak's major concerns were Gandhian thought and Indian freedom struggle as a writer. Sri Mansukh



Mansukhlal Salla, Arunbhai Dave,
Shirish Panchal, Sitanshu Yashaschandra
and Krishna Kimbahune

Salla, in his keynote address, stated as a writer 'Darshak' had his one eye our history and the other our compassion. Mahatma Gandhi had a profound influence on him and hence he became writer who was a passionate seeker of rural life in India. Sri Shirish Panchal chaired this session and Sri Arunbhai Dave, Director, Lokbharati, proposed a vote of thanks.

Sri Raghuveer Chaudhari chaired the first session - 'Darshak ka Manovishwa', at this session Sri Vidyut Joshi, Sri Mahendra Chotaliya and Sri Prakash Shah presented their papers. Sri Yogesh Bhatt and Sri Ambadan Rohadiya participated as discussants. At the second session - 'Vachikam'. Sri Mahendrasinh Parmar and Sri Pravin Pandya read out selected writings of 'Darshak'.

On the next day at third session - 'Darshak ki Bhavasrushti', Ms. Bindu Bhatt, Ms. Mrudula Parik, Sri Dharendra Mehta and Ms. Mrinalini Kamat presented their papers, and Ms. Kalindi Parik participated as the discussant, Sri Shirish Panchal chaired this session. The last session was chaired by Sri Narottam Palan, and Sri Bharat Dave, Sri Raman Soni, and Sri Balvant Jani presented their papers, and Sri Harshad Trivedi participated as discussant.

SEMINAR ON GOPINATH MOHANTY: THE MAN AND HIS CREATIONS

February 1-2, 2015, New Delhi

As part of its diamond jubilee celebrations and also to commemorate the birth centenary of Gopinath Mohanty, distinguished Odia writer, Sahitya Akademi organized a two-day seminar on 'Gopinath Mohanty: The Man and His Creations' on February 1-2, 2015 at the Akademi auditorium in New Delhi.

In the inaugural session, Dr. K.

Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about the life, personality and works of Gopinath Mohanty. He observed that the portrayal of social realities in Gopinath Mohanty's works were not localized and his works betrayed a very deep understanding of universality of human life. In his introductory remarks Sri Gourhari Das, Convener, Odia Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, talked about how Gopinath Mohanty's life and works reflect the society in transition with the hopes for bright future. In his inaugural address, Sri Namwar Singh, eminent critic, talked about the positive role which writings of Gopinath Mohanty provided to many an aspiring writer across India. He observed that simply by this fact he should be viewed and treated as pan-India writer rather than within the narrow confines of Odia literature. Dr. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, in his presidential address talked about multifaceted personality of Gopinath Mohanty and his influence in varied walks of life and observed Gopinath Mohanty's influence on society is unparalleled in modern India. In his keynote address,

Dr. Sitakant Mahapatra, distinguished scholar and writer, presented a fascinating picture of Gopinath Mohanty as a recorder of life's varied experiences. He observed that Gopinath Mohanty was a colossus among the post-independence fiction writers in India with no equals. Sri Omkar Nath Mohanty of Gopinath Mohanty Foundation Trust proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was devoted to 'Plays, Essays and Autobiography of Gopinath Mohanty' and chaired by J.P. Das, three noted scholars, K.K. Mohapatra, Sangram Jena and Arun Mohanty presented their papers focusing on how his prolific output in story writing eclipsed his versatility as an essayist and biographer par excellence. In the second session that was devoted to 'Gopinath Mohanty and Sarala Dasa' and chaired by Sri Sumanyu Satpathy, two noted scholars, Sri Raj Kishore Mishra and Sri Basanta Kumar Panda, presented their papers highlighting how Gopinath Mohanty's research revealed new facts about the legendary saint-poet of Odisha, Sri Sarala Dasa, led to the rewriting of history of Odia literature.

