

Padma Vibhushan



SHRI RADHEY SHYAM KHEMKA (POSTHUMOUS)

Shri Radhey Shyam Khemka had rendered his exceptional contribution of taking Sanatan literature to the masses by authoring, editing & publishing rare ancient texts into regional languages. He was the editor of 'Kalyan', a spiritual monthly in Hindi, first published in 1925 by the Gita- Press, Gorakhpur. The magazine is a revered text for millions of spiritual seekers all over India and the World.

2. Born on 12th December, 1935 in Barahiya, Bihar, Shri Khemka belonged to a Marwari family of Fatehpur Shekhawati in Rajasthan. He did his Primary education in Munger. He studied law and Masters (M.A) in Sanskrit from the Banaras Hindu University. As he was reared in a cultural Marwari family and in devotional environment, he was deeply impacted by the company of revered saints and Gurus and especially with the most revered saint of all, Sant Shri Karpatri Ji Maharaj.

3. Shri Khemka shifted permanently to Kashi (Varanasi) in 1956 and started a paper business. He later handed over this business to his successors and devoted himself completely into editing, publishing and social Welfare. Despite being an active member, president and chairman of several institutions, he never charged a penny for rendering his services. A farsighted philanthropist, he devoted himself selflessly to the service of society and mankind. Charity was a part of his daily life. He was the president of the Trust board, managing the Gita Press from 2014 and was instrumental in spreading the message of character building, human values and spiritual elevation based on scriptures and ancient Indian texts, many of which were published by the Gita Press under his guidance.

4. Under Shri Khemka's leadership more than 460 monthly editions, 38 yearly editions of 'Kalyan' were published. He actively contributed in the technical development of the legendary Gita press and started the publishing of other books including the knowledge of vedic rituals and sacraments for children. Approximately 9.5 Crore books of Gita press were published under his guidance. He established a Sanskrit Gurukul, 'Ved Vidyalaya' in Varanasi to preserve the vedic prescribed "karma-kanda" which continues to provide society with scholars of ritualistic traditional vedic knowledge. He played a key role in the establishment and management of several socio-literary institutes like Gita Press - Gorakhpur, L.N. Marwari Hospital, Birla Hospital, Mumukshu Bhawan (An Old Age home), Marwari Sewa Sangh, a Charitable Institute. He rendered widespread service in the protection and preservation of Holy cows.

5. Shri Khemka lived a life of monkhood although he did not adopt formal monastic order. His memorials are published in various books and comprehensive details of his association with the leading spiritual leaders in his life spanning over 80 years, are mentioned in several journals and books. He was also awarded the "Sahitya-Ratna" in Sanskrit and was a profound orator of Hindi and Sanskrit literature.

6. Shri Khemka passed away on 3rd March, 2021.



GENERAL BIPIN RAWAT (POSTHUMOUS) PVSM, VYSM, AVSM, YSM, SM, VSM

General Bipin Rawat was the first Chief of Defence Staff of India from 31st December 2020 to 08th December 2021. He was also the Secretary of newly created Department of Military Affairs in the Ministry of Defence.

2. Born on 16th March, 1958, General Rawat was an alumnus of St Edward's School, Shimla and the National Defence Academy. He was commissioned on 16th December 1978 into the Fifth Battalion of the Eleventh Gorkha Rifles of the Indian Army, the Battalion which was commanded by his father. While graduating from the Indian Military Academy, Dehradun, he was awarded the coveted 'Sword of Honour'. He also had two diplomas in Management and in Computer Science. He received the 'Doctorate of Philosophy' (Ph.D) for his research on 'Military Media Strategic Studies' from the Chaudhary Charan Singh University, Meerut.

3. General Rawat held several important instructional and staff appointments. These include instructional tenures at the Indian Military Academy (Dehradun) and at the Junior Command Wing as a Senior Instructor. He was the General Staff Officer at Military Operations Directorate, Colonel & later Deputy Military Secretary in the Military Secretary's Branch, Major General Staff of the Eastern Theatre and was also the Vice Chief of the Army Staff. He was the Chief of the Army Staff for a full tenure of 3 years from 31st December 2016 to 31st December 2019.

4. General Rawat, for the distinguished service rendered and valour displayed over the span of over 43 years of his entire service career, was conferred several Presidential Awards which include the PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, YSM, SM and the VSM. He has also been awarded the Chief of Army Staff Commendation on two occasions as also the Army Commander's Commendation. While serving with the UN in Congo, he was twice awarded the Force Commander's Commendation.

5. As the first Chief of Defence Staff, General Rawat steered the restructuring of India's national security architecture including the setting up of Integrated Theatre Commands. He laid emphasis to usher in greater jointness and synergy amongst the services by instituting measures for Joint Logistics, Joint Training and Planning, ensuring commonality of procedures and doctrines. He was also pivotal in prioritising of defence procurements with emphasis on indigenisation and 'Atmanirbharta' as well as standardisation of inventory. The domestic defence industry has received a major boost through the publishing of the two positive indigenization lists.

6. Due to foresight and vision of General Rawat, capabilities of the Indian Armed Forces in the niche domains of space, cyber and special operations got a fillip. These along with initiatives to modernise our forces and the organisational restructuring of the Indian Army into Integrated Battle Group has provided additional stimulus to our Armed Forces. He has been a visionary force and was pivotal in ushering in transformative reforms towards and inclusive growth of the Armed Forces of India.

7. General Rawat passed away on 8th December, 2021.

Padma Bhushan



SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD

Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad is a political and social worker. He was the member of Peace Committee and National Integration Committee of GGM Science College, Jammu during 1967-69. He became strong follower of Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy of truth and non-violence ever since he attended a fortnight long Gandhi centenary celebration camp as student at Srinagar in 1969. He was honorary Secretary of Gandhi Smarak Nidhi, J&K from 1970-73 as a University Student. He represented Gandhi Smarak Nidhi to visit 1000 Gandhian Model Villages in Sri Lanka in 1973. He was Chairman of Rajghat Samadhi Committee from May 2004 to October, 2005. Presently he is President of Gandhi Global Family, recognized as peace NGO by Department of Public Information of the United Nation.

2. Born on 10th May, 1948 at Village Soti-Bhaderwah, District Doda in J&K, Shri Azad did his Masters degree (M.SC.) in Zoology in first class from Kashmir University. He was an outstanding NCC cadet. He was General Secretary of All India Congress Committee for more than a dozen times. He is a member of Congress Working Committee from 1987 till date. He was member of Lok Sabha twice in 1980 and 1985 from Washim, Maharashtra. He was also member of Rajya Sabha 5 times.

3. Shri Azad was Union Minister of State Parliamentary Affairs from 1985 to 1986 and Union Minister of State Home Affairs, Food and Civil Supplies in 1986-87. In 1987, he resigned from the Ministry and offered his services to work in militancy-ridden Punjab as party General Secretary incharge to bring peace and normalcy in the state. He also served as Union Minister of Parliamentary Affairs from 1991 to 1996 and was Union Minister of Civil Aviation & Tourism from 1993 to 1996. As Union Civil Aviation Minister, he formulated 'Open Sky Policy' thereby allowing private airlines to operate.

4. Shri Azad was Union Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Urban Development from 2004 to 2005 and was instrumental to upgrade and augment the urban infrastructure of all seven sister States and Sikkim by providing and allocating them extra 'Non Lapsable Funds'. He was Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare from 2009 to 2014. It was during his tenure, as Health Minister India became Polio free. He was Chief Minister of J&K from November 2005 to July 2008 and introduced double and triple shift system to ensure rapid execution of public works. He also conceived and conceptualized the first Tulip garden of India in Srinagar and completed it in triple shift within 18 months. He also served as Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha from June 2014 to February 2021.

5. The Hon'ble President of India has conferred Shri Azad with 'Indian Parliamentary Group's Outstanding Parliamentarian Award-2015 on 1st August, 2018. He was conferred with the 'Lokmat Best Parliamentarian Award-2018 by the Hon'ble Vice President of India on 13th December, 2018.

Padma Bhushan



SMT. GURMEET BAWA (POSTHUMOUS)

Smt. Gurmeet Bawa was a renowned Punjabi folk singer. She was widely known for her prominent role in the promotion and recognition of the culture of Punjabi Region of India throughout the world. Her singing skills got famous because of her style of singing a long breathless alaap (aka Lambi Hek in Punjabi) which exceeded the duration of 45 seconds in every song she sang.

2. Born on 18th February, 1944, Smt. Bawa received her diploma in JBT from Patti (a village in Punjab) after which she became a teacher of an elementary school. Afterwards, she got married to Shri Gurkirpal Singh Bedi in 1968. This is when she began her singing career commercially. She took Punjabi folk singing professionally.

3. Smt. Bawa commenced singing for the national Radio and Television right from early years of her singing career. Later, she was upgraded as an A-High Artist of All India Radio. She was known for performing with Punjabi folk instruments on every stage. She was the first woman to sing for the inaugural ceremony of Doordarshan Jalandhar.

4. Smt. Bawa performed at various local, national and international stages. She performed at Wagah Border on the occasion of opening ceremony of the first Indo-Pak bus. She represented India in the Festival India, USSR, in 1988, under the directorship of ICCR. There, in Georgia, she made a world-record for singing a breathless alaap (Lambi Hek) that went on for 45 seconds. This record has been notified in Guinness Book of World records and the record is unbroken till date. She represented India in the Festival of India, Japan, 1989 again in the directorship of ICCR. Through ICCR, she represented India and Punjabi folk culture in various countries including Syria, Libya, Thailand, Malaysia, France, Pakistan, Canada, Russia, New Zealand, Australia, etc.

5. Smt. Bawa gave her voice in various playbacks for Punjabi movies, namely, Sarpanch, Balbeero Babhi, Lajjo, Suhaag Diyan Chudiyon, Jora Jatt. She recorded various songs with numerous organizations and companies such as, Sangeet Natak Akademi, Punjab Arts Council, North Zone Cultural centre, Spic Macay, ICCR, Song and Drama Division, Punjab Kala Kendra, etc. She represented Punjabi Folk throughout the world for 53 long years. She kept performing till her last breath.

6. Smt. Bawa was felicitated with numerous awards, notably, the State award of Punjab, 1991; Devi Ahilya Award by the Govt. of Madhya Pradesh; Singer of the millennium by American Biographical Institute; Lifetime achievement award, ETC; Zee Anhad award; Kalpana Chawala award; Sangeet Natak Akademi award; Khalsa Trae Shatabdi award, Anandpur Sahib; 550th Guru Nanak Jayanti award, Shan-e-punjab award; Punjai filmfare award etc.

7. Smt. Bawa passed away on 21st November, 2021.

Padma Bhushan



SHRI N. CHANDRASEKARAN

Shri N. Chandrasekaran is the Chairman of the Board at Tata Sons Private Limited, the holding company and promoter of all Tata Group companies. The Tata Group companies, across 10 business verticals have a presence in more than 100 countries across the world. He is also the Chairman of the Board of several Tata Group companies, including Tata Steel, Tata Motors, Tata Power, Jaguar Land Rover, Tata Chemicals, Indian Hotels and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)- of which he was Chief Executive from 2009-17.

2. Born on 2nd June, 1963, Shri Chandrasekaran completed the Masters degree in Computer Applications from the Regional Engineering College, Trichy, Tamil Nadu in 1986. He is also the author of 'Bridgital Nation', a groundbreaking book on harnessing technological disruptions to bring Indians closer to their dreams.

3. Shri Chandrasekaran's appointment as the Chairman of Tata Sons, followed a stellar 30-year business career at TCS, which he joined from university. At TCS, he rose through the ranks to become CEO and Managing Director of the leading global IT solution and consulting firm. Under his leadership, TCS pioneered the creation of its unique Global Network Delivery Model (GNDMTM) across five continents. TCS also ventured into new markets including Europe, China and Latin America along with adding new business lines like BPO, infrastructure and assurance services. During his tenure, TCS consolidated its position as the largest private sector employer in India and the country's most valuable company.

4. Shri Chandrasekaran in addition to his professional career at the Tata Group, is also a Director on the Board of India's central bank, the Reserve Bank of India, since 2016. He is on the International Advisory Council of Singapore's Economic Development Board. He is the Chairman of Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow as well as the President of the Court at Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru. He is the member of Bocconi's International Advisory Council and the Co-Chair of the India-US CEO Forum. He is also on the Board of Governors of the New York Academy of Sciences. Recently, in recognition of his distinguished contributions to engineering, "for changing the nature and advancing the capabilities of the software industry in India," he has been formally elected as an International Member of the United States National Academy of Engineering (NAE).

5. Shri Chandrasekaran has been awarded several honorary doctorates by leading Universities in India and internationally. These include the honorary Doctor of Letters from Macquarie University, Australia, the honorary Doctor of Science from the Aligarh Muslim University, the honorary Doctorate by the Nyenrode Business University, Netherlands and the Doctor of Letters from the Regional Engineering College, Trichy.

6. Shri Chandrasekaran has received several awards and recognitions in India and across the world. He was awarded the "Global Leadership Award" by the US India Strategic Partnership Forum in 2021; the "Business Leader of the year award" at the ET Awards for Corporate Excellence 2016, and Business Today's Best CEO (IT & ITEs) in 2015. He has also received the Medal of the City of Amsterdam "Frans Banninck Coqc" in recognition of his endeavor to promote trade and economic relations between Amsterdam and India.

Padma Bhushan



SHRI DEVENDRA JHAJHARIA

Shri Devendra Jhajharia is an Indian Para-Javelin thrower and the first Indian Para-athlete to win two gold medals at Paralympics.

2. Born on 10th June, 1991 in Jaipuria Khalsa (Churu district) of Rajasthan, Shri Devendra lost his left hand at the age of 8 years due to an unfortunate accident. This incident shattered him mentally and physically but, he decided to change the future course of his life. He took up sport as a challenge and decided to make the mark in Javelin.

3. Shri Devendra participated in the national championship at Bangalore in 2001 and won the first gold medal in javelin. In 2002, he won the first international gold medal in Fespac games held in South Korea. He has won two Gold Medals in Paralympics and a Silver Medal in Tokyo 2020, making him the first ever para-athlete to bring two Gold and a silver for the country.

4. Shri Devendra won Javelin Throw Gold Medal, Triple Jump Gold Medal and Shot Put Gold Medal in the British Open Athletics Championship, 2003. His major achievements include Athens Paralympic Game 2004 Javelin Throw Gold Medal; 9th Fespac Games Kualalumpur 2006, Javelin Throw (Gold); IWAS World Games Taipei Taiwan, 2007 Javelin Throw (Silver); IWAS World Games Bangalore 2009 Javelin Throw (Gold) and Discuss Throw Silver Medal; IPC Athletics World Championship Lyon France 2013 Javelin Throw (Gold); Para Asian Games Incheon Korea, 2014 Javelin Throw (Silver); IPC Athletics World Championship DOHA, 2015 Javelin Throw (Silver) and Paralympic Rio de Janeiro 2016 Javelin Throw (Gold).

5. Shri Devendra has been honoured with several National Awards like Special Commendation Award By the Hon'ble President of India, Arjuna Award; PCI Outstanding Sports Person Award 2005; Para Sports Person of the year award 2014 by FICCI; G Q Magazine Best Player of the year award 2016; Major Dhyana Chand Khel Ratna Award; Maharana Pratap State Sports Award 2004 and Arawali Award from Maharana Mewar Foundation 2009.

Padma Bhushan



SHRI RASHID KHAN

Shri Rashid Khan is an Indian classical musician in the Hindustani music tradition belonging to the Rampur-Sahaswan gharana. He is the great-grandson of Gharana founder Inayat Hussain Khan, belonging to the lineage of Mian Tansen. He is also the nephew of Ustad Ghulam Mustafa Khan.

2. Born on 1st July 1966 in Sahaswan, Badayun, Uttar Pradesh, Shri Rashid Khan received his initial training from his maternal grand-uncle, Ustad Nissar Hussain Khan (1909-1993). As a child he had little interest in music. He received his main training from Nissar Hussain Khan. He gave his first concert at age eleven in Delhi. In April 1980, when Nissar Hussain Khan moved to the ITC Sangeet Research Calcutta, he too joined him. By 1989, he was acknowledged as a musician all over the world.

3. Shri Rashid Khan developed exceptional expertise in use of sargams and sargam taankari (play on the scale). He is also a master of the tarana. His renderings stand out for the emotional overtones in his melody elaboration. He also experimented with fusing pure Hindustani music with lighter musical genres e.g. performed jugalbandis, with a number of musicians of different genres. He has contributed his voice in Indian Cinema as well.

4. Shri Rashid Khan established the first most high-tech music academy, Ustad Rashid Kahn's Academy in Kolkata in 2000 and another in Agartala, Tripura in 2010. In 2020, he launched TFN 2020, whereby the academy is now connected globally on a Phygi platform. Also he is the first to introduce Music Yoga and Vedic chanting in the academies regular curriculum. He has mastered in Tarana, prefers Khayal style, knows all parts of tonal variations, dynamics and tymbre adjustment. Legendary artist Pandit Bhimsen Joshi once remarked that Rashid Khan was the "assurance for the future of Indian vocal music".

5. Shri Rashid Khan's Non-film discography includes A Maestro in the Making (2000); The Genius of Rashid Khan (2000); The Song of Shiva (2000); In London (2000); Classical Vocal: Ustad Rashid Khan More Ghar Aao (Live) (1998); Selection - Kaushi Kanada - Charukeshi - Barwan (1996); Khyal (1996); Shyam Kalyan (1996); A Tribute to a Living Legend (1995) and many more.

6. Shri Rashid Khan has been honored with several awards like Sangeet Natak Academy Award, Global Indian Music Academy Awards (GIMA) (2010), Maha Sangeet Samman Award (2012) and Mirchi Music Awards (2013).

Padma Bhushan



SHRI RAJIV MEHRISHI

Shri Rajiv Mehrishi was the 13th Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

2. Born on 8th August, 1955, Shri Mehrishi obtained his B.A. and M.A. degrees from St. Stephen's College, University of Delhi, where he also taught for a short while. Later, he read at the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, obtaining his M.B.A. degree. He joined the IAS in 1978 and was allotted his home cadre, Rajasthan. In Rajasthan, he held various important posts, including that of Principal Secretary Finance and, later, of Chief Secretary, Rajasthan.

3. Shri Mehrishi was on Central deputation four times. At the Centre he was both the Union Finance Secretary and the Union Home Secretary. He was elected as the President of the UN Board of Auditors and the Vice Chairperson of UN Panel of Auditors.

4. Shri Mehrishi is known for seeking and contributing to fundamental changes in systems of governance. To cite a few examples: almost single-handedly he wrote the rules for the then new Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act 1985, which became the model for all other states; in 1994-95 he re-wrote the transport taxation laws in Rajasthan, which fundamentally changed the basis of motor vehicle taxation, and which also became the basis for similar rules in other States; in 2003, he dictated the first draft of the new Companies Act, which ultimately became law in 2013; and in 2015, he was instrumental in drafting India's first Bankruptcy Code, which became law in 2016; and in setting up the Monetary Policy Committee of the Reserve Bank of India, which too was enshrined in the law in 2016.

5. Shri Mehrishi is a polymath, with wide and varying interests. He reads widely, with a special interest in books on science and mathematics, and writes OP-eds for newspapers on various issues of public policy. He is a keen sportsperson, his current interests being long distance cycling, golf and cross-country motor trips. He plays professional level bridge. He has written books for civil service aspirants. He is also an amateur chef, specialising in pickles, which are branded and marketed.

Padma Bhushan



DR. CYRUS SOLI POONAWALLA

Dr. Cyrus Soli Poonawalla, a visionary, India's vaccine Pioneer, is the Chairman of Poonawalla Group which includes the privately-owned Serum Institute of India, India's top biotech company and the world's largest vaccine manufacturer by number of doses produced and sold globally.

