



2016

साहित्योत्सव Festival of Letters

15-20 February 2016



SAHITYA AKADEMI *Newsletter*

Daily News Bulletin

Tuesday, 16 February 2016

Today's Programme

Media Interaction

Sahitya Akademi Award
presentation (FICCI
Auditorium)

Cultural Programme :
Presentation of 'Raas Lila'
&
'Pung Cholom'

Inauguration of Akademi Exhibition 2015

Sahityotsav, Sahitya Akademi's Annual Festival of Letters, began with the inauguration of Sahitya Akademi Exhibition 2015 at the Rabindra Bhawan Lawns on 15 February 2016. The exhibition was inaugurated by distinguished Odia writer and Fellow of Sahitya Akademi, Dr Manoj Das. The inaugural ceremony was attended by the President, Vice President and Secretary of Sahitya Akademi in addition to the members of the Executive Board and General Council of Sahitya Akademi and staff.

In his welcome address, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, highlighted the achievements of Sahitya Akademi during the previous year. He informed the learned audience that in 2015 Sahitya Akademi organized 479 literary events, participated in 189 book exhibitions across India, published 426 books in 24 languages, inaugurated the Centers for Tribal and Oral Literature at Imphal and New Delhi, presented 117 Awards in 24 recognized languages in addition to the conferment of Bhasha Samman to 9 scholars and Fellowships to distinguished writers Prof S. L. Bhyrappa and Dr C. Narayana Reddy and Honorary Fellowship to Dr Jin Dinghan of China opened Metro Bookshops at Kashmere Gate and Vishwavidyalaya Metro Stations in New Delhi and sent 24 writers to Mauritius, Malaysia, Japan, China and Germany as part of delegations to Festivals of India Programme and Literary Exchange Programmes. The Akademi also hosted 3 Russian writers in addition to the literary delegations from Spain, Fiji, New Zealand and Thailand.

Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, in his speech, reiterated the Akademi's commitment to literary service across the country and highlighted that in the past year the Akademi organized one programme every 18 hours and published one book every 20 hours. He thanked the writers' community for their unflinching support and cooperation and appealed to everyone to highlight Sahitya Akademi's commitment and good work.





Dr Manoj Das, in his speech, thanked the Akademi for inviting him to inaugurate the Akademi Exhibition and said he was honored. Dr Das said but the for Akademi, most of good literature from vernacular languages would have remained unavailable to majority of masses in other communities and the Akademi should be lauded for uniting the entire country through translations and also making best of literature from

one language available in other languages. He shared an interesting anecdote from 1957 featuring the then President of Sahitya Akademi, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and highlighted the Akademi's role in the rise and development of literature in regional languages. He congratulated the Akademi for its dignified stance in the middle of the controversy that erupted in 2015. He pointed out that his association with Sahitya Akademi is 55 years old and urged the youth of the country to join and stay with the Akademi.

Later, the President took Dr Das and other members to visit the Exhibition and provided explanations regarding the photos depicting seminal events in the Akademi's history.

Sahitya Akademi Translation Prize 2015 – Award Winners

Sahitya Akademi announced the list of translators in 23 languages as winners of 2015 Sahitya Akademi Translation Prize. Winner for Marathi will be announced later. List of the winners

<i>Language</i>	<i>Title of Translation</i>	<i>Name of the Translator</i>	<i>Source Language</i>
Assamese	Ganadevata	Suren Talukdar	Bengali
Bengali	Anamdaser Puthi	Mau Das Gupta	Hindi
Bodo	Jaharni MWnthai	Dhansri Swargiary	Bengali
Dogri	Kinne Pakistan	Chhatarpal	Hindi
English	Bharathipura	Susheela Punitha	Kannada
Gujarati	Jene Lahor Nathi Joyun E. Janmyo J Nathi	Sharifa Vijliwala	Hindi
Hindi	Baromas	Damodar Khadse	Marathi
Kannada	Kochereti	N. Damodara Shetty	Malayalam
Kashmiri	Lal Ded	Rattan Lal Shant	Dogri
Konkani	Rag Darbari	Jaymala Danayat	Hindi
Maithili	Badali Jaichh Ghareta	Devendra Jha	Bengali
Malayalam	Gora	K.C. Ajayakumar	Bengali
Manipuri	Lishing Ama Supna Mariphumarigi Mama	Naorem Khagendra	Bengali
Nepali	Birataki Padmini	Shankar Pradhan	Hindi
Odia	Kaberi Bhali Jhiatia	Shakuntala Baliarsingh	Tamil
Punjabi	Manoj Das Dian Kahaniyan	Balbir Parwana	Odia
Rajasthani	Madan Bavniyo	Madan Saini	Hindi
Sanskrit	Ahmev Radha Ahmev Krishna	Tarashankar Sharma 'Pandeya'	Hindi
Santali	Baplanij	Tala Tudu	Bengali
Sindhi	Lal Ded	Sarita Sharma	Dogri
Tamil	Meetchi	Gowri Kirubanandan	Telugu
Telugu	Sufi Cheppina Katha	L.R. Swamy	Malayalam
Urdu	Gitanjali	Suhail Ahmad Farooqi	Bengali



