

S O A
Literary Festival



Celebration of Words and Ideas

1st - 2nd February, 2020



DIRECTORY



या कुंदेंदु तुषारहार धवला, या शुभ्र वस्त्रावृता ।

या वीणावर दण्डमंडितकरा, या श्वेतपद्मासना ॥

या ब्रह्माच्युतशंकरप्रभृतिभिर्देवैः सदा वन्दिता ।

सा मां पातु सरस्वती भगवती निःशेष जाड्यापहा ॥



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Celebration of Words and Ideas

1st - 2nd February, 2020

Theme : Literature & Other Arts

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www.literaryfestival.soa.ac.in

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Head, PPRACHIN

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NAVEEN PATNAIK
CHIEF MINISTER, ODISHA



LOKASEVA BHAVAN
BHUBANESWAR

MESSAGE

I am glad to know that the Siksha 'O' Anusandhan, Bhubaneswar is organising a two-day Literary Festival on 1st & 2nd February, 2020 and bringing out a souvenir in commemoration.

It is heartening to know that SOA has launched PPRACHIN, a dedicated centre for Preservation & Propagation of our rich heritage and culture. I hope this centre would go a long way in achieving its purpose of the propagation of our literary heritage.

I extend my warm greetings to all the delegates attending the festival, and hope that the deliberations will be of immense utility. I wish the Literary Festival a grand success.

(NAVEEN PATNAIK)

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Dr. Arun Kumar Sahoo
Minister for Higher Education, Agriculture and
Farmers' Empowerment, Fisheries &
Animal Resources Development
Govt. of Odisha



M E S S A G E

It gives me immense pleasure to know that SOA Centre for Preservation, Propagation and Restoration of Ancient Culture and Heritage of India (PRACHIN) is organizing a two-day SOA Literary Festival in Campus-2 of the University at Kalinga Nagar, Bhubaneswar on February 1st and 2nd, 2020 and a Souvenir is being brought out in commemoration.

Indian culture is one of the most ancient cultures of the World. India is a land of varied cultures and traditions. Indian heritage is a gift from the older generations. It is the result of developments in social, economy, culture and life style of the people. Heritage is much more than preserving, excavating, displaying or restoring a collection of old things. It should aim at encouraging local communities and individuals to consider the importance of cultural heritage in their lives. I hope the scholarly discussion by the distinguished writers and poets and lovers of culture and heritage will no doubt help exploring a new dimension in this regard.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arun Kumar Sahoo'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line extending to the right.

(Dr. Arun Kumar Sahoo)

Prof. (Dr) Manojranjan Nayak
President
Siksha 'O' Anusandhan
Bhubaneswar



MESSAGE

Odisha is always known as a state rich in art, culture and literature. Even after centuries, the state's treasure trove of artistic accomplishments has been attracting attention for creativity, artistry, craft and finesse.

Siksha 'O' Anusandhan (Deemed to be University), today counted among the foremost universities in the country, has taken an ambitious step to set up a Centre for Preservation, Propagation and Restoration of Ancient Culture and Heritage of India (PPRACHIN).

I am delighted to know that PPRACHIN has planned the first ever SOA Literary Festival on February 1 and 2, 2020 in Bhubaneswar to provide a boost to the attempts being made for popularizing art and literature. A nascent step though it may be, this festival has received support from the literary world in a big way.

I have no doubt that this festival will turn out to be a melting pot of literary ideas and meeting ground of great minds to further strengthen the efforts to promote creativity. I wish all the participants a great and productive time and a pleasant and memorable stay in this city.

(Prof. (Dr) Manojranjan Nayak)



Dr. Gayatribala Panda

Head, PPRACHIN

(SOA Centre for Preservation, Propagation
and Restoration of Ancient Culture and
Heritage of India)
Bhubaneswar

MESSAGE

“What really knocks me out is a book that, when you're all done reading it, you wish the author that wrote it was a terrific friend of yours and you could call him up on the phone whenever you felt like it. That doesn't happen much, though.” Thus spoke Jerome David Salinger, the American writer best known for his novel *The Catcher in the Rye*.

The written word, even in the era of internet and technological explosion, continues to influence human beings. Writers, poets, essayists and columnists, often seen to belong to a surreal world, are the thought leaders who have been illuminating the society with their literary creations.

While acknowledging the contribution of such literary giants to the society at large, the Siksha 'O' Anusandhan Deemed to be University in Bhubaneswar bows to the genius of such men of letters. The university, which is a front-ranking centre of quality academics and focused research in the country, has launched a centre for preservation, propagation and restoration of the country's rich heritage and culture as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility . The centre is known as SOA Centre for Preservation, Propagation and Restoration of Ancient Culture and Heritage of India (PPRACHIN).

PPRACHIN will be organising the 1st SOA Literary Festival in its campus on February 1 and 2, 2020. The event, spread over two days and 26 sessions, has already attracted nearly 100 writers who will deliberate on the contemporary trends in Indian literature.

We hope the event will set a new benchmark in the efforts towards promotion of literature in Odisha.

Dr. Gayatribala Panda

SIKSHA 'O' ANUSANDHAN DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY

A centre of higher learning must ignite the desire in the student to learn not to find a job, but illuminate the society with what he or she has learned. This belief is shared by the faculty and students at Siksha 'O' Anusandhan (Deemed to be University), Bhubaneswar.

The teaching-learning process at SOA is a holistic exercise aimed at creating community leaders in given disciplines and not merely to churn out educated professionals.

After coming into existence on July 17, 2007 when the HRD Ministry conferred on it the status of a Deemed to be University under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956-- it has emerged as a centre of superlative professional education with its focus on research and a strong academic foundation. Over 12,000 students in its campuses are pursuing excellence while carving out a future for themselves.

SOA is among 60 institutions of higher learning which have been granted special status by the UGC while being ranked 24th in the country in the university category by the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), Ministry of HRD, in 2019. NAAC has re-accredited SOA with the highest grade.

SOA offers 16 Under-Graduate and 73 Post-Graduate, Ph.D. and Post-Doctoral programs in engineering and technology, management, medical sciences, dental sciences, nursing, hospital administration, pharmaceutical sciences,



biotechnology, hospitality and tourism management, legal studies and agricultural sciences.

SOA's focus being on research, it has set up 13 Special Research Centres and 35 research labs. Research is also being conducted in 15 other independent labs in 18 identified thrust areas. Work of SOA's faculty and research scholars regularly get published in reputed peer reviewed international journals.

The Institute of Medical Sciences, SOA's faculty of medical sciences, has the 1000-bed SUM Hospital attached to it which has become one of the most sought after healthcare centres in the state. The teaching hospital, ranked 21st in the country by NIRF, deploys excellent modern and advanced diagnostic, surgical and life saving equipment, to extend quality medical assistance to patients at affordable cost.

The SOA Community Radio (90.4 MHz), which has been functioning since 2012, was adjudged the best community radio by the Government of India in 2014. SOA has been expanding and new disciplines are on the anvil. The principal objective, however, remains to ensure that students, while training to be professionals, value their own lives as that of others.



PPRACHIN

(SOA Centre for Preservation, Propagation and Restoration of Ancient Culture and Heritage of India)

PPRACHIN, (SOA Centre for Preservation, Propagation and Restoration of Ancient Culture and Heritage of India) Siksha 'O' Anusandhan Deemed to be University has launched a centre dedicated to work for preservation, propagation and restoration of the country's rich heritage and culture. It is known as SOA Centre for Preservation, Propagation and Restoration of Ancient Culture and Heritage of India (PPRACHIN).

Established in July 2019, it functions as an autonomous organization under the aegis of SOA. At the philosophical core of PPRACHIN lies a commitment to mobilize and coordinate expertise to address critical issues of conservation. PPRACHIN's main thrust is to undertake various publications and organize workshops/seminars/symposia to provide an understanding and appreciation of the philosophy, aesthetics and beauty inherent in Indian art and culture. Its vision is for a world in which cultural heritage--its preservation, propagation and restoration—is inextricably linked with notions of progress, inclusivity, well-being and stability. The role of culture in science and technology, agriculture, i.e. in all aspects of development and growth, will be emphasized.



SOA Literary Festival

Siksha 'O' Anusandhan (Deemed to be University), which supports social action and works for the betterment of the society, also strongly believes that efforts should always be made to preserve and promote culture and linguistic passion. SOA, for the first time, is organizing the SOA Literary Festival in Bhubaneswar on February 1 and 2, 2020 which will attract a galaxy of literary figures from across the country.

The interface of great authors, poets and story tellers, young and old, will certainly promote and further the cause of Indian literature and focus on the rich cultural legacy of Odisha. It will also provide a platform to budding writers to interact with publishers.

SOA believes that though science and technology are the vehicles through which modern society's progress is made possible, it should be done in an atmosphere which is fragrant with art, culture and literature.

The University plans to add more institutes on Fine and Digital Art, Humanities and Social Sciences in the years ahead.





S  **A**
L*iterary* **Festival**

Celebration of Words and Ideas

Theme: Literature and other Arts

OUR PARTICIPANTS



A. J. Thomas

A.J.Thomas is an Indian poet writing in English and an acclaimed translator of poetry, fiction, drama and non-fiction prose from Malayalam. He was the editor of Indian Literature, the bi-monthly English journal of the Sahitya Akademi till 2010.