2. Born on 11th May, 1941, Dr. Poonawalla graduated from Brihan Maharashtra College of Commerce (BMCC) in 1963. In 1966, he embarked on his journey with a humble beginning to establish Serum Institute of India, with a vision to make affordable vaccines which were unavailable in India at that time. He was conferred a Ph.D. from the University of Pune in 1988 for his thesis entitled "Improved Technology in the Manufacture of Specific Anti-Toxins and Its Socio-Economic Impact on the Society." He was also conferred "Doctor of Literature" at the hands of His Excellency Governor of Maharashtra.

3. Today, Serum Institute is the world's largest producer of vaccines by number of doses, producing more than 1.5 billion doses a year of life-saving vaccines, being used in over 170 countries to combat infection from Tetanus, Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Tuberculosis, Influenza, Meningitis, Polio, Rotavirus, Rabies, Pneumonia among others, thereby protecting more than 2/3rd of the infant population globally. With the latest landmark launch of a vaccine against Covid-19, the figure will exceed 2 billion doses shortly. Today, he is accredited with saving more than 30 million human lives across the globe.

4. For these efforts, Dr. Poonawalla has received numerous accolades and prestigious awards, including: Honorary Degree of "Doctor of Science (Honoris Causa) by the University of Oxford; Honorary Degree of "Doctor of Humane Letters" by the University of Massachusetts; First-ever "Vaccine Hero" Award for commitment to Global Public Health presented by Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization; "Lifetime Achievement Award"; "Sabin Humanitarian Award 2005" and the "Sabin Corporate Philanthropy Award". He is the first Indian to receive the "Excellence in Inter-American Public Health Award" presented by The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and Pan American Health and Education Foundation (PAHEF) for his extraordinary contribution to eliminate Rubella and Congenital Rubella Syndrome in South America, He was also honoured with "Padma Shri" in 2005; "Best Vaccine Executive of the Year" presented during the World Vaccine Congress Asia event in 2011 in Singapore; "Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award 2012" under the category of Business Transformation; "Rajat Kamal National Award" for the best Education/Motivational/Instructional film entitled "The Triumph" in the field of leprosy; "Gold Award" from the British Medical Association for the film "Snakebite" in 1987 at the hands of Sir Richard Attenborough. He is considered as an icon in the thoroughbred horseracing and breeding world. The International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA - the world Apex Body) bestowed on him the "Lifetime Achievement Award" on 5th October 2009 in Paris for his outstanding contribution in the field of horseracing and breeding.

Padma Bhushan



SHRI SACHCHIDANAND SWAMI

Swami Sachchidanand is a social reformer, philosopher, welfare activist and writer from Gujarat.

2. Born on 22nd April, 1932 in Moti Chandur, Gujarat, Swami Sachchidanand studied in Kashi for 11 years. He took 'Brahmcharya diksha' in the Kumbh Mela of Prayagraj and 'Sanyasadiksha' at Swami Shri Muktanandji in Ferozpur city of Punjab. He received Degree of 'Vedantacharya' (with the main subject of Shankar Vedanta). He came First in the University and won Gold Medal.

3. Swami Sachchidanand has traveled around the world. He established Shri 'Bhakti Niketan Ashram' in Dantali (Petlad) and 'Maharshi Kanad Gurukul' secondary school and hostel in Suigam. He gave lectures on 'Brahmasutra' and 'Indian Philosophy' in Valam (Ta. Visnagar) which were published as his first book. He brought awareness in the society through more than 5000 lectures. He wrote more than 142 books and these books have been translated into Hindi, English and Marathi.

4. Swami Sachchidanand has been doing a number of humanitarian activities in Bhakti Niketan Ashram. The Ashram has three old age homes, relief clinics, Sadavrat, Chhas Kendra, scholarships, widow assistance, medical aid, donation of clothes, donation of warm blankets, cash assistance to poor families, distribution of books to students. He works with an aim to uplift the human values and the whole society at large. He has done numerous welfare activities like many lakes in Gujarat were deepened to alleviate the water crisis; financial assistance to several villages for construction of check dams; creation of classrooms in many schools; organizing multiple blood donation camps; cooperation in completing 'Sardar Sarovar Dam'. During Covid times, an oxygen plant was donated to the civil hospital at Petlad, Gujarat. Petlad 'SMASHAN' provides wood for everyone for only Rs.1/- for funeral without any caste discrimination.

5. Swami Sachchidanand has been honoured with several awards like Arvind Gold Medal for the books 'Sansar Ramayana' and 'Shri Krishnalila Rahasya' by Gujarati Sahitya Parishad; Suvarna Chandrak Narmad Kakasaheb Kalelkar Award for the book 'Mara anubhavo'; 'Vedanta Samiksha' award by Gujarati Sahitya; Dadhichi Award by 'Helping Hand' (Ahmedabad); Anart Award; Shri Gondhia Award by Diwalibahen Mehta Trust (Mumbai) for religious philanthropy.



SHRI PRAHALAD RAI AGARWALA

Shri Prahalad Rai Agarwala is the Chairman of the Board and founding member of RUPA and Company Limited and its group companies.

2. Born on 11th May, 1938 at Sikar, Rajasthan, Shri Agarwala being an obedient child to his parents and a meritorious student, understood the importance of education and completed LLB successfully fighting all odds. Hailing from a very simple background, he had to participate in business while studying.

3. Post-Independence, when the country was trying to fulfill its basic needs of 'Roti, Kapda and Makan', Shri Agarwal envisioned manufacturing quality garments at an affordable price for every Indian, and thus RUPA was born in 1968. He tirelessly worked alongwith his brothers to grow RUPA from a small establishment to a National Player. In the process, he reformed hosiery industry as an organized sector in Bengal and beyond. With an expertise of over 50 years, RUPA successfully generated employment for more than 2000+ direct and 20000+ indirect beneficiaries all across India.

4. RUPA currently has footprints in more than 25 countries across the globe. RUPA, a purely 'Make in India' brand got listed in BSE & NSE in 2011. It formed alliances with Fruit of the Loom, a Berkshire Hathaway Company and French Connection, UK — a Stephen Marks Company. Along the journey, Shri Agarwala also envisioned and set up a state-of-the art textile manufacturing unit in Surat, Gujarat in 1991 and a steel manufacturing plant in Durgapur, West Bengal in 2003.

5. Philanthropy has always been close to Shri Agarwala's heart. From the very beginning of his career, he has earmarked a part of the gains for social causes. Being an education enthusiast, Shri Agarwala set up Sobhasaria Engineering College Sikar, Rajasthan, in October 1999 imparting education to 1200 students annually - the only Institution in the region to receive the prestigious Asia Education Award in the year 2017 & UNESCO Chetna award for their charitable mindset and their dedication towards the society. Under his guidance, Rupa Technical Institute was established at Kolkata in 2016 for vocational training under the Skill India Mission to generate profitable livelihoods for needy individuals. RUPA foundation, partnered with Mahavir Seva Sadanand set up a facility to provide prosthetics (artificial limbs) to the specially-abled people in 2020-'21. He introduced the RUPA scholarship in association with St. Xavier's University, Kolkata, to nurture young talent in 2021.

6. Shri Agarwala held the position of President of Bharat Chamber of Commerce from 2007 to 2008. He has been conferred with Lifetime Achievement award by FOHMA in 2016. From 2014 to 2019, he served as Honorary Consul of Republic of Colombia in Kolkata and he was appointed by the President of India for promoting bilateral ties. During 2016-2017, he was the Member of the Advisory Council of Sankara Nethralaya. He is currently serving as Member of the Governing Council of Apparel, Made-ups & Home Furnishing Sector Skill Council (AMHSSC), under Ministry of Textiles, Government of India. He is also the Chairman of the Governing Body of Sobhasaria Engineering College, Sikar, Rajasthan, India and founding Trustee of the Heritage School and Chairman of the Board of Governors at Heritage Institute of Technology, one of the premier education institutions in Eastern India.

Padma Shri



PROF. NAJMA AKHTAR

Prof. Najma Akhtar acclaimed as a leading Educational Administrator and Institution Builder, is the first woman Vice Chancellor of Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) in over hundred years of its existence. Famed for bringing transformation in delivery of Quality Education and Experiential Learning in sync with the evolving pedagogy, technology and innovation, Prof. has initiated measures for the realization of the objectives of National Education Policy (NEP)-2020 to bring about far-reaching reforms in both School and Higher Education system.

2. Born on 13th November, 1953, Prof. Akhtar is a Gold Medallist in M.Sc. (Botany) and M. A. (Education). She holds an M.Phil. (Botany) and Ph. D (Education). She earned international accolades, including Commonwealth fellowship for administrative training and studied in prestigious international institutes such as University of Warwick and Nottingham UK and IIEP UNESCO, Paris.

3. Known for her academic vision and commitment to planning and development Prof. Akhtar has launched pioneering projects in JMI tempered with constancy, determination and democratic ideals. She continues to consolidate and upgrade the infrastructural landscape of JMI by giving it a modern contemporary look. She strives to bring Gender Equity and Women Empowerment by encouraging young girls and women to break the glass ceiling. Today, many statutory positions in JMI are held by women.

4. With over four decades of academic scholarship and educational leadership, Prof. Akhtar proved her credentials by spearheading International Educational Administrators' course in her earlier appointments in AMU and NIEPA. The first Woman Controller of Examination and Director of Academic Programmes at AMU, she headed and conducted various national and international research projects and also served as a Team Leader of UNESCO research projects. She has published extensively and participated in numerous national and international conferences.

5. With her broad educational and social perspectives, Prof. Akhtar engages all stakeholders meaningfully, enabling them to help JMI make impressive strides and attain national objectives of education. She is a member of committees such as Expert Group on NEP, HLEC on NCC, MoD, National Steering Committee, MoE, Senate IIT Delhi, General Assembly ICCR, National Academic Advisory Committee Indian Social Science Academy, University Council Cluster University, Sri Nagar, Member Governing Council and AIU. She has promoted internationalization of education by forging and strengthening academic collaborations with the universities in USA, Europe, Asia, South America and Australia. A recipient of scholarships, fellowships, Commonwealth Administrative Fellowship, National Awards, she chooses to lead by example, unwavering conviction and profound interest in the welfare of JMI, community and nation.

Padma Shri



DR. SUBBANNA AYYAPPAN

Dr. Subbanna Ayyappan, stands out as a Scientist and a Science Leader, with meaningful contributions towards making agriculture, science-based and technology-led, and enhancing food production levels significantly along with farmers' income through diversification, particularly aquaculture. He is widely recognized for spreading farm literacy among the public, establishing partnerships between farmers and researchers through an integrated approach, with lifetime efforts to 'science for society' in agricultural research and development.

2. Born on 10th December, 1955, Dr. Ayyappan studied at the College of Fisheries, Mangalore for his Bachelor (1975) and Master (1977) degrees in Fisheries Science from the University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore and obtained Ph.D. degree from Bangalore University in 1988.

3. Dr. Ayyappan made exemplary research contributions in the areas of aquaculture and aquatic microbiology pertaining to biofertilization, remediation and integrated farming, contributing to enhance and sustainable freshwater aquaculture production. Further, he played a significant role in the country's fisheries innovation, development and policy in various capacities, enabling the present fish production in the country. He is presently the Chancellor, Central Agricultural University, Imphal; and Chairman, Karnataka Science and Technology Academy, Bengaluru, with a scientific career spanning over four decades.

4. Dr. Ayyappan researched in a comprehensive manner on his original thought process and planning with the paradigm of 'agriculture-food-nutrition-health-environment-employment'. Both the farming and student communities in the country have greatly benefitted with the synergy accomplished for problem-solving recipes required for Indian farmers, integrated crop-livestock and terrestrial-aquatic food production systems. As an Agricultural Research Manager for over two decades, his innovative interventions and team approach showed transformational changes in the National Agricultural Research and Education System, with a strong focus on the farmers. He served on a number of national and international Committees and Boards of FAO/NACA, The World Bank/CGIAR Centres, relating to Agricultural Research & Development, with ongoing contributions in Science & Technology.

5. Dr. Ayyappan is the recipient of several awards and honours. He has been conferred honorary Doctorate degrees by well known Indian Universities and Fellowship of Science Academies and Societies. He is also recipient of the Karnataka Rajyotsava Award, 2013; ICAR Award for Team Research, 1997-98; Dr. B.P. Pal Memorial Award, Indian Science Congress Association, 2012 & National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, 2012; Shri G.M. Modi Award for Innovative Science & Technology, 2014; Shri Om Prakash Bhasin Award in Agriculture and Allied Sciences, 2015; Sir M. Visveswaraya Memorial Award, Karnataka State Council for Science & Technology, 2017.

Padma Shri



SHRI SIRPI BALASUBRAMANIAM

Shri Sirpi Balasubramaniam widely known by his pen name Sirpi is the Director of Dr. Arutchelvar Mahalingam Translation Institute(AMTI), Pollachi, Tamil Nadu. He is a major Tamil poet with notable contribution to Tamil literature for the past sixty years. He started writing poetry since 1958, and to his credit, he has 24 volumes of Poetry, 18 volumes of critical and research Essays, 9 Volumes of biographies, and 22 volumes of translations. He has edited 55 volumes of works on various subjects. He is one of the founding fathers of Vanambadi movement, creating a new wave of social change in Tamil Poetry.

2. Born on 29th July, 1936 in a remote village of Tamil Nadu, Shri Balasubramaniam holds B.A.(Hons) Degree in Tamil Language and literature with a university Rank in 1956. Joining NGM college, Pollachi in the year 1958 as a lecturer he distinguished himself as a teacher par excellence and taught for 31 years. He was awarded the Ph.D. Degree in Comparative literature by the University of Madras in the year 1987. Poetry became his identification card and it brought him to the National scene.

3. Shri Balasubramaniam was selected to the General Council of Sahitya Akademi in the year 1993-1998. Again in the year 2008, he became the EC member and convener of the Tamil Advisory Board of Sahitya Akademi (2008-2012). For the third time, Sahitya Akademi nominated him to the General council in the category of Eminent Writers of India and he continues to be the member. Hundreds of books (MIL Series, Translations, Papers) in Tamil and from Tamil were published during his tenure in Sahitya Akademi.

4. Shri Balasubramaniam is the recipient of numerous awards and honours, including Tamil Nadu Government Award for his poetical work 'Mouna Mayakkangal in the year 1982; Paavendhar Award by Tamil Nadu Govt. (1991); Kabilar Award - Kaningar Ko Title by Kundrakudi Adheenam (1992), Ilakkiya Chintanai Award to the epic 'Ramanjuar Kaviyam' (2017) and Tamil Vagai Semmal Award by Madurai Kamarajar University (2019) etc.

Padma Shri



SRIVIDYA BABA BALIA

Srividya Baba Balia is the founder of both Sishu Ananta Ashram and Ananta Balia Trust, Arilo, Tirtol, District Jagatsinghpur, Odisha which is a socio-spiritual organization established since last 50 years. He is working as the Chairperson of both the organizations. The Ananta Balia Trust is mainly working under his holy guidance for so many philanthropic works in the State as well as in the Country.

2. Born on 8th April, 1954, Srividya Balia completed his High School and at the age of 17, he left his home and family and became a great saint who through the marvels of his spiritual power, divinity, abstract devotion, universal love, sympathy and compassion has conquered the heart of thousands not only in the State of Odisha but also in the remote corners of the Country.

3. Srividya Balia's organization rendering social services for the last 50 years in the field of social reforms viz. women empowerment through spreading awareness in society about the superstitious against women for example witch-crafts, widowhood etc., participatory democracy, environment protection and blood donation. He is a staunch nationalist and reformist known for promoting value-based family life. He has established a Sanskrit School & College in 1983 and providing free education to approximately 5000 poor students till date of all castes.

4. Srividya Balia has been awarded as Prakruti Bandhu in 1993 and Prakruti Mitra in 2017 by Government of Odisha. Besides, he is the recipient of numerous award honour like Parthana Samman in 2015; Sishu Ananta Samman for the social work in 2003; Sanskruti Sarathi award for the cultural aspect in 2007; Sanskruta Rakshak award for his cultural aspect in 2007; Kaling Prativa Ratna award for social service in 2013; Dharma Chakra Samman for communal harmony in 2014; Jagatsinghpur Gourav Samman for social service in 2005; Santha Pradipa award for social service in 2016; Odia Loka Katha Samman for his great contribution to Odia literature in 2012; Yasobanta Prativa Samman for upliftment of Odian literature in 2009; Gandhi Gourav Samman for his social service in 2019 and Vishwa Premi Samman for his dedicated cultural work etc.

Padma Shri



DR. MADHURI BARTHWAL

Dr. Madhuri Barthwal is a retired Music Composer and Music Director of All India Radio, Najibabad. She is widely recognized for the preservation and promotion of folk music and the culture of Uttarakhand.

2. Born on 10th June, 1950, Dr. Barthwal received her Bachelor's degree in Arts with music as one of the subjects, from Agra University. She did her master's degree in Hindi from Rohilkhand University. She has also received a degree in music from Prayag Sangeet Samiti, Allahabad and did her Ph.D. from Hemwati Nandan Bahuguna University.
3. Dr. Barthwal is an accomplished author, having published two books, based on the folk music and tales of Uttarakhand. Her first book (also her Ph.D. subject) is "Garhwali Lok Geeton Mein Raag Raaginiyaan" while the other is "Garhwal Ki Lok Gaathayein Aur Muhavre." She took the opportunity of being homebound during the pandemic by furthering her research on the folk music of Uttarakhand and has prepared another five books for publication. The books are centered around hundreds of folk songs and folktales and also include the musical notations of folk songs.
4. Dr. Barthwal has been noted as the first female Garhwali Music teacher in the Government Girls Inter College, Lansdowne from 1969-1979. This was the time when music and dance were not considered ideal for girls. By becoming the first Garhwali female music teacher, she became a source of inspiration for many women in Uttarakhand who wanted to pursue a career in the field of music, as she led by example.
5. In 1979, Dr. Barthwal was selected for the very vaunted, single post of Music Composer at Akashwani Najibabad, for which both men and women applied at All India Level. She thus became India's first-ever female Music Composer at Akashwani, All India Radio. She conscientiously served at All India Radio for 31 years, from 1979 to 2010. She had also directed, produced and written many serials, skits & features, one of which was "Dharohar" which preserved folk and heritage of Uttarakhand and Rohilkhand. Since then, she had become a mentor and guide to thousands of upcoming artists.
6. Post her retirement, Dr. Barthwal provides training to both children and adults on the folk music of Uttarakhand, free of cost. She empowers housewives by training them in the art of Garhwali folk songs and dances and once again, to refute the orthodox, she trains women in playing the folk instrument, Dhol-Damau. The Dhol-Damau was hitherto considered a male dominion, performed only by males. With women performing it onstage, in state and national arenas, she once again nudges society into positive and forward-thinking. She also guides anyone researching the folk music of Uttarakhand, gratis.
7. Dr. Barthwal has been the recipient of numerous awards and honours. For her contribution to preserve the culture of Uttarakhand, she has been conferred with the prestigious state-level awards "Uttarakhand Ratna" in the year 2014; "Uttarakhand Bhushan" in the year 2018; and "Mohan Upreti Loksanskriti Kala Samman" in the year 2020. The Government of India conferred her the "Naari Shakti Award" in the year 2018.

Padma Shri



DR. HIMMATRAO SALUBA BAWASKAR

Dr. Himmatrao Saluba Bawaskar is a physician-scientist and founder of the Bawaskar Hospital and Research Centre in Mahad, Maharashtra. He is a globally recognized figure for pioneering research on the management of scorpion sting and snake bite envenomation. The world's leading scientific journals have greatly acknowledged his contributions in saving millions of lives. His landmark research not only brings glory to India on the global scientific platform but also serves as an inspiration for generations of physician-scientists.

