

SHRI ILAIYARAAJA

Shri Ilaiyaraaja is an Indian film composer who works in the South Indian cinema but predominantly in Tamil since the late 1970s. Regarded as one of the greatest music composers in India, Ilaiyaraaja is also an instrumentalist, conductor, singer, and songwriter. He has composed more than 6000+ songs and provided film scores for more than 1000 films, particularly being acclaimed for his background scores.

2. Born on June 1, 1947, Shri Ilaiyaraaja integrated Folk—in Tamil—and introduced western musical sensibilities into the South Indian musical mainstream. He is also known for creating music by fusing symphonic orchestration with traditional Indian instrumentation, often performed by Budapest Symphony Orchestra. In 1993, he organised a full symphony performed by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in London and thus became the First Indian to compose a full symphony, with Ravi Shankar being the only other Indian to do so. He is also the first Asian to compose a full symphony performed by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.

3. In the 2000's, Shri Ilaiyaraaja composed a variety of non-film music, including religious and devotional songs, an oratorio, and world music. He is usually referred to by the title Isaignani, or as The Maestro. He is a gold medalist in classical guitar from Trinity College of Music, London. In 2003, according to an international poll conducted by BBC, people from 155 countries voted his composition Rakkamma Kaiya Thattu from the 1991 film Thalapathi as fourth in the world's top 10 most popular songs of all time. He was also nominated in the Best Indian album Music Awards category at US based Just Plain Folks Music Organization, which is the largest grassroots music organization in the world, and stood third for his "Music Journey: Live in Italy". Popular world cinema portal Taste of Cinema placed Ilaiyaraaja at the 9th position in its list of 25 greatest film composers in the cinema history. In a poll conducted by CNN-IBN celebrating 100 years of Indian cinema in 2013, Ilaiyaraaja was voted as the greatest music composer of India with a maximum of 49%.

4. Shri Ilaiyaraaja has received several honours and awards. He won five Indian National Film Awards (the highest film honor in India); three for Best Music Direction and two for Best Background Score. In 2010, he received Padma Bhushan, awarded by the Government of India. In 2012, he received the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for his creative and experimental works in music field. In 2014, he has been chosen for his outstanding contribution to the Indian film music and was awarded the SIES Sri Chandrasekarendra Saraswati National Eminence award. In 2015, he was also honoured with the Centenary Award for lifetime achievement at the 46th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) at Panaji, Goa. On December 31, 2015, he was nominated by the Kerala Government for Nishagandi Puraskaram, the top award conferred by the Kerala Government's Tourism Ministry, for his artistic excellence and contributions to the Indian film industry.



USTAD GHULAM MUSTAFA KHAN

Ustad Ghulam Mustafa Khan is a traditional Hindustani Classical Vocalist belonging to the illustrious Rampur Sahaswan Gharana which owes the allegiance to SENIYA tradition. He has been performing from the age of 8 years and his performance career is more than 75 years.

2. Born on March 3, 1931, Ustad Mustafa Khan is amongst the few artists to have performed at the Rashtrapati Bhavan at a conference held by former Honorable President of India, Dr. Rajendra Prasad in 1952 with great maestros of that time merely at the age of 21. He was declared Junior Tansen in 1969 by Haridas Sangeet Sabha, Mangalore. He played the role of Baiju Bawra in a German Documentary Rain Maker shot in Jaipur. He has given his voice to more than 70 documentary films made by Films Division; many of them are recipients of International & National Awards.

3. Ustad Mustafa Khan has performed at various places all over the world. He performed at Baltimore University and was conferred an Honorary Citizenship of Baltimore City. The Governor of Maryland presented him with Honorary Citizenship for outstanding contribution to the field of Indian Classical Music in 1986. He performed at Golden Jubilee in the presence of the Honorable Queen of United Kingdom. He has also performed at Festival de Lille in the presence of Lady Diana in France. He collaborated on a project of ancient Indian Music Jati Gayan with Acharya K.C. Brahaspati, besides doing research work with him. He sang compositions derived from Natyashastra and Brihat Deshi written by Matang Rishi and from sharing Dev's Sangeet Ratnakar Based on Jati Gaan. Seven of his Ancient Indian music records of 30 minutes each were preserved in the Central Sangeet Natak Academy, New Delhi, making him the youngest artist to be preserved.

4. Ustad Mustafa Khan has travelled all over the globe to perform in the biggest of Classical Music Festivals. He has always believed in giving back to the society, be it identifying and nurturing some of the best musicians in India or mesmerizing the nation through music. With this belief he is proud to be the Guru of the likes of Asha Bhosale, Manna Dey, Geeta Dutt Roy, A.R. Rahman, Hariharan, Waheeda Rahman, Shaan, Sonu Nigam, Sagarika, Kamal Barot, Ranu Mukherjee, Alisha Chinoy and sons Murtuza Mustafa, Qadir Mustafa, Rabbani Mustafa, Hasan Mustafa all of these have achieved great heights and are nationally and internationally popular for their contribution.

5. Ustad Mustafa Khan has received various awards and honours including Padma Shri (1991), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (2003), Padma Bhushan (2006), 'National Tansen Samman (2008), Pandit Dinanath Mangeskar Award (2011), "Uttam Vag- Geykar Jialal Vasant Award" (2014), Yash Bharti Award (2016), Ustad Haafiz Ali Khan award (2003), Pandit Basavaraj `Rajguru National Memorial Trust award (2016), Honorary Citizenship for outstanding contribution to the field of Indian Classical Music (1986), Maharashtra Sanskrutik Puraskar, Tagore Ratna Award instituted by Central Sangeet Natak Academy in 2011 etc.



SHRI. P.PARAMESWARAN

Profound thinker, erudite writer, accomplished orator and enterprising intellectual, Shri P. Parameswaran is Director of Bharatheeya Vichara Kendram, Thiruvananthapuram, which focuses on studies and research in national reconstruction. He is also President of Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari. Shri Parameswaran is widely acknowledged in India and abroad as an authority on Swami Vivekananda and Sri Aurbindo.

2. Born on September 18, 1927, at Chaaramangalam near Cherthala in Aalappuzha District of Kerala, Shri Parameswaran graduated from University College, Thiruvananthapuram with distinction in BA (Hons.) in History. Earlier he was inspired by Swami Aagamananda of Sri Ramakrishna order. In his later life, his thoughts and vision were moulded by nationalist savants such as Shri Guruji Golwalkar and Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya. Shri Parameswaran entered the realm of social work in 1950 as a Pracharak of Rashtreeya Swayamsevak Sangh and thus dedicated his entire life for the service of the nation. He became Organising Secretary of Bharatheeya Jan Sangh in Kerala in 1957 and in 1968 assumed the post of All India Secretary and later Vice President of Jan Sangh. From 1975 till 77 he was imprisoned during emergency for participating in national agitations.

3. Shri Parameswaran became the Director of the Deendayal Research Institute-New Delhi in 1977 which was dedicated to social science research and rural reconstruction programmes. On October 27, 1982, he established the Bharatheeya Vichara Kendram at Thiruvananthapuram. Shri Parameswaran marshalled an intellectual movement in Kerala highlighting a national vision and emphasizing our traditional knowledge systems in accordance with historical changes. He monitored social, economic and political issues that influenced India's unity and integrity, and offered policy alternatives. He organised discussions, symposia, national seminars and international conferences on topics such as global studies, national security, political and legal studies, environmental issues, terrorism, higher education, science, technology and spiritualism.

4. Shri Parameswaran was former editor of Manthan, bulletin of Deendayal Research Institute, New Delhi. Currently he is editor of Vivekananda Kendra Patrika of Vivekananda Kendra and Pragati, research journal of Bharatheeya Vichara Kendram. He has published three dozen books and hundreds of articles on humanities, social sciences and Indian heritage. His seminal work is Marx and Vivekananda. His select articles in English have been published in three volumes in 2017 in association with his Navati celebrations. His complete works are under compilation. The contribution of Shri Parameswaran in popularising Swadeshi Science Movement is also noteworthy.

5. Shri Parameswaran presented Swami Vivekananda's perspectives on nationalism, science, philosophy and spiritualism to inspire and empower the youth and students at various universities and institutions. His scholarship was duly acknowledged abroad and was invited to the centenary celebrations of Swami Vivekananda's Chicago Address in 1993 at New York, Chicago and London. He was also appointed Member of the Court of Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi in 2000.

6. Shri Parameswaran is the recipient of numerous awards and honours. He was presented the Hanuman Prasad Poddar award at Kolkata in 1997 and Amrita Keerti Puraskar in 2002 by Mata Amritanandamayi Math. In 2004, he was honoured with Padma shri by the President of India. Hindu Renaissance Award, "Hindu of the Year 2010" was also awarded to him.

Padma Bhushan



DR. PHILOPOSE MAR CHRYSOSTOM MAR THOMA VALIYA METROPOLITAN

Dr. Philipose Mar Chrysostom Mar Thoma Valiya Metropolitan is the senior most bishop of the Malankara Mar Thoma Syrian Church. Mar Chrysostom is widely recognized for his spiritual serenity and relentless commitment to the society. True to his name Chrysostom which means 'Golden Tongued', he is indeed a champion of oration. His superb thoughts coupled with hilarious articulation enviably endear him to everyone. Apart from being a spiritual leader, he is a dynamic facilitator, voracious reader and a valiant prophet of justice and love. He respects diversity of opinions and is open to new ideas but uncompromising on principles for a noble life.

2. Born on April 27, 1918 as the son of Vicar General Very Rev. K. E. Oommen, he graduated from the Union Christian College of Aluva, Kerala. The strong christian nurture at home and his proclivity for the Gandhian ideals motivated him to join the Mar Thoma Ashram at Ankola, Karnataka in 1940 where he thoroughly identified with the people of that rural society for the betterment of their living conditions. He received theological education at the United Theological College, Bangalore and the St Augustine's College, Canterbury. He became an ordained minister of the Mar Thoma Church in 1944 and was consecrated as Bishop in 1953. He became the Suffragan Metropolitan in 1978 and the Metropolitan (Supreme head) of the church in 1999. On the 2nd of October, 2007 he relinquished his position and became the Valiya Metropolitan (Metropolitan Emeritus) of the church.

3. Philipose Mar Chrysostom was the President of the National Council of Churches in India (NCCI) and attended the General Assembly of the World Council of Churches (WCC) at Evanston in 1954 and at Uppsala, Sweden in 1968. He was an invitee to the 2nd Vatican Council in Rome and made valuable contributions to the ecumenical movement. At home, he was the President of various organizations of the church as well as the Governing Councils of many educational institutions where he exhibited his administrative acumen and far sightedness. On the 8th of August, 2007 he became the longest serving bishop of any christian church in India.

4. Many unprecedented social interventions were initiated by him which was authentic efforts to alleviate the pain of the suffering in our society. In commemoration of his 'Navathi' (90th birthday) a 'House for the Houseless' project was launched and houses were provided to close to 3000 families, in one year, irrespective of any differences. Their need alone was the criterion in the distribution of houses in this scheme. Projects for children in slums, especially orphans, to provide shelter, education and self-employment skills were started which eventually became a source of strength and solace for many. In 1986 when 18 orphan boys were vacated from their shelter homes, he took them in and provided accommodation at his own residence. Later he rehabilitated them all with a job, family and house. He voluntarily joined hands with the state governments in their various programmes for the improvement of the life of the poor and the down trodden.

5. Mar Chrysostom is a living model in the Kerala society in terms of his views about religious and cultural harmony in the land. He commands respect from all not only as a Christian spiritual leader but also as a genuine fellow human in life's pilgrimage. He makes efforts to meet with leaders of other religious persuasions and that brings about the message that religious differences are not divisions but enrichment of human life.

6. Mar Chrysostom is the recipient of numerous honours, both from the spiritual and secular arenas. More than 40 books have been published on him by a variety of authors.

7. His Grace Dr. Philipose Mar Chrysostom is undoubtedly a divine blessing to the world. His life, spanning century, is an open book for all to derive inspiration, inner power and enlightenment.



