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Condolence Meeting to pay homage to Nirendranath Chakravarti Press Release

Sahitya Akademi organized a condolence meeting to pay tribute to Nirendranath Chakravarti on 12 January 2019 at Akademi's Kolkata office auditorium. Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the distinguished participants and observed a poet is capable of perceiving the truth and in that respect he is one step closer to truth compared to others. Nirendranath's poetry is a poignant amalgamation of tradition and modernism. Sahitya Akademi conferred on him Fellowship, the highest literary honour for his immortal creative works, he mentioned. Dr Subodh Sarkar, an eminent poet and Convener of Bengali Advisory Board of Sahitya Akademi, reminiscenced the feelings of his last day association with Nirendranath Chakravarti. He said that Nirendranath made a paradigm shift in style of Bengali poetry writing in the age of stalwart poets like Bishnu De and Sudhindranath Dutta. He was more acceptable to the readers for his lucid presentation of his thought and feeling. Professor Krishnarup Chakravarti, son of Nirendranath Chakravarti and an eminent scholar, shared interesting anecdotes. He recited the first poem of Nirendranath - "Dheu" from his collection of poems Nil Nirjan. As a man he could easily make friendship with anyone, which also find its expression in his poetry. Sirshendu Mukhopadhyay, an eminent Bengali fiction writer, said that unlike Shakti and Sunil, Nirendranath Chakravarti maintained a regimented life. His poetry simultaneously expressed reality and surreality, he said. Krishna Basu, an eminent poet, said that Nirendranath is out and out a modern poet. He introduced language of common man in poetry, she said. Professor Pabitra Sarkar, former Vice Chancellor of Rabindra Bharati University reminiscened some memorable moments with Nirendranath Chakravarti. Pranab Kumar Mukhopadhyay, addressing Nirendranath Chakravarti "Dada", said he learnt poetry writing from Nirendranath Chakravarti. Simplicity is the main characteristic of his poetry, he said. Sri Hiren Chakravarti, younger brother of Nirendranath Chakravarti, recounted his many memorable moments with him. He is a poet by birth, he said. Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, an eminent Bengali fiction writer, said that his first encounter with Nirendranath Chakravarti was during college days through his poetry. His poetry is a perfect blending of deep feeling and creative pursuit. Dr Angshuman Kar lamented that a poet of Nirendranath Chakravarti's stature should have been more recognized at national level. He was very candid and outspoken and fierce critic of bad poetry. He drew comparison between Subhas Mukhopadhyay and Nirendranath Chakravarti. A minute's silence was observed as a mark of respect to Sri Nirendranath Chakravarti. The meet was condoned by Dr Devendra Kumar Devesh, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi Eastern Region.

(Dr K. S. Rao)