2. Born on 3rd March, 1951, Dr. Bawaskar received his MBBS degree from Government Medical College, Nagpur in 1975 followed by a M.D. (Medicine) degree from B.J. Medical College, Pune in 1981. To continue the research in scorpion sting, he himself requested transfer to Rural Hospital Poladpur in Raigad district. In 1981 his wife doctor Pramodini joined his venture and started studying the clinical signs and symptoms of scorpion envenoming. In 1983 the doctor couple tried sodium nitroprusside and then prazosin, an alpha blocker to reverse the refractory pulmonary edema due to scorpion sting. This resulted in 40% reduction in case fatality rate which was published in *The Lancet* in 1983. He conducted research with no external funding which also includes a randomised control trial for use of prazosin and anti-scorpion venom which was published in *British Medical Journal*. He was invited to write a review article on scorpion envenomation in *New England Journal of Medicine*.

3. Dr. Bawaskar comes from a very humble background. His practices of managing snakebite victims in resource-poor settings are highly acclaimed. He has made it his life mission to guide young doctors and scientists to train them in good clinical practices and scientifically and ethically accurate research. He has trained several doctors in periphery all over India which has potentially saved millions of lives. He has travelled through many countries and across India delivering lectures, training, workshops, and seminars. He has published more than 108 original research articles and is a highly cited author in *The Lancet*, *New England Journal of Medicine* and the *British Medical Journal*. He also serves as a peer reviewer for top scientific journals. He has contributed extensively in drafting the National Policy for Snakebite Management and Policy to curb Corruption in Medical Practices in India. His autobiography 'Tarristerach Kart' is one of the most popular and sought-after books in Marathi literature.

4. Dr. Bawaskar's crusade for uplifting human life from misery and suffering has earned him numerous states, national and international awards. Ciba Foundation, London, and Government of Morocco have felicitated him for his work. He received the Excellence Award from Lions Club International in 2015. Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Maharashtra Association of Physicians, Indian Medical Association, Clinical Research Society, and Ekam Foundation have conferred him with Lifetime Achievement Awards, Dr. Mehta and Patel Award; Parker Medical Foundation Award; Marathwada Bhushan Award; and Buldana Jilha Gaurav Puraskar recognize his exemplary service. His autobiography has received accolades from the Marathi Vidnyan Parishad and Utkrusht Sahitya Award by Aapte Vachnalay. He served as a member of Research Advisory Committee of Model Rural Health Research Unit Dahanu, Maharashtra and provided training to Medical Officers in Maharashtra. His contributions, without any government or external funding, to saving millions of lives speak volumes about his highest level of dedication, wholeheartedness, and diligence.

Padma Shri



PANDIT (DR.) S. BALLESH BHAJANTRI

Pandit Dr. S. Ballesh Bhajantri is a Shehnai artist and Hindustani vocalist. A disciple of world renowned Shehnai Maestro and Bharat Ratna Awardee Ustad Bismillah Khan, he carries forward his legacy of Benares Gharanastyle today. He is also "A" Grade Artist of All India Radio and Doordharshan.

2. Born on 1st April, 1958, Pt. Ballesh hails from a family of renowned Shehnai players M.K. Hubli (Kittur Taluka, Belgaum District). He was accepted by Shehnai virtuoso Bharat Ratna Awardee Ustad Bismillah Khan Saheb as his disciple, and is one of the five and only surviving direct disciple of the Maestro. He has accompanied Ustad Bismillah Khan Saheb on several occasions. Ustad ji had bestowed the title of "Dakshina Bharat Bismillah Khan" on Pt. Ballesh.

3. Pt. Ballesh is the most respected Shehnai artist in India with an illustrious career of 55 years, playing in concerts from the age of 11 years. He has also performed in many Jugalbandi concerts with Hindustani & Carnatic senior musicians. He has extensively travelled in India and abroad notably Sangeet Sangam International Music Festival organized by Kendra Sangeet Nataka Akademi New Delhi, Sabarang Utsav Benaras by India Tourism Varanasi, Festival of India in the USA, Canada, Singapore, Malaysia and Australia, Saptak Music Festival Ahmedabad, Shehnai Mahotsav in Bhopal Bharat Bhavan, Sawai Gandharva Bhimsen Mahotsav (Pune), Shree Baba Harivallabh Sangeet Sammelan (Jalandhar).

4. Pt. Ballesh has been directly engaged in creating a vibrant platform for Hindustani Music in the heartland of Tamil Nadu and carved a special versatile place for Shehnai with his mastery of the instrument and it has found popularity in both classical and popular music. He has played for many recordings for Leading Music Composers Of India, across 16 languages from 1978 to 2021, He has sung and played shehnai for more than 9,000 movies background-scores and 45,000 film songs in all languages and more than 50,000 devotional songs in all religions and he has also sung Hindustani music Alaaps for films and has also collaborated Shehnai with International musicians and composers in recordings.

5. Pt. Ballesh volunteers time at the Ashram, as alumni - teaching differently abled youngsters Vocal and Instrumental music. Most of these students are from economically backward families, who have been able to lift their families out of poverty, with the skill of music. Tansen Academy, founded by him holds individual classes for Autistic children, Physically Challenged and Special Needs (Blind Born Childrens) for a very negligible and nil Guru Dakshina (No Fee), teaching them for Sangeet Seva.

6. Pt. Ballesh is highly decorated with many awards, prominent among them Viz. Ustad Bismillah Khan Kalaratna Samman 2021; Award Kalaimamani 2020 - Tamil Nadu State Award; Karnataka Kalashree 2019.



ACHARYA SHRI CHANDANAJI

Acharya Shri Chandanaji is a vibrant and energetic 85-year-old Jain Sadhvi, who has touched millions of lives worldwide. As the founder and spiritual head of Veerayatan, she leads this international charitable organisation which was established over 50 years ago in the state of Bihar, India. Her mission is to transform lives through Seva (selfless service), Shiksha (education) and Sadhana (spirituality). She was given the prestigious title of Acharya in 1987, the first ever Jain Sadhvi to be bestowed this position in the Jain ascetic community since the time of Bhagwan Mahavir.

2. Born on 26th January 1937, Acharya Chandanaji's spiritual journey began when she renounced at the age of 14. After renunciation, she committed herself to a 12-year vow of silence. During this period, she extensively studied Jain, Buddhist and Vedic scriptures and obtained many degrees including Darshanacharya from Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan and the title of Shastri in the subjects of Navya-Nyaya and Vyakaran from Banaras Hindu University.
3. Acharya Chandanaji paramount aim is to provide education as she feels that this is the only way to break the cycle of generational poverty. With the proclamation "Where there is a temple, there must be a school", she aims to create good quality schools at every pilgrimage site. In the last twenty years, she has established state of the art educational centres in Bihar, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Nepal and many other places. With her goal to educate and empower young people, many higher education institutions have also been established in rural India. Till date over 200,000 children and youth have benefitted through these educational programs. Healthcare initiatives such as eye hospitals in Bihar and Palitana provide excellent medical services to the local population with 3.5 million people treated and 350,000 eye surgeries undertaken. Her deep compassion has led to the initiation of numerous emergency relief programs in the aftermath of natural calamities such as the Kutch and Nepal earthquakes, floods, tsunami and, most recently, the Covid-19 pandemic.
4. A multidimensional personality, Acharya Chandanaji is admired as a deep thinker and writer on Jain philosophy. She is also a talented artist who has created a beautiful museum in Rajgir, Bihar. She has inspired and spiritually guided thousands of people not just in India but also internationally through establishment of various spiritual centres and regular travels.
5. Acharya Chandanaji has been bestowed many honours and accolades over the years for her outstanding contribution to humanity. These include the Mahavir Foundation award; Shri Devi Ahilya National Award; The JAINA Presidential Award; and the Saint of Modern India and Suryadatta National Lifetime Achievement Award. She also received two accolades from the State of New York.



SHRI FASIL ALI DAR

Shri Fasil Ali Dar is the Founder and Chief Coach of Martial Arts at Ali's Sports Academy and National Kickboxing Coach of India. In Martial Arts sports nearly about 3600 players are registered in 17 clubs overall Kashmir Province in which nearly about 16 players played international championships and achieved 4 gold medals, 5 silver medals and 3 bronze medals. He is unparallel in all respects for the promotion and creation of sports environment in the entire valley.

2. Born on 2nd December, 1988, Shri Fasil Ali received his Bachelor of Compound Arts Degree from Govt. Degree College Bandipora, University of Kashmir in 2008, son of a radio and television mechanic. He helped his father with installing TVs and antennae at the local homes. He ended up watching a lot of sports programmes on the sports on television and picked martial arts like kickboxing, Taekwondo, Wushu, etc through TV channels. Shri Fasil Ali started his career in Wushu, a form of martial arts, however, it didn't take off. He switched to kickboxing in 2008, two years later he got a medal in Asian Kickboxing Championship. This encouraged him to start Martial Arts Coaching in Bandipora. Later he worked for pillar to post to energize the youth to channelize their talent and build up sportsman sprit among the youth enrolled in his sports units.
3. Shri Fasil Ali founded Ali's Sports Academy in 2003, named after his grandfather, the Martial Arts Academy has units in almost every district but without proper infrastructure. In 2013, at the Bandipora Unit, around 150 children were enrolled, it inspired to open more clubs in other districts with a nominal fee of Rs 50 Per year from each student. While Martial Arts training is his main bread and butter, Shri Fasil Ali plays a massive role in social service. He participated in Drug de-addiction programmes and has over the years helped many youngsters to give up drugs.
4. Shri Fasil Ali is currently working as Sports Promoter, Motivational/Ted Speaker and National Kickboxing Coach of India. He has also been active in social projects like plantation drives, sanitation drives, blood donation camps, disaster management drives, female self-defence training camps, and women empowerment awareness campaigns.
5. Shri Fasil Ali is the recipient of numerous awards and honours. He has been featured in Forbes Asia Magazine in the 2017 edition under the "Sports and Entertainment" category. He has also received Dr B.R. Ambedkar National Award in "Sports and Peace" category for his contribution in "Peace-Building Activities" through sports in Kashmir.



SARDAR JAGJIT SINGH DARDI

Sardar Jagjit Singh Dardi is the Chairman of Chardikla Media House which is running one of the largest leading Punjabi TV Channel 'Chardikla Time TV', Daily Chardikla and Bharat Desh Namara Newspapers and chain of Sri Guru Harikrishan Public Schools & Colleges. He is a globally recognized Sikh personality for his role in the Universal welfare by telecasting GURBANI Live from the Holiest Shrines, Gurudwara Bangla Sahib, Hemkunt Sahib and Takhat Sri Harimandir Ji Patna Sahib.

2. Born on 19th January, 1949, at Kurukshetra, Sardar Dardi received his Bachelors degree and Honours in Punjabi from Punjab University and studied at Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology, Patiala. His father Gyani Harnam Singh was a freedom fighter and famous Akali leader. His mother Principal Harbans Kaur pioneered the Job Oriented Education in Patiala since 1955.
3. Sardar Dardi started his career at a very young age of 12 years, when he courted arrest in Punjabi Suba Morcha in 1960, made sacrifices for the creation of the present Punjabi-speaking State and started writing the news on current affairs. He has 62 years long experience and excellent career in the field of Media. He became the Member of the Press/ Media Advisory Committees of Lok Sabha in 1998 and Rajya Sabha in 2014. Rajya Sabha has also honoured him with the accreditation pass of Long and Distinguished services (L & D) in the Parliament. He is an accredited Editor of Government of India(PIB) and State Governments of Punjab & Haryana.
4. Sardar Dardi started his Punjabi Newspaper Chardikla in November, 1969 on the eve of 500th Parkash Gurburab of Sri Guru Nanak Dev ji, firstly as a souvenir then as a fortnightly and later as a weekly newspaper. In May, 1977 Chardikla became a Daily Newspaper and is now one of the top 4 Punjabi Dailies of our country. In addition, he started a Hindi Daily "Bharat Desh Hamara" in 1985 and continued its publication even during the difficult times of terrorism in Punjab.
5. Sardar Dardi has achieved the heights of excellence not only in the field of Print Media but also in the field of Electronic Media. He started Live telecast on Chardikla Time TV from Gurudwara Bangla Sahib, New Delhi in 2007, Hemkunt Sahib, in 2011 and the birth place of Sri Guru Gobind Singh ji, Takhat Sri Harimandir ji Patna Sahib in 2015. All these Live Telecasts from the sanctum sanctorum of these holiest shrines were started first time by him for the welfare of humanity
6. Sardar Dardi has created a glorious history of more than 50 years for serving the cause of patriotism, communal harmony, National integration, Punjabi language, culture, moral values, Indian heritage amongst its readers and viewers and has been able to establish his global credibility through his Electronic, Print and Social Media platforms.
7. Sardar Dardi is a recipient of numerous awards and honours like the titles of 'Sher-e-Patiala' in 1981 by Citizen Council, 'Shiromani Punjabi' by World Punjabi Conference Toronto, Canada in 1989; 'Shiromani Sahitkar' by Government of Punjab in 1992; 'Shiromani Patarkar' by Shri K.R Narayanan, Vice President of India in 1996; 'Sahit Rattan' Award by World Punjabi Conference Wisconsin, USA in 1997; 'Bharti Udyog Ratan' Award by Indian Economic Research Association in 1996; 'Punjab Rattan' by Governor of Punjab in 2000 etc. He has been honoured by all the 5 highest temporal seats of Khalsa Path and bestowed upon with the Title of "BHAJ SAHIB" by Takhat Sri Harimandir Ji Patna Sahib in 2019.



PROF. (DR.) ADITYA PRASAD DASH

Prof.(Dr.) Aditya Prasad Dash, Vice Chancellor of the AIPH University, Bhubaneswar; Ex- Vice Chancellor of the Central University of Tamil Nadu and Ex-Regional Adviser of the South East Asia Regional Office of the World Health Organisation, is a top-ranking scientist and has significantly contributed in the field of vector borne and neglected tropical diseases affecting the marginalised community. Previously, he was the Director of Institute of Life Sciences, Bhubaneswar; Director of the National Institute of Malaria Research, Delhi and Director of the National Institute for Research on Tribal Health, Jabalpur.

2. Born on 23rd March 1951, Prof. (Dr.) Dash obtained Ph.D and D.Sc degrees from Utkal University. He started his scientific career from Indian Council of Medical Research, the thrust area being transmission biology of vector borne diseases like malaria, dengue and lymphatic filariasis.

3. Prof. (Dr.) Dash has so far published around 300 research papers in reputed journals like: Nature Genetics, Lancet Infectious Diseases and Lancet. He developed various tools, technologies and strategies which are followed by various countries for control of malaria, lymphatic filariasis (LF), visceral leishmaniasis, dengue, chikungunya, soil transmitted helminthiasis and yaws. His scientific achievements include: establishing *Anopheles annularis* as a vector in rural India; identification of telomerase in gametocytes of *Plasmodium falciparum*; proving the efficacy of Mass Drug Administration with integrated vector management in LF elimination. By addressing issues like, molecular taxonomy and phylogenetic interrelationship in mosquitoes; multiple genetic fragments with DNA sequencing studies; molecular epidemiology of mixed-species malaria infections and genomic studies of malaria parasites. He opened up opportunities for translating genetic analysis to disease biology and field application. His contribution in the field of ecological succession of mosquito species is most striking. He has also made significant contributions on epidemiology and management of neglected tropical diseases. Most of his work is translated into deliverable products.

4. Prof. (Dr.) Dash was honoured with many awards and Fellowships of scientific societies. Elsevier in their SCOPUS database ranked the Indian Scientists from their publication from 2009-13. He is rated as top rank in the area of Immunology and Microbiology and 7th in area of Medicine, among the top 10 Indian researchers. He was awarded with the ICMR's Dr T.R. Rao award (1991); Rajiv Gandhi Award, Odisha (2009); Dr A.P. Ray Award for outstanding contribution of malaria research (2012) and INBUSH award of Amity University (2017).



SHRI MALJIBHAI DEVJIBHAI DESAI

Shri Maljibhai Devjibhai Desai is the Chairman of Gandhi Ashram Zilia, a charitable trust under whose leadership 11 educational institutions work for the wellbeing, upliftment of socially downtrodden families in the whole of Northern Gujarat. He has till date established more than 30 education institutes in the State of Gujarat. He is also actively involved in propagating Khadi and is acting as a Chariman of Khadi Gramodhyog Mandal, Sabarmati Ashram, Gujarat whose founder President was Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

2. Born on 1st January, 1938 in a Gopalak family in Lanva Village of Patan District in Northern Gujar, Shri Desai was able to study only up to Inter Arts, but has tirelessly worked for providing education to the boys and girls of Patan District and of the surrounding area. During his entire public life he has either worked in various capacities in many Institutes which are actively involved in Social Services in various parts of Gujarat. He served as an active Sevadal Leader in North Gujarat in his youth days. Ahead he also served as a President of Gujarat Nai Talim Sangh, the one established to facilitate the Gandhi Bapu's model for education.

3. Shri Desai is a hardcore follower of Gandhian Principles. In the days of his youth, when he was appointed to work as a Rector of Harijan Hostel at Mansa, his family and society strongly objected but he remained unmoved and refused to come back. Since then he has never been away from such dedication till date. In 1964, he established Gandhi Ashram Zilia under Sarvodaya Yojna of Government of Gujarat. The main activities include providing primary, and higher education to the boys and girls of backward sections of the societies and their well-being. He served as a Director of Asia one of the largest Dairy i.e. Dudhsagar Dairy for about 22 years with Late Mansinhbhai and Motibhai Chaudhary from the right earlier days. His work also extends their wings in the relief work during drought, devastating flood of Surat, Machchhu Dam Disaster, Kutch's destructive earthquake in the year 2001 and many more. Looking at his various services, the people of the area has elected him to serve as their Public Servant encompassing Panchayat Raj to Gujarat State Assembly.

4. Considering his unprecedented and exemplary work in the field of Social Services, Shri Desai has also been appreciated and recognized with many awards and appreciation from time to time. He received Darshak Award (Education) from Shri Manubhai Pancholi Darshak Foundation Lokbharti Sanosara in 2009. Indian Council for Social Welfare, Ahmedabad recognized him for "Glory of Gujarat Award" in 2013. He was also honored by Governor of Gujarat and Aapnu Mandal (Sevadal Parivar) in 2014 and also by Khadi Gramodhyog Sangh-Samvay-Rajkot on 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhiji for his constructive work for the society in the year 2018.



DR. SHYAMAMANI DEVI

Dr. Shyamamani Devi is a living legend with a towering personality in "Odishi", a classical music genre in India. She is the most popular and decorated AIR (All India Radio) artist with a "Top Grade" credit. She is popular on all the Odia TV channels, including DD Bharati.

2. Born on 21st December, 1938 to the late Nishamani, and Rajendra Patnaik, at Cuttack, Odisha, Dr. Shyamamani is a graduate (Sangeet Visharad) in "Odishi" Vocal from Sangeet Natak Academy, Odisha, under the guidance of the late Guru Singhari Shyamsundar Kar and Sangeet Sudhakar Balkrishna Dash. She is also a postgraduate (Sangeet Alankar) in Hindustani Vocal from Gandharba Mahavidyalay, Pune, under Prof. B. R. Navarang. She started her career as a child artist of AIR (All India Radio) at 12 years old, gaining prominence at Cuttack, Kolkata, and Mumbai AIR stations. She also earned a reputation as a famous playback singer for Odia and Bengali films during the 1960s and 1970s.