DR. RAMACHANDRAN NAGASWAMY

Dr. Ramachandran Nagaswamy is an acknowledged International expert in Indian Art, and is considered as the foremost authority on Chola Bronzes. Dr. Nagaswamy's articles have been published in 23 languages of the world by the UNESCO in its journal. He is a multi-faceted personality specializing in ancient Epigraphs, art, architecture, Sculpture Bronzes, Paintings, Numismatics, Religion and Philosophy, Temple rituals and Music and Dance and South East Asian Art. He travelled extensively both in the West and East like America, Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Denmark, Sweden, France, Italy, Greece, UK, USA, Canada, Thailand, Cambodia, Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, he has given lectures on Indian art and culture in all the leading Universities and Museums. He is the first to undertake an underwater Archaeological survey, off the Chola coast from Nagapattinam in the south to Poompuhar, in collaboration with the Oceanographic Survey of India. He was the first to initiate the Sound and light program at the Thirumalai Nayak Mahal, Madurai.

2. Born on August 10, 1930, Dr. Nagaswamy obtained his Masters Degree in Sanskrit language and Literature, from Madras University, and PhD degree from Deccan College, Poona and Training in Archaeology and conservation under the Archaeological Survey of India. He was a member of the National Art Purchase Committee, and is now a member of many Central government Committees. He served as advisor to Govt. of India for Documentation of Cultural Property, Thanjavur under UNESCO project, under the IGNCA. Dr. Nagaswamy started his career as Curator for Archaeology at the Government Museum, Madras, in 1959. He was transferred to the State Department of Archaeology in 1963 and appointed as the first Director of Archaeology of Tamil Nadu in 1966 and served in the capacity for 22 years. He established the State Department of Archaeology on a firm footing with several sections, has established eleven site museums. He was also instrumental in protecting the birth place of National Poet, Subramanya Bharati at Ettayapuram.

3. Dr. Nagaswamy served as a visiting Professor in Jawaharlal Nehru University on History and Epigraphy and Fine Arts. He served as the first Vice Chancellor of the Kanchipuram University— Sri Chandra Sekharendra Saraswati Vishwa Mahavidyalaya. Now he is serving as the National Guru by ICHR under National Gurukul Fellowship 2017-19.

4. Greatest contribution to the history of Indian Art is his appearance in the London High Court as an Expert Witness, on behalf of the Government of India, in the London / Pattur Nataraj case, and proving the provenance, date and other matters relating to history and Temple culture, that enabled India to win the Nataraja back to Tamil Nadu. The Trial Judge of the London High Court in his judgment has paid tributes to Dr. Nagaswamy by saying that "Nagaswamy, I am satisfied is an unequalled expert in his subject". Three Senior Judges of the Appeal Court concurred with the judgment of the Lower Court and remarked that there was a considerable body of evidence to establish stylistic similarities led from Dr. Nagaswamy, an expert Archaeologist and devout Hindu. Justice Ian Kennedy not only analyzed and considered in detail and in the final result preferred the opinion of Dr. Nagaswamy. A finding of this sort is almost unappealable". Mr. Adrian Hamilton, the Queen's Council, in his submission to the London Court mentioned that Dr. Nagaswamy has brought to bear unequalled learning and experience in the historical, cultural and religious aspects and the Hindu Religion.

5. Dr. Nagaswamy appeared in the Rama Janma Bhumi/Babri Masjid Demolition Case and gave evidence for 26 full days in the court proving that there did exist Hindu Temple beneath the Demolished Babri Masjid, confirming the Rama Janma Bhumi Claim based on the excavation conducted by the Archaeological Survey of India. Dr. Nagaswamy conducted comparative and microscopic examination of images of Nataraja stolen from Tamil Nadu and smuggled to Australia and issued the identity certificate at the request of the IDOL Wing CID, Tamil Nadu Police which clinched the case and facilitated the return of the IDOL and handing over to Honourable Prime Minister of India by Honourable Prime Minister of Australia.

6. Dr. Nagaswamy also founded the now world famous Natyanjali Dance festival with Dr. Kapila Varsayana, 30 years ago at Chidambaram. He himself has composed over twelve Dance dramas, and presented them in many countries as at the British Museum, London and other parts of the world. Through innovative methods he carried the message of Archaeology to rural areas of the State and awarded the title. 'Sila Lechya Tativajna' by Mahaswami of Kanchi. All leading Cultural organizations in Tamil Nadu have honored him with Appreciations. Tamil Nadu government conferred on him the title Kalaimamani. The MAM Charities awarded the MA Chidambaram chettiyar Award and cash prize of One lakh of Rupees. Pollachi Vallal N. Mahalingam conferred the title "Silai miitta chemmal" i.e. the retriever of Nataraja". Other honours are by The Royal Asiatic Society of Mumbai, Fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society, Fellow of the Bengal Art by Bangladesh, Fellow of the Bharati Sangam of Houston, USA, Tamil Sangam, Canada, Bharati Sangam, Chennai, Madras Samskrita Academy, Ramakrishna Mission, TN Archaeological Society, South Indian Numismatic Society, Sekkilar Research Centre, Chennai, Sekkilar Research Centre at Chidambaram, Arsha Vidya Gurukulam of Pujya Sri Dayananda Saraswati.

Padma Bhushan



PROF. VED PRAKASH NANDA

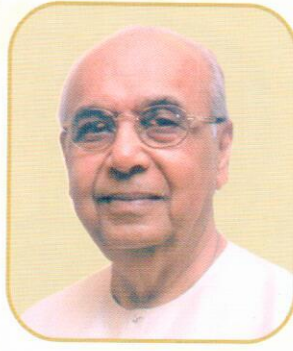
Prof. Ved Prakash Nanda is a John Evans Distinguished University Professor at the University of Denver; and Thompson G. Marsh Professor of Law, Founding Director and Director Emeritus of the International Legal Studies Program, and Director of the Ved Nanda Centre for International and Comparative Law, at the University of Denver Sturm College Of Law. He has taught thousands of individuals in the College (Faculty) of Law in the 52 years since he began teaching, which carries his legacy of selfless service to his students through his devotion to their advancement and upliftment as legal leaders of the world.

2. Born on November 20, 1934 in Gujranwala, Punjab, Professor Nanda's family migrated to India following the 1947 Partition and he grew up in Delhi. He received his B.A. and M.A. degrees at Punjab University and later studied in the Faculty of Law at Delhi University where he received the Gold Medal for first place in his class of 400 students. He was President of the Delhi University Student Union and was founding President of the Akhil Bharatiya Vidya Parishad. After moving to the United States in 1960, he decided to remain in the U.S. and share his love for mankind through teaching International Law and Policy. He has followed his passion for the law and for teaching during his long career in teaching international law and human rights, rising to the highest level of distinction in his profession. In 2006 the Ved Nanda Centre for International and Comparative Law and the Ved Nanda Professorship in International Law were established in his honour by former students in gratitude for his dedication to teaching more than 50 years.

3. Professor Nanda has been a leader in the international law community of the United States and the entire world. His students include the present Foreign Minister of Iran who has negotiated the Iran nuclear deal with the United States and six other western powers, and Dr. Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of State of the United States under President George W. Bush. He is known for his dedication to the legal field, especially International Human Rights and has been a leader in the progress of this field during the entirety of his professional career. He has participated at the highest levels of leadership of the development of this critical discipline in numerous professional organization advancing international human rights. He is also deeply involved in the interfaith movement in the United States, with special emphasis on advancing awareness in the U.S. of the Dharmic Traditions emerging from India. He is the chair of the Uberoi Foundation for Religious Studies, located in Colorado, which promotes understanding of the Dharmic Traditions — Hinduism, Jainism, Sikhism, and Buddhism — within the United States.

4. Professor Nanda has authored, co-authored, or edited 25 books and more than 225 chapters and law review articles, primarily in the area of international law and policy, over his 52 years of teaching career, helping to strengthen this field of critical importance in protecting vulnerable individuals around the world. And he co-authored with President Daisaku Ikeda of the Soka Gakkai a dialogue entitled, *Our World to Make: Hinduism, Buddhism, and the Rise of Global Civil Society*, and edited a compilation entitled, *Compassion in the Four Dharmic Traditions*. He regularly appears in both the electronic and print media, commenting on the significance of developments in the international arena and writes a regular column in the *Denver Post* on international affairs.

5. Professor Nanda has received many awards and honors. He was recently awarded the American Bar Association Section of International Law's highly esteemed Louis B. Sohn Award for "distinguished, long-standing contributions to the field of public international law." He was appointed an Honorary Professor in the Faculty of Law, University of Delhi. He has received Honorary Doctorate degrees from Soka University, Tokyo, Japan, in 1997, and from Bundelkhand University, Jhansi, India, in 2007. He was honored in the U.S. House of Representatives by Congressman Mike Coffman in 2017, received the Hiroshima Peace Award in 2016, the Gandhi — King — Ikeda Award for Peace Building, 2004; World Legal Scholar Award, World Peace Through Law Center, Beijing, 1990; and the University of Denver's John Evans Distinguished University Professor in 1992. He is an Elected Member of the American Law Institute, Honorary President, World Jurist Association, President, World Association of Law Professors, and is a member of the editorial boards and advisory boards of several scholarly and professional journals, including the *American Journal of Comparative Law*, *Indian Journal of International Law*, and *Human Rights Quarterly*.



PANDIT ARVIND PARIKH

Pandit Arvind Parikh — the senior-most disciple of Ustad Vilayat Khan — is ranked amongst the top ranking sitar players of India. Having received talim from the legendary Ustad for 60 years, he is a unique product of the Imdadkhani — Etawah Gharana — sometimes called the Vilayatkhani Gharana.

2. Born on October 19, 1927, Pt. Parikh's creative ability and spiritual family background enabled him to add his own personal dimension to the musical philosophy and expression of his traditional Gharana. He has the distinction of authoring two interesting books called "The Raga of My Life" and "The Glorious Tradition of Etawah-Imdadkhani Gharana — The Greats of Seven Generations".

3. Pt. Parikh is a 'Top' grade artiste and a regular broadcaster of All India Radio and Doordarshan. He has been featured at several major music festivals in India and has had very successful concert tours in several parts of Europe, West Asia, Far East and Australia. As a musicologist, teacher and cultural ambassador, Pt. Parikh has participated effectively in successfully heading cultural institutions like Music Forum, Indian Musicological Society (IMS) etc. He achieved high status in the music world being a Trustee of ITC-SRA from its inception and being a Coordinator of All India Musicians' Group (AIMG).

4. Pt. Parikh's appointment as a Vice-President of International Music Council (UNESCO) for the period 1994-97 is indicative of the respect that he commands all over the world.

5. Pt. Parikh has been conferred with several honours and awards including the "Akademi Ratna" award by Sangeet Natak Akademi for the year 2016 and the National Award by Sangeet Natak Akademi for Instrumental music (sitar) for the year 2003, Kumar Gandharva Rashtriya Samman Award in the year 2012 and Gaurav Puraskar by the Gujarat State Sangeet Natak Academy for the year 1997-98.



SHRI ANWAR AHMAD ALIAS ANWAR JALALPURI (POSTHUMOUS)

Shri Anwar Ahmad alias Anwar Jalalpuri was a true genius of various languages. He was lecturer in English by profession, poet of Urdu by heart and connoisseur of Hindi language.