Thomas was influenced by his mother's love for nature and inclination towards poetry in his childhood. He spent two years in Bandel, West Bengal, when he began to write in English. He came in contact with internationally famous writers like Dominique Lapierre, Sir Angus Wilson and Salman Rushdie and Indian writers like Pritish Nandy, M.T.Vasudevan Nair and others while working with the Kerala Tourism Development Corporation. His interaction with writers like V.Sadasivan, Kadammanitta Ramakrishnan, Satchidanandan, E.V.Ramakrishnan, U.R.Ananthamurthy and R.Narendra Prasad shaped his growth as a poet and translator.

His first translation work which brought him into limelight was Bhaskar Pattelar and Other Stories, a collection of Paul Zacharia's stories which he did along with Gita Krishnakutty and the author. His translation of Paul Zacharia's Salam America won him the Katha Award. Thomas won critical acclaim for his translation of the verse-fiction Ujjaini based on the life of Kalidasa by O.N.V.Kurup, the doyen of Malayalam poetry.



Amandeep Sandhu

Amandeep Sandhu was born in Rourkela. He has lived in Orissa, Utrakhand, Punjab, Chattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, and Karnataka. He has a Masters in English Literature from the University of Hyderabad and is currently settled in New Delhi.

He has worked as a farm-hand, woolen-garment seller, shop assistant, tuition master, teacher, journalist with The Economic Times, technical writer with Novell Inc, Oracle Corporation, and now Cadence Design Systems.

Literature, for him, is an understanding of the essential human struggle to become complete. He writes to understand himself and his world, and to sleep peacefully.

Sepia Leaves is his first work of fiction.



Arun Kamal

Arun Kamal is a leading Hindi poet and essayist based in Patna with six collections of poetry and three representative selections to his credit. He has also published two volumes of essays in literary criticism and a book of interviews. As a translator, he has brought out a selection of contemporary

Indian poetry in English under the title Voices. He has also translated Mayakovsky's autobiography and poems and essays by Vietnam's To Hu into Hindi.

A communist with the Nav Bharat Times, Prabhat Khabar, Sakal (Marathi) and Web Literature World (USA), Kamal has received several awards for his contribution to poetry including Sahitya Akademi Award for Naye Ilake Mein in 1998 and Bharatiya Bhasha Parishad Samagra Krititwa Samman in 2014. Poems and books of Kamal, who has been a teacher in English at the Patna University, have also been translated into a number of Indian and foreign languages.



Ashok Kumar Maheshwari

Ashok Kumar Maheshwari is known for his continued effort in promotion of Hindi in the country. Chairman and Managing Director of Rajkamal Prakashan Private Limited, New Delhi, Maheshwari has published more than 7000 Hindi books and classics over the last 35 years.

His publications include books in Hindi written by great personalities including Chandra Sekhar, K.K.Birla, Sushil Kumar Shinde, V.P.Singh, Krishna Sobti, Veerappa Moily, H.S.Raza, Prabhash Joshi, Gulzar, Javed Akhtar, Kaifi Azmi, Kuldeep Nayar, Girish Karna and Mahashweta Devi.

Having promoted great works in Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Marathi, Bengali, Malayalam, Odia, Gujarati, Assamese and Maithili in Hindi, his edited Sameeksha Sandarbh (1978-91), Prakashan Samachar (1994-till date) and . (2000-till date). He has also authored several books for children,



Brajendra Tripathi

An eminent writer, editor and translator, Brajendra Tripathi did his M.A. from the Gorakhpur University. Winner of the Vishwa Hindi Sebi Sahashrabdi Samman in 2000, Dr. Yashwant Parmar Award of Himachal Pradesh (2007), Sahitya Shiromani Pandit Damodardatt Chaturvedi Award (2012) and Sanskruti Purashkar (2012), he was decorated with the 'Vidyasagar' title instituted by the Vikramshila Vishwavidyalay in 2011.

Tripathi's published works included Talash, a collection poems, Hamare Rashtrapati, a book for children, Sahitya aur Parivesh, a collection of essays, Vikhyuvdh Vartaman and Dhup Baramade, both anthology of poems.

He translated Anunay, the anthology of poems in Gujarati by Jayant Pathak into Hindi which was published by the Sahitya Akademi, Param Abichandani's Sindhi novel into Hindi under the title Aise Bhi and two English novels into Hindi published by Scholastic Publications under the title Sanghamitra and Jahanara. He also edited Mahadevi Burma Abhinandan Smarika and Pandit Vidya Niwas Mishra Abhinandan Smarika.



Chitra Mudgal

The first Indian woman to receive the Vyas Samman for her novel Aavaan, Chitra Mudgal is hailed as one of the greatest literary works in Hindi. Aavaan, which has received worldwide acclaim, portrays the lives and times during the Trade Union Movement led by Datta Samant when 300,000 workers in the Mumbai Textile Industry went on a year long strike triggering the collapse of the city's trademark industry.

Aavaan has been unanimously acknowledged as a masterpiece of literary work and a classic in Hindi literature.

Mudgal completed her MA in Hindi literature from the SNDT Women's University and married Awadh Narain Mudgal, former Editor of 'Sarika'. She was awarded India's highest literary award, the Sahitya Akademi, for her novel Post Box No. 203, Naalasopara. She also received the Indu Sharma International Katha Samman for Aavaan. (137)



Dnyaneshwar Mulay

An Indian career diplomat, Dnyaneshwar Mulay is an acclaimed author and columnist. Hailing from a remote village in Maharashtra's Kolhapur district, he had to struggle to study in his childhood but shone brightly when the opportunities came his way. He cleared the UPSC examination before being selected for the Indian Foreign Service.

Mulay, who served in various capacities in Japan, Russia, Mauritius and Syria, was instrumental in handling business relations between India and Russia and Japan. He also functioned as the Consul General of India in New York.

A regular contributor to a regular column to Loksatta in Marathi titled *Badalte Vishwa-Badalta Bharat* and to Sakal in a column known as *Vishwachi Maze Ghar* providing fresh perspectives and insights into various aspects of current global and national challenges and opportunities.

He also wrote a column in Marathi Sadhana Weekly titled *Nokarshaiche Rang* meaning the Colours of Bureaucratic Ink. The writings were subsequently published by Sadhana Weekly as a book which dwelt on the functioning of the bureaucracy in the Indian democracy.

Mulay also contributes to the literary page of The Hindu and The Dainik Bhaskar in Hindi.

A documentary titled *Gypsy*, highlighting the life and work of Mulay, was produced by Director Dhananjay Bhawalekar which received the Special Jury Award at the Delhi Short Film Documentary Festival.



H. S. Shivaprakash

Author of 9 books of poems, 15 plays and 3 critical works in Kannada, which are widely discussed, performed and translated into several Indian languages and into English, Spanish, French, Italian German, Polish and Turkish.

Winner of several best book prizes from Karnataka Literary Akademi for books of poems, translations and plays. Academic areas of interest include theatre/literary history, Indian theatre, Medieval Studies, Comparative Literature, translation and folklore. Winner of the prestigious Rajyotsava Award from

Karnataka State(2006) and Sangeet Natak Akademi Award from National Theatre Akademi (1997) and Sahitya Akademi(2012) Participated in International Writing Program in School of Letters, University of Iowa, USA (2000). Former Editor, Indian Literature, the journal of National Akademi of Letters. Former Dean, SAA, JNU. Former Director, The Tagore Centre, Berlin, Germany Has travelled, lectured and read poetry in various countries in Europe, Asia and Americas.

Important English publications include I Keep Vigil of Rudra (Penguin Classics, 2009), Traditional India Theatre (New Delhi, 2006), Indian



Jayant Parmar

Passionate about Dalit issues, Jayant Parmar is an Indian Urdu language poet who has published a number of poetry collections.

Born in a poor family, Parmar prepared miniature paintings for a frame maker at a young age but was disillusioned when he found out that the man was using a separate pot for him because he was a Dalit.

Parmar taught himself Urdu at the age of 30 after he was drawn towards Urdu poetry while living in a Muslim dominated area of Ahmedabad's walled city. His poetry collections include *Aur* (1998), *Pencil Aur Doosri Nazmein*(2006), *Manind* (2008), *Antaral* (2010) and *Giacometti Ke Sapne* (2016).

He was presented the Sahitya Akademi Award in Urdu for *Pencil Aur Doosri Nazmein* in 2008. His works have been translated into several languages including Kashmiri, Punjabi, Hindi, Marathi, Bengali, Kannada, Gujarati, Odia and Slovenian.



K. R. Meera

K. R. Meera is an acclaimed Indian author. Her novel *Aarachaar* (Hangwoman) is widely regarded as one of the best literary works produced in Malayalam language. It received many awards and accolades including the Kerala and Kendra Sahitya Akademi Award (2013), and Vayalar Award (2014). It was also shortlisted for the 2016 DSC Prize for South Asian Literature. She won the Kerala Sahitya Akademi Award in 2009 for her short-story, *Ave Maria*.



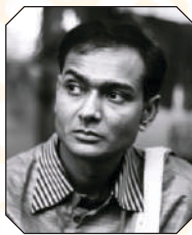
Kuldeep Kumar

Kuldeep Kumar is a Hindi poet and freelance journalist who writes on political issues and culture in Hindi and English.

He worked as a journalist with United News of India, The Sunday Observer, Sunday, The Sunday Times of India and The Pioneer. He also wrote a weekly column for two years for Dubai-based English daily Gulf News. He also reviewed concerts of Hindustani classical music for The Hindu for five years.

Presently, he writes a fortnightly column each for The Hindu and Outlook Hindi.

He was presented the International Foundation for Fine Arts' Media Excellency Award for 2011 by ITC Music Forum, Mumbai. A collection of his poems titled *Bin Jiya Jeevan* was published by Vani Prakashan.



Kumar Anupam

Kumar Anupam is a Hindi poet, painter, art and literary critic and translator whose works have been widely published and translated into many languages.