In the third session that was devoted to 'Fictional World of Gopinath Mohanty' and chaired by Pratibha Ray, three noted scholars, Bikram Keshari Das, Gourkishore Das and Yashodhara Mishra, presented their papers focusing on varied portrayal of social reality and landscape in Gopinath Mohanty's stories. In the fourth session that was devoted to 'Shaping Voices: Gopinath Mohanty and the Tribal



Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari delivering the Presidential address at the Seminar

World' and chaired by Santanu Kumar Acharya, three noted scholars, four noted scholars, Jatin Nayak, P.C. Pattanaik, Jayant Kumar Biswal and Raj Kumar, presented their papers focusing on the portrayal of tribals in Gopinath Mohanty's works. In the fifth session that was devoted to 'Placing Gopinath Mohanty in Indian Literature' and chaired by Raghuveer Chaudhuri, four noted scholars, Sayantan Dasgupta, Manu Chakravarthy,

P.P. Raveendran and B.N. Patnaik, presented their papers focusing on the influence of Gopinath Mohanty in other literatures of India.

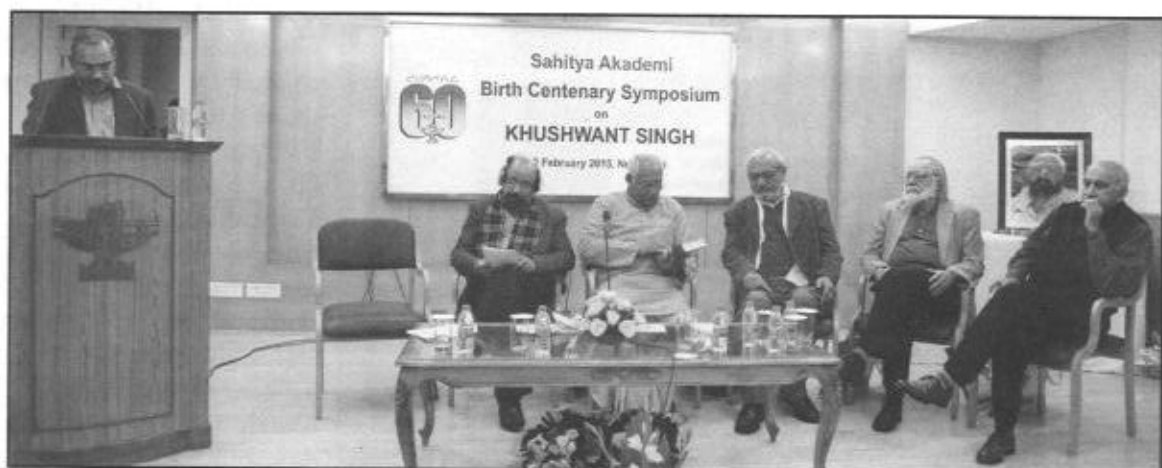
SYMPOSIUM ON KHUSHWANT SINGH February 2, 2015, New Delhi

To commemorate the birth centenary of distinguished Indian writer Khushwant Singh, Sahitya Akademi organized a symposium on the legendary writer on February 2, 2015 at the Akademi auditorium in New Delhi.

In the inaugural session, Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi,

welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about the works and legacy of Sri Khushwant Singh. He ended his speech with Khushwant's own obituary: "Here lies one who spared neither man nor God/ waste not your tears on him, he was a sod/ writing nasty things he regarded as great fun/ thank the lord he is dead, this son of a gun." Prof K. Satchidanandan, Convener, English Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, addressed the multi-dimensional character of this great figure from his journalistic venture, sense of humour, tolerance to religion to his passion towards literature.