2. He was born on July 6, 1947 in Jalalpur, Ambedkar Nagar District of Uttar Pradesh. Since childhood, he had a keen interest in poetry & prose which gave him a spirit of literature. Late Shri Jalalpuri received his Master of Arts degree in English from the prestigious Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, Master of Arts degree in Urdu from Awadh University, Faizabad and Adeeb Kamil from Jamiya Urdu, Aligarh. He was lecturer of English literature, N.D. College Jalalpur, Ambedkar Nagar. He established a college named after Mirza Ghalib in Jalalpur. Lucknow is honoured to be the host city of his intellectualism. Anwar Jalalpuri is also world famous for his 'Nizamat' which is always appealing to the people who love & admire poetry. He achieved many milestones in establishing himself as the one of the legend of Urdu literature.
3. Shri Jalalpuri was Founder/Chairman and Manager of Mirza Ghalib Inter College, Jalalpur, Ambedkar Nagar. He was member/advisor of the editorial boards various literary magazines and founder of Adabi Tanzim "bazzm-e Danish Jalalpur". He was also patron of Help U Educational and Charitable Trust, Lucknow.
4. Shri Jalalpuri has translated all 700 Shlokas of the Bhagvad Geeta into Urdu poetry. Driven by an urge to promote communal & ethnic harmony, and national integration, this initiative is really outstanding. He is of the opinion that "Geeta, Upanishads and Quran are nothing less than 'human heritage' and they must be preserved at all cost, there is an urgent need to spread the message contained in Geeta among the human beings, irrespective of their religion".
5. Shri Jalalpuri is also credited in translating 30th para of Quran as well as Geetanjali of Tagore into Urdu poetry and also translated famous persian poet Omer Khaiyyam Rubaiyat into Urdu poetry.
6. Shri Jalalpuri participated and conducted mushaira and kavi sammelans at national and international level during last 40 years of his life. He was writer and composer of about 24 books in Urdu and Devanagari script including Urdu Shayari Mein Geeta, Roshani Ke Safeer, Khare Paniyo Ka Silsila, Khushbu Ki Rishtedari, Jaagti Aankhein are some of his collection of Urdu-Hindi poetry. He was also credited with four books on 'Natiya Shairi'. 'Apni Dharti Apne Log' is compilation of his work on prose. Many biographies are also credited to his intellectualism. He was also a regular contributor in many leading newspapers & magazines. Dialouques and songs of the serial 'Akbar The Great' on television were penned by him. Shri Jalalpuri can also be seen in the movie 'Dedh Ishqia', in spite of being the Chairman of the Uttar Pradesh Madarsa Education Board and member of Uttar Pradesh Haj Committee, Uttar Pradesh Urdu Academy, Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti Urdu-Arabic-Persian University Executive Committee.
7. Shri Jalalpuri was recipient of several awards which include U.P. highest civilian award Yash Bharti 2015-2016, Uttar Pradesh Gaurav Sam man 2012, Firaq Samman 2012, Maati Ratna Samman, Uttar Pradesh 2011, Award by U.P. State Urdu Academy for Ghazal collection, Khaarey Paaniyon Ka Silsila-1985, honoured by Hindi Sahitya Samman, Prayag, Allahabad 2012, Shehanshah-e-Nizamat award by Bazm-e-adab, Roorkee, Uttarakhnad and many more awards and honours by various prestigious organizations in the field of literature.
8. Shri Jalalpuri passed away on January 02, 2018.

Padma Shri



MS. NOUF ALMARWAAI

Ms. Nouf Almarwaai is the founder of the Arab Yoga Foundation and a Clinical psychologist. She leads a regional awareness campaign to promote Yoga & Ayurveda in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the past 19 years. Nouf has also pioneered the practice of Yoga & Ayurveda in the KSA and the Gulf countries. She is an advocate of yoga & Ayurveda because her learning and practice has enabled her to conquer her health issues and lead a normal productive life. She struggled with Lupus and all its adverse effects since birth with no clear diagnosis. She is the key force behind the approval of yoga as a sport in KSA.

2. Born on May 21, 1980, Ms. Almarwaai earned her bachelor's degree from King Saud University in Riyadh, in Clinical Psychology in 2004. Later, she completed her medical training at King Khaled Hospital in Riyadh and volunteered in the Mental Health Hospital in Jeddah as clinical psychologist. She started practicing and studying yoga in 1998 and Ayurveda in 2006. She also has to her credit, a dozen intensive diplomas & certifications related to Yoga, Ayurveda and Naturopathy from Australia and India.

3. Ms. Almarwaai founded the Arab Yoga Foundation in 2010, formally known as Saudi Arabia Yoga School since 2005. In 2004, she started teaching yoga & appear in media to educate the society about yoga & Ayurveda health benefits. In 2009 she opened the first Ayurveda & Yoga center in KSA. In 2012, she started Naturopathy Co. Ltd. The first Ayurveda, Naturopathy & Yoga awareness company with healing & education center. but struggled for license & approvals and closed down after incurring big loss. However, she already managed to utilize it as a platform for campaigning her cause for 3 years.

4. In over two decades; Ms. Almarwaai has created a generation of yogis in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, trained thousands of people and certified around 500 teachers from many Arabic nationalities not only Saudis. Nouf was able to convince her audience in Saudi that yoga is not a religion but a way of life. She was threatened & many tried to stop her. She fought a case for yoga for one complete year 2017-2018, she was accused. During that time, she approached Princess Reema Bint Bandar Al Saud, the Deputy Director of the General Sports Authority and urged her to do something about yoga. Princess Reema gave full support to her case and the Yoga cause. Ms. Almarwaai worked with the AYF team tirelessly to submit studies, standards and proofs of yoga health benefits and finally convinced the authorities that yoga is the new remedy every country needs, the approval of yoga as a sport activity was declared on 13th of Nov 2017. Because of her single handed efforts, there were yoga classes in most of the gyms, women's centers and hotels spas in Jeddah since 2010. Now in each city of KSA there is a yoga teacher including Mecca and Madina, a big yoga community & a generation of yoga teachers.

5. Ms. Almarwaai was awarded the title Yogacharya by Swami Vedyananda from Shri Aurbindo Ashram in Kerala 2008, she was also honored internationally and locally by several Saudi organizations for sharing yoga as a social service. She is a familiar media personality and she is hosted by various TV channels locally and internationally for her yoga and lifestyle consultancy. In addition, her authoritative opinions of health and wellness as well as her advocacy of Yoga and Ayurveda has dominated the press locally and regionally. She is also invited to speak at seminars and conferences locally and internationally. She has endorsed and worked in wellness & health projects with many popular national and multinational companies like Uniliver and P&G's, Gold's Gym and Enaya Care Co Ltd, to certify their yoga teachers. Also the first to teach Ayurveda in a Saudi University (Dar Alhekna) in 2015. She had been honored by the General Consulate of India for organizing & supporting the Consulate in the Yoga Day Celebrations and popularizing yoga in the Gulf region.



DR. (SMT.) RANI BANG

Dr. (Smt.) Rani Bang exemplifies idealism, social service and scientific research. She has made landmark contribution to improving women's life in India and globally – as a gynecologist, as a research scientist and as a social activist.

2. Born on September 17, 1951 Smt. Bang completed her medical education (MBBS and MD) in India with gold medal and at the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, (MPH) in the US. Along with her husband, Dr. Abhay Bang, she founded the voluntary organization, SEARCH, (Society for Education, Action and Research in Community Health) 32 years ago in one of the most underdeveloped districts, Gadchiroli, in Maharashtra. There they live and work with the people in villages to provide community-based health care and conduct research. They have established the now famous community health care and research center 'Shodhagram' in this tribal area.

3. By conducting the first ever study in two villages in Gadchiroli and publishing in the Lancet, Smt. Bang first brought to the notice of the world that rural women had a large hidden burden of gynecological diseases. She subsequently trained the Dais in villages to make them village level gynecologists. With sound evidence she argued that rural women in India need comprehensive reproductive health care. She has been a globally powerful advocate of women's health and helped shape national and global policies.

4. Smt. Bang has provided gynecological and obstetrical care to literally lakhs of unserved women in Gadchiroli district and around. She developed a program for providing surgical care to rural-tribal people for the chronic surgical diseases. She and her colleagues have been conducting Sex Education Workshops called Tarunya Bhan all over Maharashtra State since 1990. She has led a campaign against alcohol which inspired thousands of women resulting in the prohibition in their district and influenced the State policy.

5. Smt. Bang has written two books in Marathi on women's lives – 'Goieen' and 'Kanosa'. 'Goieen' has received the State literary award and one book in English – 'Putting Women First.' She was a member of the National Commission on Population, Govt. of India, and of several national and international committees.

6. Smt. Bang has received more than fifty awards for her health work, research and social service including, honoured by the government of Maharashtra with the highest honour of the state – Maharashtra Bhushan, the TIME magazine honour as 'Global Health Hero', the first MacArthur Foundation International Award, the prestigious Bajaj award for her work for the upliftment of women in India, the National Award for Women's Development through Application of Science and Technology for the year 2007, Stree Shakti Puraskar, 2005 from Ministry of Women & Child Development Govt. of India. (2008), Public Health Champion Award for outstanding contribution to public health in the country from WHO India (2016), Doctorate Honoris Causa from SGPIMS, Lucknow (2015), The honorary D.Litt. from Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth, Pune (2015) and from the SNDT University Mumbai, (2012), Distinguished Alumnus Award Department of International Health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg, School of Public Health, Baltimore, Society of Scholars elected from The Johns Hopkins University, U S A (2013), the 'Baa' Award from Gandhi National Memorial Society, Pune (2009), Savitri Bai Phule Puraskar from the Govt. of Maharashtra. (2000) for the work among women, Kasturba Gandhi Puraskar (1999), the Adi-Shakti Jeevan Gaurav Puraskar from Mahalakshmi Trust Pune (2002).



DR. ABHAY BANG

Dr. Abhay Bang is a Gandhian and a physician, who exemplifies a rare combination of idealism, social service and scientific research. He has served the tribal and rural people for more than thirty years. He is globally renowned as a pioneer in community health research, especially for how to provide health care to newborns and children in rural areas and reduce child mortality.

2. Born on September 23, 1950, Dr. Abhay Bang grew up in the Sevagram Ashram and was inspired by the philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi. Trained in India (MBBS and MD) and at the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, (MPH), he was always a top notcher in the University and won 3 Gold Medals. Moved by the need to improve health of the rural people, along with his wife Dr. Rani Bang, he founded the voluntary organisation, SEARCH, (Society for Education, Action and Research in Community Health) 32 years ago in a tribal district, Gadchiroli, in Maharashtra. They have developed a village health care program which has now become a nationally and internationally famous model. From this remote place, they have evolved a very innovative and powerful approach of 'Research with the People' which has generated, time and again, new evidence and solutions to shape national and global thinking.

3. Dr. Abhay Bang has influenced the health policy in India and globally several times. He first brought to the notice of the world that rural women had a large hidden burden of gynecological diseases. He showed how pneumonia in children can be managed in villages. He designed a revolutionary new approach on how newborn care can be delivered in villages. This approach, called the 'Home-based Newborn Care' has been hailed as a Vintage Paper in the Lancet, and has been now replicated in several countries. It has become a national policy in India, delivered by 8 lakh ASHAs to nearly ten million neonates in villages every year. His research on nutrition-based minimum wages for farm labourers changed the state policy. He estimated and brought to the public notice the Hidden Child Mortality in Maharashtra. He led a campaign against alcohol and tobacco which led to introduction of prohibition in Gadchiroli district, and has now launched a district program called 'Muktipath' to reduce tobacco and alcohol. He has written 2 books of which the one on his own heart disease is extremely popular in Maharashtra. It has changed the lifestyle of millions of people and has received the State literary award.

4. Dr. Abhay Bang is currently the chairman of the Expert Committee on Tribal Health, Govt. of India, and led preparing a new national roadmap of tribal health care in India. He was a member of the High Level Expert Group to design Universal Health Coverage for India (2010-12), of the National Commission on Population, and of The National Commission on Macro-economics and Health. He was a member of the Mission Steering Group, of the National Rural Health Mission, Govt. of India, and of the National ASHA Mentoring Group, and several national and international committees. He was a member of the High Level Committee on Tribal People in India. He is a member of the Central Health Council, the apex body of the Ministry of Health, Govt. of India.

5. Dr. Abhay Bang has received more than fifty awards for his health service, research, social and literary work, including the highest honour of the state government 'Maharashtra Bhushan', The TIME magazine selected him as the 'Global Health Hero', the Public Health Champion Award for outstanding contribution to public health in the country from WHO India (2016), Civil Liberties Award from Nani A Palkhiwala Memorial Trust, Mumbai (2016), Doctorate Honoris Causa from SGPIMS, Lucknow (2015), honorary D.Litt. from Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth, Pune (2015), the Society of Scholars, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, USA. (2013), Distinguished Alumnus Award Department of International Health, Johns Hopkins, School of Public Health, USA (2013), 'Dory Storms' Child Survival Recognition Award Washington (2010), Save the Children, US award for global contribution to saving newborns and children (2004), MacArthur Foundation International Award for creative and effective institutions (2006), 'Bapu' Award from Gandhi National Memorial Society, Pune (2009), National Award of the Indian Council of Medical Research for outstanding research in community medicine, Mahatma Gandhi Award for humanitarian service, The Karve award for the best literary book in Marathi, (2000), and the State Award for De-addiction – Government of Maharashtra. (2001).

Padma Shri



SHRI MOHAN SWAROOP BHATIA

Shri Mohan Swaroop Bhatia has been writing columns in leading magazines and newspapers. The publications in leading magazine 'DHARMYUG' inspired him very much. Apart from print media, A.I.R. & Doordarshan have also highlighted his features, plays & talks from its centres in National & International Programmes. The Programmes 'Balgopar', 'Chandamama', 'Gram Goshti', 'Ram Lila', 'Nautanki' etc. were conducted & directed by him and earned wide popularity. He has been renowned commentator of A.I.R. & Doordarshan for Shri Krishna Janmashtami & Barsana Holi.