An Editor (Hindi) with a prestigious literary organization, his first collection of Hindi poems, *Barish Mera Ghar Hai* was published by Sahitya Akademi in 2012. His poems, critical views on paintings, essays and comments have been widely published in prominent newspapers, literary magazines and websites including BBC Hindi over the last two decades.

Kumar Anupam's works included *Mahattva: Ramdhari Singh Dinkar: Samar Sesh Hai*, an edited book, *Kavita Samay-1*, collection of poems with eminent Hindi poet Chandrakant Devtale, *Kala Vasudha*, commentary on performing arts and *Ho-Chi-Minh: Jail Diary*, the Hindi translation of Ho-Chi-Minh's poems.

He has been honoured with several awards including Sahitya Akademi Yuva Award (for Hindi literature), Hindi Sewa Vishisht Samman, Bharat Bhushan Agrawal Kavita Puraskar, Meera Mishra Smriti Kavita Puraskar and Vishnu Prabhakar Sahitya Samman.

He also writes in Awadhi language and has edited the *Awadhi Granthavali* with several notable senior Awadhi writers.



Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharjee

Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharjee is an eminent translator who has translated into English the fiction of Mahasweta Devi (Armenian Champak Tree), Sunil Gangopadhyay (The Dreadful Beauty) and Sirshendu Mukhopadhyay (The Ghost of Gosain Bagan).

Bhattacharjee, who taught at the Gauhati and Jadavpur Universities, also worked as Secretary, Sahitya Akademi's Eastern Regional office at Kolkata, Director, National Book Trust, Editor, Indian Literature and Director, K.K. Birla Foundation, New Delhi. During his tenure as Director, NBT, he organised the celebration of the Year of the Book (2001) conducted by the Government of India. His other works include translation of a short story collection of U.R. Ananthamurthy and a novel by Viswas Patil into Bengali. Recipient of the best translator's award from IBBY Congress, Bhattacharjee has also edited a collection of stories on displacement from Assam (Barbed Wire Fence) and co-edited Best of Indian Literature (1957-2007), published by the Sahitya Akademi.

Widely travelled, he has been a regular contributor of articles and reviews in the literary pages of newspapers and journals including The Statesman, The Times of India and The Book Review.



Pranjal Dhar

Pranjal Dhar is a Hindi poet, media analyst, critique and translator whose poems have been widely published and translated into several languages. A collection of his Hindi poems, Antim Vidayi Se Turant Pahle (Immediately Before The Last Farewell) was published by the Sahitya Akademi, India, in 2014. His poems, essays, critiques and comments have been widely published in prominent newspapers, literary magazines and websites including BBC Hindi. Dhar has written, edited and translated several books on media and social issues and is a regular contributor to several publications on issues of feminism, media, communication, cinema, literature etc. His books on media and mass communication include Samkalin Vaishwik Patrakarita Mein Akhbar (2013), Media aur Hamara Samay (2014) and New Media aur Badalta Bharat (2018). He writes in English and Awadhi language. The awards bestowed on Dhar include Rajasthan

Patrika Puraskar (2006), Awadh Bharti Award (2010), Bhartendu Harischandra Award (2010), Bharat Bhushan Agrawal Kavita Puraskar (2013), Hari Krishna Trivedi Smriti Patrakarita Protsahan Puraskar (2016) and Meera Mishra Smriti Kavita Pursaskar (2017).



Dr. Rajendra Prasad Mishra

A translator par excellence, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Mishra has published 84 books translated into Hindi from Odia. He received the Central Sahitya Akademi Award for translation in 1998 for translating the works of Jnanpith Award winners Odia poet Dr. Sitakanta Mohapatra.

Dr. Mishra, who is former Registrar of the Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, Wardha, General Manager (Raj Bhasa), Associate Professor (Hindi Translation) in JNU. He has also served as Secretary General at the World Hindi Secretariat, Mauritius between 2008 and 2011.

A Master of Arts in Hindi literature from the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, he did his PH.D in Comparative Literature from the same university. He has also been honoured with the World Hindi Samman, Johannesburg and Pravasi Odia Samman, Bhubaneswar.

Dr. Mishra participated and presented papers in the 6th World Hindi Conference at London in 1999, 8th World Hindi Conference at New York in 2007, 9th World Hindi Conference at Johannesburg in 2012 and 10th World Hindi Conference at Bhopal in 2015.



Dr. Ranu Uniyal

Ranu Uniyal is the author of two books of poetry, *Across the Divide* (2006) and *December Poems* (2012). Her poems have been translated into Hindi, Malayalam, Urdu and Uzbek.

Her other books include *Women and Landscape: The Fiction of Margaret Drabble and Anita Desai* (2000), *Raja Rao's Kanthapura* (co-edited 2007), *Women in Indian Writing: From Difference to Diversity* (2009) and *Poems: The Day We went Strawberry Picking in Scarborough* (2018).

Uniyal did her M.Phil from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi and Ph.D from the University of Hull, UK. Her books have been extensively reviewed in international journals. A professor of English

at the University of Lucknow and a founding member of PYSSUM, a day care centre for people with special needs in Lucknow, Uniyal's poems have been published in Mascara Literary Review, Medulla Review, Kavya Bharati, Femina, Manushi, Indian Literature, Muse India, Twenty 20, Sketchbook, Littlewood Press and other publications across the world.



Dr. Rita Nath Keshari

An acclaimed creative writer, critic and translator, Dr. Rita Nath Keshari has over 1000 publications in a wide variety of journals and newspapers to her credit. She has published nine books encompassing local history, criticism, poetry, shorter fiction, fiction and translation. Her short stories have been included in the syllabi of English departments of Pondicherry University (Pondicherry), Central University of Tamil Nadu (Thiruvavur) and Bharatidasan Government College for Women (Pondicherry). Dr. Keshari, Head of the department of English at the Arignar Anna Government Arts College, Karaikal, did her Ph.D from the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Her published works include *The Transplanted Wife* (a collection of short stories, 2005), *Glimpses of Pondicherry* (co-authored with P.Raja, 2005), *The Post-colonial Encounter: India in the British Imagination* (2006), *Busy Bee Book of Contemporary Indian English Poetry* (co-edited with P.Raja, 2007) and *Anguish and After* (a collection of poems, 2008).



Dr. Sadhna Shanker

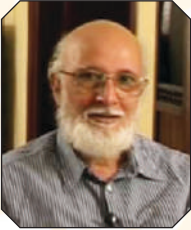
Sadhna Shanker is an author and civil servant. 'Ascendance', her second novel is literary science fiction, after 'Never a Disconnect', which was spun around challenges of contemporary urban women. 'When the Parallels Meet' (2007), is a collection of essays, 'Ahlanwa-Sahlan – A Syrian Journey' and *Catching Fireflies* are travel books.

She has written for the International Herald Tribune, Christian Science Monitor, The Times of India, The Hindu and other newspapers, and Huffington Post. Her article on the emergence of

“Hinglish” has been included in Norway's grade ten English textbook. She has also published academic work in the Economic and Political Weekly, and the India Economic Review.

A PhD in Economics, she lives in New Delhi.

Her blog: <http://zindagialkies.wordpress.com>



Dr. Sitanshu Yashaschandra

A poet, playwright, translator and academic, Sitanshu Yashaschandra Mehta is known for rich contribution to Indian literature which earned him the Saraswati Samman, Sahitya Akademi Award and Kabir Samman.

A recipient of the Padma Shri in 2006 for his literary achievements, Mehta is known for surrealism in his writings which is considered his signature style.

Mehta, who served as Vice-Chancellor of Saurashtra University, Rajkot, and also worked as chief editor of the Encyclopedia of Indian Literature published by the Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, is known for his collections of poetry titled *Odysseus nu Halesu* (1974), *Jatayu* (1986) and *Vakhar* (2008) beside innumerable plays and criticism in English and Gujarati.

He wrote and adapted several plays many of which were staged. He adapted Eugene Lonesco's *The Lesson*, Thomas Hardy's story, *Day After the Fair* and Peter Shaffer's *Equus* in Gujarati. He received the Ranjitram Suvarna Chandrak, the highest award in Gujarati literature in 1987.

Mehta had written the screenplay of 1993 Hindi film *Maya Memsaab* which was based on Gustave Flaubert's *Madam Bovary*.



Udayan Vajpeyi

Udayan Vajpeyi is a Hindi poet, essayist, short-fiction and script writer. His works have been translated into English, French, Swedish, Polish, Bulgarian and many Indian languages. He has received various awards for his writing, including a Senior Fellowship from the Government of India (1994 – 96), the Krishna Baldev Award (2001) and the Raja Foundation Award (2003). Has published three collections of

poems including Kuchh Vakya, four collections of short-stories including Ret Kinare ka Ghar, three books of essays, a book on tribal painting and folk tales, Jangarh Kalam & has re-created two plays, Uttarramcharitam and Abhijan Shakuntam into Hindi for Sopanam (repertory of theatre directed by K.N. Panikkar) and has written a new play with Kavalam Narayan Panikkar. Has written a book each on theatre director Ratan Thiyam, Theatre of Grandeur and K.N. Panikkar, Theatre of Rasa. Works are translated in around 15 languages including French, Polish, English, Swedish, Odiya, Malayalam etc. Was writer-in-residence in Lavigny (Switzerland), Paris in 2003, and was fellow at Nantes (France). Has written texts for many documentary films including Kumar Shahani's Bamboo flute and dialogues for Char Adhyaya (film based on Tagore's novel of the same name) directed by Kumar Shahani. Teaches Physiology in Gandhi Medical College, Bhopal and edits a journal on Arts,



Dr. Vasdev Mohi

Considered an icon of modern Sindhi poetry, Vasdev Mohi's repertoire includes 25 books of poetry, translated works, critical pieces and short stories. His critical essays and papers have appeared in national and international literary seminars and he is the recipient of several awards including the Sahitya Akademi Award, Sindhi Sahitya Akademy Award, Gangadhar Meher National Award and Lifetime Achievement Award of Sindhi Akademy.