In the first session chaired by Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, three eminent scholars, Prof Harish Trivedi, Sri Rahul Singh and Sri M.J. Akbar, talked about different aspects of Khushwant Singh's life. A documentary film on Khushwant Singh directed by Suresh Kohli was screened between the sessions. In the second session chaired by Prof K. Satchidanandan, three eminent scholars, Prof Indu Banga, Prof G.J.V. Prasad and Sri David Davidar, presented their papers. Indu Banga concentrated on Khushwant Singh's History



K. Sreenivasarao, K. Satchidanandan, Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, Harish Trivedi, Rahul Singh and M.J.Akbar

of the Sikhs, purpose of his writing and his limitations as a historian. GJV Prasad discussed in detail about his fictions bringing out his realist side, his interest in relationships and human values. David Davidar's paper revolved around Khushwant Singh's Delhi: how it got written and edited and his understanding of texture and flavour of Delhi down the ages. In the third session chaired by Prof Harish Trivedi, two noted scholars, Prof Pushpinder Syal and Prof M. Asaduddin, presented their papers. Pushpinder Syal examined Khushwant Singh's perspective on women in her paper which she found contradictory to his literary sensibilities. Though exposing male hypocrisy about sex they ended up re-enforcing it. M. Asaduddin talked about his another facet of being a translator which got overshadowed by his other facets. Event concluded with the Open Forum on Memoirs and Impressions of Khushwant Singh where his acquaintances and admirers paid tribute to his memory.

SEMINAR ON JAISHANKAR PRASAD February 3-4, 2015, New Delhi

Sahitya Akademi organized a national seminar on Jaishankar Prasad at the Akademi auditorium in New Delhi on February 3-4, 2015.

In the inaugural session, Sri Brajendra Tripathi, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the participants, dignitaries and audience. In his inaugural address, Sri Raghuvir Choudhary, eminent writer, talked about how the works of Sri Prasad betray his deep understanding of human psyche and his works are testimony to his ability to translate the indescribable into beautiful poetry. Dr. Vishwanath Prasad

Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, in his Presidential address, stressed the need to revisit Sri Prasad's works for a better understanding of the legendary writer and also of human consciousness. In his keynote address, Sri Prabhakar Shrotriya, well-known writer, talked about Kamayani's new cultural exchange and highlighted the interrelationship between growth and destruction. He observed that Kamayani was 20th century's biggest creation. Sri Brajendra Tripathi proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was devoted to the Poetry of Prasad and chaired by Dr. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, three noted scholars, Ashish Tripathi, Rajendra Prasad Pandey and Madhav Hada, presented their papers. In the second session that was devoted to Short Stories of Prasad and chaired by Gopal Rai, three noted scholars, Arvindakshan, Madhuresh and S. Shesharatnam, presented their papers. In the evening, a dance presentation of Kamayani by Roopvani troupe from Varanasi and directed by Vyomesh Shukla was staged.

In the third session that was devoted to the Plays of Prasad and chaired by Narendra



Raghuvir Chaudhary, Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari and Prabhakar Shrotriya

Mohan, three noted scholars, Alok Gupta, Ram Gopal Bajaj and Soma Bandyopadhyay, presented their papers. In the fourth session that was devoted to the Novels of Prasad and chaired by Ajay Tiwari, three noted scholars, Ramesh Rishikalp, Chitranjan Mishra and Neeraj, presented their papers. In the fifth session that was devoted to Poetics of Prasad and chaired by Nityanand Tiwari, three noted scholars, Anant Mishra, Ramshankar Dwivedi and Vinod Tiwari, presented their papers. In the valedictory session that was chaired by Sri Suryaprasad Dixit, Sri Krishnadutt Paliwal delivered the valedictory address and Sri Om Nischal proposed a vote of thanks.

NATIONAL SEMINAR ON IMPACT OF TECHNOLOGY ON LANGUAGE AND CULTURE February 5-6, 2015, Tirur

Sahitya Akademi in association with the Thunchan Memorial Trust, Tirur, organized a two-day National Seminar on 'Impact of Technology on Language and Culture' on February 5, 2015 and February 6, 2015 at Tirur.