2. Born on June 9, 1935, in the family of freedom fighter Shri Girdhar Lal Bhatia, Shri Bhatia graduated in 1955. From the very beginning Shri Bhatia had a deep instinct for literature. He used to sit in college library for long for his studies. When he was in class VIII only, for the first time, he read the novel 'Shekhar-ek-Jeevani' written by Shri 'Agyeya'. Later Shri Bhatia authored a Drama 'RANGMAHAL' for A.I.R. Mathura that was relayed on 12th Sept. 1976 and on 14th & 15th May 1977. It was staged where the role of heroine was played by today's famous film script writer Dr. Achla Nagar. On this Drama, the following remark of Shri 'Agyeya' needs special mention. He noted "While going through 'RANGMAHAL' at several places I went in my past memories which brought alive the faces of Shekhar-Ek-Jeevani. I have no hesitation to put on record that if in future something is written by me, RANGMAHAL's hero Divya & heroine 'Shaku' will be my source of inspiration.

3. From the age of 22 years only, Shri Bhatia was involved in Active Journalism. He was honored by Information Deptt. Uttar Pradesh & Railway Ministry by including him in various groups of eminent Journalist to monitor the developmental works in U.P. & Maharashtra.

4. Shri Bhatia has been senior correspondent for 'Nav Bharat Times', 'P.T.I. Bhasha', 'Akashvani Delhi, Lucknow & Gorakhpur', 'Amar Ujala', 'Dainik Sainik', 'Swarajya Times', 'Rajasthan Patrika', 'Dainik Pravada'. Weekly 'Nai Lahar', 'Braj Darshan', 'Brajvasi and Daily Swarajya Times' had been edited by him. Presently for the last 25 years he has been editing monthly 'KARSHNI KALAP'- a spiritual magazine. He has been Vice Chairman of Uttar Pradesh Sangeet Natak Academy under the chairmanship of Shri Birjoo Maharaj, famous Kathak Samrat.

5. Shri Bhatia has the credit to record interviews with many VVIPs including Former President of India Gyani Jail Singh, Former P.M. Shri Atal Bihari Bajpai, Shri V.V.Giri, Shri V.P. Singh, Smt. Vijay Laxmi Pandit & others. He has been blessed by a galaxy of eminent Saints including Shri Dongreji Maharaj, Shri Morai Babu, Mahamandleshwar, Swami Karshni Gurushar-ananand ji Maharaj, Shri Vijai Kaushal ji Maharaj, Shri Govindanand Tirtha ji, Shri Rajendra Das ji, Sadhwi Ritambharaji & many others.

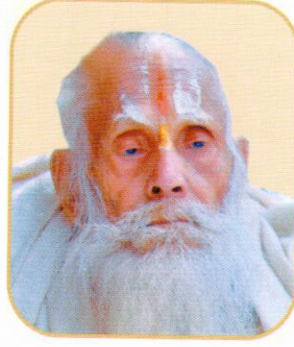
6. Shri Bhatia has the privilege of foreign tours to Mauritius, Canada, USA, Tanzania, Kenya, Thailand, Cambodia, South Africa, Nepal & Shri Lanka for the cultural exchanges. Shri Bhatia has directed 30 scholars for Ph.D. He is the founder of a prestigious & value based CBSE +2 school known as 'Gyan Deep Shiksha Bharati'. The list of 'Honors Earned' by him is very long. During last 50 years, he has earned more than 200 citations. To name a few are — 'Lok Bhooshan' by Uttar Pradesh Hindi Sansthan, 'Sahitya Mahopadhyay' by Hindi Sahitya Sammelan, 'Lai Bahadur Shastri Samman', Indira Gandhi National Award, 'Brij Vibhooti Samman' by Braj Kala Kendra, 'Sampadak Shriomani' by Sahitya Mandal Nathadwara (Raj) 'Braj Shiromani' by Mauritius High Commissioner, Varishtha Nagrik Samman', 'Vivekanand Samman', 'Avantika Kalashri Samman', 'Kastoorba Gandhi Samman', 'Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam Samman', 'Sanskar Bharati Samman', 'Shiksha Ratna Samman', 'Patrakar Ratna Samman', 'Samaj Ratna Samman' etc.

7. Shri Bhatia has been contemporary to famous literary figures like Mahadevi Verma, Shri Amrit Lal Nagar, Shri Shrinarayan Chaturvedi & others. 'RANG MAHAL' & 'HANSTE CHALIYE' are famous books written by him. Shri Bhatia has taken Braj's 'Charkula Dance' to National and International stage which was formerly limited to only eight villages of Braj. He has the credit of bringing its Charismatic features to the lime light of dancing world. He has the privilege to make Lathamari Holi of Barsana, Holi of Phalen where the holy man comes out of burning flames without any fear, Huranga of Dauji to the recognition of National & International fame.

8. As a recognition of Shri Bhatia's services, a voluminous (2 volumes with 1800 pages, biggest Abhinandan Granth ever published) sketch of his work and contributions to Braj culture, and various opinions of National personalities has been published by 'Jamuna Jall Sansthan' Mathura.

9. The most important contribution of Shri Bhatia is his devotion to Braj culture & Braj folk songs for which he took pains from the early age of 22 years. Sixty years back, when there was no means of transportation & communication, no scooters, no bikes, hazardous roads, no sanitation, Shri Bhatia used to go on cycle by taking lift of someone and sitting on its carrier & collected about 5000 BRAJ FOLK SONGS.

10. The task of listening folk songs from the village women with veil on their face was not so easy. It was after much persuasion that their queries of 'Why' could be addressed and the songs were recorded in Tape Recorder. These songs were sung on the occasion of Birth, Marriage, Holi, and such other joyous moments. He has kept this rich record safe and away from the effects of Film and T.V. channels. This invaluable literature and collection of Braj Sanskriti is due to the hard and devotional work of Shri Bhatia's untiring efforts of last 50 years. The future generations will be able to know its value later on. In today's world it can't be collected by spending crores of rupees.



SHRI NARAYAN DAS

Shri Narayan Das, head of Triveni Dham in Distt. Jaipur, Rajasthan and Brahmapeeth Dakor Gujrat has been an inspirational force in the spiritual world of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, National Capital Region, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal. Millions people have been motivated by his magnetic personality to dedicate themselves in the service of people irrespective of caste, colour, faith or sex.

2. Born on September 18, 1927 at Chimanpura near Jaipur teenaged Shri Das took a vow of Brahmacharya (celibate). In the spiritual guidance of his Sadguru Shri Bhagwan Dass he performed penance (Tapasya) for 12 years by sitting in the fire-hot sand dunes in the middays of summer and standing in cold river water at night in winter. During this austerity while he used to recite uninterruptedly name of Lord Shri Ram he realized the secret of divine power.

3. Shri Das now started imparting his knowledge and essence of realization to the people at large. He founded Keertan Mandals who organize congregational singing of divine songs in prayer of God. More than 60 Keertan Mandals are performing such keertans on Sundays regularly not only in India but also in other countries. With a view to creating awareness about spiritual life, he got repaired many depilated temples and got constructed new, with the help of his disciples. The keertan Mandals have become source of service of the masses.

4. Shri Das not only inspired his followers towards spirituality but also motivated them to devote themselves for the cause of imparting education among masses. He founded more than 50 educational institutions in the various parts of country including Jagadguru Ramanandacharya Rajasthan Sanskrit University Madau Jaipur, PG. Govt. Collage for boys at Chimanpura and PG Govt. for girls at Shahpura. He did yeoman's service in the field of health as well, besides his meeting suffering people every day and giving them healing touch, he founded a 100 bedded hospital at Ajitgarh, Distt. Sikar and 200 bedded hospital at Saindhawa, Distt. Khargon, MP. He got constructed buildings of many P.H.C.s and C.H.C.s and handed over them to Govt. for running health Centre. He organizes medical camps where free medical services are provided. He has got constructed many Dharmashala (Guest houses) at various religious places where accommodation is provided to devotees at a very nominal price. He runs a Gaushala (Cow shelter) where more than 2000 cows of Indian breed are nourished. He motivates people to care for his precious cattle wealth which is back bone of not only of Indian economy but also is source of good health.

5. Shri Das is heartily revered globally. His followers who are spread over in U.S.A., U.K. Germany, Japan, Indonesia, and many other countries donate liberally for the service of people residing in rural India. He was installed as head of Triveni Dham in 1971 and Khakchowk Brahmapeeth, Dakor in 1998. He founded Triveni Khalsa in Kumbh fair at Nasik in 2003. He has been enthroned at the seat of Khoji Dwaracharya on January 1, 2004.



SHRI SOMDEV KISHORE DEVVARMAN

Shri Somdev Kishore Devvarman is a tennis player who has represented India at the world level from 2008 to 2016. He reached a career high ranking of #62 on the ATP Tour in July 2011, making him the highest ranked Indian to play the professional tennis circuit since August 1990.

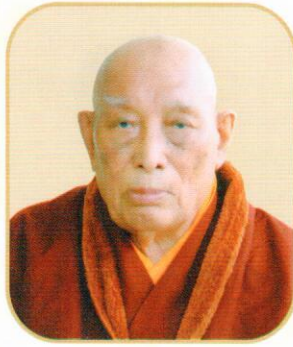
2. Born on February 13, 1985, Shri Devvarman began playing tennis at the age of 8 in Chennai and was awarded a sports scholarship at the University of Virginia, USA, from where he graduated in June 2008 with a degree in Sociology. He earned the distinction of being the only collegiate player to have made three consecutive finals at the NCAA Singles Championships (2006- 2008), winning it back to back in 2007 and 2008.

3. Having turned professional in the summer of 2008, Shri Devvarman reached his first ATP tour event final at the Chennai Open in 2009, following which he led India into the World Group of the Davis Cup Championship after a gap of 11 years in South Africa by beating the hosts on their home turf.

4. In October 2010, Shri Devvarman won the Men's Singles gold medal at the 19th Commonwealth Games in Delhi, followed by the double achievement of winning the Men's Singles gold medal again at the 16th Asian Games in Beijing in November 2010, as well as the Men's Doubles gold medal (partnering Shri Sanam Singh). This made him the first player to win gold in singles and doubles in the same year since 1974, as well as the first Indian to win a Singles gold medal in tennis. He had a career threatening shoulder injury in 2012, which saw his ranking drop to 733. He bounced back from that to take part in the 2012 London Olympics and also brought his ranking up to 76 earning him a nomination for "Comeback Player of the Year" in 2013 by the ATP.

5. Now retired, Shri Devvarman runs a programme to promote fitness and sports at the school level called 'Get Fit', as well as a non-profit organization called 'Life is a Ball' in Chennai, which conducts similar programmes for under-privileged children from Govt. run schools who do not have access to sporting facilities and training. The programmes have collectively reached out to over 65,000 children in over 50 schools in Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad and Mumbai.

6. Shri Devvarman has received several awards and honours which include "Athlete of the year" in February 2011 by Sports Illustrated, India; Arjuna Award in 2011 for outstanding achievement in National Sports and for his contribution to Indian tennis etc.



DR. YESHI DHONDEN

Dr. Yeshe Dhonden is a former personal physician to His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama. He has become a well known physician in India, due to his miracle and tangible treatments for cancer, one of the major causes of deaths all over the world.

2. Born on May 15, 1927 at Lhunpo Shol, a region near to Ngakar Tse in Lhoka, Chinese occupied Tibet, Dr Dhonden descended from the greater family lineage of Ngog Choeku Dorjee and Ngog Lodhen Sherab. At the age of 12, he began to enroll on the course of Tibetan medicine and astrological science at Men-Tsee-Khang (Tibetan Medical & Astro. Institute in Lhasa, Tibet.), under the tutelage of renowned physician, namely Dr Kyenrab Norbu, a personal physician to H. H. the 13th Dalai Lama, and at 20, he graduated the Institute.

