

# D. S. Nagabhushan bags Kendra Sahitya Akademi award

## Basu Bevinagidad wins Bal Sahitya Puraskar for *Odi Hoda Huduga*

STAFF REPORTER  
BENGALURU

Literary critic D.S. Nagabhushan has been awarded the Kendra Sahitya Akademi award for 2021 for his work *Gandhi Kathana*, biography of Mahatma Gandhi.

While Basu Bevinagidad has won the Bal Sahitya Puraskar for his children's novel *Odi Hoda Huduga*, H. Lakshmi Narayan Swamy has been awarded the Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar for his poetry *Togala Cheelada Karna*. The awards were announced on Thursday.

*Gandhi Kathana* has already seen over 20 editions and has been one of the successful books in recent years. "I started writing the book to introduce Gandhi to children, but failed. But I took up writing a biography, as I felt Gandhi is what we need for the times. As a socialist, I also have a different perspective to see Gandhi. The success of the book and the award has shown Gandhi is alive and kicking, we only need to find him," he told *The Hindu*. Mr. Nagabhushan also edits and brings out a literary magazine *Hosa Manushya*.

Mr. Lakshmi Narayan Swamy hails from Bengaluru and teaches Kannada at the PG centre, Ramanagar, of Bangalore University.

His *Togala Cheelada Karna* tries to reinterpret Mahabharata for the con-



ಗಂಡಿ  
ಕಥನ  
D.S. Nagabhushan

"I am  
at the end of  
my journey.  
I am as  
if you were to  
live forever."

*Handwritten signature*

Cover of *Gandhi Kathana*



D. S. Nagabhushan

temporary age through the character of Karna. "I have been trying to experiment with poetry, writing *khandakavya* and *mahakavya*. The award comes as a great encouragement for me to experiment more," he said.

"There has been a lot of work done in poetry for children, but not much in prose. I have been trying to write novels for children in the social realism style, and with no elements of fantasy. The award comes as a recognition of that," Mr. Basu Bevinagidad said.