

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

साहित्य अकादेमी
(राष्ट्रीय साहित्य संस्थान)
संस्कृति मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार की स्वायत्तशासी संस्था
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PRESS RELEASE

Meet & Interact with your favourite Children's Writer – Prakash Manu
and
Cartoon Workshop with Madhav Joshi

New Delhi, Monday, 4 December 2023, the fourth day of Sahitya Akademi's Book Fair *Pustakayan* included two programmes - *Meet & Interact With Your Favourite Children's Writer* and a *Cartoon Workshop* followed by a cultural programme. The first programme was with noted children's writer in Hindi, Sri Prakash Manu. He briefly introduced himself to the children and narrated his own childhood days. He said, he was very keen on listening to stories which his mother and grandmother used to tell him. As regards his school days, he said, I was a very brilliant student and used to score good marks, stand first in his class, went on to complete my school education and thereafter took admission to M.Sc. though it never aroused much interest in me to continue with my science education as I had literature – stories and poems in my mind. Then a time came in my life when I had to decide whether to continue with my M.Sc and become an engineer or a doctor or go with, what I had in my heart. As I always thought of stories of kings, nature, sky, birds, demons which my grand mother used to tell me and had deep interest to write my own, I finally decided to become a writer and also do my M.A. Those were the stories, which fascinate me even today. When asked by a school student, as to what inspired him to become a writer, he named and gave full credit to his elder brother who is now no more and who had brought him several children's books among which he admired *Premchand Ki Shreshtha Kahaniyan*, the most along with the autobiographies of great patriot such as Bhagat Singh. He also said that the poems of Nirala, Dinkar and Bal Krishna Sharma 'Naveen' left a deep impression on him.

He urged the children, especially those who aspire to be writers, to inculcate the habit of reading and writing regularly. He also recited some of his poems which he had writtern for children. The second session was a Cartoon Workshop with Sri Madhav Joshi, eminent cartoonist. The children greatly enjoyed both these sessions. At the beginning of the programe, Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi felicitated Sri Prakash Manu with an angvastram. Sri Anupam Tiwari, Editor (Hindi), Sahitya Akademi, welcomed Sri Madhav Joshi and also briefly introduced him in the beginning of the Cartoon Workshop.


(K. Sreenivasarao)