

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

साहित्य अकादेमी
(नेशनल अकादमी ऑफ लेटर्स)
संस्कृति मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार की स्वायत्तशासी संस्था
Sahitya Akademi
(National Academy of Letters)



An Autonomous Organisation of Government of India, Ministry of Culture

PRESS RELEASE

12 February 2016

Sahitya Akademi is organizing its Annual Festival of Letters between 15th and 20th February 2016 at Rabindra Bhavan Complex, 35 Ferozeshah Road, New Delhi 110 001. The focus of this year's Festival is on Tribal, Oral and North-Eastern Literature. Sahitya Akademi traditionally had its center for tribal and oral literature in the North-Eastern parts of India. Recently, in our attempt to preserve and promote tribal and oral traditions across India, we have opened one more center in Delhi. Continuing further in that direction, in this Festival we have introduced a Tribal language poetry festival and a daylong symposium on unwritten languages of India.

The Festival begins with the inauguration of Akademi's exhibition at 10.00 am on 15 February 2016 by Dr. Manoj Das, distinguished Odia writer and Fellow, Sahitya Akademi followed by Tribal Language Poetry Festival featuring tribal poets from across the country, who recites poems in their languages along with its Hindi or English translation at 2.00 pm. This poetry festival will be inaugurated by Prof. Mrinal Miri, eminent scholar and educationist.

Presentation of Sahitya Akademi Awards will take place in FICCI Golden Jubilee Auditorium at 5.30 p.m. on 16 February 2016. The Awards will be presented by Dr. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President, Sahitya Akademi and Dr. Gopi Chand Narang, eminent Urdu scholar and Fellow, Sahitya Akademi will be the Chief Guest at the Awards presentation.

The Awards presentation will followed by the Writers' Meet on 17 February 2016. This year's Samvatsar lecture will be delivered by Dr. Chandrashekhara Dharmadhikari, eminent Jurist and distinguished Gandhi Scholar in the evening on the same day.

From 18th to 20th February 2016, a three-day national seminar on *Gandhi, Ambedkar, Nehru: Continuities and Discontinuities* will take place at the Akademi auditorium and the seminar will be inaugurated by Dr. Kapila Vatsyayan, eminent scholar, while Prof. Krishna Kumar, eminent scholar and educationist will be the guest of honor. We will be focusing on these three builders of modern India, whose philosophies and visions are more relevant today than ever before.

A daylong symposium on Unwritten Languages of India on 19 February 2016 and seminar on 'Translational Consciousness and literary traditions in India' on 20 February 2016, have been organized to complement the seminar during the Festival.

More than 170 eminent scholars / writers from all over India such as Manoj Das, Kapila Vatsyayan, S.L. Bhyrappa, Bhalachandra Nemade, Gopi Chand Narang, K. Satchidanandan, Chandrashekhara Dharmadhikari, Indra Nath Chaudhuri, Krishna Kumar, Vivek Shanbag, Mahendra Kumar Mishra and Debi Prasanna Pattanayak, are taking part in this six-day literary Festival.

Regular features like Yuva Sahiti: Young Writers' Festival (17 February 2016), Purvottari: North East and Northern Writers' Meet (18 February 2016) and Spin-A-Tale: Children Literary Activities (20 February 2016) round up the Festival.

For this year's festival a number of cultural events have been scheduled – Karma Dance by Padampur Sangeet Samiti, Odisha (6.00 p.m. on 15 February 2016), Raslila & Pung Cholom by Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy, Imphal (6.30 p.m. on 16 February 2016), Qawwali by Nizami Brothers (6.00 p.m. on 18 February 2016), Presentation of Othello in Kathakali by International Centre for Kathakali, Delhi (6.00 p.m. on 19 February 2016) and Cheraw (Bamboo Dance) by Young Mizo Association, Aizwal (11 a.m. on 20 February 2016) to light up the Festival.

(K. Sreenivasarao)