3. Thereafter, Dr Dhonden practiced Tibetan medicine in the regions of Lhoka and Dhagsa, during which, many people died of an epidemic outbreak. He formulated a new recipe and was able to eradicate the deadly disease from the regions. This remarkable achievement won instant fame in his medical practice. In 1959 he came into exile in India and two years later, under the guidance and patronage of H. H. the 14th Dalai Lama, he took charge in establishing and administering Manjin Khang, (the present institute of Men-Tsee-Khang) in Dharamsala, and subsequently played multiple roles of a consulting doctor, a lecturer and a director. The following years, he did a personal physician to H. H. the Dalai Lama, and also gave medical consultations to the retinue of H. H. the Dalai Lama and Indian officials including Indira Gandhi, the former Prime Minister of India. Due to his expertise in the discipline and unrivaled patience, he became a hugely popular doctor and therefore, the first rung development of Men-Tsee-Khang was attributed to him.

4. In 1969 Dr Dhonden resigned from Men-Tsee-Khang and began to run a private clinic. But he continued to serve H. H. the Dalai Lama as a personal physician till 1980, and the twenty year medical service without any negligence and carelessness with which H. H. the Dalai Lama always feels pleased.

5. In 1967, under the instruction of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Dr Dhonden paid a visit to Spain for medical consultations and participation in the international seminar on Tibetan medicine. Unprecedentedly, he hosted the Tibetan National Flag fluttering in the conference hall and gave an impressive presentation on Tibetan medicine, thereby being awarded with the Gold medal. Since 1980, he has been intensively travelling to Western countries, particularly the United States of America wherein he founded the Medicine Buddha Association. Subsequently he started teaching on Tibetan medicine at the Virginia University, and also agreed to join a laboratory study using Tibetan medicine to treat mice with sarcoma. In 2000, he again participated in a clinical research, on the efficacy and safety of Tibetan medicine in treating breast cancer at the San Francisco University, USA. He is the first person who has introduced the Tibetan medicine-its treatment methods and profound principles —to the western audience.

6. In 1987, Men-Tsee-Khang awarded Dr Dhonden with Manrampa Chewa, the second highest degree in the Tibetan Medicine. Since 1980, he has provided free or concessional healthcare service to hundreds and thousands of patients, namely new arrivals from Tibet, Tibetan monks and nuns regardless of religion sects, and residential countries. From the time he started running the private clinic, he has diligently served countless patients including Tibetans Indians and people from every nook and corner of the world. Even if living in a small clinic, he became a Tibetan doctor of local, national and international repute. In 1981, he participated in the international Conference of Tibetan Medicine in Washington D.C, during which, he gave a presentation on Tibetan medicine, and did medical consultations as well.

7. In 2012, he received the Yuthok Award from Central Council of Tibetan Medicine based in Dharamsala, for his outstanding dedication and significant contribution to the promotion and preservation of Tibetan medicine. Though passing through the age of 90, everyday he tries to quench the thirst of about 50-70 patients.



SHRI ARUP KUMAR DUTTA

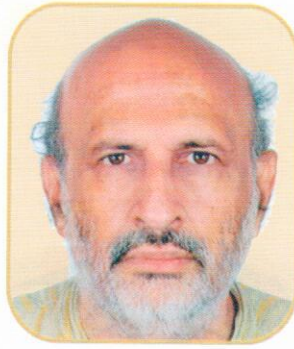
Shri Arup Kumar Dutta is a fulltime author and freelance journalist who has attained international recognition. A versatile writer and scholar, during a span of five decades he has written short-fiction, long-fiction, non-fiction, satires, books for young adults as well as newspaper articles and columns. With 16 books for adults and 17 novels for young adults to his credit so far, he has been not only acknowledged as a pioneer in English writing in the North-East, but also as a writer who has spent a lifetime familiarizing the rest of India about the history and culture of this region.

2. Born at Jorhat in Assam on July 2, 1946, Shri Dutta completed his Senior Cambridge from the Lawrence School, Sanawar, and B.A. and M.A. from Ramjas College and Delhi University. He returned to Assam to take up teaching for sometime even as he commenced his writing career. With his books such as *The Kaziranga Trail* and *Unicornis* attaining success at a global level, he could give up teaching and take to full time writing and freelance journalism.

3. Shri Dutta's longer works of fiction include *The Anagarika's Swansong*, *Red Camellia Green* and *the Ahoms*, the last being an imaginative account of a dynasty which ruled the Brahmaputra Valley for six hundred years. Based as they are on meticulous, investigative research and documentation, his non-fiction books for adults exhibit the true journalistic ethos and also testify to his scholarship and erudition. These include *The Brahmaputra* (formally released by then Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee at New Delhi), *Unicornis – The Great Indian One Horned Rhinoceros* (formally released by animal-activist Smt. Maneka Gandhi in New Delhi), *The Final Frontier*, *The Roving Minstrel* etc.

4. Shri Dutta also writes for young adults and is one of the biggest names in India in this genre. His adventure novels for young people include *The Kaziranga Trail*, *The Blind Witness*, *Smack*, *Lure of Zangrila*, *Footprints in the Sand*, *The Boy who became King* etc. His books have been translated to many Indian languages as well as foreign languages such as German, Japanese, Italian, Russian, Czech, Hungarian etc. Three of his books have been made into feature films while two have been brought out in Japanese Braille. Two of his books are featured in the 'Literature of the World' series brought out by the Japanese newspaper *Asahi Shimbun* in October 2, 2001 and his *Kaziranga Trail* is one of the three entries from India included in the New York publication *1001 Books You Must Read Before You Grow Up*.

5. Shri Dutta has been associated with numerous organisations and institutions at the national and regional level. As a writer of newspaper editorials and columns he has been instrumental in the moulding public opinion. In 2004 the Government of India appointed him Director, Jawaharlal Nehru Indian Cultural Centre, Jakarta, with the rank of a Counselor, the Embassy of India, Jakarta, Indonesia, a post he held for four years. His books have received numerous prizes and awards and he was the first recipient of the Shankar's Award in 1979. He has also been given the Journalist Welfare Foundation, New Delhi Award (1982), The Kamal Kumari National Award for Journalism (2004), The Lifetime Achievement Honour by Association of Writers and Illustrators for Children, New Delhi, the Indian chapter of the International Board of Books for Young People (IBBY) etc. In 2018 he was conferred a D. Litt Honoris Causa by the University of Dibrugarh.



SHRI ARVIND KUMAR GUPTA

Shri Arvind Kumar Gupta is a well-known Indian science popularizer and educator. He has conducted lecture-demonstrations and workshops in over 3000 schools throughout India.

2. Born on December 4, 1953, Shri Gupta received his Bachelor of Technology degree from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur in 1975. During his student days, he was inspired by socialist ideals. He began his journey by teaching the children of mess staff at the institute who had no opportunities for formal education.

3. On graduating, he worked for a few years with Tata Motors in Pune. In 1978, he participated in the Hoshangabad Science Teaching Programme, considered to be India's most progressive experiment in science education. The experience at Hoshangabad prompted him to create simple toys and science experiments using low-cost, locally available materials and throwaway trash. His first book, *Matchstick Models and other Science Experiments* was reprinted in 12 languages. In 1978, he spent four months with the famous Gandhian architect Laurie Baker in Trivandrum.

4. From 2003-2011, Shri Gupta worked at the Children's Science Centre of the Inter-University Centre for Astronomy & Astrophysics (IUCAA), Pune. He and his team continued to devise new toys and teaching materials. The process of making these was uploaded on the internet in the form of photographs and videos. Today, Shri Gupta's website (www.arvindguptatoys.com) documents over 1500 toys through photographs and instructions, while his YouTube channel contains 8600 short video clips in 18 languages, freely available without copyright restrictions, and have a viewership of over 63 million. His science models and toys have also been widely featured in daily newspapers and magazines across the country. In his career spanning four decades, Shri Gupta has written 25 books on science. He has also translated over 380 books into Hindi, spreading the message of peace, rational enquiry and scientific temper among children. He has presented over 125 TV programmes on science-based fun activities on Doordarshan (Tarang) and other popular TV shows.

5. Shri Gupta has received several awards for his outstanding contributions. These include the inaugural National Award for Science Popularisation amongst Children (1988); Hari Bhau Mote Award of the Marathi Vigyan Parishad (1988); the National Association for the Blind Award for designing teaching aids for pre-school blind children (1991); the Granthali award for his book *Khel* (1992); the Ruchi Ram Sahni Award for science popularization (1993); the Hari Om Ashram Award by the UGC (1995); the Distinguished Alumnus Award of IIT Kanpur (2000); the Mary McCurdy Award of CESI (2001); the Prof. G.D. Parikh Memorial Award (2004); the Prashant Padhye Award (2005); the Harmony Silver Award (2007); the Indira Gandhi Award for Science Popularization (2008); the One India, One People Award (2009); the Prof T. Navaneeth Rao Best Teacher's Award (2010); the Third World Academy of Sciences Award (2010); the Sri Chandrasekarendra Saraswati National Eminence Award (2011); the C.N.R. Rao Education Foundation Prize for Outstanding Science Teacher (2011); the Dadhichi Award (2013); the IBN-Lokmat Prerna Award (2014); the Distinguished Math Teacher's Award by AMTI (2016); and the Dr. Narendra Dabholkar Memorial Award by the Maharashtra Foundation (2018).



PROF. DIGAMBER HANSDA

Prof. Digamber Hansda is a well known litterateur who has been continuously working for the development of Santali language, literature and traditional culture.

2. Born on October 16, 1939, in a farmer family at village Dovapani, Jamshedpur, Prof. Hansda completed his education in different village schools and pursued Master of Political Science under Ranchi University. He was the founder Professor of L.B.S.M. College, Karandih, Jamshedpur and then became the Principal of the former.

3. Prof. Hansda very closely observed the village life style and common needs of the people during his school life, and then when he was a student of College and University. He is co-operative for the down trodden people. He always thinks for the development of Women Education, Prof. Hansda saw schools without tribal girls in and around Jharkhand. Prof. Hansda with some of his friends started several awareness programmes; he even conducted door to door campaign and the result of which many tribal girls started to go to school. Many people came beside him and started another awareness programme against superstition, fear and stigma about Leprosy in and around Jharkhand under Sangh's Leprosy Control and Welfare Service.

4. Prof. Hansda has several publications to his credit in Santali and other languages like Hindi, Bengali and English. Besides these Prof. Hansda has also written different booklets, books and speeches from time to time which are published in various dailies, weeklies and magazines. Almost all the publications of Prof. Hansda's are studied from primary level to college — university level at different states including Jharkhand.

5. Prof. Hansda is associated with number of social, NGOs and Govt. organisations. Besides these Prof. Hansda is very much active in making bridge between different communities in our society.



SHRI M. PIYONGTEMJEN JAMIR

Shri M. Piyongtemjen Jamir is the Principal of Rashtra Bhasha Hindi Training Institute, which is a branch of Rashtra Bhasha Prachaar Samiti Wardha, Maharashtra.

2. Born on June 10, 1934 at Longsa Village under Mokokchung District of Nagaland, Shri Jamir did his schooling from the village Government School upto class VI only, because his love and desire to learn Hindi language was burning so strong inside him. He left everything and sacrificed his life for Hindi. He is the first Graduate and B.Ed. Degree holder in Hindi among the Nagas. He joined the Government Job as a Hindi Teacher at GHS Chisor under Tuensang District in January, in the year 1970 and was soon promoted to the rank of Instructor at CHTTI Dimapur (Central Hindi Teachers Training Institute) in the year 1976. He served in the rank till 1982, but being unsatisfied with it, he retired. Then the desire to spread Hindi all over Nagaland inspired Shri Jamir to open branches of Hindi Training Institute in and around Nagaland. Hindi Training Branches were setup almost all of Nagaland. Many of which, are now registered and running independently.

3. During this time Shri Jamir published two Hindi Booklets namely Hamari Hindi I & II in Hindi-Ao-English. He even tried composing Hindi songs to motivate the students. Shri Jamir served Hindi as member of RB Prachaar samiti, Wardha. MG International Hindi University Camp, Wardha. Hum Jalist Hum Bharatiya, and World Hindi Samiti. Shri Jamir was the founder President of Vidya Bharati Jan Jati Shiksha Samiti, of North Eastern India and Chairman of Nagri Lipi Parishad Nagaland. He was the Member of Advisory Board for the development of finch in North East India under the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India for a term of three years from 2012 onwards.

4. Shri Jamir has been the first from the North East to attend the World Hindi Conference from India in the 7th World Hindi Conference in Surinam (South America) in 2003. And also attended the 9th World Hindi conference held at Johannesburg, South Africa in 2012 where he was felicitated for his contribution in the field of Hindi.