3. Dr. Shyamamani left the glamorous career in her prime age as a playback singer and dedicated her life to particular reference to the traditional music forms that remained confined to a few areas and were in a state of extinction. The traditional music "Odishi" immensely impressed her. She initially concentrated on "Champu", "Chhanda", "Chautisa", "Bhajana", "Janana", and 'Gita Govinda', etc., which are considered to be the various aspects of "Odishi". With extensive studies and efforts, audio cassettes for these music forms were released for the first time with her composition and brought to the knowledge of the common masses for their revival and popularization further through AIR and live performances in every nook and corner of the state.

4. Through over 4000 songs, Dr. Shyamamani has enthralled audiences spanning more than seven and a half decades of a music career in classical "Odishi," allied music forms of Odishi, devotional songs, Adhunik and Sugam Sangeet, folk songs, and Palli Geeti. She also has pieces in different languages, like Ghazals in Hindi and Marathi, Ravindra Sangeet in Bengali, Gorba in Gujrati, and a dozen film songs in Odia and Bengali. She has also made major contributions to the systematic development of Odishi music and the codification of its grammar.

5. In recognition of her contribution to "Odishi" music, Dr. Shyamamani has been conferred an honorary doctorate (Ph.D.) by the Utkal University of Culture, Bhubaneswar. The Odisha government has also granted the highest award, "Upendra Bhanjo Sanman." About 200 awards, felicitations, and over 12 titles, such as "Nightingale of Odisha," "Kokilo Konthhi," "Suro-Torangini," "Geeta Priya," etc., are already to her credit from various government, public, and private institutions in Odisha and other states, and overseas. The Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the Government of India, has also released a documentary film on her life and achievements, besides several articles.



SHRI KHALIL DHANTEJVI (POSTHUMOUS)

Shri Khalil Dhantejvi, born as Ibrahim Makarani was the most loved and revered name for championing the ascent of Gujarati language in the glorious Ghazal Literature of India. His works had not only transcended the literary standards, the etymology and the colloquial use, but had reached the populous, being palatable, rich with relatable experiences. Much of the his influence had been derived from his modest but proud identity of being a farmer, from the little village of Dhantej near the then Baroda State. Among many, his penned lines(In Hindi)

Ab mein raashan ki kataaro mein nazar aata hoon,
Apne kheto se bichadne ki sazaa paata boon.

Struck a chord with the nation's literary circle for bringing the irony of our Annadaata's plight and jeopardy in that regime.

2. Born on 12th December, 1938, Shri Dhantejvi made the most of his village school teachings of grade 4, moved to Vadodara city for trying his hand as a journalist in his youth. Though a late starter, but an exceptionally bright observer and self-learner in language, he progressed very quickly to film journalism. Soon enough he penned Stories, Dramas, Scripts and Films, winning 8 awards for "Chhutaa Chhedaa" film by the Government of Gujarat as the Writer, Director Khalil. While his books and films brought him an entry to a career, his true love remained Gujarati and Urdu poetry. Smiling back what life offers, his ghazals echo his Self-esteem, acknowledgement of pathos and moving past the limitations. His baritone recitals, relatable ironies delivered with equal finesses in Gujarati and Urdu have been pivotal in bringing newer audience to Ghazal universe, while being connected to at least four literary generations of Gujarat.

3. The most prestigious awards Vali Gujarati Ghazal Award (named after Baba-e-Rekhta Vali Dakhni) and Narsinh Mehta Award (named after Aadya Kavi of Gujarati, Narsinh Mehta) were conferred upon Shri Dhantejvi in 2013 and 2019. The Indian National Theatre (INT) Mumbai had also recognized his outstanding work in Ghazal by conferring The Kalapi Award upon him in year 2004.

4. With 25 novels, 10 Gazal Sangrah, 8 Films, a biography, and countless Mushaayraas, "Khalil" as lovingly called by his readers shall remain etched in this nation's cultural memory for the generations looking for Gravitas and Inspiration in Adversity.

5. Shri Dhantejvi passed away on 4th April, 2021.

Padma Shri



DR. VIJAYKUMAR VINAYAK DONGRE

Dr. Vijay Kumar Vinayak Dongre is the President of the Voluntary Health Association of India, which is a confederation of 27 states voluntary state associations, linking together more than 4500 health and development institutions across the country. He is recognized for the implementation of Survey, Education and Treatment program of anti-leprosy work across India along with rehabilitation of leprosy patients. He was instrumental in raising the voice and the process of repealing outdated acts violating the Human rights of leprosy patients.

2. Born on 29th September 1939, Dr. Vijay received his Graduate of Faculty of Ayurvedic Medicine degree from Poddar Ayurvedic college, Mumbai in 1967. He joined Acworth Leprosy Hospital, Wadela, Mumbai in 1963 and worked there for 34 years in various capacities. He completed his MBBS, DVD, DSW, DHE, PGD PR&A and PGD MIS while working to gain additional knowledge to address the medical, social and legal aspects of leprosy patients. He wrote about 60 books in Marathi and English addressing serious aspects of Leprosy. They were written in a lucid language and distributed all over India free of cost. It created so much awareness that some of the books were translated in about nineteen regional languages. One of the books is recognized by the Government of India as the training manual for doctors and paramedical workers. He founded Bombay Leprosy Project and Acworth leprosy hospitality society for Research Rehabilitation and Education in Leprosy to deal with the problem beyond the hospital premises. He worked as an honorary secretary for HKNS (Hind Kushta Nivaran Sangh, MB), NLO (National Leprosy Organization), IAL (Indian Association Of Leprologists), SEL (The Society for the eradication Of Leprosy), ILU (International Leprosy Union).

3. In 1997, Dr. Vijay assumed position as the Director of Gandhi Memorial Leprosy Foundation, Wardha. He worked in the remote rural areas of Vidarbha and carried our Survey, Education and Treatment pattern reaching out to the remotest villages in the region. He started a general outpatient department in a Leprosy Hospital which was unique concept and a step towards the integration of anti-leprosy work with other medical services.

4. In 1998, Dr. Vijay was elected as the President of Voluntary Health Association of India (VHAI), New Delhi. The rehabilitation work he and his team from VHAI carried out in the super cyclone hit Odisha, earthquake hit Bhuj and Tsunami hit south Indian region received praise from the Prime Minister's office and the British Council of Incite, giving them additional aid to rehabilitate the villages. He was associated with ALERT India (Association for Leprosy Education, Rehabilitation and Treatment) from 2003-2013.

5. Dr. Vijay has received awards from various medical and non medical organizations, including, International Gandhi Award, at the hands of The Hon'ble President of India in 2014 and Life time achievement award by the Indian Association of Leprologists.



SHRI CHANDRAPRAKASH DWIVEDI

Shri Chandraprakash Dwivedi is a film maker recognized for his work in television and films; based on ancient and modern literature and History.

2. Born on 7th June, 1960 in Rajasthan in family of a Sanskrit Scholar, Shri Dwivedi graduated in Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery from University of Bombay in 1985. Since early age, he was drawn towards ancient and classical Sanskrit Literature and 'Itihaas' which became the foundation of his work in Television and Films.
3. Shri Dwivedi started his creative journey with writing, directing and acting in a short one act, play and wrote "Vetal Uvach" — a theme inspired from ancient literature, "Eklavya" - a theme inspired from Mahabharat, "Khagras" — a theme inspired from Purana. From theatre he went on to writing and directing for television and cinema. He wrote, directed and acted in epic television series "Chanakya" which was acclaimed for its theme of cultural Nationalism. He followed Chanakya as Writer and Director "Mrityunjay" based on life of epic hero Karn, "Upanishad Ganga" based on concepts of Upanishads, "Surajya Sanhita" based on Governance and Civil Services in ancient India. He also recreated dialogues for the television series "Chhatrapati Shivaji".
4. Shri Dwivedi made his first film "Pinjar" based on the novel of Amrita Pritam, followed by "Mohalla Assi" based on "Kashi Ka Assi" by Kashinath Singh and "Zed Plus" based on Ramkumar Singh's novel by the same name and "Prithviraj" based on Chand Bardai's epic "Prithviraj Raso". He is also the Creative Producer for to be released films "Ram — setu" and "OMG -2". He was Creative Director for documentaries namely "Lost River Saraswati" and "First sermon of Buddha" and consultant for documentaries "Mughal - Bahadur Shah, "Shammi Kapoor-Prince of Romance" and documentaries based on Music Directors Ravi and Khayyam.
5. Shri Dwivedi was member of Central Advisory Board on Culture, National Committee of Commemoration of 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, National Committee of Commemoration of the centenary of Shri Deendayal Upadhyay, Indira Gandhi National Centre for Art Trust, Veer Bharat Trust, Bharat Bhavan, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, Programming Advisory Committee of Lok Sabha TV and Central Board of Film Certification.
6. Shri Dwivedi has received many awards for his works in Television and Films, prominent amongst them are the National film award for "Pinjar", Upton award for "Chanakya", Screen Videocon award for "Mritunjay" and Indian Telly Award for "Upanishad Ganga". He has also received "B.M. Shah" award from Sangeet Natak Akademi of Uttar Pradesh for year 2020, Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hindi Sevi Samman from Kendriya Hindi Sansthan for year 2018.



SHRI OM PRAKASH "GANDHI"

Shri Om Prakash "Gandhi" is the founder of Gurjar Kanya Gurukul Institute. He is a name known for his tremendous contribution in the field of girls' education and social reforms. He started his journey of imparting education by starting a small school in a faraway tiny village Devdhar in District Yamunanagar, Haryana, a remote area, where women education and the awareness about it was almost none. His endless efforts changed the lives of the girls of this area exquisitely. Today, the girls from this Institute are reaching the new heights in all the spheres of life.

2. Born on 1st February, 1942 in Village Madhobans, District Yamunanagar of Haryana Province, Shri Om Prakash's father Shri Ranjit Singh was a small farmer and his mother Smt. Kamia Devi was a housewife. He completed his B.Sc from Agra University and M.Sc from Meerut College, Meerut. For twenty years he worked as a Professor of Physics in Gochar Krishi College Rampur Maniharan, Uttar Pradesh.

3. Shri Om Prakash's strong inclination towards women education and social reforms inspired him to work for a larger cause and he voluntarily retired from the service in 1983 and devoted the rest of his life to the education of women and their upliftment to build a strong and reformed society. His commitment was so strong that he remained unmarried and dedicated his entire life to the cause. He visited the entire area and shared his concerns and vision with the people. With very few people of same mindset, he formed Kanya Vidya Prachirini Sabha and in 1987 started a primary school by the name of Gurjar Kanya Vidya Mandir for which he successfully procured the recognition as a Residential Senior Secondary School in the year 1997. In the year 2015, he went ahead and opened Gurjar Kanya Mahavidyalaya and in January, 2022, he started construction work of Samrat Mihir Bhoj Gurukul Vidyapeeth for boys.

4. Shri Om Prakash went from places to places, in remote areas to fetch donations. Donations were a tough task to accomplish, it was his selfless and untiring efforts and belief of people in his cause and vision that made it a bit easy. It was his consistent efforts in the direction of school reforms which were recognized and he was honoured by various prestigious awards. For his dedication, persistent work and contribution for the society, he was given the name "Gandhi Ji" by the people, as he stood for what he truly believed in and changed the whole society around, for the good.



SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD GURU

Shri Narasingha Prasad Guru is a renowned litterateur of Koshali language in Odisha. He has dedicated half-a-century of his life for the enrichment, elevation and propagation of Koshali language which is the mother-tongue of about 1.5 crore people of Western Odisha. Through his incessant writings on Koshali grammar, vocabulary and literature, he has given a new life to the hitherto neglected Koshali language.

2. Born on 15th October, 1934, Shri Narasingha after completion of his education, joined as a teacher and retired as Head Master of Government High School. He has written 36 books on various subjects relating to society, art, culture, music, language and literature, 80 articles and about 500 rhythmic lyrics for the enrichment of Kosali language. He has compiled and published a dictionary consisting of 17,000 words in 700 pages — "KOSHALI-ODIA ABHIDHAN" - which is a monumental work and his magnum opus. This dictionary is his greatest contribution to Koshali and a permanent gift to the people of Koshal.

3. Shri Narasingha has written and published three valuable books on Ayurvedic Herbal treatment of common diseases and has distributed them free of cost to the poor people so that they can make use of the locally available medicinal plants and herbs to treat common diseases without incurring any expenses. His Koshali lyrical poems, composed in sweet musical-forms, have been broadcasted by All India Radio, Sambalpur for decades and they have achieved massive popularity and wide recognition.

4. Shri Narasingha has been honoured, recognized, felicitated and awarded by more than 25 socio-cultural organizations and institutions for his extraordinary contribution to Koshali language, literature and culture. These honours include Odisha Sahitya Academy Award, 2010; Western Odisha Cultural Award by Sambalpur University in 2007; Bharat Chandra Nayak Memorial Award from Sambalpur University in 1983; State Senior Citizens' Award in 2018; Koshali Sanskrutika Sangha Award in 2005; Koshal Ekta Manch Award in 2012; Bhagirathi Nepak Sahitya Samman in 2018 and many others. At this ripe age of 92, he is neither tired, nor retired and till now and has been incessantly pursuing his life's passionate cause and writing for the development and recognition of Koshali language.

Padma Shri



PROF. SOSAMMA IYPE

Prof. Sosamma Iype is the Director of Projects of the Vechur Conservation Trust, an NGO that works towards the conservation of the indigenous cattle breeds of Kerala – the Vechur and the Kasaragod Cows. Conservation of Vechur cows was a saga of undaunted struggle against discouragement, reversals and threats. Yet she was instrumental in bringing them from the brink of extinction, getting the Vechur cow recognized as a breed (the smallest in the world) and enabling Kerala to gain entry into the breed map of India. Her conservation work was the first of its kind in India and due to her tireless efforts, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations has listed the Vechur cattle in their Domestic Animal Diversity Information System (DAD-IS). More important was her contribution at the grassroots level by making the Vechur cows available to farmers and integrating Agriculture with Animal Husbandry through organic farming where native animals have a pivotal role.

2. Born on 21st March, 1941 at Niranam in Alappuzha District, Kerala, Prof. Iype completed her pre-professional studies at the Union Christian College, Aluva and gained admission to the Kerala Veterinary College, Mannuthy. She started her professional career in the Animal Husbandry Department, Government of Kerala where she worked for 14 years. Later, armed with a Master's degree (M. V. Sc.) from the Mathura Veterinary College, Uttar Pradesh, she joined Mannuthy Veterinary College, Kerala Agricultural University as faculty. She later took her Ph. D. degree in Animal Breeding from the National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal, Haryana.

3. Prof. Iype retired as Director, Professor and Head, Centre for Advanced Studies in Animal Breeding and Genetics. During her tenure, she headed several ICAR field-oriented projects. These have led to valuable findings including the medicinal value of Vechur milk as well as its other unique qualities. The Vechur Conservation Project was widely considered a model throughout India and it inspired further identification and characterisation of indigenous cattle breeds, taking the tally from 26 to 44.

4. Prof. Iype has won numerous awards and commendations both for her academic excellence as well as her professional achievements. Some of them are the Commonwealth Bureau Prize for Animal Health (1971), Gold medal from Agra University (1972) and Fellowships from Netherlands Government and Canadian Government for professional training in the respective countries. She represented our country in the SAARC meeting on Conservation in Dhaka in 1991, won the National award for conservation in 1998, the India Biodiversity Award (instituted by UNDP, Ministry of Forest, Environment, and Climate Change and National Biodiversity Authority of India) in 2016 and Dr C. M. Singh Memorial Lifetime Achievement Award in 2020. She has also been decorated with Fellowship of National Academy of Veterinary Sciences.

Padma Shri



MS. TARA JAUHAR

Ms. Tara Jauhar, fondly known as Tara Didi, is a remarkable writer and educationalist who has dedicated her life to propagating the teachings of Shri Aurobindo.

2. Born on 5th July, 1936, Tara Didi grew up in the Pondicherry Ashram under the strong spiritual influence of The Mother and Sri Aurobindo. Her father, Shri Surendranath Jauhar, a freedom fighter, had sent her to Pondicherry when she was just 8 years old. She stayed there under The Mother's guidance till age 40. She has further enhanced her skills by managing and leading the Sri Aurobindo Ashram — Delhi Branch since the last 45 years.
3. Under Tara Didi's leadership and guidance, Sri Aurobindo Ashram has not only expanded in terms of activities but building a great community of spiritual seekers and leaders. She has compiled two books in English, namely "Growing Up with The Mother" and "Learning with The Mother" and two books in French "Reponses De La Mere A Une Monitrice" and "La Mere Travaille Avec Les Enfants". These books hold the treasures of her experiences and interaction with The Mother. One can see how she was shaped into a true divine worker by the Mother.
4. In 1981, Tara Didi initiated an esteemed project named Mirambika Free Progress School. She was instrumental in giving a practical manifestation to Integral Education & Free Progress System which was envisioned by The Mother. Under her guidance and support, more than 200 + rural schools across the country have been developed across India through various Educational workshops and materials in the areas of Integral Education, Mathematics experiential learning, Science Project based learning, Library and Books, Sports Equipment, etc.
5. Auro-Mira Vidya mandir is one of the most impactful educational projects initiated under Tara Didi's guidance and support in 2018. It is a co-educational residential, totally free school for tribal children, which runs 365 days in a year in remote Kechla, a tribal village in District Koraput, Odisha. Tara Didi has facilitated grants from the Ashram for many children across India, to sponsor their education in schools. In 1977, she initiated Youth camps to build courage and endurance in youth making them fearless with swabhimaan. Her all round sports training in Pondicherry helped her design and lead these camps in Nainital, an extension of Sri Aurobindo Ashram — Delhi Branch.
6. The vocational training for rural youth at Sri Aurobindo Ashram-Delhi Branch was initiated in 1989, where the youth are developed integrally with the objective to make them good disciplined human beings and become self-reliant (Atma Nirbhar). She has dedicated her entire life as a Divine Instrument to uplift, support and help the needy through her gift of compassion and service to the Mother.



MS. VANDANA KATARIA

Ms. Vandana Kataria is an Indian Hockey player. She plays as forward in Indian National Team. She rose to prominence in 2013, being Indian Top Scorer in the Woman's Hockey Junior World Cup, where she scored 5 goals in the Tournament and India won a bronze medal.

2. Ms. Kataria born on 15th April, 1992 in Roshnabad, Haridwar, Uttarakhand in a middle class family, which consists of four Brothers, four sisters, father Shri Nahar Singh and mother Smt. Soran Devi. Her father worked as a master technician in BHEL, Haridwar.

3. Ms. Kataria made her junior debut in 2006. She was the member of National Women Hockey Team which participated in many tournaments with outstanding performances, among them the major tournaments are : World Cup Hockey Junior Women's on 4th Aug, 2013 at "Monchengladbach Germany"(Bronze medal); 3rd Women's Asian Championship Trophy at Kakamighara, Fifu Japan (Silver medal) ; XX Common Wealth Games Glasgow Scotland on 23rd July 2014 ; 17th Asian Games Incheon, Korea in Oct-2014(Bronze Medal) ; 8th Women's Asian Cup 21st on 21st Sep-2013(Bronze Medal) ; 9th Women Asia Cup 2017 Kakamighara, Gifu ; 18th Asian Games in Jakarta Palembang Indonesia 2018(Silver Medal) ; Rio olympic- 2016; XXI Commonwealth games Gold Coast- 2018 ; Tokyo Olympic- 2020(Fourth Place).

4. Ms. Kataria is felicitated with many awards. She got Rani Laxmibai award by UP Govt. in 2021, Tily Rautali award by Uttrakhand Govt. In 2021 and Arjuna Award by Ministry of Sports, Central Government.

Padma Shri



MS. AVANI LEKHARA

Ms. Avani Lekhara, who has been wheelchair-bound since a road accident in 2012, is an Indian Paralympian and Rifle shooter. She is the first Indian woman to win two medals in the same Paralympics and first Indian woman to win Paralympics gold. She is ranked 2nd in the World in 10m Air Rifle Standing women and she is ranked 5th in the World in 50m 3-position women event.