Mohi, who is known for making Sindhi gazal popular among the masses by combining traditional Sindhi writing with the Japanese Hyku style, published his first book titled Tazaad, a collection of poems in 1976, which received critical acclaim. Subah Kithe Ahe, another book published by him, made him a favourite among the readers.

He was selected for the prestigious Saraswati Samman, a literary recognition given annually by the KK Birla Foundation, for his work Chequebook, a collection of short stories in Sindhi which was published in 2012.

Chequebook highlights the life of a domestic helper, facing ill-treatment from her husband and hardships because of poverty.

Having done his Masters in English literature from Gujarat University, Mohi joined Life insurance Corporation of India, but after a short stint, proceeded to teach English at the Indian High School, Dubai, from where he retired as Lecturer and Head, Department of English.



Dr. Vikram Sampath

A multi-faceted personality, Dr. Vikram Sampath is an engineer who graduated from BITS, Pilani, did his MBA (Finance) from S.P.Jain, Mumbai and got his Ph.D in History and Music from the University of Queensland, Australia. He proceeded to get trained as a Carnatic Vocalist. Based in Bengaluru, Dr. Sampath is an acclaimed writer/historian and author of three bestselling books-- Splendours of Royal Mysore: The Untold Story of the Wodeyars; My Name Is Gauhar Jaan: The Life and Times of a Musician and Voice of the Veena: S.Balachander-- A Biography. The book on Gauhar Jaan, a biography on India's first recording superstar from Kolkata, won him the ARSC International Award for Excellence in historical research in New York in 2011.

He has been chosen as one of the young leaders for the Aspen Global Leadership Programme and represented India at the Australia-India Youth Dialogue. He established the Archive of Indian Music, India's first digital sound archive for vintage recordings of the country.

Dr. Sampath is also the Founder-Director of the Bangalore International Folk Festival organised in association with the Times of India Group.



Yashodhara Ray Chaudhuri

Yashodhara Ray Chaudhuri is a poet residing in Kolkata, West Bengal, India, and an established name in Bengali poetry. Publishing her works since 1993, she has seventeen collections of poetry to her credit from 1996 to 2019. She was awarded the Krittibas Puroskar in 1998 (instituted by the Krittibas Patrika Krittibas[1]) and was awarded the BanglaAkademy Puraskar in 2006. She has 7 collections of prose so far. She writes regularly for Bengali periodicals like Desh, Anandabazar Patrika, etc.

She is a member of the prestigious Indian Audit and Accounts Service. She is currently posted in Bhubaneswar, Odisha as the Principal Accountant General (ERSA) Odisha. She is married to Trinanjan Chakrabarty, a noted teacher of the French Language and literature , also a translator and author.

Yashodhara also is a translator from original French language. She has translated Leonardo Da Vinci by Serge Bremley in 2008, and Combat de la Vie by Dr Luc Montaignier in 2012.

OUR PARTICIPANTS

Indian Language in Focus: Odia



Abhinna Routray

Abhinna Routray, is an established theatre Director, who is known for his experiments in designing a play. His design creates connections among different art forms such as music, painting and usable three-dimensional set emphasizing emotion angle of theatre. Now he is the Artistic Theater Director of "JEEVAN REKHA".

Mr.Routray's background has included acting in 15 stage productions, directing & designing more than 22nos of Odia plays apart from engagement with various theatre groups directing plays. Some of his directed and well appreciated original Odia plays are Seeta, Mukta Labha, Anamika Tara, Dhusara Pruthivi, Chhabi, Duiti Surya etc. He has exposed the audiences to many translated or adapted plays with his innovations such as Andha Yug, Adhe Adhure, Kanyadana, Gotie Gadhhara Atma Katha, Kamala, Taa Maa Ra Kahani, Dhadi Ramayan etc. For his organizational capacity he completed seven years of leading role as General Secretary of Odisha Natya Sangha, the apex association of theatre groups of Odisha for which he is well connected with theatre practitioners of all over Odisha..



Ajay Swain

Ajay Swain was born in 1957 in Jaipur of Khorda District. He is a Story writer and was awarded Odisha Sahitya Academy Award in 2012 for his book "CHARITRA CHAUPASA".



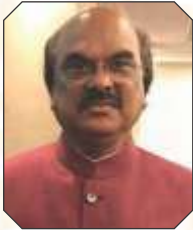
Akash Das Nayak

Akash Dasnayak (b. 1981), popularly known by the film industry name Akash, is an Odia film actor and politician known for doing action-oriented movies. He was also the MLA of Korei Constituency.

He was born at Jajpur Road on 17 September 1981 in Odisha, India to Mayadhar Nayak and Indira Das. He graduated from Vyasagar College, Jajpur Road (LLB) from

Utkal University. His aunt Anita Dash was a veteran film actress. He debuted in the Oriya film industry in 2008 with film Kalinga Putra, receiving a Best Actor award. Since then, he has acted in several movies like Mita Basichi Bhoota Saathire and Just Mohabatt.

Awards: Best Actor award from Government of Odisha.



Akshya Parija

Akshay Kumar Parija (born 12 May 1954) is an Indian film maker known for his depictions of Odia culture and Odissi dance in his films. Originally a banker, he currently lives in Dubai.

Akshay Parija presently serves as Board Member and Executive Director to Blue Lines Shipping Group which he founded in the year 2010 . Blue Lines Shipping has its operation all across the globe. An Alumnus of Harvard Business School, US has studied in Utkal University (ଓଡ଼ିଶା ବିଶ୍ୱବିଦ୍ୟାଳୟ) and BJB College as well Best Film on Environment Conservation/Preservation at 56th National Film Awards Mohan Sundar Deb Goswami Awards- 2008 for Best Film Special recognition Film Award at OMAN Green Awards' 2011 Membership Achievement Award- 2010 for his role as the Producer at OSA, San Francisco, Bay Area Jury Award for Best Foreigner Film-2010 at 6th Muscat Film Festival President's Award at 64th National Film Awards, 2016.



Amaresh Patnaik

Poet Amaresh Patnaik was born on 24th May 1948 to Late Ananta Patnaik (a poet) & Neerada Prava Patnaik. he did LLB also. In 1973, he swung into Editorship as his first assignment in “Soviet Desh” in Calcutta till 1992 and after assuming such responsibilities in different magazines, in 1993 took up as Exe. Editor – “SAMAYA”.

He also shouldered the responsibility of being the Exe. Member of Jury, International Film Festival, Eastern Regional Selection Panel (1979-80), Exe. President, Juba Lekhaka Sammilani (1994), Outside Expert Selection Panel, Sponsor Program of Doordarshan (2003 onwards), Outside Expert Akashwani Award Selection Panel, (2007 onwards), Member General Council Sahitya Akademy, 2018 onwards, Member, Odia Advisory Board Sahitya Akademy, 2018. His

major poetries are *Manaru Manaku*, etc. He is the recipient of various awards such as Kendriya Sahitya Akademi Award Think Odisha Leadership Award for Literature etc.



Dr. Amit Ranjan

Amit Ranjan has just returned from a stint as Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence at FIU, Miami. He teaches literature at RIE, NCERT, Bhubaneswar. He has a PhD and an MPhil, both from JNU. His doctoral research about John Lang, a 19th century Australian writer, He was a Fulbright scholar previously as well, in 2015-16, also at FIU. He has also been a recipient of Endeavour Fellowship of Australia, as also the Inlaks Research Grant, courtesy of which he was a Visiting Fellow at UNSW, Sydney. He was also delegate at Australia India Youth Dialogue, 2015, and a writer-in-residence at Sangam House Writers' residency, 2010. He also holds the honorary position of Australia Awards Ambassador. Amit's poems, short stories, and essays have been published in various journals like La Zaporogue, Anti Serious, Cold Noon, Muse India, The Equator Line etc. Amit also has written four plays. His poetry collection Find Me Leonard Cohen, I am Almost Thirty, published last year, has received very good reviews.



Anu Choudhury

Anu Choudhury (born 30 August 1979) is a leading Indian actress. She has starred in more than 50 films. Her debut Odia film was *Maa Goja Bayani*. Anu was born in Bhubaneswar to Odia film editor Rabi Choudhury and Soudamini Choudhury. Anu Choudhury has been a committed social activist, active in supporting child survival and fighting AIDS and injustice in real life. Anu has worked as brand ambassador for UNICEF, Lalchand Jewellers, Kanchan Jewellery, Ruchi Curry Powder, Epari Sadashiv Jewellery etc. She has been brand ambassador for more than 20 commercials.

Recently, Anu Choudhury is appointed as Brand ambassador for a public awareness campaign, "Bijuli Didi" on behalf of all the electric distribution utilities of the State, CESU, NESCO, WESCO and SOUTHCO, and all the franchisees working in the CESU area.



