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PRESS RELEASE

New Delhi, 21 December 2016; Sahitya Akademi has announced today its annual Sahitya Akademi Award 2016 in 24 languages. Eight books of poetry, seven books of short stories, five books of novels, two books of criticism, one book of essays and a book of play have won the Sahitya Akademi Award this year.

Eight poets honoured with the Award for the year 2016 are Jnan Pujari (Assamese), Anju (Bodo), Kamal Vora (Gujarati), Prabha Varma (Malayalam), Sitanath Acharya (Sanskrit), Gobinda Chandra Majhi (Santali), Nand Javeri (Sindhi) and Papineni Sivasankar (Telugu).

Seven writers awarded for their short stories are Chhatrapal (Dogri), Shyam Darihare (Maithili), Moirangthem Rajen (Manipuri), Asaram Lomate (Marathi), Paramita Satpathy (Odia), Bulaki Sharma (Rajasthani) and Vannadhasan (Tamil).

Five award winning novelists are Jerry Pinto (English), Nasira Sharma (Hindi), Boluwaru Mohammad Kunhi (Kannada), Edwin J.F.D'souza (Konkani) and Gita Upadhyay (Nepali).

Aziz Hajini (Kashmiri) and Nizam Siddiqui (Urdu) has been awarded for their books on criticism; Nrisinghaprasad Bhaduri (Bengali) for his essays and Swarajbir (Punjabi) for his play are also honoured with Sahitya Akademi Award 2016.

The books were selected on the basis of recommendations made by a Jury of three members in the concerned languages in accordance with the procedure laid down for the purpose. According to the procedure, the Executive Board declared the Awards on the basis of unanimous selections made by the Jurors or selection made on the basis of majority vote. The Awards relate to books first published during the three years immediately preceding the year of Award (i.e., between 1 January 2010 and 31 December 2014).

The Awards were recommended by distinguished Jury members representing 24 Indian languages and approved by the Executive Board of the Sahitya Akademi which met today under the Chairmanship of Dr. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari, President of the Sahitya Akademi.

The Award in the form of a casket containing an engraved copper-plaque, a shawl and a cheque of Rs. 1,00,000/- will be presented to the authors of these books at a special function to be held on 22 February 2017 at New Delhi during the Festival of Letters organized by Sahitya Akademi.


(K. Sreenivasarao)

Encl: List of Award-winners & Jury members

SAHITYA AKADEMI AWARD 2016

| Language | Title and Genre | Name of the Author |
|------------|--|-------------------------|
| Assamese | Meghmalar Bhraman (Poetry) | Jnan Pujari |
| Bengali | Mahabharater Astadashi (Essays) | Nrisinghaprasad Bhaduri |
| Bodo | Ang Maboroi Dong Dasong (Poetry) | Anju (Anjali Narzary) |
| Dogri | Cheta (Short Stories) | Chhatrapal |
| English | Em and the big Hoom (Novel) | Jerry Pinto |
| Gujarati | Anekek (Poetry) | Kamal Vora |
| Hindi | Paarijat (Novel) | Nasira Sharma |
| Kannada | Swatantryada Ota (Novel) | Boluwaru Mohammad Kunhi |
| Kashmiri | Aane Khane (Criticism) | Aziz Hajini |
| Konkani | Kale Bhangar (Novel) | Edwin J.F.D'souza |
| Maithili | Barki Kaki at Hotmail Dot Com (Short Stories) | Shyam Darihare |
| Malayalam | Shyamamadhavam (Poetry) | Prabha Varma |
| Manipuri | Cheptharaba Eshingpun (Short Stories) | Moirangthem Rajen |
| Marathi | Aalok (Short Stories) | Asaram Lomate |
| Nepali | Janmabhumi Mero Swadesh (Novel) | Gita Upadhyay |
| Odia | Prapti (Short Stories) | Paramita Satpathy |
| Punjabi | Masia Di Raat (Play) | Swarajbir |
| Rajasthani | Murdjat Ar Dujee Kahaniyan (Short Stories) | Bulaki Sharma |
| Sanskrit | Kavyanirjhari (Poetry) | Sitanath Acharya |
| Santali | Nalha (Poetry) | Gobinda Chandra Majhi |
| Sindhi | Akhar Katha (Poetry) | Nand Javeri |
| Tamil | Oru Siru Isai (Short Stories) | Vannadhasan |
| Telugu | Rajanigandha (Poetry) | Papineni Sivasankar |
| Urdu | Mabad-e-Jadidiat Se Naye Ahed Ki Takhliqiyat Tak (Criticism) | Nizam Siddiqui |

JURY MEMBERS FOR THE SAHITYA AKADEMI AWARD 2016

| | |
|---|---|
| ASSAMESE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Dhruva Jyoti Bora • Prof. Malini Goswami • Sri Sameer Tanti | BENGALI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sri Nirendranath Chakraborty • Prof. Chinmoy Guha • Sri Joy Goswami |
| BODO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Anjali Prabha Daimari • Sri Bisweswar Basumatary • Dr. Rita Baro | DOGRI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Champa Sharma • Sri Deshbandhu Dogra 'Nutan' • Sri Ved Rahi |
| ENGLISH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sri Kiran Nagarkar • Prof. Susie J. Tharu • Prof. A.N. Dwivedi | GUJARATI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sri Hasmukh Baradi • Sri Satish Vyas, • Dr. Shirish J. Panchal |
| HINDI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Ramdarsh Mishra • Dr. Ramesh Chandra Shah • Prof. Purushottam Agarwal | KANNADA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. H C Boralingaiah • Sri L. Hanumanthaiah • Sri S.G. Siddaramaiah |
| KASHMIRI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sri Bashir Bhadarwahi • Sri Ghulam Nabi Aatash • Prof. Marghoob Banihali | KONKANI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Meena Kakodkar • Sri Nagesh Karmali • Sri Saratchandra Shenoii |
| MAITHILI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Bhagwanji Choudhary • Dr. Devendra Jha • Dr. Rupnarayan Chaudhary | MALAYALAM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sri Alankode Leelakrishnan • Dr. M. Leelavathy • Prof. V. Sukumaran |
| MANIPURI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Haobam Nalini Devi • Prof. E. Sonamani Singh • Sri Raghu Leishangthem | MARATHI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Gangadhar Pantavane • Dr. Manohar Jagannath Jadhav • Dr. Chandrakant Patil |
| NEPALI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Gokul Sinha • Sri Man Bahadur Pradhan • Sri Sanu Lama | ODIA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Babaji Charan Pattnaik • Smt. Binapani Mohanty • Sri Ramakant Rath |
| PUNJABI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sri Darshan Butter • Sri Gurbachan Singh Bhullar • Sri Prem Parkash | RAJASTHANI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sri Aidan Singh Bhati • Dr. Gordhan Singh Sekhawat • Dr. Shrilal Mohta |
| SANSKRIT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Baldevanand Sagar • Dr. S. Ranganath • Dr. N. Veezhinathan | SANTALI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sri Chhote Ram Majhi • Sri Ram Chandra Hembrom • Sri Salkhu Murmu |
| SINDHI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sri Laxman Dubey • Sri Mohan Himthani • Dr. Ravi Prakash Tekchandani | TAMIL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. D. Selvaraj • Dr. K.S. Subramaniyan • Dr. M. Ramalingam |
| TELUGU <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Kolakaluri Enoch • Sri Munipalle Raju • Prof. S.V. Rama Rao | URDU <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Ateequllah • Sri Krishan Kumar Toor • Sri Fay Seen Ejaz |