Tribal Language Poetry Festival



The theme and focus of 2016 Festival of Letters is Tribal, Oral and North-East Literature. As part of that focus, Sahitya Akademi introduced Tribal Language Poetry Festival featuring noted tribal poets from all over the country.

In his welcome speech, Dr K. Sreenivasarao thanked all the poets for coming all the way from their native places and observed that no other country in the world is as rich and diverse linguistically as India is. He highlighted the role of oral traditions in the dissemination and carrying over of cultural components of communities all over India and Sahitya Akademi's commitment to preserve and propagate the tribal and oral literature across India. He pointed out that the Akademi had its centers for tribal and oral literature in the North-East at different places and in the past year have opened centers in Imphal and Delhi dedicated to this task. He then delineated several unique features of oral traditions and their role in the conveying of culture from one generation to the next.

Prof Mrinal Miri, eminent scholar and educationist, inaugurated the Tribal Language Poetry Festival. Prof Miri thanked the Akademi for inviting him to inaugurate the festival and talked at length about various aspects of language formation and language propagation, especially among tribal communities, not only in India, but across the globe. He said Sahitya Akademi's efforts in this direction should be applauded and encouraged since the Akademi not only strives to preserve and propagate a tribal or unwritten language but all of literary forms contained in those traditions.

Dr Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi, thanked Prof Miri for the detailed exposition on language and talked at length about various Indian philosophical expositions on language. He also highlighted how the natural living of tribals renders their language pure and simple even though theirs is a community living. Dr Chandrasekhar Kambar, Vice President, Sahitya Akademi, in his speech observed that India is a home to more than 400 languages and most of them are tribal languages. He felt it is sad that when tribals are brought mainstream, ironically, they tend to lose their unique folk identity and folklores disappear from their lives. Dr Kambar said steps like the current tribal language poetry festival in the national event are sure to strengthen tribal and folk literature

Seventeen tribal poets recited their compositions on varied themes. Dr Devendra Kumar Devesh, Officer-on-Special Duty, Sahitya Akademi, coordinated the event.





Cultural Programme

Karma Dance – the tribal dance of Odisha

In the evening there was a performance of Karma Dance, a ritual dance of Binjhal tribe of Odisha. The dance was performed by the Padampur Sangeet Samiti which is a registered organization devoted to the restoration of the glorious cultural heritage of Borasambar region. The organization has specialized unit in the performance of Karma. Their specialization showed out in the exemplary performance of the Karma dance to the delight of select audience. The movement of grace coupled with the poise of female dancers and grandiose of the music generated by the male performers coupled with the devotion to Karamsani stood out in the performance. It was an evening of cultural entertainment mixed with spiritually uplifting theme and devotional performance. It was a new environment created by the troupe for the writers and scholars assembled in a serene atmosphere of the Rabindra Bhawan Lawns. The troupe for the benefit the audience provided running commentary and elaborations where needed.

SCHEDULE OF FESTIVAL OF LETTERS 2016

17 February 2016 (Wednesday)

Writers' Meet (Award winning writers' will share their experiences)
Yuva Sahiti : Young Writers' Festival
Samvatsar Lecture by Dr Chandrashekhar Dharmadhikari

18 February 2016 (Thursday)

Face-to-Face (Awardees in conversation with eminent authors/scholars)
Purvottari : North East and Northern Writers' Meet
National Seminar on Gandhi, Ambedkar, Nehru : Continuities and Discontinuities
Cultural Programme : Presentation of Qawwali by Nizami Brothers

19 February 2016 (Friday)

Symposium on Unwritten Languages of India
National Seminar on Gandhi, Ambedkar, Nehru : Continuities and
Cultural Programme : Performance of 'Kathakali'

20 February 2016 (Saturday)

Seminar on Translational Consciousness and Literary Traditions in India
National Seminar on Gandhi, Ambedkar, Nehru : Continuities and
Spin-a-Tale : Children Activities

Book Exhibition : 10 am to 7 pm daily at Rabindra Bhavan Lawns



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