Dr. Aparna Mohanty

Aparna Mohanty (b. Dec. 1952) is a hot favourite of Odia poetry lovers for her confessional writings on women. For more than three decades she is a distinct voice celebrating womanhood and pleading for women's liberation. She is a pioneer poet in whose writing countless women readers identify their hidden ambitions, passions, sentiments, dreams and frustrations. Aparna has so far brought out eighteen books including eleven outstanding poetry collections, four translation works and three criticism books. Her *Jhiapaine Jharka Tia* (Window for the Daughter) has been awarded by State Sahitya Akademi in 2007. *Atithi*, *Purnatama*, *Nasta Nari*, *Ma ra Kandana Geeta* are some of her much read and admired poetry collections. Her poetry collections are translated into Hindi and Bengali languages. Her recent series of poems is on



Ashok Mohanty

Ashok Mohanty is a Poet, Artist, Publisher and Organiser. He was born on 2nd July 1966. He is the Secretary of Paschima Sahitya Patrika. He owns a publication house by name Paschima Publication and has more than 800 publications. He is currently the General Secretary of Bhubaneswar Pustaka Mela and has more than 700 books back page projects and editing. His publications are: Modern Master Series Haraprasa Das Biswayana Pararbi Odia Kabita (Debate) He is the recipient of various award ssuch as Best Magazine Editor –HaraprasaDasBiswayana Pararbi Odia Kabita (Debate). He is the recipient of various awards such as Best Magazine Editor – 1996 by Ankur Pratisthana Pakhighara



Dr. Ashutosh Parida

Dr. Ashutosh Parida (b.1946) is prominent in contemporary Odia literature for his committed poetry. He has eleven collections of poems and one book of essays. For his literary contribution, he has received several awards/honours including Odisha Sahitya Academy Award, Bhanuji Rao Memorial Poetry Prize, Sachi Routray Kabita Samman, Gangadhar Meher Kabita Samman etc. He worked as a scientist in CSIR-Institute of Minerals & Materials Technology, Bhubaneswar and is presently retired.



Asit Mohanty

Asit Mohanty, a renowned Odia Presently he is staying with his wife – Sasmita and two sons. He did his Post Graduation in Odia with specialisation in Modern Literature from Ravenshaw College in 1975. He started writing instinctively which was further honed influenced by the close companionship of an Odia litterateur and Sahitya Academy Awardee Shri Akhil Mohan Patnaik. The practice of writing turned to serious efforts by means of writing essays and features on Literature & Culture. Those articles got published in prominent periodicals like Jhankar, Samabesh, Konark, Esana & Srimandir etc.



Bharat Majhi

Bharat Majhi (born 1972) is recognised as a voice of growing promise and resonance in the world of Oriya poetry. Born in Ghumerguda in Kalahandi in the state of Orissa, he now lives in Bhubaneswar where he works as a journalist. He has published ten Collections of poetry. His third collection (Mahanagara Padya) winning him the Bhubaneswar Book Fair Award in 2008. He also won the Sanskriti Award in 2004.



Dr. Bhaskar Mishra

Born in the year 1961 in Baseli Sahi of Puri, Dr. Bhaskar Mishra is well known in odisha as a scholar and researcher. He completed his formal education from SCS College, Puri and G.M.Law College. Further, continued his studies for Post Graduation in Odia and Ph.D in Shree Jagannath & Matha Culture from North Odisha University, Baripada. He has authored more than 45 books on Shree Jagannatha and Matha Culture . Presently he is working as an officer-on-special duty in law department. He has been highly acclaimed by both the readers of the state as well as abroad. For the last 25 years he has been rendering his help to prominent odia journal “Neeladri” as editor-in-chief. A noted litterateur, he has been awarded by many institutions for his immense contribution to the consciousness.



Dr. Bibhuti Pattanaik

Born on 25.10.1937, Sri Bibhuti Patnaik is a popular novelist who has dedicated to the history of Oriya novel. If his total number of novels are to be list out it will be elephantaein in size. He is yet admired by his innumerable readers. He has received Orissa Sahitya Akademi Award in 1985 for his novel 'aswamedhara Ghoda'. To His Credit Other Award

Also Goes Like Sarala, Jhankara And Bisubha Awards. His Novels Include : Sesha Basanta, Abhimana, Parapurusha, Gare Kajwala Dhare Luha, Oda Matira Swarga, Sesha Abhinaya, Aswamedhara Ghoda, Trutiya Purusha, Khelaghara Bhangigala, Prema O' Pruthibi, Dipata Sankha, He Bandhu Bidaya, Ujani Jamuna, And Many More.

Criticisms Include – Sampratika Sahitya, Sahitrara Suchipatra, Odia Upanyashara Samaj Tatwika Ruparekha. To his credit 75 nos of novel yet has already been printed and admired by his readers.



Bishnupada Sethi

An engineer by profession and presently working as a member of the Indian Administrative Service, Bishnupada Sethi inclination towards poetry was natural from a young age. He has authored two anthologies of poetry in English titled Where Shall I Go (2005) and My World of Words (2010).

Sethi, for whom poetry has been a passion, graduated in Mechanical Engineering from the National Institute of Technology, Rourkela and did his Master's Degree in Industrial Engineering from the National Institute of Industrial Engineering, Mumbai before joining the IAS. He worked in various capacities including District Magistrate and Collector of several districts and took up several other assignments in the Odisha Government.



Biyot Projna Tripathy

A filmmaker, author and a film teacher, got National Award and International Award for her film, served as a Jury for National Awards, participated in International leadership programme USA, and have more than thirty five documentaries and short films to her credit. She is teaching Film studies and Media since 2002 . She has authored three short

story collections and two novels in Odia. Presently she is teaching in NIIFT Bhubaneswar.



Dash Benhur

Jitendra Narayan Dash (birth 3 August 1953), who writes under the pseudonym of Dash Benhur is a Sahitya Akademi award winner writer from Odisha. He was born in Khandapada in Nayagarh district, Odisha. He retired as the Principal of Samanta Chandrasekhar (Autonomous) College, Puri. He is a founder member of Aama Odisha.



Dr. Debasis Panigrahi

Dr. Debasis Panigrahi is a popular and critically acclaimed writer from Odisha. He has published ten collections of short stories, three collections of novellas, one novel, one work of non-fiction and one book of lyrics in Odia. Odia is the sixth language of India to have been accorded the status of a classical language. Dr. Panigrahi has bagged a host of literary awards; the most notable being the 'Odisha Sahitya Academy Award' for short stories. His stories figure in the anthologies of best Odia short stories brought out by 'Kendra Sahitya Akademi' and 'Odisha Sahitya Academy' and have also been translated into English, Hindi and other regional languages.



Devdas Chhotray

Devdas Chhotray is an Indian Odia author, administrator and academician. He was the first vice-chancellor of Ravenshaw University, Cuttack, Odisha. His work consists of poetry, short stories, lyrics, musicals and screenplays. Chhotray's father Gopal Chhotray, a recipient of Padma, Central Sahitya Akademi and Sangeet Natak Akademi Award, was an architect of modern Odia theatre.



Dr. Dipak Samantarai

Dr. Dipak Samantarai was with the national broadcaster, All India Radio, for more than three decades. He has been awarded at the national level for radio programme production and training of media personnel. He says he loves 3P: People, Poetry and Photography. Published widely in regional and national publications, he has three anthologies of poetry and a couple of compilations of motivational writings in Odia.



Durga Prasad Panda

An accomplished bilingual poet and critic in English and Odia, his poems have been anthologized thrice in British Council's 'Poetry India' and have been included in the Little Magazine's 'India In Verse', '99 words'. Some of them have been translated into Hindi, Bengali and Kannada. 'Unreal City and other Poems' is his English translation of Odia poet J.P.

Das's poetry. He also has three collections of poems and a book of 'absurd' short stories in Odia titled 'Dhwaan'.



Dr. Gayatribala Panda

Dr. Gayatribala Panda (b.1977) is a well known Odia poet, fiction writer, literary critic and journalist. She has to her credit fourteen collections of poetry (two of which translated into Hindi, one into English), four novels and two collections of short story; her poems have been translated into many Indian languages including English and Hindi. She

is the recipient of first Sahitya Akademi "Yuva Puraskar" in Odia for her poetry collection "GAAN"(The Village) in 2011, State Youth Award for poetry, Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Award for popular writer of the year 2011 and Utkal Sahitya Samaj Yuva Kabi Samman etc. In 2012, She was named as one of the ten best young writers in the country by the English daily Indian Express (Eye Magazine). She was the 'Writers in-residence' at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in 2015. Her poems and short stories have been published in numerous journals and anthologies. She is the Editor of Anyaa, a widely-acclaimed Odia literary journal. She can be reached at: gayatribalap@gmail.com



Haraprasad Das

Haraprasad Das is an eminent Odia language poet, essayist and columnist, who has 12 works of poetry, four of prose, three translations and one fiction to his credit.

A retired civil servant who has served as an expert in several UN bodies, Das was presented the Kendriya Sahitya Akademi Award in 1999 and Moortidevi Award in 2013.

He is also the recipient of the Kalinga Literary Award (2017), Gangadhar Meher Award (2008) and Sarala Award (2008).



Hiranmayee Mishra

Hiranmayee Mishra is a novelist and poet from Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India. Born:2 June 1978 (age 41 years), Education: Utkal University, PhD. (Women's Studies) , University of York, England. Her major books are Negotiating Privately for an Effective Role in Public Space: A Case Study of Women in Panchayats of Orissa, India. RATIRA SATHI, MEGHA PAKHIRA GITA and many more. She has been awarded with Fakirmohan Galpa Samman, 2017Bharatiya Bhasha Parishad Young Writer Award, Kolkatta, 2012, Lekhika Sansad Sudhanshubala Panda Upanyas Puraskar,2013, Time-pass Booker Award,2013 and many more.