2. Born on 8th November, 2001, Ms. Lekhara is pursuing five-year degree course in Law from University of Rajasthan. She is appointed recently as Assistant Conservator of Forest (ACF) under trainee in Forest Department, Rajasthan by Government of Rajasthan. She had a couple of junior world records on her name as well. Starting from her first National Shooting Championship in 2015, she has been winning all colours of medals for Rajasthan.

3. Ms. Lekhara won a gold medal in 10m air rifle standing and a bronze medal in 50m rifle 3- position women at Tokyo 2020 Paralympics. With a score of 249.6 points in the final event, she set a Paralympic record and tied the world record. This time India received first medal in shooting in Paralympics.

4. Ms. Lekhara won a silver medal in the "WSPS World Cup Alain 2017", a bronze medal in the "WSPS World Cup Bangkok 2017", a silver medal in the "WSPS World Cup Croatia 2019" and a silver medal in the "WSPS World Cup Alain 2021".

5. Ms. Lekhara is the recipient of numerous awards and honours. She won "the Best female debut" at the 2021 Paralympic Awards for her record -breaking gold medal at the Tokyo Games. She was awarded "Khel Ratna Award", highest sporting honour of India in 2021. She is brand ambassador of "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao" scheme of ICDS Department, Government of Rajasthan.

Padma Shri



SHRI DARSHANAM MOGULAIAH

Shri Darshanam Mogulaiah is an artist who sings folk and heroic songs by playing the Kinnera, a unique instrument. The instrument (Kinnera) is one and only the oldest one which has been surviving for the last 500 years. It is made of bamboo, round guards, horns, honey, wax, mirror, strings and 12 steps. He comes from a poor migrated family. He looks very simple but attracts everyone's attention with his modulated voice, historical knowledge and unparalleled body language. Telangana Government recognized his skills and introduced him to the world.

2. Born on 1st January, 1949 at Ausalikunta village, Lingal Mandal, Mahabubnagar District in Telangana. Shri Mogulaiah says, "I can live by begging but I do not leave my Kinnera." He might not have studied the academic books but he can tell many kings' and emperors' stories which are not written. He did not complete his schooling because of his poverty. His poverty and problems troubled him like anything but he has not stopped the singing by using his unique Kinnera. Hence people are calling him as Kinnera Mogulaiah.

3. Shri Mogulaiah's grandparents played 7 steps Kinnera, his father used 9 steps Kinnera. His father used to tell that it is impossible to design a Kinnera with more than 9 steps. But he designed a 12 steps Kinnera which made him popular playback singer. He started playing the Kinnera at the age of 9 and became skillful in using it at the age of 18. The Government of Telangana gives rupees 10,000/month as a pension to him.

4. Shri Mogulaiah migrated to Hyderabad, the Capital City of Telangana, which is 200 kms away from his home village for earning livelihood. But the Covid-19 pandemic spoiled his plans to feed his family by working as a daily labour. At that situation, the Cine Hero Pavan Kalyan saw him, recognized his skills and gave a chance as a playback singer in his upcoming movie Bheemla Naik. This unexpected opportunity made him a real hero. His life is a lesson in 8th standard book of Telangana State, it is motivating the students as, "The Sky is limit." He has been contributing his services by giving awareness programs in various sectors. There is a Pillar with his name at Begumpet Metro Station. The State Government has drawn his photo on that pillar.

5. Shri Mogulaiah has been appreciated, honoured and awarded by many organizations like Potti Sreeramulu Telugu University, Shilparamam, Ministry of Culture Government of India South Zone Culture Centre - Thanjavur, Vritthi Puranas Research Centre - Osmania University, Infosys Foundation and so on. The Chief Minister of Telangana awarded him as one of the best artists on the first Formation Day of Telangana State, with Ugadi Puraskar and announced a grant of 1 crore rupees to build a house. The Governor of Maharashtra Shri Vidhyasagar Rao also honoured him.



DR. GURUPRASAD MOHAPATRA (POSTHUMOUS)

Dr. Guruprasad Mohapatra was an IAS officer of 1986 batch (Gujarat Cadre). He was known for his great understanding of administrative issues and his innovative zeal. He is termed as highly efficient and dedicated civil servant. He was always very responsive and constructive.

2. Born on 22nd April, 1962, Dr. Mohapatra completed his MA in Political Science, M. Phil in International Relations from JNU, Ph.D from M.S University, Baroda and MBA from the University of Slovenia.
3. Dr. Mohapatra has held various important positions in the Government of Gujarat and in the Government of India in his 35 years long career. As a Member Administration, Gujarat Electricity Board (GEB), he led comprehensive reforms in the power sector including restructuring of GEB into different commercial entities. As Municipal Commissioner, Surat, he made Surat a model of urban governance with its thrust on solid waste management, quality infrastructure including the state's longest flyover, the state's biggest auditorium, a medical college and a hospital. As Municipal Commissioner, Ahmedabad, he developed iconic projects such as Sabarmati Riverfront, BRTS, Kankaria Lakefront and the SVP Hospital. His heritage conservation efforts subsequently led to the city becoming the first UNESCO World Heritage City of India. As Chairman, Airport Authority of India, he successfully implemented UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) connecting 3 tier cities.
4. As Secretary, DPIIT, Dr. Mohapatra introduced significant policy initiatives like the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) for boosting domestic manufacturing, launched the Regulatory Compliance Portal leading to reduction of about 25000 compliances, worked for ease of doing business including setting up National Single Window system. International ranking improved from 77 to 63. He further spearheaded transformative initiatives for Startup India leading to the emergence of nearly 25,000 DPIIT recognized startups. He also served as the Chair of an Empowered Group for management of the Covid pandemic which coordinated supplies of PPE kits, ventilators and medical oxygen. He was Secretary, DPIIT, when he succumbed to covid related complications on 19th June 2021. He continued to work through his illness to coordinate oxygen supplies in the country during the devastating second Covid wave.
5. Dr. Mohapatra headed several organizations which got various recognitions including Prime Minister's medal for distribution excellence; the ICWAI National Award in Cost Management, India Power Award; ICC Award for Energy Conservation and National Safety Award by GACL.
6. Dr. Mohapatra passed away on 19th June, 2021.



SMT. R. MUTHUKANNAMMAL

Smt. R. Muthukkannammal, is the last surviving paradigm for the Devaradiyar conception followed less than a century ago in the present day state of Tamil Nadu. She is amongst the last few women who identify themselves as "Devadasi" and belongs to the hereditary communities which had per-formative traditions of Temple and Court dancing known as Sadir. Bharathanatyam is the reimagined /reinvented form of Sadir. Smt. Muthukkannammal is the only living Sadir dance exponent in India. Smt. Muthukkannammal serves as a repository of knowledge teaching us about the hoary history of the form of Bharathahatyam which is celebrated as the classical dance of Tamil Nadu.

2. Born on 26th November, 1937 in Viralimalai, Pudukottai district of Tamil Nadu, Smt. Muthukkannammal studied upto 7th standard and her Arangetram (first performance) took place at the age of seven. She was dedicated to Viralimalai Murugan Temple, when she was seven years old. She served alongside 32 dancers in the Murugan temple at Viralimalai.

3. The unique characteristic of Sadir performance is that the performer not only dances but also sing along simultaneously, which Smt. Muthukkannammal is able to do even at the age of 84. She remembers songs in different languages and the gestures of the dance form though no one performs these pieces anymore. She recalls rare and precious compositions during her performances from her repertoire. Sadir dance is not limited to just Tamil language. It has various compositions from languages such as Sanskrit, Telugu, Hindi, Mathili and Marathi. She has all of these pieces both in her memory and in her present repertoire.

4. Smt. Muthukkannammal has more than 1000 performances to her credit in the last 75 years, having performed at many temples and public venues in Tamilnadu and Kerala. She has conducted many Sadir workshops in Chennai, Coimbatore and Bangalore. She follows the traditional format of Adavu, Allarippu, Jathiswaram, Sabdam, Varnam, Padam, Thillana and Notuwaram (Unique style Sadir Dance with English notation), Nalanguunjal Songs Varieties for temple celebrations, Modi Song (Snake Dance), Viralimalai Kuravanji performance. She knows many performances like Kummi, Kolattam (Stick Dance), Kayatru Pinnal (Plaiting of Rope), Ammanai (Ball Game) all of which have significance in Temple festivals.

5. A book on Smt. Muthukkannammal titled "Unfinished gestures" has been written by scholar and academic, Davesh Soneji. In 2018, she received the "Dakshin Chitra Viruthu" from Dakshinchitra Art Foundation, Chennai. In the year 2019, Films Division Ministry of Information and Broadcasting made a 66 minute documentary film about her Art and life titled: "Deveradiyaar in Sadir -The life and Art of Muthukkannammal". She received the "Kalai Mudumani" award from the Tamilnadu Art and culture Department, Pudukottai District in the year 2018-2019. Several research papers and presentations have been presented that feature her by scholars such as Dr. Hari Krishnan, Wesleyan University, Dr. Davesh Soneji, University of Pennsylvania and Dr. A P Rajaram.



SHRI A.K.C. NATARAJAN

Shri A.K.C. Natarajan is one of the senior most Carnatic music exponents of the country.

2. Born on 1st July, 1929 in Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu to Shri A.K. Chinnakrishna Naidu and Smt Rukmini Ammal, Shri Natarajan comes from a musical family that has been devoted to wind instruments.. From the age of 10, he learnt vocal music from Alathur Venkatesa Iyer and the Nagaswaram from Iluppur Natesa Pillai. Though proficient in vocal music, Shri Natarajan preferred the Clarinet in which he gave his first public performance in 1946 and was acclaimed by leading artistes of the day.
3. Shri Natarajan joined the All India Radio in 1949 and served at Calicut and New Delhi. There he was a part of the VadyaVrinda musical ensemble and worked along with the Sitar maestro Pandit Ravi Shankar. He resigned his job to become a full-fledged Clarinet artiste in 1952. His performance that year in Madras was praised by the doyen Ariyakudi Ramanuja Iyengar. He was also given encouragement by the Nagaswaram maestro T.N. Rajarathinam Pillai who conferred on him the title 'Clarinet Everest'. He has performed widely in India and made concert tours to countries like U.S.A., Canada, U.K., Germany, New Zealand, Singapore, Malaysia and Sri Lanka. His name became synonymous with the Clarinet and enjoyed immense popularity. In 1958, he was presented a Golden Clarinet in appreciation of his successful evolution as a much sought after musician.
4. Shri Natarajan is not only a great performer but also an innovator. His Raga Alapanas, his Swara renditions and above all his special way of presenting Kritis are unique. His Jugalbandi concerts along with veteran musicians and Jangroups abroad were highly appreciated. He has given a different dimension to Carnatic music and has propounded a new school of music with his innovative style. His work and methodology have been the subject of a research study by Prof. William Powell of the Wesleyan University, U.S.A.
5. A Top Grade Artiste of the All India Radio, Shri Natarajan served as the Secretary of Sri Thyagabrahma Mahotsava Sabha, Thiruvaiyaru and was appointed as the Asthana Vidwan of religious mutts such as Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham, Sringeri Sharada Peetham, Thiruvavaduthurai Adheenam and Dharmapuram Adheenam. Shri Natarajan was honored by the Mayor of Cleveland, U.S.A., with 'The Key of City' in 1970. Hailed as a living legend, he still continues to perform even at the ripe age of 92 and inspires the next-gen musicians through his recitals.
6. In recognition of his distinguished service to Carnatic music, Shri Natarajan has been bestowed with numerous prestigious awards and titles. His accolades include the 'Sangeet Natak Akademi Award' by the Government of India, 'Vitasavai Kalaignar' State Artiste Honor and talaimamani' by the Government of Tamil Nadu, 'Sangita Kalanidhi' from The Music Academy, Madras and 'Isai Perarignar' from Tamil Isai Sangam, Chennai.



SHRI RAM SAHAY PANDEY

Shri Ram Sahay Pandey is a Great Folk Artist in Bundel Khand Region.

2. Born on 11th April, 1933 Shri Pandey started Learning and playing Ancient Folk Dance named Loknritya 'Rai' at the age of 8 years. Loknritya 'Rai' is a dance played by Bediya community of the Society. Shri Pandey faced Boycott by the upper society before Independence. Even though he continued his Journey with full devotion.
3. Shri Pandey represented India in Japan, Dubai, Hungary, Switzerland, Germany, France, Danish, and Egypt with his team and performed Loknritya Rai. He has also played Loknritya in Hindi Films viz. Shayad, Choukidar and Sammar.
4. Shri Pandey founded a society Bundeli Lok Nritya Natya Kala Parishad in his village Kanera Dev and started teaching and training young next generation.
5. For his Contributions to Society Shri Pandey received several honours such as Shikhar Samman, Tulsi Samman, Nritya Shiromani Samman from Madhya Pradesh Government and National Tagore Samman From Sangeet Natak Akademi New Delhi.

Padma Shri



Ms. K. V. RABIYA

Ms. K. V. Rabiya is a physically challenged social activist hailing from Tirurangadi, in Malappuram District of Kerala. She rose to prominence through her amazing role in the Kerala State Literacy Campaign in 1990. She also initiated a volunteer organisation, Chalanam(Motion), for the physically disabled and for mentally retarded children and run six schools for them. She continues to serve as its President amidst serious health problems.

2. Born on 25th February, 1966 in Vellilakkadu, in remote rural suburb on the banks of Kadalundi river in Tirurangadi. Though Ms. Rabiya had some health issues since childhood, Rabiya could reach her Tenth grade at Tirurangadi High School because of her strong determination. She attended the school classes by making pillion riding on her uncle's bicycle. After completing her pre degree at PSMO College, Tirurangadi, Ms. Rabiya couldn't continue her formal education. But wheelchair laden girl was not ready to yield. Along with managing all personal needs by her own, she became an ardent reader. She started her social intervention by giving tuition to the children in the vicinity.
3. In 1990, when Kerala Government started the literacy mission, Ms. Rabiya became active in it. In June 1992, state authorities visited her classroom and were surprised to see the impact of her work. Upon her requests to improve the basic infrastructure at her village, the authorities sanctioned roads, electricity, telephone and water connection. The one-and-a-half km road was aptly named Akshara (Word) Road. In 1993, she started a volunteer organisation, Chalanam for rehabilitation of physically disabled and mentally retarded children. It promotes health awareness, continuing education programmes and training for women. It also established small-scale manufacturing unit for women, a women's library and a youth club. She was involved herself in the "Akshaya: Bridging the Digital Divide" project that made Malappuram the first E-Literate district in India.
4. Ms. Rabiya's life is a testimony to the success of uncompromising human will against tragic mishaps. She was diagnosed with cancer when she was 32. When she was 34, she accidentally slipped in bathroom and damaged a few spinal nerves which almost dumped her into an inactive phase of life for years. During those bedridden days she wrote a book named 'Ente Mauna Nombarangal' [My silent grievances]. She later wrote an autobiography named 'Swapnangaalkku Chirakukalund' [Dreams have wings]. The Kerala Government has included a part of her autobiography in the fifth standard Malayalam text book.
5. Ms. Rabiya's first national recognition came in 1994 with the National Youth Award from the Ministry of Human Resource Development of the Government of India. Ms. Rabiya received several Awards and Honour from Government of India, State Government and other organisations viz. National Youth Award, Kannaki Stree Shakti Award etc.

Padma Shri



DR. ANIL KUMAR RAJVANSHI

Dr. Anil Kumar Rajvanshi is the Director of Nimbkar Agricultural Research Institute (NARI), Phaltan, Maharashtra. Dr. Rajvanshi's rural development work for the last three decades has spanned a whole spectrum of areas affecting the lives of rural population viz. renewable energy-based cooking and lighting; power generation from agricultural residues; renewable fuel production from agriculture; electric cycle rickshaws; water purification and effluent treatment through the use of renewable energy.

2. Born on 1st September, 1950 and raised in Lucknow, Dr. Rajvanshi went to the United States in 1975 to pursue higher studies at the University of Florida following his bachelor and master's degrees in Mechanical Engineering from I.I.T. Kanpur. After receiving his Ph.D. in 1979, he taught at the University of Florida for two and half years and then he came back to India in 1981 to apply his training for developing rural India.

3. Dr. Rajvanshi is a grassroot scientists and under his leadership NARI has many first to its credit. NARI is the principal author (1996) of national policy on energy self-sufficient Taluka which was managed by Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE). He developed a unique program of improving cooking and lighting technology for rural areas which led him to pioneer the concept of rural restaurants in 2012. This probably led to the setting up of Amma's kitchen in Tamil Nadu and Shiva Bhojan in Maharashtra. In early 1990s, his group at NARI set up the world's largest program on production of ethanol from sweet sorghum. This led to NARI being the only Institute in India to be made a member of European Economic Community (EEC) sweet sorghum consortium. NARI developed the first non-spiny hybrid safflower and various varieties. In late 1990s he pioneered the concept of using ethanol as cooking and lighting fuel for rural areas and his group pioneered the development of loose biomass gasification system in late 1990s. His group also pioneered the production of potable water via rainwater harvesting using low cost unelectrified solar-based water purifier. And his efforts have shown how a small rural S&T Institute working on shoestring budget can pioneer technologies for rural India.

4. Dr. Rajvanshi is the recipient of numerous national and international awards. In 1998, he became the second Indian to be inducted in the U.S. based Solar Hall of Fame. In 2001, he received the Jammalal Bajaj Award for the use of science and technology for rural areas. His efforts led to NARI getting FICCI Platinum Jubilee Award in 2002. His work on ethanol lanstove was given the 2009 Globe Forum Award for sustainability research in Stockholm. In 2014, he became the first Indian to receive the Distinguished Alumnus Award of the University of Florida, USA. He has delivered prestigious endowed lectures both in India and abroad and has more than 250 publications in national and international journals, seven patents, five books, and various chapters in books.

Padma Shri



SHRI SHEESH RAM

Shri Sheesh Ram is a well known artist & Chief Guest at various National & International Technical Art canvas oil painting exhibition Art Galleries' where his various famous painting on National Integration, Women Empowerment, Indian Warfare, History of Indian Art, terrorist attack in India & World have been exhibited.

2. Born on 10th October, 1949, Shri Ram has done his Matriculation with Army Education and joined the army in the same year. Shri Ram has been interest in extra Circular activities and was very active by looking after the work of National Cadet Corps (NCC). He is very enthusiastic in imparting training to the learners of portrait drawing, sculpture and other important drawings. Main themes of his paintings are battle scene, soldier's sacrifices, patriotism and recalling the Love and Loss of soldier's family. Shri Sheesh Ram's imagination was fired when he was deployed at the borders with East Pakistan during the 1971 war. He retired from army in the year 2007 after 40 years of service. After retirement, he has made 38 national and world cultural oil paintings.

3. Shri Ram received several awards & honours viz. Sena Sewa Medal (EM) Himalaya 1970, Sangram Medal 1971 .

Padma Shri

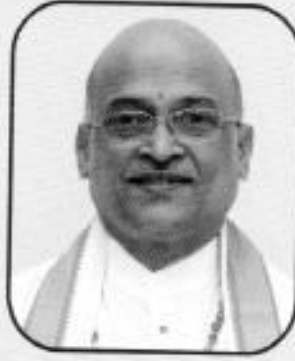


DR. SUNKARA VENKATA ADINARAYANA RAO

Dr. Sunkara Venkata Adinarayana Rao is an Orthopedic Surgeon who is known for his work for the poor and needy. He is Managing Trustee of Free Polio Surgical and Research Foundation, Visakhapatnam. He is Founder Director General of (Polio Rehabilitation, Research & Management) Hospitals(PREMA) involved in medical, surgical & physical rehabilitation of persons with disabilities secondary to Poliomyelitis, Spasticity, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation, trauma, etc.