In the inaugural session, Sri S.P. Mahalingeshwar, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Bengaluru, welcomed the participants and audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of the Akademi. In his inaugural address, Sri Chandrakant Patil, eminent Marathi writer, talked about the nature of culture and societies and observed that the study of impact of technology which in itself is a chief catalyst of globalization on the culture and language is a fascinating one. Sri Shiv Vishwanathan, distinguished social scientist and scholar, in his keynote address, talked at length about the adverse impact of technology on cultural and linguistic traditions across the world. He observed that while technology has helped

humanity at certain levels, the overall impact of the technology on societies across the globe is less than desirable. He pointed out that humans and language has the power to create while technology seems to be at the other end of the spectrum. Sri C. Radhakrishnan, Convener, Malayalam Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, said that while technology cannot be avoided, humans should be conscious of and alive to the perils that technology may possibly bring to the table.

In the first session that was devoted to 'The impact of technology on Indian languages' and chaired by Sri M. Mukundan, eminent Malayalam writer, two noted scholars, Sri Kannan Sundaram and Sri Joga Singh, talked about 'Positive impact of technology on Tamil language and linguistic traditions' and 'Factors aiding technology in its impact on culture' respectively. Sri Mukundan, in his introductory speech, highlighted the hidden agendas of societies which create technology and the necessity of under-developed societies to be aware of them.

In the second session that was devoted to 'The influence of Techno Culture on Malayalam' and chaired by Sri K. Sethuraman, I.P.S., three noted scholars, Sri T. T. Sreekumar, Prof V. Sanil and Dr P.K. Rajasekharan, talked about 'The adverse impact of video games on Children,' 'The relationship between technology and value systems' and 'Humanism in the New Age' respectively. Sri Sethuraman, in his introductory speech observed that the reach of literature has become easier due to technology. There was a brief interactive section at the end of the session and the role of social media, alternative technology, relevance of value based education etc were discussed.

In the third session that was devoted to 'The influence of Technology on Culture' and chaired by Smt. I.V. Suneetha, three noted scholars, Sri Mahesh Mangalat, Sri

P.P. Ramachandran and Sri Sabu Kollukkal presented their papers, 'Writings in electronic media,' 'Technology, Language and Culture' and 'Cultural Manifestation' respectively. Smt. Suneetha, in her introductory speech observed that contrary to assertions of the experts, technology is taking over the societies.

SEMINAR ON PREMANAND

February 7-11, 2015, Vadodara, Surat and Nandurbar

Sahitya Akademi in association with the Maharaja Sayajirao University, Vividh Bharati, Balvant Parekh Centre for General Semantics & Other Human Sciences, Mahakavi Premanand, Triveni, Vadodara, & Mahakavi Premanand Mahotsav Samiti, Surat, Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industries, Agarwal Vikas Trust and Srimati Shanthabhen Hirabhai Charitable Trust, organized a five day Seminar - Sanskriti Yatraa event, Premanandne-Pagale Pagale, a trans-regional cultural journey from Vadodara to Surat, Surat to Nandurbar, the places where Premanand, 17th Century poet, travelled and lived for a span of time and rendered his Akhyana, narrative poems, from 7-11 February 2015 at Vadodara, Surat in Gujarat and Nandurbar in Maharashtra.

SYMPOSIUM ON SINDHI BAL SAHITYA

February 8, 2015, Ahmedabad

The regional office of Sahitya Akademi at Mumbai, in association with Sindhi Sahitya Academy, organized a symposium on 'Sindhi Bal Sahitya' on February 8, 2015, at M.G. High School, Ahmedabad

Dr. Prem Prakash, Convener, Sindhi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the audience and guest writers. In the inaugural

address, Sri Yeshwant Mehta said that to encourage literature for children, we needed to translate children's literature in other languages into Sindhi and vice versa. In the keynote address, Dr Prem Prakash said that until 1992 there were attempts to encourage and study literature for children in Sindhi after that there was a gap, and this symposium was an attempt to consider all the possibilities in connection with children literature in Sindhi. Sri Vasdev Mohi chaired the inaugural session and congratulated Sahitya Akademi for taking up the cause of Children's literature in Sindhi. Sri Hundraj Balwani chaired the first session. Sri Jetho Lalwani, Sri Khiman Mualani presented their papers. Sri Jetho Lalwani chaired the second session, Ms. Veena Sringi, Ms. Vimmi Sadarangani, and Sri Hundraj Balwani presented their papers. Dr Prem Prakash delivered valedictory address and Sri Jagdish Shahadadpuri proposed a vote of thanks.