Dr. Hrusikesh Mallick

Hrusikesh Mallick was born on 5th March 1955 in Banitia in Bhadrak District of Odisha. His childhood was mostly spent in his village. He was very much engrossed in Bhagabata Parayana, Debates and Discussions in his village. He was very fond of listening to bhajans of Bhima Bhoi. This involvement nurtured and instigated the hidden poet within him to explore. His poetic expertise was evident when he penned down poems and stories in his school days. His first poem was published in Dharitri's Chua Bahala section. He has 10 anthologies of Poems and 20 books to his credit. Post his retirement, he got associated with the daily odia news paper "Dharitri" as Editor of Feature & Literature section.



Dr. Jatindra Nayak

Jatindra Kumar Nayak is a translator, literary critic, columnist, editor and educationalist from Orissa. He has translated several works of Oriya literature into English, including Yantrarudha, an Oriya language novel by Chandrasekhar Rath, as 'Astride the Wheel'. 'Astride the Wheel' received the Hutch Crossword Book Award 2004 for Indian Language Fiction Translation. Earlier he won the prestigious Katha Translation Award for his English rendering of Tarun Kanti Mishra's short story as 'The Descent'.



Jayanta Mahapatra

A major English poet and first Indian to win the Sahitya Akademi award for English poetry, Jayanta Mahapatra is the author of popular poems such as Indian Summer and Hunger which are regarded as classics in modern Indian English literature. He shared a special bond with A.K.Ramanujan, one of the finest poets in the IEP tradition..

The awards bestowed on him included the Jacob Glatstein Memorial Award for poetry at Chicago (1975), Cultural Award Visitor, Australia (1978), Japan Foundation-- Visitor's Award (1980) and SAARC Literacy Award (2009).



Kedar Mishra

Kedar Mishra is a complete literary person born on 15th April 1972. He is known as an Editor, Translator, Journalist, Scholar, Art Critic, Human Rights activist and a Cultural Activist. To his credit, he has five Poetry collections in Odia language: "*Sabdaku Charipada, Asha-Sukta, SUnya Abhisara, Raga Kedar & Premara Dura Geeta*", Two collection of

Prose; *Vag Bishesha & Sessa Sparsha*, Three books in English; *Kandhamala Riot & Mass Media, Bhima Bhoi: Verses from the Void and Popular Religion & Ascetic Practices* (Co-authored). His works are widely translated in number of Indian & foreign languages like, English, German, Irish, Nepali, Bengali, Hindi etc. He is awarded with many awards such as Pakhighara Writers Award, Utkal Sahitya Samaj Award, Kalinga Literary Youth Award and many more.



Dr. Lipipuspa Nayak

Lipipuspa Nayak is a critic of comparative Indian literature and translator. Educated in Utkal University, and English and Foreign Language University (formerly, Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages, Hyderabad), she has published eight books, including English translations of an 18th century prose classic (Four

Tales for Amusement), a 16th century verse narrative in Oriya (Lakshmi Purana – A Paean to the Hindu Goddess of Prosperity), and

a modern play (God-Demon, published by Sahitya Academi, New Delhi) and about twenty papers on Comparative Indian Literatures.

Lipipuspa has been awarded the Government of India National Culture Fellowship (2003-5), and short-listed for Fulbright Fellowship. She contributes freelance articles to the major English dailies like the Indian Express and the Pioneer.



Manu Dash

Manu Dash, an author of A Brief History of Silence, is an Indian poet. He resides in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India.



Mona Lisa Jena

Mona Lisa Jena was born in khurda, Odisha . She is the author of many books in various genres, including two collections of short stories, three books of poems and several volumes of translations. She has to her credit three collections of poems in Odia; Nisarga Dhvani and Ai Sabu Dhruba Muhurta and Nakshtra Devi. Her short stories are collected in Indramalatira Shoka and Nilamadhabi. Nargis is her novel written in Odia. Ms Jena also wrote a biography of the noted Odia poet Ramakanta Rath besides translating and editing Dasuram's Script, a collection of contemporary Odia stories published by Harper Collins. she also translated Ms Pratibha Ray's novel into english as Citadel of love, published by Rupa & Co. Delhi. Ms. Jena received The Odisha Sahitya Akademi Award for Translation (for the year 2007), for the novel Astoraga originally written in Assamese by Homen Boroghain. She was awarded by Central Sahitya Akademi , New Delhi, for literature in 2017 for translating Asirvadara Ranga.



Dr. Mrinal Chatterjee

Journalist-turned-media academician and an accomplished writer Mrinal Chatterjee (b.1961) has worked in all media forms with élan. Presently he is working as Professor and Regional Director of Eastern India Campus of Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC), located in Dhenkanal, Odisha.

Dr. Chatterjee has published seven books on Journalism and Mass Communication in English and Odia including his seminal work History of Journalism in Odisha. He has published over two dozens of book chapters, papers and articles in national and international journals. Recently he has co-edited (with Dr. Uma Shankar Pandey) an anthology of essays and papers titled Media, Democracy and Development and (an anthology of essays and lectures titled Mahatma Gandhi: A Journalist and Editor with Snehasis Sur).

He is also a popular columnist. He writes columns in English and



Dr. Naresh Chandra Dash

Dr. Dash is a prominent name to the people of Odisha in Lord Jagannatha culture. Born to Late Jadumani Dash & Late Haramani Dash on 2nd June 1958 in Daitapada Sahi, Hatajodi Thakurani Lane, Puri. He is the Ex-Principal of NNAC (Sanskrit College), at Lokanath Road, Puri. He is a post graduate in Sahitya Acharya & Sankhyayoga Acharya, Ph.D in Vidyavaridhi and Sangitavisarad in Odishi & Hindustani Vocal. He mastered all formats of Sanskrit, Odia, Hindi and English languages.

He is a speaker (Prabachaka) in Bhagabata, Srimad Bhagabat Gita, The Ramayan, The Jagannath Culture. He is a prominent commentator of the world famous Car Festival (Ratha Jatra) of Puri in Television and Radio. He has his hands on astrology also.

He has shouldered the responsibilities of being the Vice President of Shri Ramadaya Parishad, Puri, Treasurer of Nikhila Utkala Sanskrit Mahamandala, Editor of Srimad Bhagabat Sudha, Secretary, Religious Affair, Training & Central Library, Sri Jagannath Chetana Gabesana Pratisthana, Puri and Ex-Syndicate Member of Sri Jagannath Sanskrit University. He is the recipient of Yuba Prativa Samman –Pride of Shrikhsetra Award –Sri Jagannath Sanskruti Surakhya Bahini and many more.



Paramita Satpathy Tripathy

An influential voice in Indian literature, Paramita Satpathy Tripathy's works reflect the new strides being taken by women's fiction in India in their themes, tone and structure. Tripathy, who writes in both English and Odia, received the prestigious

Sahitya Akademi Award in 2016 for her book Prapti. She has also received several honours including the Odisha Sahitya Akademi Award, Bhartiya Bhasha Parishad Puraskar, Assam Sahitya Sabha Samman and Bhubaneswar Book Fair Award.

Her literary creations are Intimate Pretence, A Boundless Moment, Colours of Loneliness and Other Stories, Door Ke Pahad, Chandan Ka Phool, Paap Aur Anya Kahaniyan and Prapti Aar Anyanya Galpo. A member of the Indian Revenue Service since 1989, she is presently working as Commissioner of Income Tax in New Delhi. (123)



Dr. Pitabas Routray

Pitabas Routray, a post graduate in Applied Economics, after serving in various public sector undertakings of India, retired as General Manager – Marketing in Paradeep Phosphates Ltd. He is a popular humorous short story writer, more popular for his thirty (30) books on Lord Jagannatha. He is awarded with Doctorate for his thesis on “*Economic Impact of Lord Jagannatha Temple in the lives of people of Odisha*” a first research work of its kind on Lord Jagannatha. His books have been regarded as best sellers and his humorous short stories have been translated in various languages. His books on Lord Jagannatha have been translated in different Indian languages.

He has received many accolades and awards including “*KANTA KABI PURASKAR*” for humorous writing, “*Surendra Mohanty Memorial Award*” for overall contribution in Literature and “*UTKAL RATNA AWARD*” for popularizing cultural heritage of Lord Jagannatha.



Pravasini Mahakud

Prabasini Mahakud is basically Prabasini Mahakud Tiwari, was born in 1957 in Koksara of Kalahandi District of Odisha. Her childhood was mostly spent in different places of western Odisha. She is a Post Graduate in Odia Literature. Being a Poetess and a translator, she received Odisha Sahitya Academy Award in 2009 for her book “*DHADIYE SIMILI PHULA*” and other poems.



Dr. Pratibha Ray

An eminent academic and fiction writer in contemporary India, Dr. Pratibha Ray is known for her pursuit of a social order based on equality without class, caste, religion or sex.

A winner of the Jnanpith Award (2011), she was the first woman writer to receive the Moortidevi Award (1991) and was presented the Padma Shri in 2007.

Her first novel Barsha Basanta Baishaka (1974) was a best seller while Yajnaseni (1984) and Sheelapadma (1983) are rated among her notable works. Both the novels were translated into English and several other Indian languages.

The other awards and recognitions bestowed on her included the Odisha Sahitya Akademi Award, Sarala Award,

Born in a remote village in Balikuda block of Odisha's Jagatsinghpur district, Dr. Ray started writing at the age of nine. Her tilt towards an egalitarian society in her writings led many to brand her as a communist while others saw her as a feminist.

Dr. Ray, however, would describe herself as 'a humanist' and strongly believed that both man and woman were equal. Men and women were created differently for the healthy functioning of society while the strengths, talents and skill women were endowed with needed to be nurtured further for societal good.