5. Shri Jamir has received various honours and awards including Bhaurao Devras Seva Samman Award in 2005 in Lucknow; the "Vir Jadonang award" at the hands of the then Governor of Nagaland in 2005; District Teachers award in 2006 in Dimapur, Nagaland; felicitated by the CSOM (Children Special Oriented Ministry) in 2006; Gangashanan Singh Awards in 2006 by His Excellency Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, the then President of India in New Delhi; the "Indira Gandhi National Unity" in 2007 at the state capital, Kohima; "One India Award" by the Mumbai based NGO 'My HomeIndia' in 2010; the "Jewel of North East Award" at Delhi by the Friendshin 2014 etc.



SMT. MALTI JOSHI

Smt. Malti Joshi is one of the leading Hindi story writers. Her stories have been published in several leading Hindi Magazines and newspapers since early seventies. She has more than 45 books to her credit and translations of her stories have been published in several Indian languages as well as English, Japanese and Russian. She continues to write even today at the age of 84 years.

2. Born on June 4, 1934, in a Marathi speaking family in 1934, Smt. Joshi, did her schooling through various villages of Madhya Pradesh and later studied at Holkar College, Indore and completed M.A. Degree in Hindi in 1956. She started writing poetry from her teenage and later graduated to stories for teenagers and adults. Her inspiration had been her professor and mentor, Dr. Shivmangal Singh "Suman"; a noted Hindi poet and professor at Indore.

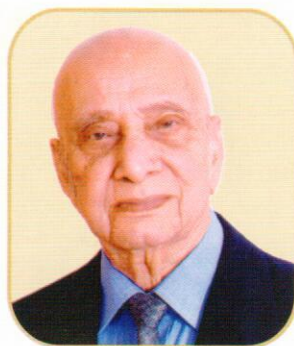
3. Smt. Joshi initially wrote stories for teenage children, in 1969 her story won prize in a contest and was published in 'Parag' popular children magazines. Later she switched to writing stories and short novels. Her first story was published in 1971 by Dharmayug, a prestigious Hindi weekly Hindi then (Times of India publication), with that she became a household name for all Hindi readers across country.

4. Smt. Joshi's stories and novels have been published in all leading Hindi publications like Dharmayug, Saptahik Hindustan, Manorama, Kadambini, Sarika etc. From 1971 till date she has been serving Hindi literature with her stories. Some of her stories were adapted for tele serials on Doordarshan, earlier Akashwani adapted several of her stories for drama. Even today she writes for contemporary periodicals and news magazines Navnit, Kathabimb, Samavartan, Madhurima, Tarang etc.

5. Smt. Joshi is known for her simple and sensitive language. Her stories typically depict the life struggle and finer elements of relationships in middle class households. Ladies in her stories always have a distinctive and decisive role. Many readers identify the lead characters in Malti if's stories with themselves.

6. Smt. Joshi started the trend of Kathakathan- rendering her stories to audience, not so known amongst Hindi audiences. Even at this age, she recites her stories totally out of memory without a book or notes.

7. Smt. Joshi has received several honours and awards including Rashtriya Maithalisharan Gupt Sanman for 2013-14 from M.P. Govt, Vanmali Sanman in same year; Kathabimb, a leading magazine conferred her with Kamleshwar Smruti Purskar in 2016; in 2011 she received Dushyant Kumar Sahitya Sanman, in the same year she also received Ojaswini Sanman; MP Govt honoured her with Shikhar Sanman in 2006. She also received Bhavbhuti Alankaran from Madhya Pradesh Sahitya Sammelan in 1999.



SHRI PRAN KISHORE KAUL

Shri Pran Kishore Kaul besides being a playwright and director is an eminent novelist too. His Kashmiri novel Sheen Ta Vatapod won the Sahitya Academi Award in 1990. He has translated the same into English which has been published under the title Sheen. His other novel Gul Gulshan Gulfam, considered as an epic in Kashmiri prose when adapted by him for Doordarshan, created history in Indian television. Pioneer in film making too in Kashmir, Shri Kaul directed the first ever feature film in Kashmiri language, "Mainzraat"

2. Born on January 23, 1926, Shri Kaul graduated from The Punjab University, Lahore, Shri Kaul is one of those living legends who had brought a cultural revolution in Kashmir in late forties. Father of modern theatre in Kashmir Shri Pran Kishore (his pen name) has introduced different genres of theatre besides plays, like opera, shadow play and musicals in the state of Jammu & Kashmir. As an actor, director, playwright, novelist, film maker, broadcaster and painter Shri Kaul has been making a valuable contribution to the field of performing arts and literature for nearly seventy years. His love for theatre ran parallel to his love for the sound media as Senior Producer of plays and features in All India Radio. The number of plays he directed for stage is long and has been trend setters in stage craft. Many of them have been staged in many states in the country, produced for the J&K Academy of Art Culture & Languages, thus strengthening the cultural bond of Kashmir with rest of the country.

3. As Senior Producer, All India Radio, Shri Kaul has produced more than 2000 radio plays, documentaries and features during his tenure there. Many of his productions have been selected for broadcast in the National Programmes of All India Radio and have won Akashvani Annual Awards too. His Radio documentary Water & life was selected by All India Radio for the Prix Italia XXX festival held in Milan, Italy in 1978 and in the same year it was A.I.R's entry for Asian Broadcasting Union.

4. Shri Kaul has received many prestigious National & International awards and honours during his seventy years in performing arts & literature. Some of them are: State Award by the Government of Jammu & Kashmir for outstanding contribution in the field of performing arts, Robe of Honour by the Jammu & Kashmir Academy of Art Culture & Languages for development of drama and theatre, Robe of Honour by the Kashmir University, for the development of Urdu drama, Sahitya Akademi Award 1989, National Film Award for best Regional feature film Mainzraat 1965, nominated International Jury Member for PRIX Italia XXX held in Milan Italy & Indian Delegate for The General Council of Prix Italia 1978, Jury Member, Indo-Afro short film festival held by Film Institute Of India, Former member, Sangeet Natak Akademi, Former Member North Zone Cultural Centre, Leader and Director of the Cultural Delegation to the 12th Festival of Asian Arts held in Hong Kong, 1985. He is Former President Theatre Federation of Kashmir and Member, Jammu & Kashmir Academy of Art Culture & Languages. He also received Painting Award in All India Artists competition 1962.



SMT. LEKSHMIKUTTY

Smt. Lekshmikutty, is a traditional medicinal healer from the indigenous Kani tribal community of the Western Ghats in the Trivandrum district of Kerala. She with vast knowledge about the medicinal herbs of Western Ghats, is fondly known as 'Vanamuthassi' (Grandmother of the jungle in Malayalam)

2. Born on May 8, 1945, to Shri Chathadi Kani and Smt. Kunchudevi, Smt. Lekshmikutty did her study at the Govt. School Kallar, which she had to reach by walking 9 km through the jungle. She is the first girl from the tribal community in her area to go school fighting many social restrictions prevailed in that time. Being a girl and that too from the Tribal community, she had to face many difficulties but her mother a tribal healer herself supported Smt. Lekshmikutty in attaining education.

3. Smt. Lekshmikutty got the traditional medicinal knowledge from her mother and prepares as many as 500 herbal medicines from her memory and has helped cure thousands of people in a variety of diseases and snake and insect bites. She saved the life of more than 300 from snake bites and insects' bites alone and treated more than 1000 people for other diseases till now. Many patients came to her after being sent back by other forms of medicine.

4. Smt. Lekshmikutty, who is an authority in traditional medicinal wisdom and the folklore of Western Ghats, is also a well known poet and writer. She is a regular visitor and teaches at the Kerala Folklore academy. She also associates with the Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanical Garden and Research Institute, Palode Trivandrum in the ethno botanical studies and in formulating medicinal drugs from traditional knowledge. Many research students in the area of ethno botany, traditional knowledge and folklore of various universities and institutes visit Smt. Lekshmikutty for her support. She is very happy in sharing her knowledge with the students, provided the study will help the poor man and thinks in that way also she can help the common man with her knowledge.

5. Smt. Lekshmikutty received number of awards and honours. She was awarded the "Nattu Vaidya Ratna" in 1995 by TBGRJ and FRLHT Bangalore. She is also a winner of Folklore Prize and till date received more than 35 awards and honours. In 2017 she was honoured by the Kerala State Biodiversity Board for her efforts in the protection of traditional medicinal knowledge.



DR. (SMT.) JOYASREE GOSWAMI MAHANTA

Dr. (Smt.) Joyasree Goswami Mahanta is chief editor of Adinor Sambad (distinguished Assamese daily) and writer of 65 books till now. She writes three languages viz Assamese, English and Bengali. She is a member of Executive Council, selection committee & academic council of Guwahati University. She is also member of Board of Governors of Royal Global University, Governing body of Girijananda Choudhary memorial college of pharmaceutical and engineering, Governing body of BKB Collage, General council of Sahitya Academy, Life member of Asam Sahitya Sabha, National Academy of sciences, Bombay Natural History Society, Indian Science Congress & many other organization.

2. Born on January 01, 1961 in a reputed family in Gauripur, Dhubri district, Assam Dr. Mahanta started schooling at her native town. Her father Late Ramesh Chandra Goswami was a renowned scholar in Sanskrit & mother Late Mukulrani Goswami was an educated lady. Dr. Mahanta's forefather Mahamahopaddhaya Dhireswaracharyya, who was founder of many schools and sanskrit study centres (sanskrit chatuspathi, toals) in Assam, wrote many books in Sanskrit, Bengali and Assamese.

3. Dr. Mahanta graduated in Zoology with honours from Cotton College and Arya Vidyapith College, Guwahati. She had done her M.Sc in Physiology & Biochemistry from Guwahati University, Assam. After completing Ph.D from the same University on the effect of calcium over the skin of animals, she started her career as a lecturer in Cotton College, Gauhati University. After teaching twelve years in the same College she joined as a lecturer in Gauhati University. During her academic career many research papers were published in national and international journals & seminars. She was invited to the University of Reading & University of East Anglia, Norwich, U.K and many other Universities in U.K. as a Guest Lecturer.

4. During student life, being a member of All Assam Students Union, Dr. Mahanta played active role in Assam Agitation (1979-85) against illegal migration of foreigners to Assam India and was arrested 69 times as an activist. She edited a journal of literature during agitation period. At present she is also Hon. Prof. of Bio Chemistry in Assam downtown University and a General Council member of Sahitya Akademi.

5. Dr. Mahanta was married in 1988 to Prafulla Kr Mahanta, the then Chief Minister of Assam and blessed with two sons and a daughter, all of them are continuing their studies in different college and universities. In 1999 she was elected (unanimous) to Rajya Sabha as a member and served the nation with various experiences. Being a member of the Parliamentary standing committee of Home Affairs, Petroleum and Chemicals, External Affairs etc she visited several countries and gathered varied experiences, participated meetings in UNO several times and shared the views of India regarding many national and international issues. She founded three schools for poor students in Morigaon, Nagaon and Duliajan in Assam and all are running successfully till now.

6. Since last thirty five years, Dr. Mahanta has written more than thousand articles on socio-economic & socio-cultural aspects in the newspaper and magazines. She writes mainly in Assamese, Bengali and English. Her published books till now are 65 and another 6 books are going to be published in Dec, 2018. Her books are translated to English, Hindi, Marathi and Bodo. Her book on one horned Rhino is very popular among the students and professors in foreign countries. She has written many books for children to inspire them in manifold fields of life. Her novel on the life of 'Mahakavi' (English version 'The Poet Immoral') is translated to Hindi, Marathi and English. This is considered as the first novel on the life of Kalidas in Indian literature and earned a good name and praised by many senior journalists and famous writers of the nation including Times of India and NDTV. This book has earned popularity among the readers of many countries & published from New Delhi, New York, Chicago and London. Her other popular books is a series containing eight volume (till now) on the Assam Movement against illegal infiltrators from foreign countries has gained much popularity in whole North East & other parts. Many researchers of diff Universities are doing research works on this subject based on these books as valuable reference. Among her novels Mahakavi (on the life of Mahakavi Kalidas both in assamese and English version- The Poet Immortal), Gandhari, Dronacharyya and Salagram have earned very much popularity among readers.