2. Born on 30th June, 1939 in Bhimvaram, West Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh in a Rural Agricultural Family, Dr. Rao got his school education from Bhimavaram, his Bachelor's Degree in Medicine & Surgery (MBBS) from Andhra Medical College, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam in 1966 and his Masters Degree in Surgery M.S. (Ortho), Andhra Medical College, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam in 1970. He imbibed empathy towards fellow human beings from his parents from a very young age. Here he came across the heart rending scenes of poor patients coming to the hospital and lying on the floor to seek medical treatment, that was when he used to think that if he could, he should somehow see that even the poor should get the treatment and facilities.
3. Dr. Rao started devising new methods of correcting the deformities occurring on the limbs secondary to poliomyelitis. He is mainly involved in free corrective surgery and rehabilitation of polio afflicted and cerebral palsied persons. He examined more than 20,00,000 patients suffering from Orthopedic disabilities, operated More than 3,00,000 patients performing more than 10,00,000 surgical procedures.
4. Dr. Rao has held several key positions in various medical institutes. He is editor of the book "Principles & Practice of Orthopaedics" -IV Edition - 1993 published by Andhra University Press, Visakhapatnam. He rendered his world record of operating 411 polio patients in a single day at Mandvi, Kutch, Gujarat and 398 polio operations at RCD Hospital, Visakhapatnam in a day. More than 989 Free Polio Surgical Camps held nearer to the homes of the Polio afflicted patients all over our country and Nepal.
5. Dr. Rao has bagged several awards and honours including National award for welfare of the Disabled & Children Welfare by the Government of India, Bhagwan Mahaveer International Award in 2002 for excellence in human endeavour in the field of Community and Social Service; "Ugadi Puraskar" 1999 by the Madras Telugu Academy for the best services rendered to the physically handicapped; "Seva Murthy" award by Marwari Yuva Manch, Kolkata in 2002; Life Time Achievement award by OASIS (Orthopedic Association of South Indian States) Puducherry. He was awarded with the titles like "Vikalang Bandhu", "Poliowalon ka Devata", "Apanga Rakshaka", "Rotary Man of the Year" "Visakha Ratna", etc. He has been facilitated by more than 100 service organisations for his self-less service for the welfare of the physically handicapped.

Padma Shri



DR. GARIKIPATI V.B. NARASIMHA RAO

Dr. Garikipati V. B. Narasimha Rao is a renowned Spiritual & motivational Orator, Litterateur, Poet and Maha sahasravadhnam. He has delivered over 11 thousand lectures across the globe. He is quite popular over all the Social Media platforms and is widely regarded as the best motivational speaker in Telugu in the recent times. A multi-faceted personality, he is known for his rational approach to spirituality.

2. Born on 1st June, 1955, Dr. Narasimha Rao received his Master's Degree in Telugu from Osmania University, Hyderabad in 1984 and M.Phil., Ph.D Degrees in Telugu in 1989 and 1992 respectively from Potti Sreeramulu Telugu University, Hyderabad. He has over 30 years experience in the field of Teaching and Education.

3. Dr. Narasimha Rao's unique classical poetry book "Sagaraghosha" in more than one sense may be described as a modern Telugu Epic. He had successfully recited 1116 stanzas of this magnum opus with perfect ease in 8 Hours thrice at 3 different venues. It is a world record and unbroken till this date. Apart from Sagaraghosha, he has published 18 books so far which are quite popular in Telugu states.

4. Dr. Narasimha Rao got recognition as an unparalleled monarch in the realm of Avadhana, the pride of Telugu. At a time 'DHARANA' of 750 poems (Maha sahasravadhanam) in 1996 is a record, till this date in the field of Avadhana. He has performed over 300 Ashtavadhanams, 10 Shathavadhanams and one Maha sahasravadhanam (first of its kind in the Literary History of Andhra Pradesh & Telangana). His expertise in the field of Spirituality and Motivation made him The Most followed speaker in Telugu states. As a no-nonsense speaker, he has explained the science behind various religious practices and advised the devout to shun the "blind beliefs" that have no rationale behind them.

5. Dr. Narasimha Rao is the recipient of numerous awards and honors. He was awarded Prathibha Puraskar in the field of Avadhana from Potti Sreeramulu Telugu University in 2000. He was felicitated with Kopparapu Sahitya Award in 2011, Sanathana Dharma Charitable Trust Award in 2012, Lok Nayak Foundation Award and Gurajada Award in 2016. He has received P.V. Narasimha Rao Memorial Award, Ramineni Foundation Award and Swami Vivekananda Life Time Achievement Awards in 2018. He was also awarded Kala Ratna Hamsa Puraskar from Government of Andhra Pradesh in 2017. He has received 8 awards especially for his creative work Sagaraghosha. He was awarded with titles Dharana Brahma Rakshasa, Pravachana Kireeti, Avadhana Kala Prapoorna and many more.

Padma Shri



SHRI GOSAVEEDU SHAIK HASSAN SAHIEB (POSTHUMOUS)

Shri Gosaveedu Shaik Hassan Sahieb was the first Asthana Nadswara Vidhwan of Sree Seeta Ramchandra Swamy Devasthanam, Bhadrachalam. He performed Nadswaram in many famous temples in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. He is also a carnatic vocalist and freedom fighter.

2. Born on 1st January, 1928 at Gosaveedu Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh. At the age of 8 years, Shri Hassan started playing Nadaswaram. He learned Nadswaram from the several learned Gurus. He learned vocal from Shri Mangalampalli Pattabhiramayya. He performed Nadaswaram in various Temples viz. Tirupathi Tirumala Devasthanam, Kanakadurga Temple Vijayawada, Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Temple yadagiri Gutta, Venkateshwara Swamy Temple Jamalapuram etc.
3. Shri Hassan was the first Asthana Nadsawara Vidhwan of Badhrachala Sree Seeta Ramchandra Swamy Devasthanam. He worked as the Asthana Vidhwan from 1950 to 1996. He was Radio and TV artist. He worked as judge in selection of various Nadswaram employees in to various temples. He have given teaching to hundreds of students, many of his students got government employment in various temples, many of his students awarded by Doctorate. He played ragas very well through Nadaswaram, and he was capable in singing many great ragas. He was expert in playing Ragas.
4. Shri Hassan contributed in the field of music more than 80 years through Nadaswaram and Vocal. His main duty was to wake up God Ram with his music and to make Ram to sleep with his music. He got special Blessing of God Ram. He was also a freedom fighter participated in Freedom movement from (1940-1947).
5. Shri Hassan was awarded by various awards & honors including Tayagaraj Pruskar in 2007. Shri Hassan was also awarded twice by Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh at Ravindra Bharati in 1991 & 1994 for his contribution in the field of art and culture .
6. Shri Hassan passed away on 23rd June, 2021.

Padma Shri



SHRI VIDYANAND SARAİK

Shri Vidhyanand Saraik is associated with folk literature, folk traditions, folk music in Himachal Pradesh, who has a lot of nostalgic knowledge about it. He is a very comprehensive personality in himself who has sacrificed his whole life for this dying culture. He has been a member of the State Bhasha Kala and Sanskriti Akademi for many decades and has been a member of the Pahari Bhasha Samiti for a long time.

2. Born on 26th June, 1941 in backward area of Sirmaur district, Shri Saraik lost his father in his childhood. At the age of four, he learnt the stage of Kariyala and singing of Sirmauri song and dance from Mata Shri. He received education till graduation with difficulty. In 1971, he was awarded the Best Teacher Award by the State Education Department. In 1976, due to the circumstances of the house, he had to leave the teaching job but was involved in the service of culture since childhood.

3. In 1973-74 two books of Shri Saraik of Pahari poetry, 'HareJubte' and 'Chiti Chadar' were published with the help of Akademi. He gave presentation on Guru Ravindnath's novel 'Aankhki Kirkiri ko Aankhe Re Khadkan' on Kariyala style and Kariyala's disguise on the life of Vivekananda and Sangeet Natika on Saibaba and Chodeshwar Loknritya Sanskriti Mandal Sewa in Jammu on Sahibi ji. About 100 Pahari songs written by Shri Saraik on Djosar Devi Mahima, Shirgul Mahima have been sung by many singers. The play Samadhan Jalandhar on Pawari of Jhako Ajba was telecast from Doordarshan.

4. Shri Saraik has written 1000 Pahari songs according to Pahari traditions. Some are published like 'Hare Jubte Chiti Chadar Naale Jhako Re Sur' and some remained unpublished like 16 poetry song collections and Badaltu, Thoda, SinghtuNritya Dev Puja and Pajde are his unpublished Hindi publications. Research books on time and rhythm are documents of folk culture. The Pahari translation of Gita, Matrihari and Gitanjali is also a heritage which is unpublished literature. Harul Hare, Bar, Saka, Pwara, Padwayan, Ramayana, Kanheya, Pajdo, Bharatohavebeen searched and this treasure of our Pahari folk literature has been preserved.

5. Shri Saraik has received dozens of honors at the block district level. At national level, he has received Dr. Ambedkar Dalit Literature Award; National Punjab Kala and Sahitya Akademi Jalghar and Chandra Ghar Bewas National Award at Vedaram Thakur Jayanti Kullu. He was also honoured with the Culture Promoter of the Year Award 2018 by Divya Himachal. In 2018, he was awarded Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for Folk Music.



SHRI KALI PADA SAREN

Shri Kali Pada Saren is a retired employee of State Bank of India and has played a pioneering role in removing illiteracy and prejudices from Santal society. Shri Kalipada Saren is a writer, singer and dramatist. He is known as Kherwal Saren in Santal society.

2. Born on 9th December, 1957, Shri Saren received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Kapgari Seva Bharati Mahavidyalaya, Kapgari, West Bengal in 1980 and MA (Political Science) degree from Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata in 1984. His books are included in the syllabi of schools, colleges and universities.

3. Shri Saren founded "Marshal Gaonta" an organization associating friends and well wishers of the society on 30th June, 1984. Thereafter, under the platform of Marshal Gaonta, they launched a monthly Santali literary magazine "Rimil" which was renamed as "Aven Sankowa" later on, the editor of which was Shri Kalipada Saren himself. He has brought a great revolution in every field of Santali literature — in drama, in poetry, in novel, in short story, in essay writing, in song writing, in belles-lettres. Shri Saren created a great stir through his pennames — sometime he is Mister Thungu, Saptarsi Saren, Pati Ojha and again sometimes he is Benja Mara, NabinSaren etc. etc. Thus Kherwal has become a living legend in the field of Santali literature. His writings are being published in many literary magazines since 1980. As such his multifaceted talent as a writer has been reflected through Santali leading magazines- "Pachim Bangla", "Kherwal Jarpa", "Kuhu", "Sili", "Tetre" and etc.

4. Shri Saren founded a "Kherwal dramatic club" in Kolkata in 1990. Kherwal Dramatic Club had staged dramas of Shri Saren (his pen name Kherwal Saren) in santal belts of Bihar, Orissa, Jharkhand and Bengal for developing their socio-educational and cultural institutions from 1990 to 2006. The aims and objects of the Kherwal Dramatic Club were to remove illiteracy and prejudices form the Santal society and have succeeded remarkably.

5. Shri Saren is the recipient of numerous awards and honours. He has been adorned by numerous awards for his outstanding contribution in Santali literature; 'Pandit Raghunath Murmu award' by All India Santali Writers 'Association' in 2004; 'Sarada Prasad Smriti Puraskar' by Paschim Bangla Santali Academi, Government of West Bengal in 2013 and Sahitya Akademi Translation Award' (New Delhi) in 2020.

Padma Shri



PROF. DILIP T. SHAHANI

Prof. Dilip T. Shahani is an Honorary Professor at IIT Delhi after an accomplished career in various academic and leadership roles since 1973. He is recognized for his excellent teaching skill. He is Chairman of Technical Expert Committee for ECI and Technical expert at RBI & Police.

2. Born on 15th April, 1950, Prof. Shahani received Bachelor of Technology degree in ECE in 1973 from IIT Kharagpur. Having joined IIT Delhi he received PhD in 1979 and continues working there. He pushed engineering teaching beyond confines of the classroom walls by involving students in "hands on" experience, a novel style highly appreciated by the students.
3. Prof. Shahani engaged in important areas of R & D, undertook over fifty R & D projects in 4 decades for DRDO, Army, Navy, and other institutions. One of these major project is the VLF Antenna developed for the Navy in the year 1980, which the then Defence Minister Shri R. Venkatraman visited and praised it. He contributed R&D solutions to the Army Technology Board 2006-19. His vital contributions over past 17 years (as member and later chairman of Technical Expert Committee) to the EVM for Election Commission of India have provided the corner stone for India's Electronic Voting platform. VVPAT an important addition to EVMs, was designed and introduced in GE-2014. Another design unauthorized access detector de-activates the EVM on detection of any intrusion. These and other contributions (8 patents filed by TEC, BEL, ECIL) and used in GE-2019 raised the bar on EVM performance to a new gold standard.
4. Prof Shahani has received many awards for his contributions, Some key awards are: Outstanding Instructional Element - 1992; Technology Development 1993; Outstanding Faculty - 1994; Excellence in Teaching -2011 all at IIT Delhi; Excellence in Art of Science & War-2015 Army Technology Board and National Award for Best Electoral Practices - Election Commission of India in 2017.

Padma Shri



SHRI BRAHMANAND SAGUN KAMAT SHANKHWALKAR

Shri Brahmanand Sagun Kamat Shankhwalkar is a former Indian Footballer and captain of Indian Football Team who represented the country and several clubs with distinction as goalkeeper.

2. Born on 6th March, 1954, in Taleigao, located on the outskirts of Goa's capital city Panaji, Shri Shankhwalkar is considered one of India's best goalkeepers, whose career started in 1970 and culminated in 1995, spanning 25 successful years.
3. Shri Shankhwalkar captained the Indian national football team from 1983 to 1986 and has more than 70 appearances for the country. He represented Goa for a record 17 times at the National Football Championship for the Santosh Trophy. While he played for several Goan clubs, he spent the most of the time at Salgaocar Sports Club between 1974 and 1991, during which time he won all the top honours in Indian football. Among the trophies that he won included Federation Cup, Rovers Cup, Sait Nagjee Trophy, Puttaiah Memorial Soccer, TFA Shield and Nehru Memorial Soccer.
4. Shri Shankhwalkar represented the Indian football team in various international tournaments such as the AFC Youth Championship (1975, 1976), Merah Alam Cup, Afghanistan (1976-77), Merdeka Cup, Malaysia (1976, 1982, 1986), King's Cup, Thailand (1977), President's Cup, South Korea (1977, 1982, 1986), Great Wall Cup, China (1984), Asia Cup, Singapore (1984), Delhi Asian Games 1982, Seoul Asian Games 1986, Nehru Gold Cup (1983, 1984, 1985), Olympic qualifying rounds and World Cup qualifiers, finishing his international career with more than 70 cups.
5. Recognizing his contribution to Indian football, Shri Shankhwalkar was conferred the prestigious Arjuna Award by the Government of India in 1998 at the hands of the then President of India, Late Shri K.R. Narayanan. He was named the Player-of-the-Decade for 1985-1995 by the All India Football Federation and, amongst other awards, won the Bakshi Bahaddar Jivbadada Kerkar Award in 1977, the highest recognition for sports in Goa. The Goa Government has dedicated a lesson in the school textbook on the life and personality of Shri Shankhwalkar, so that this can encourage and motivate children to take up sports. He has also contributed immensely as coach and Sports Administrator.



PANDIT RAM DAYAL SHARMA

Pandit Ram Dayal Sharma, is a living legend of Nautanki, Swang, Bhagat, Raasleela, and Rasiya forms. He has devoted his life to promote our traditional musical theatre traditions and utilizing them for raising awareness about important social issues and promoting national development. He has performed more than 5000 shows till now. He belongs to a long lineage of musical masters and is the present guru of Samai-Khera gharana.

2. Born on 2nd May, 1946 in village Samai Khera, Bharatpur, Rajasthan, Pandit Sharma's childhood was spent in extreme poverty. He had to walk barefoot for 12 km, to the nearby town to attend school. However, because of his outstanding singing abilities, he was recognized as a prodigy and won numerous awards. At an early age, he became popular star in his teenage and was conferred with the title of "Braj-Kokila" (the nightingale of Braj) by the masses of Brajbhoomi in the 1960s.
3. Pandit Sharma has worked tirelessly throughout his life to get back the respect for our magnificent musical theatre/opera forms. He has connected our traditional musical theatre to the issues and problems of our times. He was one of the first people to start writing new Nautankis on important issues in post-independence India. These scripts are based on issues like girls' education, women's empowerment, dowry, environment protection, climate change, HIV/AIDS, Covid-19, national development, and tales of unsung freedom fighters. He spearheaded a folk media campaign launched by the Uttar Pradesh Government and trained more than 150 performing troupes in Nautanki, Alha, Birha, Qawaali, Puppetry, and Magic, to give messages of women's empowerment and health. More than 10,000 performances have been done in villages all over Uttar Pradesh since then. In 2007, he worked with United Nations Agency for HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) to direct a folk media campaign to raise awareness on the issue.
4. Pandit Sharma has provided major contribution in educating our younger generation in our traditional musical theatre forms, by his dedicated teaching at various institutions and universities of national importance such as the National School of Drama (NSD), Indira Gandhi National Center for the Arts, University of Delhi, NCERT, and CCRT, and by conducting workshops all over India.
5. Pandit Sharma has been a recipient of numerous awards and honours. Recognizing his immense work in the field of Nautanki, he was senior Sangeet Natak Akademi award in 2014. His musical composition "Kalpana" was chosen to represent India for the UNICEF Award in Sofia Bulgaria in the early 1980s. He has been honored internationally by being invited to perform and give lectures at the University of California-Berkeley, University of Texas- Austin, California State University, Ohio University, and Counter Pulse, San Francisco, among many others.



PROF. VISHWA MURTI SHASTRI

Prof. Vishwa Murti Shastri is Jammu & Kashmir's Probably only personality who not only possesses profound knowledge of Sanskrit literature but also has immense Knowhow of Nyaya, Vedas, Sanskrit Vyakaran, Ritualism, Chhanda and Shastra. He is publicly recognized and respected for his relentless efforts and active participation in social work as well.

2. Born on 10th October, 1946 in the backward village Kasuri (Ghordi) of Udhampur district, Prof. Shastri, after achieving multiple milestones during 44+ years of honest service in teaching and administration, got retired in 2011 as a Principal from Sri Ranbir Campus of Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, Jammu. During this long teaching period, he was also awarded with Best Teacher Award twice by the then Education Minister Dr. Karan Singh.

3. Prof. Shastri had special acumen in directing and acting in Plays. The practice of memorising the sacred scriptures [ancient Hindu Sanskrit manuscripts] is losing sheen in the current society, but he is still carrying this trend at the age of 75 gracefully and can narrate/chant the same for hours at a stretch and is still holding this forte with his restless efforts since he was 10 years old and leaving no stone unturned to keep the trend alive in society. He has been conducting free Veda classes for both needy and deserved. Along with teaching, he has earned special status in the hearts and minds of people with his preaching/lectures at the sacred shrine of Mata Vaishno Devi Darbar, Katra, J & K during Navratras which is telecast live worldwide on the Shraddha channel, M.H. channel, Doordarshan and other local channels every year since last two decades. He was also nominated as executive member of Amaranth Shrine Board by the then Honourable Governor.

4. Since many years, Prof. Shastri has been actively involved in informal Sanskrit education and its awareness /promotion at hundreds of centres through Sanskrit Bharti in and across J&K at various grass root levels. His lectures, promoting Indian Culture backed with scientific reasoning and rationale are very much appreciated by all sections of society during all key festivals and important occasions of social importance which is aired both on various radio and television channels since last two decades. Felicitation Volume "Vishwamurti Vaibhavam" which contains notes, write-ups, acknowledgements, poems etc by various dignitaries from his native state and other parts of India has been published on 4th December 2015 by the Hon'ble State Governor which in-itself is the proof of his multi-faceted, acknowledged and talented personality.