An M.A. in Education, she did her Ph.D in Educational Psychology and her post-doctoral research was on Tribalism and Criminology of Bondo Highlander.



Dr. Pratibha Satpathy

Recognised as one of the leading poets of the country, Pratibha Satpathy has been honoured with the Sahitya Akademi Award. Satpathy, who has been writing poetry in Odia for over four decades, has also translated a number of famous English literary works by well known writers such as Pearl S. Buck into Odia language. She herself has

translated many of her Odia books into Hindi.

Editor of the poetry magazine Udbhasa, a quarterly publication, she also edited the Odia periodical Ishtahaar for 25 years.

Satpathy was bestowed with several national awards including Critic Circle of India Award (1996), Kendriya Sahitya Akademi Award (2001) for her poetry collection Tanmaya Dhuli and Sahitya Bharati Samman (2014). She was also presented, among others, the Sarala Award (1992), state Sahitya Akademi Award (1986) for her poetry collection Nimishe Akshara and Bhubaneswar Book Fair Award (2007).



Dr. Pritidhara Samal

Dr. Pritidhara Samal (Born on 5th Sept 1973) is an Eminent voice in Odia Literature. Has been writing Poetry, short stories and essays on literature since more than 25 years. She is working as a lecturer in Odia dept. in Govt. Women's College, Koraput. She is the First Indian writer to be published under "Nabodoya" Scheme of Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi. She has four Poetry Collections and one research book to her credit and has received more than 50 state level awards including state youth Award from Govt. of Odisha.



Dr. Pritish Acharya

Pritish Acharya is professor of history at the ncert. Presently posted in regional Institute of education, Bhubaneswar. He writes short stories ; is an essayist and columnist in odia. His short story collections include pausa pahile jai, ATMALIPI, patri Anweshana and gopana chithi. Nbt, publication division, odisha culture department and sage publications and orient Black Swan have published his works. As an academic he has taught in Rajiv Gandhi university Itanagar and national defense academy KHADAGVASLA.



Rabindra K Swain

Rabindra K Swain(b.1960) has five books of poems, the latest one being This House is not for Knowing. His poems are published in such international magazines like The Kenyon Review, The Literary Review, World Literature Today and The Times Literary Supplement. Presently he is the Managing Editor of Chandrabhaga.



Rajendra Kishore Panda

A major poet in Odia literature, Rajendra Kishore Panda is the author of 16 books of poetry as well as editor of two web anthologies of poetry, *Kavitayan* and *Varnamala* and a web journal, *The Cogitocrat*.

His literary exploits won him several honours including the Sahitya Akademi Award (1985), the Senior Fellowship for Literature awarded by the Department of Culture, Government of India and a D.Litt degree (honoris causa) from Sambalpur University.

A member of the Indian Administrative Service, he holds Master's degree in Arts from the Allahabad University.

Panda, who published his first book of poetry in 1975, belonged to Batalaga village in Sambalpur district the inhabitants of which had to face the trauma of displacement when the Hirakud Dam was constructed as the entire area was submerged under the reservoir in 1956-57. Batalaga was one of the 285 villages that went under water.



Rajesh P Patil

Patil, a 2005-batch IAS officer and now District Magistrate of Mayurbhanj, used to sell “fresh breads” during his early schooldays to earn at least `3 day to meet his study expenses. The agonizing struggle of the young IAS officer is described in details in the latest book written by him “Maa, I've become a Collector!” Patil was Collector of Koraput and Kandhamal before manning another tribal district, Mayurbhanj.

Published by Unicorn Books, New Delhi, the book was earlier translated into Odia. Born to a poor farmer family of an interior village in Maharashtra, Patil struggled hard in his life to become get into the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), reveals the book.



Rakshak Nayak

Poet Rakshak Nayak was born on 18th August 1963 in Paikasahi, Sorava, Nayahat in Puri. He is presently posted as Public Relations Officer to Hon'ble Governor of Odisha.

His poems are published in Odisha Sahitya Akademi – Urdhwa Udaana (2000), Brahmashilaa (2003) in Shreeparna, Puri, Asaranti Antakshari

(2011) in Srujan, Bhubaneswar, Anwesa Aharnisha (2015) in Srujan, Bhubaneswar, Argala Anargala (2017), Srujan, Bhubaneswar, Sheshaheena Santarana (2019), PenIn Bhubaneswar, Amrita Andhaara (2019), Srujan, Bhubaneswar and many more.

State Youth Award for Poetry (1997), Govt. of Odisha



Ramakant Rath

One of the most renowned modern poets in Odia literature, Ramakanta Rath was greatly influenced by poets like T.S.Eliot and Ezra Pound.

Rath, who was a member of the Indian Administrative Service, experimented with form and style. The quest for the mystical, the riddles of life and death, the inner solitude of the individual self, subservience to material needs and carnal desires were among the philosopher-poets favourite themes.

He received the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1977, Saraswati Samman in 1992 and India's third highest civilian honour, the Padma Bhushan in 2006. He also served as the Vice-President and President of the Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi between 1993 and 2003.



Dr. Ramesh Prasad Panigrahi

Dr. Ramesh Prasad Panigrahi (b. 1944) is Ph.D. in postmodern American Drama from Utkal, retired as Reader from Ravenshaw Univ, in 2001-Officiated as the Delegated Board Member of CBFC, Mumbai for three years-Published 90 plays, 2 novels, 30 short stories and 200 lyrics for AIR and Television-Directed 18 plays for Jatra, wrote six screen plays and dialogues for Odia films- Won Sahitya Akademi Award-1984 and Sangit Natak Akademi Award 2001-Six plays in English and one play in Hindi published in translation.: Ramesh p. Panigrahi.



Sabyasachi Mohapatra

Sabyasachi Mohapatra (born 27 August 1950) is an Odia film director, writer, and producer. He was born at Lehedi, Subarnapur, Odisha, India. He owns a production house named Mohapatra Movie Magic.

Mohapatra made his directorial debut in film

Bhukha in Kosali Language that won International Jury award at Gijon Film festival in Spain. His movie Jai Jagannatha released in 2006, a mythological film, was a mega-budget released in 15 different Indian languages. Awards Ganakabi Samman awarded by Ganakabi Baishnab Pani Jayanti Committee in 2017 International Jury award



Sangram Jena

Sangram Jena (b. 1952) is a poet, translator, anthologist, has authored more than 30 books.

He has six poem collections to his credit which include Basaghara, Dehadoha, Chai Pache Pache in Odia, Poems of Passion (translated into English by Prof. Niranjan Mohanty), Basera (translated into Hindi by Prof. Sankarlal Purohit). His latest collection of poems 'Walking through the Rain' written in English has been published in 2014, was selected for exhibition at World Poetry Festival, organised by Sahitya Akademi from 21st to 24th March 2014 at New Delhi.



Saqti Mohanty

Saqti Mohanty is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Physics of a Bhubaneswar-based engineering college but is focused on creative writing and drama.

He has several collections of poetry to his credit including *Pooni Barsha* (2004), *Seemaheena* (2008), *Laghuchapa* (2010) and *Ether Boli Kichhi Nahin* (2014). He also published a collection of short stories titled *Casino* (2018).

Mohanty has been honoured for his poetry book *Laghuchapa* in 2011 and won the Konark Sahitya Samman (2012) and Basanta Muduli Kabita Samman (2016).



Saroj Bal

Saroj Bal was born in 1976 In Arjunabindha of Bhadrak (Undivided Balasore) District. His childhood was mostly spent in village. From his childhood, he was very keen in literature and started to rewrite the writings of other writers in his own way. Interestingly, he used to make his own

magazine by taking papers from his rough copy and distributes among his friends.

During his graduation days, he started writing in rudimentary literature and published his own hand-written magazine "SINDURA". From there his journey as a litterateur started. He kept himself so engrossed in writing that he subsequently became a notable writer, presenter and publisher in Odia. He also has a publishing house of his won by name "TIMEPASS". As a literary organiser, he is deeply associated with "MUKTA SAHITYA MANCHA", JAGDISH MOHANTY TRUST" and "SAMBADA SAHITYA GHARA".



Saroj Mohanty

Saroj Mohanty writing odiya poetry and essay for last twenty five years heaving two poetry collections named 1. Phularayatra and 2. Gotie Mandiara Dakareand seven essay collection. A Well-known odiya columnist now editing a trimonthly socio-political journal named Anwesa.

Date of Birth 19 September 1969. Staying at Sambalpur Odisha.



Dr. Sitakant Mahapatra

An eminent Indian poet and literary critic in Odia and English, Sitakant Mahapatra's notable works are Sabdara Akash (1971), Samudra (1977) and Anek Sharat (1981). Mahapatra, who was a member of the Indian Administrative Service, received the Jnanpith Award in 1993. He was

honoured with the Padma Bhushan in 2003 and Padma Vibhushan in 2010 for literature and also received the Sahitya Akademi Award, Soviet Land Nehru Award, Sarala Award, SAARC Literary Award besides several other prestigious awards.

Mahapatra's first collection of poems in Odia, Dipti O Dyuti, was published in 1963 followed by his second anthology Ashtapadi in 1967 which won him the Odisha Sahitya Akademi award. His third and most celebrated anthology Sara Akash (1971) got him the Kendriya Sahitya Akademi Award. He has also authored two books on social anthropology published by the Oxford University Press.



Dr. Snehaprava Das

Snehaprava Das, born in 1955, has translated “Padmamali” by Umesh Chandra Sarkar, the first novel in Odiya, into English. Her other works of translation include 'The World Within', the English translation of Odiya novel “Mane Mane “ by Baishnaba Charan Das and “Bibasini, A Historical Romance” by Ramsankar Ray. Several stories of prominent story writers in Odiya translated into English by her have been published in The Orissa Review, Indian Literature, The Little Magazine, Rock Pebbles, Celebrating Creativity (Hyderabad 2011), Devi Plus and other literary journals and magazines.