7. Dr. Mahanta is receipt of Manav seva award, Morom Land Award for best women writer in 2015, Ambika Giri Roy Choudhary Award for her Famous novel 'Chanakya' by Asom Sahitya Sabha in 2017, Bhupen Hazarika



SHRI PRAVAKAR MAHARANA

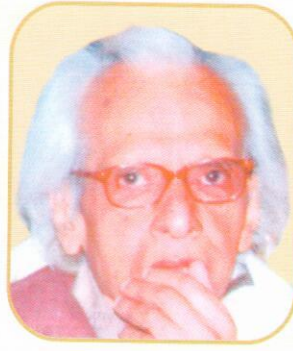
Shri Pravakar Maharana is the President of the "KONARK KALA" and active instructor on Traditional Stone carving of this organisation. A person with determination uninterrupted hunt for creativity and innovation. Shri Maharana is renowned in traditional stone Sculpture for India at International level.

2. Born on September 2, 1960, Shri Maharana came from an artisan family near the famous Surya Temple of Konark in Odisha. From the childhood he had inclination towards drawings and paintings. He trained at the State Handicrafts Training Centre in Bhubaneswar in 1977. Later, he started his own production unit in Bhubaneswar in which many poor students are receiving training by getting free meals and accommodation. His continuous research for newness in the crafts, has contributed significantly to the promotion of traditional stone craft of Odisha. Shri Maharana excelled quickly in his profession he was conferred with state award in 1987 for his outstanding piece of work in stone carving on Surya narayan of Konark temple. He was bestowed with the prestigious national award on stone sculpture in 1992 for his magnificent craftsmanship in stone sculpture based on concept of "Kandarpa Hasti" kandarpa elephant imbued from Mathura Vijaya.

3. Shri Maharana promoted to the stone sculpture of Odisha in more organised way. He has founded organizations in the name of Konark Kala, Utkal kala Handicrafts Cooperative Society and Pravakar Creative Art & Craft under which he has many plans to promote the traditional stone culture and practices in the state and protect the interest of stone carving artisans. Under his leadership, he has opened his own stone craft Museum in Bhubaneswar where he has display and demonstrates the stone craft of the state.

4. To uphold the tradition of Guru Sisya Parampara Shri Maharana has imparted training to four hundred artisans under the guru sisya parampara scheme with the support of the Government & on his own initiative. All of them are self employed and some of them even students work outside the country. Many of his students have contributed significantly to the construction of Askhyardham temple, New Delhi. Under his direction Sati Mat temple in Surat, Gujarat and Jagannath temple in Nigeria has been constructed, the Buddhist Guru Dalai Lama he has established many stone crafts in Himachal Pradesh and abroad.

5. Shri Maharana is the recipient of numerous awards and honours. The Government of India conferred "Silp Guru" in 2015. He received the "Lifetime achievement" award in Handicrafts from Government of Odisha in 2016. He was conferred National Award of Chinta 0 Chetana in 2012 by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Govt. of India. He received the "NALCO FINE ARTS AWARD-2018. He has certified from PEME AWAM CHOEGAR GYURME LING MONASTERY BIR KANGRA from Government of Himachal Pradesh. Shri Maharana has brought pride and accolades for the country to visited Brazil in South America on the eve of 50 years independence celebration of India in 1997. He has significantly contributed to the promotion of traditional stone crafts of Odisha in countries such as Australia Perth in 1998 and 2000, Malaysia & Singapore in 2003 France Paris in 2007, Italy Milan in 2007 and 2009, South Africa Zimbabwe in 2013. He has demonstrated the craftsmanship skills and enriched the cultural glory of the country under sponsorship of Ministry of textile Govt of India (Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) and Temple of fine arts International Coimbatore, India. Under the leadership of Buddha Guru Dalai Lama he has established many stone crafted Buddha Statues in Bhutan, Himachal Pradesh, Japan, Tibet and Taiwan that has brought him appreciation from many art lovers and Buddhists.



DR. KRISHNA BIHARI MISHRA

Dr. Krishna Bihari Mishra is the retired Reader and Head, Department of Hindi, Bangabasi Morning College, Kolkata. Dr. Mishra is a renowned litterateur of national fame. He has made remarkable contribution to Indian journalism with regard to its historiography and its contribution to national integrity, national thought and quintessential Indian culture.

2. Born on July 1, 1936 Dr. Mishra received his primary education from village school and secondary education from Gorakhpur. He then moved to Banaras Hindu University for pursuing graduation and post graduation. He completed his doctoral degree from Calcutta University in 1965. His dissertation Hindi patrakarita: jatiya chetna aur khari boli sahitya ki nirman bhoomi was later published by Bharatiya Jnanpith and is currently in its 11th edition. As a keen observer, Dr. Mishra started creative writing since his graduation in leading magazines like Kalpana and Kahani. Under the able guidance of stalwarts like Nand Dulare Vajpayee, Hazari Prasad Dwivedi, Vishwanath Prasad Mishra, and Chandrabali Pandey, Dr. Mishra shaped himself into a creative thinker and an essayist.

3. Dr. Mishra is highly appreciated for essays and memoirs that are his self-reflection and mirrors the everyday life he has had come across His works have aroused a feeling of belongingness, cohesiveness, optimism and being rooted which metaphorically enlivens a rural socialscape in place of urban landscape in contemporary times. His more than five decades of writing and deliberation is an amalgamation of multiple shades of thinking, which he has brought at a singular point of glorified past and lightful future of Bharatiya Sanskar aur chetna (Indian Culture and Consciousness).

4. Dr. Mishra's contribution to Indian journalism is regarded as a classic and a milestone by both Indian and foreign critic. With seven books on different facets and multiple contexts of Journalism, he is one of the highly referred authors in this field. Far from being technical guidebooks, his creations foreground the history and situatedness of journalism, as he believes that only history enables us to think the present critically and alternatively. His ability to think in dyadic terms has drawn appreciation and accolades. In a supplement to his critical and historical pieces of journalism, he touches upon and internalizes the spiritual nuances of Shri Ramakrishna Pranhansa', Adi Shankaracharya, Binoba Bhave, Swami Vivekanand and Aurobindo Ghosh. His book kalpataru ki utsav leela (on Ramakrishna Pranhansa) is widely read by all strata of the society and highly appreciated for its unique narrative style. His books, that include works on journalism, reflective and critical texts, memoirs, biographies, edited collections, and translated creations, are 27 at present.

5. Dr. Mishra is the recipient of numerous awards and honors. He has been conferred honorary D.Litt. from Makhanlal Chaturvedi Rashtriya Patrakarita Avam Sanchar Vishwayidyalaya. He received Bharatiya Gnanpith's Moortidevi Puraskar, Mahatma Gandhi Puraskar and Sahitya Bhushan from Uttar Pradesh Hindi Sansthan, Acharya Vidyanivas Mishra Samman and Dr. Hedgewar Pragya Samman. Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts honoured him as the part of their Sanskriti Samvad Shrinkhala-7.



SMT. SUBASINI MISTRY

Smt. Subasini Mistry, the Founder of the Humanity Hospital (a Hospital catering to the needs of the poorest of the poor section of the society), governed by the Humanity Trust is the Life Trustee of the Trust. Smt Mistry, a visionary, is widely recognized not only in the different parts of the country but across the world for her exceptional and distinguished service in the field of social work.

2. Born on May 26, 1941, Smt. Mistry, an illiterate housewife dwelling in a remote village in West Bengal with her husband and four minor children lost her husband in his early 30s for want of medical treatment. He being the only earning member of the family, Smt. Mistry, the poor widow, having no other choice started working as a housemaid, a daily labourer, a vegetable vendor on the streets and what not to support the family. But in this gravest hour of grief she took a vow to build a hospital in the village where her husband used to live so that the poor and the needy could get the basic and timely medical support which her poor husband could not get.

3. Smt. Mistry's determination coupled with her motivation of helping the poor inspired her to meet all the challenges she faced in her life. From her very meagre earning she started saving bit by bit and in 1992 she bought about one bigha of land in her husband's village in Hanspukur. With the help of the villagers and ably supported by her youngest son Ajoy, who was inspired by Smt. Mistry to build a thatched where dispensary was set up in 1993. On the first day as many as 252 patients were treated by the doctors who volunteered to give sometime for free treatment. The foundation stone of the hospital, rightly named as the Humanity Hospital by Smt. Mistry, the epitome of humanity, was laid on 05/02/1995 and the construction started on 23/05/1995. On 09/03/1996, the then Governor of West Bengal inaugurated a 1000 sq.ft. building with 5 beds and the hospital started its new journey thereof. Since then the hospital has not looked back and with the able support of all sections i.e. society, the Humanity Hospital in Hanspukur, presently a 3 storied building with 45 beds besides ICU, OPD, 2 OTs, fully computerized Pathology, Radiology is continuing to provide service to the economically backward section of the society.

4. Smt. Mistry with the unstinted co operation and support of her youngest son Ajoy Kr Mistry has been the guiding force behind the second campus of the Humanity Hospital at Sunderban, West Bengal. The hospital started with a make shift arrangement in a tent during the devastating Aila in 2009 on the playground of Shantigachi High School. Successively, on a piece of land donated to the Humanity Trust, construction of the hospital building started on 01/01/2013. Treatment of the patients in the hospital building started on 25/12/2013. The second campus of the Humanity Hospital is presently a 3 storied building with 25 beds for indoor patients besides having OPD, OT.

5. Smt. Mistry is the recipient of numerous awards and honours. To name a few are Real Heroes from CNN-IBN, Silver Awards from Harmony Foundation Mumbai, 24 Ghanta Ananya Samman 2012, Swami Vivekananda Award-RKM Delhi in 2012, Service Above Self from Rotary International. In 2017, Smt. Mistry was declared Winner of Women Transforming India Award 2017 an initiative of My Gov/NITI Aayog/United Nations in recognition of her outstanding contribution for empowering communities and transforming India.



SMT. V NANAMMAL

Smt. V. Nanammal is Nonagenarian (98 Year old) Yoga enthusiast. Practicing yoga since she was 8, she has mastered more than 50 kinds of asanas. She comes from a family that has been practicing this ancient Indian practice for generations which she learnt from her grandfather. Her five children also practice and teach yoga. She has been inspiring an entire generation to take up the yoga practice.

2. Smt. V. Nanammal has also taught yoga to school kids and spreads awareness about its benefits to her village people. She has rejected offers from several yoga federations across the world on account of not knowing English; recently she has even attempted a Guinness record. She follows a very strict routine. She is an advocate of Naturopathy. Living close to nature and knowing its rhythm keeps her energetic and active. She believes in sharing tips about medicinal plants with people who come to visit her.

3. As many as 900 students of Smt. V. Nanammal are teaching yoga across the world. She was recognized in 2003 when she participated in a yoga competition, she has participated in 100 competitions so far. Till now she has won many gold medals and trophies in different competitions. Now, 36 members of her family are yoga practitioners.



DR. (SMT.) SULAGITTI NARASAMMA

Dr. (Smt.) Sulagitti Narasamma is a name synonymous with the safe delivery of babies in Indian villages.

2. Born on June 16, 1920 in T.N.Pete, Dr. Narasamma hails from untouchable family. Her father name is Shri Kadirappa and mother name is Smt. Bhavamma. She has rendered 1500 deliveries in the rural masses. She rendered deliveries for the persons belong to all casts and also vagabonders / nomadic people. She guided hundreds of midwives in learning delivery work for the past seven decades. Although she is illiterate, right from the youthful days, she can know the pulse of the baby in the womb. She can tell the delivery date of the pregnant woman. She gives Ayurvedic medicines for Asthma and post delivery problems.

3. Dr. Narasamma has received several honours and awards. She received Vayoshreshta Samman, National Award from Govt. of India in 2013, Kannada Rajyotsava Award from Govt. of Karnataka in 2013, Honorary Doctorate from Tumkur University in 2014, D. Devaraj Urs Award from Govt. of Karnataka in 2012, Kittur Rani Chennamma Award from Govt. of Karnataka in 2013, Murugha Sri Award from Murugha Mutt in 2014 and more Awards from State Govt. and various awards from NGO and organizations.



SHRI GOBARDHAN PANIKA

Shri Gobardhan Panika is a master-artisan in tribal weaving from Kotpad, Odisha.

2. Born on April 25, 1952, at Mirgan Street, Adivasi Village Asanga, Nabarangpur District, Odisha, Shri Panika was only 12 years old when he left school and took up the family business of weaving to help his father, and shoulder responsibilities. In 1967 the family moved to Kotpad and ran the business from there.