5. Prof. Shastri has bagged many Best Actor awards. He has been instrumental in achieving feat of winning First prize for directing stage plays 16 times. He is recipient of Indian President Award for excellence in Sanskrit literature and expertise in Shastras. He has also been honoured with "Sahitya Gaurav Shree" by Punjab Kala Sahitya Academy. He has also been awarded and honoured with various certificates and shields by State administration and recognized organisations. He has also been recognized/honoured by various autonomous institution bodies all over India for his supreme voluntary and selfless services to society, education, culture and literature.



DR. SIDDALINGAIAH (POSTHUMOUS)

Dr. Siddalingaiah was the most influential Kannada poet in the modern era. He was a multifaceted personality - writer, social activist, academician and a legislator. He began his trailblazing career with poetry of rage and rebellion and shot into fame in the Kannada literary world with publication of his collected poems 'Holemadigara Haadu' - a trend setter for the next generation in 1970's.

2. Born on 3rd February, 1954, Dr. Siddalingaiah obtained his MA degree in Kannada with D.L. Narasimhachar gold medal in 1976 from Bangalore University. He was awarded Ph.D in Kannada for his unique doctoral dissertation titled 'Gramadevathegalu' - Village Goddesses by the Bangalore University. With over 30 years of teaching experience at postgraduate level, Dr. Siddalingaiah served in various capacities at the Bangalore University.
3. Dr. Siddalingaiah was well known as a social activist right since his student days. He directly connected with the masses through his poetry and speeches. He was the founder member of Karnataka Dalitha Sangharsha Samiti and Bandaya Sahitya Sanghatane and fought against caste and class struggle. His active involvement in Dalit and progressive movements made him a People's Poet. His songs instilled new confidence among young Dalits. His revolutionary poems shaped the tone of Dalit & Bandaya poetry.
4. Dr. Siddalingaiah was known for his creative thinking, coupled with wit and wisdom. He has penned several works in different genres of Kannada literature- poetry, plays, short stories, criticism & autobiography. With its tragicomic mode, his autobiography 'Ooru-Keri' created a new tone for the genre. His works have been translated into various Indian and foreign languages. His writings have potential to inspire and influence generations to come. As a nominated member of the Karnataka Legislative Council for 12 years, he demonstrated how an activist- intellectual could make a difference to the downtrodden, suffering masses. In the council, he has discussed numerous progressive topics concerning socioeconomic issues. He was known for his exceptional work as Chairman of Kannada Development Authority and Kannada Book Authority, Government of Karnataka. He made invaluable contribution while holding various politicians in many more distinguished institutions.
5. Dr. Siddalingaiah was the recipient of numerous awards and honours, some of them are Karnataka Rajyothsava Award in 1986, Government of Karnataka award for the best film song lyrics in 1983 & 1999, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Centenary Celebration Special Award in 1992, Folklorist award in 2001, Dr. Ambedkar Award, New Delhi in 2002, Babu Jagajivan Ram Award in 2005, Naadoja Award in 2007, Alvas Nudisiri Award in 2012, Namdev Dasal Shabdha Puraskar, Mumbai in 2015, Honorary Doctorate from Alliance University, Bangalore in 2017, Honorary D.Lit by Central University, Gulbarga in 2018, Nrupatunga Award in 2018, Pampa Prashasti by Government of Karnataka in 2020 and Kalinger Karunanidhi Porkizhi Award by Book Sellers and Publisher's Association, South India, 2020 (BAPASI).
6. Dr. Siddalingaiah passed away on 11th June, 2021.

Padma Shri



SHRI KONSAM IBOMCHA SINGH

Shri Konsam Ibomcha Singh is State Awardee in Doll & Toys making craft, a traditional craft of Manipur. He is son of Late Konsam Tona Singh, National Awardee in Doll & Toy craft and his mother Late (Smt.) Konsam Ongbi Gambhini Devi, was also National Awardee in Kawna Murrah making .

2. Born on 15th March, 1962, Shri Ibomcha Singh, received Bachelor of Arts degree from the Manipur University in 1985. Later on he received one year training course in Doll & Toys Craft from the Apprenticeships Training Scheme sponsored by the office the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India during 14-11-1985 to 13-11-1986. He further undergone Advance Training Course in Ceramic and Glaze Pottery at Regional Design & Technical Development Center, Bangalore in the year, 1988.
3. Shri Ibomcha participated at different Exhibition, Melas with his products of dolls like Khamba Thoibi (pair), Radha-Krishna (pair), different size of dance and costume dolls viz. India International Trade Fair, New Delhi, 1983, Crafts Bazar, Mumbai organized by Development Commissioner (Handicraft) and Product promotion Programme (PPP) at Chennai (1986), Crafts Bazar (Bangalore) organized by Office of Development Commissioner (Handicraft), Govt. of India, International Angling Festival (Itanagar). Eco crafts Bazar, Shillong organized by Development Commissioner (Handicraft), Crafts Bazar, New Delhi and Crafts Bazar, Gwalior organised by Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicraft) Govt. of India, Ministry of Textiles and Sangai Festival, Imphal by Govt. of Manipur during 2017.
4. Shri Ibomcha Singh was instructor for Design and Technical Development Workshop on Toy & Dolls craft at Keibul Sagram, Bishnupur District and market Oriented Product Promotion Programme in Doll & Toys Craft. He was also engaged as Design Instructor on Design Technical Workshop on Doll & Toys in Integrated Development and Promotion of Handicrafts Projects (IDPH) under North Eastern Regional Textile Promotion Scheme (NERPS) Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, sponsored by the Development Commissioner for Handicrafts. Considering his contribution in Handicrafts sector the Directorate of Industries., Government of Manipur Conferred State Award to Shri Ibomcha Singh in the year, 2005-2006.



SHRI PREM SINGH

Shri Prem Singh is a popular and prominent social worker of the India. He has been rendering a commendable social service from last 32 years for Community based rehabilitation of leprosy affected persons & revival of their Human Rights and elimination of Leprosy from the country.

2. Born on 9th December, 1951 in a poor family in village Behrampur Zimidari District Ropar, Punjab, Shri Prem Singh passed Bachelor of Arts from Government College, Ropar in 1971, affiliated to Punjabi University Patiala. His father Sh. Amar Singh and mother Smt. Nachhattar Kaur educated him despite of utmost poverty. He acquired the Master Degree in the Business Administration from Punjab Technical University (PTU) Jalandhar in 2013 after his retirement. He has also passed Foundation Course on the Education of disabled children.
3. Shri Prem Singh is founder of Leprosy Welfare Mission Chandigarh and Leprosy Elimination Society Mohali both voluntary NGOs, engaged in the welfare of leprosy effected persons and elimination of leprosy respectively. He had been nominated NGO Member of Governing Council of Punjab State Leprosy Society. He has rehabilitated more than 1000 leprosy cured patients. His meritorious service had been appreciated by the World Health Organization. He has launched Mass-Education Programs and held rallies and seminars to awaken the people about symptoms, cure and treatment of leprosy with the participation of youth clubs and other NGOs.
4. Shri Prem Singh has preached the message that the leprosy is 100 % curable with Multi Drug Therapy (MDT). He has pursued the Government to provide interest-free loans to the leprosy patients to start Cottage Industries for their self employment ventures. He had created financial resources from his own saving and by selling jewelry of his wife, taking loans to continue this social service. He built the houses for leprosy patients after selling his own house. His wife Malkiat Kaur had suffered at the domestic front bearing the criticism by the fellow-being and isolated by relatives and took her last breath while saying "LOK SEWA HI DESH SEWA HAIN" means service to mankind is real service to the country.
5. Shri Prem Singh has been honored with Vayo Sareshth Samman, National Award 2019 for the Welfare of the Senior Citizens by the Honorable President of India. He has also been honored with the National Award, 2002 for welfare of persons with disability by the Honorable President of India, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam. He got State Award 2001 from the Govt. of Punjab for the welfare of leprosy patients. He has been nominated and semifinalist for the British Medical Journal, Award South Asia 2017, dubbed as Oscars of Medicines. He has been nominated for Nobel Peace prize, 2021 & 2022.



SHRI SETHPAL SINGH

Shri Sethpal Singh is a leading farmer of district Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh. He demonstrated diversification in agriculture sector for sustainable income to pave a direction for small holder farmers which led to change in income of the surrounding farming community.

2. Born on 5th March, 1966, Shri Sethpal Singh belongs to from farming community. He did BEMS, MD (Electro Homeopathy) and started his practice in the year 1992. Shri Sethpal Singh was engaged in farming also but was not able to take good return. This pushed him to adopt diversification in agriculture for sustainable income.
3. Shri Sethpal Singh started Singhara cultivation in normal field after digging one feet only where he got quality Singhara having high market demand. He also started Fish pond and Lotus cultivation for year round sustainable income. He also started Seasonal Mushroom and through value addition as Pickles earning more positively. Through sale of Kamal Kakri and Kamal Gatta income improved drastically.
4. Shri Sethpal Singh also adopted drip irrigation system to save the water. He also switched over to organic farming through use of bio agents and other means. He used various IPM practices to control the insect pests through non chemical methods.
5. Shri Sethpal Singh diversified his farming in such a way that he used to get daily income through sale of milk, vegetables and other produces on regular basis, This also generated employments for landless labours at village level. Many rural youths attracted towards farming by seeing the program of Shri Sethpal Singh who become a role model for farming community. The technology adopted by Shri Sethpal Singh has helped large farming community in improving their income.
6. Shri Sethpal Singh has been recognized and awarded by Various Govt. organizations at National level during 2012, Innovative Farmer Award from IARI, PUSA, New Delhi, Jagjeevan Ram Abhinav Kisan Puruskar Award 2015 from ICAR and fellow farmer award IARI/ICAR 2020, He is also members of various bodies like ATMA governing board, NHM, SAC of KVK, Chairman of FAC, State Advisory Committee Member, Farmer First project Member of ATARI, ICAR, Zone IIIrd, Editorial Board member of Phal Phool and Kheti Patrika of ICAR.



DR. BHIMSEN SINGHAL

Dr. Bhimsen Singhal is Director of Neurology at the Bombay Hospital Institute of Medical Sciences, Mumbai to this he was prior Head of the Neurology Department at Grant Medical College and JJ Hospital, Mumbai. He is one of the highly respected and eminent neurologists in India who has contributed significantly to the growth of Neurology over the last 60 years.

2. Born on 23rd January, 1933 in Mount Abu, Dr. Singhal received his MBBS in 1956 and MD in 1959 degrees from the Grant Medical College, Mumbai, MRCP from (Edinburgh) in 1960 and MRCP from London in 1961. He was elected Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians Edinburgh in 1973 and of the Royal College of Physicians London in 1985. He is also a Fellow of the American Academy of Neurology and a member of the American Association of Neurology. In recognition of his academic contributions, he was conferred D.Sc (Honoris Causa) in 2015 and D. Litt (Honoris Causa) in 1998.
3. Dr. Singhal has been associated with several national and international neurological organizations. He is a Founder Member of the Indian Academy of Neurology. He has served as the President of the Neurological Society of India (1986), President of the Indian Epilepsy Association (2000-2002), Vice-President of the Asian & Oceanian Association of Neurologists, Regional Director of the World Federation of Neurology for Asian and Oceanian region (2005-09), and Chairman of the Asian Oceanian Section of the Movement Disorder Society (2009-11). He was a member of the Working Group of Parkinson's disease and Multiple Sclerosis of the World Health Organization.
4. Dr. Singhal is known for his clinical skills. Besides teaching and taking care of patients, he has also conducted clinical research, authored several books and scientific articles in national and international journals. He is recognized for his work in demyelinating diseases (multiple sclerosis, neuromyelitis optica) and myasthenia gravis. With international collaboration, he identified the gene defect in megalencephalic leukodystrophy, especially prevalent in the Agarwal community. He established the Neurology Foundation in 1998 and Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorder Society (PDMDS) in 2001. His vision was to set up free of cost multi-disciplinary care for patients with neurological disorders around the country. Through these organizations, he has impacted the lives of thousands of patients and caregivers who regularly attend free sessions in over 65 support centres of PDMDS across the nation. He has also been organizing the widely acclaimed 'Neurology Update' meetings since 1996, to update the knowledge of neurologists and physicians from all over India and neighbouring countries. During these meetings, world renowned neurologists are invited to interact with the audience.
5. Dr. Singhal has received several prestigious awards for his contributions to medicine and neurology, including the Dr BC Roy National Award (1999), Priyadarshini Academy Award (2004), Wockhardt Award for Medical Excellence in Neurology (2005), Dhanvantari Award (2009) and RD Birla National Award (2013). He has been honored nationally & internationally with two lectureships established in his name: the Singhal Oration given at the annual meeting of the Indian Academy of Neurology and the Singhal Oration at the international conference of the World Federation of Neurology.



SWAMI SIVANANDA

Swami Sivananda has dedicated his life for the welfare of the human society. His simplest ways of disciplined and well-regulated life with early morning Yoga, oil free boiled diet and self-less service to the mankind in his own way has given him disease free and tension free longest life. He demonstrates his life as an exemplary lesson rather than preaching.

2. Born on 8th August, 1896 at Sylhet district of undivided India, Swami Sivananda lost his mother and father at the age of six. For abject poverty his beggar parents could feed him mainly with boiled rice water during his childhood days. After the funeral rites, he was brought to his Guruji's Ashram at Nabadwip in West Bengal. Guru Omkarananda Goswami brought him up, imparted all practical and spiritual education including Yoga without school education. He has been a positive thinker throughout his life, so after losing his parents, the realization came to his mind - 'the world is my home, it's people are my fathers and mothers, to love and serve them is my religion'. He is chasing that mission till today to serve the underprivileged in different parts of the country - in North East India, at Varanasi, Puri, Haridwar, Nabadwip and so on.
3. For the last 50 years, Swami Sivananda has been serving 400-600 leprosy affected beggars with dignity at Puri by personally meeting them at their hutments. He perceives them as living God and serves them with best available items. He arranges different materials like food items, fruits, clothes, winter garments, blankets, mosquito nets, cooking utensils etc. based on their expressed need. He encourages others present on the occasion to hand over different items to the affected people to make them feel the joy of giving, so that later on they are motivated to do such types of humanitarian work in their respective areas.
4. Swami Sivananda's healthy and long life has drawn attention of different national and international media like BBC, AFP, History channel, Times of India, Dainik Jagaran, AajTak, Assam Tribune etc who have published articles on him, including his commitment for motivating countrymen for covid vaccination after immunizing himself at the age of 125 years. Corporate hospitals across the nation have performed complimentary master health check up to assess structural and functional status of his vital organs and systems to observe his lifestyle. In presence of the doctors and management teams in a conference hall, in query of the secret of his longest life, along with sharing his desireless, simple life, he demonstrates different Yoga and exercise as means of his healthy and long life.
5. Swami Sivananda has been honoured with various awards including the Yoga Ratna Award on 20th June 2019 at Bengaluru. He was the senior most participant of the country to participate in yoga demonstration on 21st June, the World Yoga Day in 2019. He was awarded with Basundhara Ratan Award by Respect Age International for his contribution to the society on 30 November 2019.



DR. AJAI KUMAR SONKAR

Dr. Ajai Kumar Sonkar is an Independent Scientist/researcher in the field of marine aquaculture or marine science. He is a renowned scientist whose development of pearl making techniques through state-of-the-art tissue culture surprised the world.

2. Born on 30th June, 1967, Dr. Sonkar graduated from Kakatiya University, Warangal in 1990-91. He has acquired knowledge by studying online in various other scientific areas such as he studied in Rice University, Houston on DNA: Biology's Genetic Code, from Wageningen University, Netherland, he studied on Nutrition and Cancer, Nutrition and Diabetes and Heart Decease, from Tokyo Institute of Technology, he studied on Autophagy: Research Behind the 2016 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine and from Harward Medical School, he has done the courses on Cognitive Fitness and Sensitive Guts.
3. Dr. Sonkar initiated his independent research with freshwater pearl culture at Naini, Prayagraj and developed the most modest technology to produce nucleated pearls in freshwater. His achievements fetched the global attention. He initiated marine pearl culture project in Andaman Islands in 2003 with black lipped pearl oyster *Pinctada margaritifera* and Gold lipped wing oyster *Pteria penguin*. He established pearl oyster hatchery and hatched the oysters with mass production. He produced Black pearls successfully with the development of new surgical technique. He produced Gold spherical pearls in *Pteria Penguin* and produced 42mm size of Ganesha Gold pearls in *P Penguin*. He developed Onshore Pearl Culture Technique with *Pinctada margaritifera* and *Pteria penguin*. He controlled mortalities of the oyster with advanced surgical technique. He established a Cell biology/Tissue culture laboratory in Prayagraj in 2018. He confined world's latest technology to produce pearls in-vitro with the tissue of *Pinctada margaritifera* that has potential to transform entire pearl culture technology. The same have been published and highlighted globally by BBC and many world's most prominent science magazines. He developed 22mm of world's largest nuclei to produce world's most valuable pearl.
4. Dr. Sonkar has contributed papers in first International pearl Conference Pearls'94 organized by State Hawaii. He attended International Conference "Aquaculture Europe" at Trohndim, Norway in 2001 and World Aquaculture Society(WAS) Conference in Bali Indonesia-2005. His several dozens of papers and research findings have been published in numerous International Journals and Science magazines including, World Aquaculture, Aquaculture Europe etc. His recent Scientific findings in the field of Cell Biology and Tissue Culture has created a wave in the world.
5. Dr. Sonkar has received various recognitions and honours including Certificate by Wageningen University & Doctor of Science by Purvanchal University, Jaunpur in 2000. He has been appointed as Honorary Professor for life in Dr. J. C. Bose Institute of Life Science, Bundelkhand University, Jhansi, in 2001. The then Hon'ble President, Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam termed his technology as a big Scientific achievement of the nation.

Padma Shri



SMT. AJITA SRIVASTAVA

Smt. Ajita Srivastava is an Educationist, Famous Singer and Social worker. She is a well-known folk singer of Uttar Pradesh from Mirzapur, dedicated to popular folklore and cultural heritage of Uttar Pradesh "KAJLI or KAJRI". She has been associated with 'Kajli' since 70's decade and is widely recognised to preserve, conserve and propagate this popular folklore of Uttar Pradesh.

2. Born on 6th September, 1954, in Varanasi, Smt. Srivastava completed her graduation and post graduation (Ancient History and Hindi) from Banaras Hindu University and B.Ed from Gorakhpur University, Sangeet Prabhakar from Prayag Sangeet Samiti, Prayagraj. She worked as a Lecturer in Aryakanya Inter college Mirzapur since 1977. After long and successful 40 years teaching career, she retired in the year 2017. She had a melodious voice since childhood and she started professional singing with the encouragement by her husband Mr. RB Lal who was a poet, writer and Lawyer by profession.

3. Smt. Srivastava started her career with Akashwani Varanasi since 1980 (Later member of All India Radio Advisory committee for 06 years), and associated with various organizations eg. Doordarshan, NCZCC Prayagraj, Ministry of Culture Govt of India, Dept of Tourism UP Govt, Dept of Culture, Govt of India and UP Govt, Sangeet Natak Academy Uttar Pradesh, ICCR Ministry of External Affairs Govt of India etc. She has given various successful programmes in many provinces of India like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Jammu and Kashmir, Maharashtra, Goa, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh etc.