SYMPOSIUM ON HINDI-URDU-ENGLISH: DIALOGUES AND EXCHANGES

February 9, 2015, New Delhi

A one-day symposium on Hindi, Urdu,



Participants of Symposium on Urdu-Hindi-English

English: Dialogues and Exchanges was organised by the Sahitya Akademi on February 9, 2015. The Symposium was meant to look at the tangled histories of Hindi and Urdu languages and literatures, the claims and counter-claims by the champions of both the languages and the translations between them as well as those from both into English and vice versa.

In his introductory talk, Prof K.Satchidanandan, Convener, English Advisory Board, traced the history of the controversy citing the arguments of Tara Chand, Amrit Rai, Shamsur Rahman Faruqi, Stuart McGregor, Sheldon Pollock and others. He also pointed out how the positioning of Urdu against Hindi became a convenient tool in the hand of communalists. Urdu and Hindi both claim Hindi as part of their traditions right from Amir Khusrau, Maulana Daud and Vishnudas onwards. The debate raised the issues of oneness or similarity and rift/split and commonality or the sharing of a common ground. He also observed how the use of Hindustani in songs and ghazals and the hegemony of English being resisted together by the two languages have brought them closer.

Harish Trivedi, Alok Bhalla, Avadhesh Kumar Singh, Anisur Rahman, Asaduddin, Sumanyu Satpathy, Nishat Zaidi and Tapan K Basu took part in the symposium and looked at the issue from varying perspectives to bring out the complexity of the problem and the challenges it poses to Indian literary historiography. The symposium helped the participants arrive at a deeper and nuanced understanding of the issue.

SEMINAR ON LITERARY JOURNALISM IN HINDI
February 14-15, 2015, Haldwani

Sahitya Akademi, in association with the

Uttarakhand Open University, organized a seminar on 'Literary Journalism in Hindi' on February 14-15, 2015 at Haldwani.

In the inaugural session, Sri Brajendra Tripathi, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the dignitaries, participants and audience and spoke briefly about various initiatives of Sahitya Akademi to promote literature in 24 official languages. Sri Suryaprasad Dixit, Convener, Hindi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, introduced the theme and concept of the seminar and introduced the guest speakers to the audience. Dr. Subhash Dhulia, Vice Chancellor, Uttarakhand Open University, talked about the changing values in the society and how they get reflected in the field of journalism as well. He observed that in the given scenario, brands and ambassadors are replacing the intellectual discussions and editors. Prof Achyutanand Mishra, Former Vice Chancellor, MakhnallalChaturvedi University, in his Presidential address, delineated the historical relationship between writers and journalists. He observed that some of the best writers have also been outstanding journalists and highlighted how such writers have influenced societies much more than mere writers or journalists. Prof Govind Singh, Director, Uttarakhand Open University, proposed a vote of thanks.

In the first session that was devoted to 'Literary Writing and Journalism' and chaired by Madhukar Upadhyaya, three noted scholars, Ravindra Tripathi, Chandrashekhar Bainjwal and Pallava, presented their papers. In the second session that was devoted to 'Forms of Literature in Print Media and Electronic Media' and chaired by Rahul Dev, two well-known scholars, Rakesh Tiwari and Manglesh Dabral, presented their papers. In the third session that was devoted to 'Literary Journalism of the last 200 years' and chaired by Vishnu Nagar, three noted scholars, Jyotish