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Press Release

Face-to-Face Yuva Sahiti

Face-to-Face- featuring select Award winners in conversation with eminent writers

Sahitya Akademi organized a 'Face-to-Face' programme featuring select Award winners in conversation with eminent writers from their Award winning languages at Rabindra Bhawan Lawns in New Delhi. Dr. K. Vanaja interviewed Smt. Chitra Mudgal. Smt. Mudgal said that she writes for the common man. Talking about the story of *Post Box 203 Nala Spoara*, she said that once in a train compartment she got a chance to meet a young transgender. Dr. Mohanjit, Award winner in Punjabi, was in conversation with Dr. Rawail Singh. The conversation mainly focussed on the award-winning book *Kone da Suraj*. In reply to a question whether poetry is a spontaneous flow of imagination, Dr Mohanjit said that while it is true that poetry comes spontaneously, it always needs to be framed and structured to make it presentable and readable. Prof. A.R. Venkatachalapathy interviewed Sri S. Ramakrishnan, Award winner in Tamil. Sri Ramakrishnan stated that he took up the novel *Sancharam* (Tamil award-winning novel) because Nadaswaram is an instrument connected with the Tamil identity which is fast disappearing due to general apathy and ignorance of the masses. Sri J.S. Murthy interviewed Dr. Kolakaluri Enoch, award winner in Telugu. Dr. Enoch talked about his fight against the exploitation of people belonging to backward classes, minorities and tribals. Sri K.G. Nagarajappa, award winner in Kannada, in his conversation with Dr. Asha Devi, spoke about the religious movements, which, while on the one hand organize the society, on the other, divide it. Sri Dinkar Kumar interviewed Sri Sananta Tanty, Award winner in Assamese. When asked about his works, Sri Tanty replied that poetry for him is an art. Just as an artist highlights the contemporary world in his paintings with colour and imagination, he, too, tries to enrich his poetry with words, emotions and experiences. He writes for humanity and tries to give it a touch of beauty.

Yuva Sahiti

Sahitya Akademi organized 'Yuva Sahiti: The New Harvest' at Rabindra Bhavan Lawns on Thursday, 31 January 2019, in New Delhi featuring readings and discussions by well-known young litterateurs representing 23 Indian languages. In the inaugural session, Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcoming the participants and audience, spoke briefly about the value of youth, the importance of writings by young authors, not only in Indian traditions but in traditions all over the world. In his inaugural address, Prof K. Satchidanandan, distinguished poet and scholar, talked about the emergence of young writers in various literary traditions of India. In his Presidential address, Dr Chandrashekhhar Kambar, President, Sahitya Akademi, observed that all institutions of society should encourage and promote young writers. In the first session chaired by T. Devipriya, nine noted young poets, Brahm Dutt Magotra, Neha Bansal, Anant Rathod, Ghanshyam 'Devansh', Parvaiz Gulshan, Sreejith Perumthachan, Amrut Telang, Ali Rajpura and Avishek Shukla, recited their compositions. In the second session devoted to 'Literature Today' and chaired by Sri Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharjee, four well-known young writers, Deba Bhuson Borah, Sangita Sanya, Jagdish Giri and M. Narayana Sharma, discussed the current scenario of literary milieu in various traditions. Summing up Dr. M. Narayana Sharma pointed out that the strength of our literature is the plurality and diversity of cultures. In the third session devoted to story reading and chaired by Dr Gourhari Das, five noted short story writers, Momita, Shrikant Dubey, Shridhar Banvasi, Jayesh A. Raut and Rabinarayan Dash, read out their stories. In the fourth and concluding session devoted to poetry reading and chaired by Shri Pankaj Rag, nine well-known young poets, Jwishri Boro, Sufia Khatoon, Narayan Jha, R.K. Master Boy, Raju Chhetri, Manoj Chawla, Sanjay Kumar Choubey, Shyam C. Tudu and R. Boobalan, recited their compositions.

(K.Sreenivasarao)