Her translations from English to Oriya, which include poems of Mary Brook, Elizabeth Jennings, P.B. Shelly and Stories by Saki and Oscar Wilde, are published in Prativeshi, Anupam Bharat, Kahani, and other magazines. She is also a poet – she has written a number of poems dealing with a broad spectrum of subjects ranging from social issues and human values to personal sentiments.



Dr. Soubhagya Kumar Misra

Born on 5th September 1941 in Berhampur, Odisha, Eminent Odia writer and winner of Central and State Sahitya Akademi Awards for poetry, Soubhagya Kumar Misra, started his career as a lecturer of English literature and retired as a Professor of English in Berhampur University. He has been awarded the Sahitya Bharati Samman and Gangadhar National Award for his contributions to Odia literature. His popular books include Atmanepadi (1965), Madhyapadalopi (1971), Naipahanra (1973), Andha Mahumachhi (1977), Bajrajan (1981), Dwa Suparna (1984), Manikarnika (1990), Anyatra (1994) and Charachara. In an interview to Sunday POST, Soubhagya Misra talks about his career in poetry.



Subodh Patnaik

Subodh Patnaik is an Indian theatre director and playwright from Odisha. He is the founder of Bhubaneswar-based theatre group Natya Chetana and theatre village 'Natya Grama' .Patnaik is the only theatre personality from Odisha to tour all the continents. Born in Puri in 1964, to veterinary Dr

Pramod Chandra Patnaik and Dr Sashi Prava Patnaik. He was graduated from the Utkal Sangeet Mahavidyalaya in Odisha. He had a knowledge about street theatre, so he had gone New Delhi to learn prior to 1986. After return from New Delhi, he formed the theatre group Natya Chetana in 10 November 1986. Most of his Play based on social awareness.

He has formed Natya Chetana, a theatre group consisting of total of 25 artists of which 18 are men and 7 women. The "Natya Chetana dramas bridge Odisha, Bengal". The Pioneer. A theatre village is also established by this 25-year old group called Natya Grama. His play "Sindhi" was premiered in 9 June 2016 in Kalikasthan, Achham at Nepal.[6] "Ramleela" a mythological play inspired by Ramayana performed with his group at Bhanja Kala Mandap, Bhubaneswar.



Subrat Kumar Jena

Subrat Kumar Jena, an uncompromising voice in the era of contemporary poems. Unpretentious and candid are the words and depictions he makes in his poems that voice the strife of the common and deprived population of the mankind.

Subrat Kumar Jena was born on 3rd May 1978 at Haridaspur of Jajpur district. His poetry collections are: *Rough Khata ra Premika* (2011) and *Kamara Saalara Padya* (2019).



Sujit Kumar Panda

Sujit Kumar Panda is an Indian writer and employed in the Tax and Accounts cadre of the Finance Department of Government of Odisha.

Hailed as an eminent fiction writer in Odia in contemporary India, Panda began with the publication of *Hentala*, an anthology of poems in 2004. It reflected the poet's disillusionment with the societal and economic canvas of the land. But he shifted his focus from poetry to fiction and came out with *Faruaa*, his first collection of short stories in 2007. The book won the state Youth Award for Fiction.

His second book of short stories *Manasanka* was published in 2015 which fetched him the Yuva Puraskar by the Kendriya Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi. He was also conferred with the Bharatiya Bhasha Parishad Yuva Pursaskar, 2014-15.

Panda was also associated with the Odia feature magazine *Sachitra Vijaya* as a literary feature writer.



Sujit Mahapatra

Sujit Mahapatra is the Founder of Bakul Foundation, a movement for volunteerism in Odisha, in which he is a full time volunteer. Through Bakul, Sujit has been trying to demonstrate the power of volunteerism in the fields of Education, Environment and the Arts. A major goal of Bakul is to promote reading and creativity among children

and Bakul has started a library movement in the state and has set up 25 libraries entirely with the resources of volunteers. Bakul has also started publishing picture books for children.



Surya Deo

He has done individually what the Government and the film industry have failed to do to preserve the legacy of the 80-year-old Odia film scene. He is Surya Deo, a journalist who is better known as an amazing archivist of Odia films – himself an encyclopaedia on Odia cinema.

His two decades of silent but committed documentation on Odia cinema has reaped rich dividends and come to public notice in recent years through the various unique activities of the Film Journalists' Forum (FJF) of Odisha that he founded just five years ago.. FJF has proved how the old Odia movies of the black-and-white era could be crowd-pullers; Deo's vision and timely action have made it all possible.



Surya Mishra

Mr. Mishra was born on 24th March 1960 in Delanga, Puri. Subsequent to his education in English language and Literature. Presently he is stationed as Senior Information Officer under Govt. of Odisha in Bhubaneswar. Mr. Mishra's literary career spanned for more than three decades. His poetry books include: Satabarnara Sakala, Eka Eka

Sahabasa, Sunyabasa, Mrudu Mrudu Mrityu, Likhita Nirabata. He has also translated poems of Shahriyar's and K.Sachidanandan. He has translated novel of Sunil Gangopadhyaya and novel of Bishram Bedekar. He translated RuskinBond's novel for Sahitya Academy. Besides these, Mr. Mishra is a known Reviewer, Editor and Literary activist. Mr. Mishra received Junior Fellowship from Dept. of Culture under HRD Ministry. He received Pranatha Foundation Fellowship, Bhubaneswar Book Fair Award and many other honours given by various organisations.



Swagatika Swain

Swagatika Swain, a prominent voice in Odia fictions and novels tries to portray characters as naturally and virtually as it could be. With an immense sense of understanding she tries to psychoanalyse the contemporary characters, storyline. Irrespective of being judgemental she always tries to focus on giving an indifferent presentation in all her

creatives.



Dr. Suryasnata Tripathy

A Ph.D in Electrical Engineering from IIT, Hyderabad, Suryasnata Tripathy is an upcoming writer who has already been conferred with the Kendriya Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar in 2017. His works include Hajare Janhara Rati, E Samparka Emiti, Gangasiulira Gapa, Abujha Akuha, all compilations of her poems as also plays

(Botal Arz Hai, Last Wish and Pardon). She also did the screenwriting for two Odia short films: Matimuhan and Taraphulara Jhoti.

The honours bestowed on her included the Timepass Swayamshri Samman (2017), Timepass Bestseller Award (2019), Srijan Yuva Samman (2019) and Haji Ashraf Ali Uday Pratibha Samman (2019).



Dr. Swapna Mishra

Swapna Mishra (1971) is a prominent voice in contemporary Odia Literature since 1986 having to her credit 8 anthologies of poems 4 novels 4 collection of stories and 3 translations including one published by Sahitya Akademi. Her novels Jaala , Daaga and poetry Shabda Banchi Rahe have been well appreciated by the readers.



Dr. Swayam Prabha Satpathy

Dr.Swayam Prabha Satpathy has several years of teaching experience in various capacities. Presently she is working as an Associate Professor in Siksha O Anusandhan University in the department of Humanities. She is also a corporate soft skills trainer. She has been awarded with Siksha Ratan Puraskar ,Teacher's Excellence

award and Best Academician Award. She has also attended and presented papers, chaired sessions and delivered keynote addresses in many National (SRM University, Chennai, ICFAI, Hyderabad etc.) and International Conferences at Harvard (Cambridge University, Boston) August 2019, Imperial College of London October 2016, National University of Singapore May 2013. She has published papers and books in National and International journals of repute. She is committed, dedicated and leaves no stone unturned in taking up teaching as a social responsibility. She may be reached at dr.swyam.prava@gmail.com.



Ajit Das



Biswanath Samantara



Jyoti Nanda



Manoj Kumar Meher



Pabitra Mohan Dash



Pabitra Mohan Kar



Rabindranath Pratihari



Ratnamala Swain

Felicitations



Kali Charan Hembram

Kali Charan Hembram is a civil servant and an Indian writer who writes in Santali language.

Born in Mayurbhanj district of Odisha, he completed his school education from Bahalda High School and graduated from the Tata College subsequently.

Hembram, who writes books, plays and songs in Santali, wrote the dialogue for a Santali film titled Jiwi Jury. His first book was an anthology of short stories titled Sisirjali which was published in 2013. The book contained 15 short stories which won him the Sahitya Akademi Award for Santali in 2019.

His other works included Bousoyem Upol, Dhibur Gating, Damadol, Guligodoriyo and Nirmoya Dharti.



Tarun Kanti Mishra

Tarun Kanti Mishra is an eminent Odia story writer who has more than 15 published books to his credit. He was honoured with the Odisha Sahitya Akademi award and Sarala Award for his contribution to literature. Mishra's first story, Hey Pruthibira Nagarika was published in the Odia literary magazine Asantakaali, when he was only 14 years

of age. His first anthology of short stories was published in 1968 when he was in college. He has so far published 18 anthologies and a novel. Many of his works have been translated into Hindi, Bengali, Urdu, Telugu, Marathi, Malayalam, Gujarati and English. His works included Aabrtara Duiti Swara, Nisangatara Swara, Komala Gandhaara, Bahubrihi, Jane Nirastra Attatayi, Bitansa, Prajaapatira Dena Naahi, Aakasha Setu, Bhaswati and Kehi Jane Eka Eka. Mishra has also been honoured with the Katha Award, New Delhi and Think Orissa Leadership Award.

