

Gagan Gill, Easterine Kire to get Sahitya Akademi awards

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Hindi poet Gagan Gill and English writer Easterine Kire are among the 21 recipients of the annual Sahitya Akademi Awards, the organisation announced on Wednesday.

Recommended by jury members in 21 languages, the awards recognise works in different categories.

Ms. Gill was selected for her book on poetry *Main Jab Tak Aai Bahar*, Ms. Kire made it to the coveted list for her novel *Spirit Nights*. The winning list includes eight poetry books, three novels, two short stories, three essays, three works of literary criticism, one play and one research.

Sohan Kaul will receive the award for her Kashmiri novel *Psychiatric Ward*, while Paul Kaur has been selected for her Punjabi book on poetry *Sun Gunvanta Sun Budhivanta: Itihaasnama Punjab*.

The recipients of award in poetry include K. Jaya-

Poet Gagan Gill was selected for her book on poetry, Easterine Kire for her novel *Spirit Nights*

kumar (Malayalam), Hombam Satyabati Devi (Manipuri), Dileep Jhaveri (Gujarati), Sameer Tanti (Assamese), Mukut Maniraj (Rajasthani) and Dipak Kumar Sharma (Sanskrit).

Aron Raja also made it to the winning list in the novels genre for his fiction book *Swrni Thakhai* in Bodo.

Yuva Baral's *Chhichimira* (Nepali) and Hundraj Balwani's *Purzo* (Sindhi) were the picks in the short stories section.

Mukesh Thali (Konkani), Mahendra Malangia (Maithili) and Baishnab Charan Samai (Odia) will receive the award for their essays, while A.R. Venkatachalapathy (Tamil) was recognised for his research, and Maheshwar Sorn for his play *Seched Sawnta Ren Andha Manmi* (Santali).