4. Smt. Srivastava has rendered social service for various National interest and social interest issues through her Bhojpuri, Kajli, Hindi songs with collaboration to Govt of India, UP Govt and District Administration e.g. Swachh Bharat Mission, Covid-19 Awareness, Voter Awareness Programme, Nirmal Ganga Mission, Tree Plantation, Van Mahotsav, International Yoga Day, Population Control, Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao, etc. She also assisted many PHD Students to write Thesis in the subject 'KAJLI'. She organized many workshops in collaboration with Government of India and State government under Guru-Shishya tradition. She also participated various seminars, functions, debate and interviews related to the topic. She is providing free training to Kajli for students at home and also free online training since COVID-19 pandemic through her youtube channel 'SARGAM by Ajita Srivastava'.

5. Smt. Srivastava has received several awards and honours including Academy Award for 'KAJLI' for the year 2017 from the Government of Uttar Pradesh, Kajali Samargyi Samman in 1996; Kashi Anand Samman 2020 ; Namami Gange Jagriti Samman-2017; Hindi Shree Samman-2021; SAARC Foswal Samman-2010,2011; Vaishya gaurav Samman 2011, Kajali Kokila Samman-2021, Vishwa Hindi Shodh Samvardhan Samman 2021, Yogya Shikshakevam Kajli Gayika Samman 2021, Nari Shakti Samman by Amar Ujala 2008, Kajlikaryashala Mukhya Prashikshika Samman-2019, Green UP- Clean UP Visisth Samman-2019 amongst other prestigious awards and honours.



PROF. RAGHUVENDRA TANWAR

Prof. Raghuvendra Tanwar is Professor Emeritus, Kurukshetra University and Chairman of the Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR), New Delhi. He is widely known for his study of the partition of India, mainly the Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir. He is reputed for his honest, unbiased and meticulous attention to historical detail.

2. Born on 20th February, 1955 in Village Lukhi Kurukshetra, Haryana, Prof. Tanwar, chartered a brilliant academic career with two Gold Medals for standing First Class First in M.A. History and for securing the highest percentage of marks in the Social Science Faculty of Kurukshetra University in 1977. From August 1977, he served the university with distinction for over 38 years. In recognition of his distinguished service and exceptional contribution as a teacher he was conferred the title of Professor Emeritus. He served as Director of the Haryana Academy of History and Culture from July, 2016 to December, 2021.

3. Prof. Tanwar has to his credit a long list of publications but it was his study of the partition of Punjab that first recorded the unfolding of the tragic story on a day-to-day basis. The volume titled 'Reporting the Partition of Punjab: Press Public & Other Opinions 1947', (2006) received world-wide acclaim. Partition, the study noted was a flawed concept that overlooked the evolution of India through the ages and ended a centuries old way of life based on coexistence. The volume remains an important point of reference. In 2021, he contributed a second study of India's partition titled 'The Story of India's Partition', the volume has about 240 rare photographs and illustrations. Published in English and Hindi, it is a sensitive and shocking revisit of the tragic times.

4. Prof. Tanwar's study of Jammu & Kashmir (2019) like his study of Punjab's partition has filled critical gaps and soundly questioned several falsely propagated story lines on Jammu & Kashmir. This study is titled 'Be Clear Kashmir Will Vote for India: Jammu & Kashmir 1947-1953 -Reporting the Contemporary Understanding of the Unreported'. Published in India and the United Kingdom the central point this volume makes is that there were little voices of ordinary Kashmiris in 1947 and the following years that should have been heard but were swept away by opinions that were more assertive, even if misleading and misrepresentative. Based almost completely on hitherto unpublished sources, this volume also draws attention to thousands of years of the region's historical and cultural legacy. As Director of the Haryana Academy of History & Culture, he edited and published a five-volume study of the speeches and writings of Punjab's legendary peasant leader Sir Chhotu Ram and a two-volume collection of writings and speeches of Dr. Mangal Sein, the popular leader of the Punjab and Haryana.

5. Prof. Tanwar has been a National Fellow of the UGC (Research Awardee, 2002-2005) an awardee of the UGC Major Research Project (2013-2015) and an awardee of the Foreign Travel Research Fellowship of the Indian Council of Historical Research. His contribution to the field of history has been widely acknowledged. He was President of the Modern Section of the Punjab History Conference (2001) and General President of the Punjab History Conference (2017). In 2008, he was President of the Contemporary Section of the Indian History Congress. He has through his career been associated with several educational institutions including universities, colleges and schools in different capacities.

Padma Shri



DR. (PROF.) KAMLAKAR TRIPATHI

Dr. (Prof.) Kamlakar Tripathi is a retired Professor of Medicine from Institute of Medical Sciences, Banaras Hindu University. He is recognized for his academic excellence and service to poor people in the medical field. He is committed to serve the sick people while working as a consultant in General Medicine in Banaras Hindu University and after superannuation he continues to serve people free of cost.

2. Born on 1st July, 1951 in Village Madanpur, District Siddhartha Nagar, U.P. to Late Pandit Padmakar Tripathi and Sidheshwari Devi, Dr. (Prof.) Tripathi graduated in Medicine and Surgery from Banaras Hindu University in 1973 and received Doctoral Degree M.D. in Medicine in 1978. Subsequently, he completed his post-doctoral degree 'Doctorus Medicinus' (DM) in Nephrology in 1982 and qualified in MNAMS in Nephrology from National Board of Examination, New Delhi. He received his Nephrology Training from Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research Chandigarh, Christian Medical College, Vellore and Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine London. He worked as Practicum Physician in St. Joseph Hospital, Department of Nephrology, Mc Master University Hamilton Canada in 1976. He joined Department of Medicines IMS Banaras Hindu University in 1979 as Lecturer and served as Reader and Professor till his superannuation in 2016.

3. Dr. (Prof.) Tripathi started social service from his early school days as an active member of Junior Red Cross Society in Government Jubilee College Gorakhpur. He excelled in theatre and represented Banaras Hindu University in Hindi Theatre performance in Dramatics in USA, Canada, UK and The Netherlands in 1984. He has been the Vice Dean of Indian College of Physicians and Founder Chairman of Research Society For Study of Diabetes in India for six years. He was President of UP Diabetic Association; Indian Society of Hypertension; Indian Society of Wound healing; Indian Society of Chrono Medicine; Founder fellow of Research Society for Study of Diabetes in India and President of North Zone Chapter of Indian Society of Nephrology.

4. Dr. (Prof.) Tripathi is a Guinee's Book of Record recipient for enrolling maximum number of diabetic patients on a single day in Sir Sunder Lal Hospital OPD, Banaras Hindu University in 2013. He travelled worldwide and delivered scientific lectures, chaired scientific sessions. delivered Key Note address and orations in Diabetes and Nephrology in USA, Canada, UK and many countries of the world. He has authored more than 300 research papers in indexed International and National Journals delivered more than 600 invited lectures in different institutions and professional organizations and is chief editor of International Text Book on Diabetes.

5. Dr. (Prof.) Tripathi has received International travel fellowship awards from International Society of Nephrology in Los Angeles USA in 1984 and in Tokyo, Japan in 1990. He received Gold Medal Awards in St. John Ambulance Competition in 1960-61 and 1965. He has also received fellowship from Royal College of Physicians Edinburgh and American College Physicians USA. After superannuation he is serving free in charitable organizations and doing philanthropical work to poor and sick people.

Padma Shri



SHRI KAAJEE SINGH 'VIDYAARTHEE'

Shri Kaajee Singh 'Vidyaarthee' is the founder chairman of his folk institution, Samskriti Samrakshan Samsthaan in Kalimpong. He started this institution to preserve and promote the Folk cultural music and also the Indian Classical Music simultaneously. Shri Singh is widely known for his role in pioneering the prime instrument Shree Maadal for the growth of Indian Gorkha community. Shri Singh is a retired Music teacher of the renowned school Tashi Namgyal Academy, Gangtok, Sikkim.

2. Born on 25th July, 1945, son of "Maadalaacharya" Late Shri Indrajeet Singh Sarदार and mother Smt. Mohanphui Singh, Shri Singh belongs to the Traditional Classic form of Folk Music family, carrying out the lineage since three generations from the Queen of Hills Darjeeling, West Bengal, India. He had a very keen interest in Folk Culture and Music since his childhood as both his paternal and maternal family used to practice the culture. He first started his career from dance, the traditional 'Maaruni Naach' in the year 1952. As he grew up, he discontinued 'Maaruni Naach' and started singing 'Maadaleygeet' and also developed his skill in playing 'Shree Maadal', which he learned from his father, and carried on with the same. His father was one of the pioneers of Shree Maadal in the community.
3. Shri Singh was also serving as an established cine musician (Maadal Player) in Mumbai working with stalwart Music Directors like Laxmikant Pyarelal, Kalyan ji Anand ji, Ram Laxman, Shankar-Jaikishan, Ajay Swamy, for 10 years. He is the first person to create the "Notation System" of this Instrument 'Shree Maadal' and also the Traditional Folk Song "Maadaleygeet". He managed to put everything in format so that it would sound more musical, practical and also disciplined. In the year 1967, he began his research in Shree Maadal and after his rigorous field work of eight years he was successful in publishing his first book named "Maadal" in April 1974.
4. Shri Singh has written 6 books on the prime instrument 'Shree Maadal' and Indian Classical music. He has created 8 Chhanda's. The Chhanda's do not exist in the Chhanda Shaastra of Maharishi Panini. This is an incredible contribution to Chhanda's in the history of India till date. He has self-composed Raagas which does not exist in the Indian Classical Music. This is an incredible contribution to Indian Classical Music. Shri Singh has also created a 14 beat Taal in Shree Maadal. He has created a Taal named "Deodeep" of 14 matra (beats), which never existed in the history of Shree Maadal Taal systems. He has also created two Taals which is indeed a spectacular composition in the field of Indian Classical Music.
5. Shri Singh received a number of awards viz felicitated by Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre(EZCC) in the year 1995& 1997 in Kolkata, West Bengal, Tourism Department in the year 1971 by the Department of Tourism, Darjeeling, West Bengal, felicitated by Department of Culture in the year 1976, Songs and Drama Unit, Darjeeling, West Bengal. He has also felicitated by Pashupati Kala Mandir, New Delhi in the year 1985. Shri Singh has also felicitated by State Pollution Board in the year 2004 by the State Pollution Board, Government of Sikkim. Felicitated by Department of Cultural Affairs in the year 1982 by the Department of Cultural Affairs, Mumbai, Maharashtra. Felicitated by Sikkim Sahitya Parishad in the year 1998. He has also felicitated by Sikkim Kalakar Sangha in the year 2005 and Master Mitrasen Thapa Puraskaar in the year 2019 by the Gorkhaland Territorial Administration, Darjeeling, West Bengal.

Padma Shri



SMT. DURGA BAI VYAM

Smt. Durga Bai Vyam is a Pardhan Gond artist hailing from Madhya Pradesh. Mentored and trained in the art of Gond painting by the father-figure of Pardhan Gond School of art —Jangarh Singh Shyam himself. Smt. Durga Bai has worked hard to resuscitate and regenerate the tribal art form. Her paintings mostly drawn from the folklores and stories of her tribe and their myths.

2. Born on 1st January, 1976 in a Pardhan Gond family in the village of Barbaspur, District-Dindory (M.P.), Smt. Vyam was traditionally trained in Dhigna (geometrical patterns drawn on wall & floor to decorate houses). After her marriage to Subhash Singh Vyam, another Gond artist of much repute, she lived in Sunpuri village for several years.

3. Smt. Vyam along with her family moved to Bhopal (M.P.) in 1996. It was here that she started painting Dhigna patterns on the walls of her rented house. The paintings captured the attention of many and the humble beginnings to a splendid journey in art began for Durga Bai. The celebrated Pardhan artist Late Jangarh Singh Shyam recognized her painting talent. Impressed by her work, he encouraged her to paint on paper. Smt. Vyam's career started with an artist's camp organized by Bharat Bhawan (1996) and thereafter, she worked for cultural centers in New Delhi, Dehradun, Mumbai, Khajuraho, Chennai etc. She has also participated in many camps and craft fairs. Her paintings were displayed in several exhibitions. In 2018, she has showcased her work in Kochi-Muziris Biennale. She has also visited London, Dubai, Frankfurt to show case her books & paintings. In 2003, Smt. Durga Bai debuted in digital and print illustrations through books and has since been illustrating books for publishers across countries. Most of the mare for children. These include "One Two Three" and "Night life of trees" Published by Tara Books, the first big book in Hindi called "Khichadi" published by Eklavya and "Bhimayana" on the life of Ambedkar published by Navyana publishing.

4. Smt. Vyam's genius lies in her conscious endeavor to keep the tribal art alive and thriving on modern media while keeping its soul, simplicity and essence intact. The most striking feature of her paintings is her ability to tell a story. Vibrant colours and universal themes are the hallmarks of her work. Durga Bai illustrated a book "Bhimayana" that raised the issues of caste discrimination against Dalits in India. Her compelling use of traditional graphic art and her artistic skill give her paintings a unique and powerful vision. Through her work Durgabai has taken risks: she has transcended the boundaries of the traditional western boxed illustrations by making fluid and lively illustrations.

5. Smt. Vyam has received several awards. The Madhya Pradesh Hastashilpa Vikas Nigam conferred a state award on Durga Bai in 2002. She was given the Rani Durgawati National Award for Excellence in Traditional Painting in 2009. She was felicitated by Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts, New Delhi for her contribution to art. Pratham Books felicitated her with the Katha Chitrakala award in 2009. The Aditya Vikram Birla Kalakiran Award was conferred on her in 2013 by the reputed Sangeet Kala Kendra, Mumbai. Durga Bai Vyam has won many accolades — National and international during the course of her journey. Some of these are State Award(2002), Shri Vishnu Chinchalkar Award (2008), Rani Durgawati National Award (2009), Sangeet Kala Kendra Award(2012), International Festival of films on Tribal art and culture Award(2012), Indira Gandhi National Award(2013), Devi Award(2015). Her illustrated book, 'The Night Life of Trees' won the Bologna Ragazzi Award in Italy.



DR. JAYANTKUMAR MAGANLAL VYAS

Dr. Jayantkumar Maganlal Vyas is a veteran forensic scientist and the founder Vice Chancellor of National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU), a unique and highly specialized university. He is heading the Directorate of Forensic Science of Gujarat, Gandhinagar for the past 29 years, presently tenanted the additional charge of its Director General. His vast experience of 48 years in the field of forensic research and investigations, makes him the senior most serving Forensic Scientist of the country.

2. Born on 6th November, 1951, Dr. Vyas hails from Junagadh in Gujarat. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in 1971 and Master of Science (Chemistry) degree in 1973, both from Saurashtra University. Later, he received Bachelor of Legislative Law degree from Gujarat University in 1986, and earned Ph.D. degree, also from Gujarat University in 2007. Soon after completing M.Sc. studies, he joined the Forensics organization of Gujarat in 1973 and continues to be associated with it till date.

3. Dr. Vyas has headed various Forensic Science Laboratories (FSL) of Gujarat State, leading to his appointment as the Director of Gujarat's Directorate of Forensic Science for 28 years before becoming its Director General in 2020. Over the years, he has specialized in varied branches of forensic science, innovated number of path breaking forensic technologies and its applications, and undertaken innumerable scientific investigations of heinous crimes in the country. Equally significant contribution has been as a pioneer in the vital area of professional forensic education wherein he initiated technical as well as hands-on practical training, not only for the forensic experts across the country but also the officials from police, judiciary and prosecution, to name a few.

4. In 2009, Dr. Vyas set up world's first and so far the only forensics university, the erstwhile Gujarat Forensic Sciences University. In the absence of any such university in the world, he developed his own structure to create a state-of-the-art skillbased institution of higher learning of international standard. Under his leadership of 12 years, the university was upgraded to be the National Forensic Sciences University with the status of INI. Within one year of establishment of NFSU, he has not only got its first campus running in New Delhi but also established campuses from scratch in Goa and Tripura and even launched various academic programs. His vision being to offer comprehensive training to strengthen the criminal justice delivery system, besides existing schools, he has also established dedicated schools for Police Science & Security Studies, Law & Forensic Justice, Medico-Legal Studies and Forensic Psychology. He has now established a modern Centre of Excellence for NDPS with more centres in other streams underway. Today, NFSU boasts of having around 5000 students, undergoing 70 specialized Post Graduate Degree / Diploma courses being run in every possible branch of the forensic science and its allied subjects.

5. Dr. Vyas has received a number of recognitions and awards, some of which includes 'President's Police Medal' for meritorious services in 1997, 'Best Forensic Science Laboratory Director of the country' in 2004, and 'Life Time Achievement Award' in the area of Forensic Chemistry by Amity University and AIIMS, New Delhi, in 2008. Amongst international recognitions, he has been awarded 'Distinguished International Forensic Scientist Award' by The Henry C. Lee Institute of Forensic science, University of New Haven, USA in 2018, 'Lifetime Achievement Award' by the International Association of Police Academies (INTERPA), Turkey in 2019, and 'Humanitarian Forensics Award' by the International Centre for Humanitarian Forensics, also in 2019, to name a few.



PROF. (MS.) BADAPLIN WAR

Prof. (Ms.) Badaplin War is a Professor in the Department of Khasi, North-Eastern Hill University, a Central University located in Shillong, the capital of the scenic state of Meghalaya.

2. Born on the 20th December, 1957 in Shillong, Prof. (Ms.) War received her M.A. degree in English from the North-Eastern Hill University, M.A. and M.Phil degree in Linguistics from the University of Delhi and PhD degree in Linguistics from the University of London. She joined the Department of Khasi, North-Eastern Hill University in 1983, just two years after the Department's inception.
3. Prof. (Ms.) War is an expert on Khasi Linguistics, Literature, Culture and Translation. She initiated and taught Linguistic Anthropology in the Department of Anthropology, NEHU. She also taught in the Department of Linguistics when it was first started in the University. She taught Transformational Grammar and Language Policy in India in the erstwhile Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages, Shillong Regional Centre. Her administrative responsibilities in the North-Eastern Hill University include her holding the office of the Head, Department of Khasi for three terms, Dean, School of Humanities, Chairperson of Women's Cell and the Presiding Officer of the Internal Complaints Committee.
4. Prof. (Ms.) War has published numerous books, book chapters and research papers and has successfully guided 40 MPhil and PhD research scholars working on different aspects of culture, language and literature. She has made presentations as a Resource Person on the various aspects of Khasi Literature and Language and its dialects, on the unique matrilineal social system of the Khasis at International, National and Regional Conferences. Seminars etc. A keen educationist, she took active part in building up local schools as the President of the Managing Committees of a Lower Primary School and of a Secondary School.
5. Prof. (Ms.) War is the Founder President of the Society for Khasi Studies, The Tribal Literary Forum of India and the Shillong Academic Society. She has contributed as Language Contributor in the People's Linguistic Survey of India published by Bhasha, Baroda; as Co-Coordinator and Resource Person on workshops etc. organized by Sahitya Akademi; as Chairperson of the Reviewing Committee for awarding financial assistance to Khasi Authors, Government of Meghalaya; as Member of the Main Committee for inclusion of the Khasi Language in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution of India; as Member of the Executive Board/ Governing Body of the North East Zone Cultural Committee, Ministry of Culture, Government of India; as Coordinator of the Committee on Preservation and Promotion of Endangered Languages in the University and as Member of the Advisory Committee for the State Literary Award, Government of Meghalaya. She was also the Adviser of the local Women's Welfare Society.
6. Prof. (Ms.) War is a member of The Linguistic Association of Great Britain and of The Transactions of Philological Society, United Kingdom. She has held the position of Chairperson of the Syllabus Committee on Khasi Papers for the Meghalaya Civil Services Examinations. She is presently the Treasurer of the Khasi Authors' Society (the Sahitya Sabha of other states in the country). She has been awarded the Rastriya Lok Bhasha Samman — 2003 by Gandhi Hindusthani Sahitya Sabha, New Delhi.