

डॉ. के. श्रीनिवासराम
सचिव
Dr. K. Sreenivasarao
Secretary

साहित्य अकादेमी
(नेशनल अकादमी ऑफ़ लेटर्स)
संस्कृति मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार की स्वायत्तशासी संस्था
Sahitya Akademi
(National Academy of Letters)
An Autonomous Organisation of Government of India, Ministry of Culture



SA.16/14/

March 20, 2018

CONDOLENCE

Sahitya Akademi deeply mourns the sudden passing away of Dr Kedarnath Singh, distinguished poet, scholar and Fellow of Sahitya Akademi. Dr Kedarnath Singh's polyvocal, dialogic poems showcased vital reverberations of racial memory, charged mythic consciousness and deep sensory perceptions. His works, poems and criticism, were not mere theoretical adventures of a dreamer but betray silent, mysterious and magical presence of everyday realities. He was a humanist to the core and other adjectives and perceptions gave way when it comes to the core of a person and the presence of a 'human' at the centre of his works confirm that. The simplicity of his poems is an example of ironic simplicity that is a rare tool to see the core of life hidden in things and acts. The search of the possibility of significant and strong use of language gave a different identity to the poetry of Kedarnath Singh. Dignity and protection of humanity were the major expressions of his creativity.

Kedarnath Singh was born in 1934 at Chakia, District Balia, Uttar Pradesh. He took his early education in village and from High School to MA at Varanasi. He began poetry writing around 1952-53 and continued till his last poetry collection 'Shrishti par Pahra'. He taught at Uday Pratap College Varanasi, Saint Endures College Gorakhpur, Udit Narayan Colleg Padrauna and Gorakhpur University later joined Jawahar Lal University in 1976. *Abhi Bilkul Abhi, Zameen Pak rahi hai, Yahan se Dekho, Akal mein Saras, Bagh, Uttar kabir aur Anya Kavitayen, Tolstoy aur Cycel* and *Shrishti par Pahra* are his major collections of poems. *Kalpna aur Chhayavad* and *Adhunik Hindi Kavita mein Bimb Vidhan* are his important critical books. He edited some magazines also.

Kedarnath Singh was the recipient of Sahitya Akademi Award in 1989 for his poetry collection *Akal mein Saras*. He was also felicitated with the highest honour of Sahitya Akademi Fellowship in 2010. Among other awards and honours he received are Kumarn Ashan Award, Soviet Land Nehru Award, Vyas Samman, Jnanpith Award, Joshuwa Award, Maithilisharan Gupta Award, Bharat Bharti Award, Dinkar Award, etc.

In his loss, the literary community of the country, nay the world has lost a lovely human being, a gentle genius who straddled many a path like a colossus. The legacy he leaves behind is bound to inspire many a generation to come and the void created by his departure will be difficult to fill. Everyone in Sahitya Akademi joins rest of the world in saluting this peerless thinker and giant of a poet.


(K. Sreenivasarao)

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Homage Meeting

Sahitya Akademi organized a staff condolence meeting to pay homage to the departed poet, thinker, scholar and Fellow of Sahitya Akademi, Dr Kedarnath Singh who passed away on 19 March 2018 at the Akademi premises in New Delhi on 20 March 2018. Dr Chandrashekhar Kambar, President, Sahitya Akademi, who presided over the meet, stated what a fine human being Dr Kedarnath Singh was and recalled his long association with him. He said today we have lost a poet but more than that we have lost a good human being, who was a friend of all. Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, read out the condolence resolution of the Akademi and stated that in the departure of Dr Kedarnath Singh, the Akademi has lost a friend, philosopher and guide who was more than a friend of the Akademi for close to five decades. A minute's silence was observed as a mark of respect to Dr Kedarnath Singh. All the offices of the Akademi will remain closed for remainder of the day as a mark of respect to Dr Singh.

(K. Sreenivasarao)