3. For his intricately woven Kotpad textiles he uses hand-spun cotton yarn which is treated with a back-breaking, month-long dyeing process even before being made a fabric. The dyes are extracts of the Aal tree roots and the shades used are dramatic reds, maroons, rusty pinks, coffee browns and deep blacks. In his own words to weave a chunni (dupatta) it would take a week, and a sari, a month."

4. More than 30 years have gone by since Shri Panika adopted the family business but he continues to work with the same enthusiasm and dedication as he thinks there is a lot more to achieve in life. He has fulfilled numerous orders from boutiques, buyers, online shops and has participated in over 600 exhibitions till date - at Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Chennai, Bangalore, Kolkata and many other cities.

5. Shri Panika is the recipient of several awards and honours for his immense contribution to weaving. The Government of India conferred on him the "National Award" in 2004. The Ministry of Textiles conferred the Honour of "Sant Kabir" on him for development of Janajati Casbandhi Chunni and his contribution in Handloom sector in 2013. The Ministry of Textiles also gave him the "Certificate of Merit" for his craftsmanship and contribution to the development of Aruna Saree in 1997. Suraj Kund Mela ranked him as one of the most outstanding craftsperson and gave him the Kala Mani Award in 1998.



SHRI MURLIKANT RAJARAM PETKAR

Shri Murlikant Rajaram Petkar holds the absolute honour of being India's First Paralympic Gold medallist, a medal he bagged in 50 Mt Freestyle Swimming. He achieved this incredible feat at the Summer Paralympics held at Heidelberg, Germany in August 1972. It was during this same event that he also set a new world record in Freestyle Swimming, reaching the finish line in an astounding 37.33 seconds.

2. The seeds of this brilliant sportsman born on November 1, 1947 at Peth Islampur, in Sangli District, Maharashtra were sown at a very young age during his schooling years, where Shri Petkar excelled at multiple sports like wrestling, hockey and athletics. Even as a young candidate in the Boys Battalion of the Indian Army he soon established himself as a strong sportsman and was chosen to represent India in Boxing at the International Services Sports Meet held at Tokyo in 1964.

3. Following his tryst with war, Shri Petkar never looked back. Throughout his career he participated in events like the Stoke Mandeville International Paraplegic Meets held in England where he consistently outdid his own records and won the General Championship Cup for 5 consecutive years (1969-73); the 3rd Commonwealth Paraplegic Games held at Edinburgh, Scotland where he bagged Gold in 50 Mt Freestyle Swimming, Silver in Javelin Throw and Bronze in Shot-put; the Gold in 50 Mt Swimming and Bronze in Short Put at the International FESPIC Games in Hong Kong in 1982 are significant among other achievements.

4. The Summer Olympics of Germany were a highlight of a life that can only be described as that of the most brilliant adventures and determination. Shri Petkar's sporting career saw an unprecedented progress after a brutal injury through which he battled with persistence and bravery. While posted in Sialkot sector (J&K) as a part of the Indian Army, he found himself on the onset of the India-Pakistan war of 1965. He sustained grave injuries including multiple gunshot wounds and a loss of memory and as a horrific reminder of the incident, still has a bullet lodged up his spine. In a condition where his future seemed bleak with uncertainty, he emerged a hero and made significant recovery to compete in the 1967 State Athletic Meet where he became the Maharashtra State Champion in Shot Put, Javelin Throw, Discus Throw, Table Tennis and Archery. And the graph of his success only rose from then on.

5. A number of awards have been conferred upon Shri Petkar to recognize his exceptional and extensive contribution to sports in India. Among these is Maharashtra's highest sporting award, the Shiv Chhatrapati Award, awarded to him in 1975 by Nawab Ali Yawar Jung, then Governor of Maharashtra and the Raksha Medal in 1965.

Padma Shri



SHRI SAMPAT TUKARAM RAMTEKE (POSTHUMOUS)

Shri Sampat Tukaram Ramteke was the President of Sickle Cell Society of India (SCSI), an organization working towards the betterment of patients suffering from Sickle Cell Disease (a genetic disorder) in India. He brought into notice Sickle Cell Disease as a serious health concern along with the societal issues faced by patients and their families in India. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare had also informed Lok Sabha about the work and awareness created by Sickle Cell Society of India for Sickle Cell Disease in India.

2. Born on August 25, 1949, in Mahadwadi village of Chimur Tehsil in Chandrapur district, Maharashtra, Shri Ramteke received Diploma in Electrical Engineering from Government Polytechnic Nagpur on July 3rd, 1974. Later he worked at Western Coalfields Limited, Ministry of Coal, Government of India and retired in 2009 as Superintending Engineer.

3. Shri Ramteke started "Sickle Cell Jagriti and Pratibandh Abhiyan" in the year 1991 from his remote and tiny tribal village Mahadwadi. He spent 25 years of his life to provide relief to Sickle Cell Disease patients to cope up with their miserable lives. He organized more than 250 Sickle Cell awareness and blood investigation camps with his colleagues in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Kerala and various districts of Maharashtra. He worked with Government of Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh on the preparation of Sickle Cell Disease Control Action Plan in the year 2003 and 2007, respectively. National Rural Health Mission invited him for the preparation of Informative, Educational and Communication materials for Sickle Cell Disease.

4. With an active support of likeminded people and SCSI team, Shri Ramteke succeeded to achieve remarkable benefits from Government of India and Government of Maharashtra for Sickle Cell patients. These benefits helped Sickle Cell Disease patients to live a better quality of life. The benefits from Government of India consists of free Blood to Sickle Cell Patients, 50 percent concession in Rail and Bus fair, inclusion of Sickle Cell Disease in Handicap Rights Act 2016, inclusion of Sickle Cell Disease in National Rural Health Mission in the year 2007. Furthermore, the benefits from Government of Maharashtra include Sickle Cell Research Centre in Indira Gandhi Medical College and Hospital Nagpur, Free medicine to Sickle Cell Patients, extra 20 minutes per hour in SSC and HSC exam, Government of Maharashtra approved Sickle Cell Patient identity card, Free Amniocentesis, Sickle Cell Day Care Centres in endemic areas in Maharashtra, 600 Rupees per month incentive to economically backward Sickle Cell Patients, Paediatric Intensive Care Unit in Department of Paediatrics in Government Medical College and Hospital Nagpur and inclusion of Sickle Cell Disease in National Service Scheme.

5. Shri Ramteke is the recipient of many International, National and State Awards. He was adjudicated "Appreciation Plaque by Common Wealth Association for Health and Disability, London, UK, in 2016, on account of exemplary seminars and immense contribution towards the welfare of specially challenged Sickle Cell Community of India" and "Global Appreciation in the field of sickle cell advocacy by President of Global Sickle Cell Disease Network, Canada, in 2017". Magnum foundation Nagpur conferred on him "Manav Mitra National Magnum Honour for the work in Sickle Cell Disease management services in Maharashtra, in 2001". Mahatma Phule Talent Research Academy accoladed him with Dr. Anandibai Joshi National Health Award, in 2011. He has a feather in his cap of Certificate of Gratitude by Maharashtra Arogya Mandal Pune for national seminar on Sickle Cell Anemia throwing light on his inputs, interest and outstanding support for Sickle Cell Anemia Research Project in 2015. He received prestigious Smita Smruti Puraskar in 2017, in the memory of actress Late Smita Patil. He also has been honoured with Red and White Bravery Award by Godfrey Phillips in recognition of an exceptional act of social courage, in 2002.

6. Shri Ramteke passed away on November 16, 2017.



SHRI SATYANARAYANSINGH SHIVSINGHJI RATHORE

Shri Satyanarayansingh Shivsinghji Rathore is a technocrat with more than 37 years of experience in the infrastructure sector.

2. Born on March 15, 1956 to T.S. Shivsinghji, former ruler of Valasana State, Shri Rathore received his Bachelor of Engineering degree in Civil Engineering topping Gujarat University in 1978. He topped the Gujarat Public Service Commission Examinations and joined the Roads & Buildings Department, Government of Gujarat. He was Secretary, Principal Secretary and Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Gujarat in the Roads & Buildings Department and Water Resources Department from 1997 till his superannuation in March 2014.

3. Shri Rathore is Chairman and Managing Director of the Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam Limited (SSNNL) – an inter-State multipurpose river valley project on the river Narmada. This project, estimating about 8 billion USD, is one of the largest human endeavours to transport 11700 million cubic metres of water every year to a distance over 750 kilometres and a maximum lift of 71m to quench the thirst of the water stressed areas of Gujarat by providing irrigation to 1.8 million hectares, drinking water to 40 million people and hydro power generation capacity of 1450 MW. He is also steering the implementation of a unique project- "Statue of Unity", the 182 metre world's tallest statue of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, costing about 500 million USD and expected to be completed in October 2018.

4. Shri Rathore FIE, MASCE, FICE has pioneered the first long-distance four-laning projects in the country, namely the Ahmedabad-Mehsana and Vadodara-Halol projects. Major projects undertaken include fast tracking completion of the Sardar Sarovar Dam, Command Area Development of more than 0.8 million hectares by installation of 20500 km of Under Ground Pipelines in lieu of open canal sand benefitting more than 500,000 farmers, a record in the history of Command Area Development in the country, the World Bank assisted Gujarat State Highway Project, the World Bank and Asian Development Bank assisted Gujarat Emergency Earthquake Rehabilitation Project post the Kutch earthquake 2001, the flagship road upgradation programmes of Pragatipath, Vikaspath, Kisanpath and the Sujalam Sufalam Yojana for drought-prone districts. He initiated and undertook major reforms in the Highway Sector, appreciated by the World Bank vide its publication "Institutional Reforms in the Highway sector – Learning from Gujarat". Amongst other projects are the iconic Mahatma Mandir Convention Centre, Swarnim Sankul Gandhinagar, Gujarat High Court and the first VGF highway four laning projects.

5. Shri Rathore was Chairman of the Sub-Group on State Roads for Formulation of both the Eleventh & Twelfth Five-Year Plan and involved in the preparation of the Rural Roads Manual and other aspects of the Prime Minister's Gram Sadak Yojna. He has to his credit many papers on Roads, Green Highways, Canal Top Solar Power Plants etc.

6. Shri Rathore was President of The Institution of Engineers (India), President of Indian Road Congress (IRC) and is Vice President, World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO).



SHRI AMITAVA ROY

Shri Amitava Roy is a retired Distinguished Scientist and currently a Raja Ramanna Fellow of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Department of Atomic Energy. Shri Roy is one of the architects of India's successful Nuclear Recycle Program, which is vital to the expansion of nuclear power and national security of the country.

2. Born on July 23, 1957, Shri Roy received his B.Sc. Engg. degree from Ranchi University in 1980 and joined Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai in 1982 after one year of training in BARC Training School. He subsequently received his M.Tech degree in Chemical Engineering from Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai in 1992. Shri Roy is a specialist in design, engineering, construction and commissioning of nuclear recycle facilities, which is a complicated technology. He was assigned the responsibility of designing the India's largest Nuclear Recycle Plant at Kalpakkam, which he accomplished successfully. Subsequently, the Department entrusted him the responsibility to construct and commission the plant designed by him.

3. As Project Director and Facility Director, Shri Roy constructed and successfully commissioned the first integrated Nuclear Recycle Plant at Kalpakkam, which included Waste Immobilization Plant (WIP) for the management of radioactive nuclear waste. The Waste Immobilization Plant was inaugurated by the President of India on 15th November, 2013. The outstanding performance of WIP, which was fully indigenous and technologically challenging, has demonstrated India's capability of management of all types of radioactive nuclear waste and supplying of radiation sources for societal applications. India is one of the very few countries in the world having mastered the vitrification of highly radioactive nuclear waste.

4. Shri Roy held the position of Chief Executive of Nuclear Recycle Board till July, 2017. Under his leadership, construction of the mega project 'Integrated Nuclear Recycle Plant' at Tarapur commenced, which marks the beginning of commercial phase of the back end of PHWR fuel cycle facility.

5. The recipient of the DAE Group Achievement Awards in 2011 and 2016, Shri Roy played a pivotal role for India to achieve the capability of design, construction, commissioning and operation of industrial scale Nuclear Recycle Facilities. Under his leadership as Chief Executive, the Recycle Plants performed exceedingly well meeting the requirements of supplying the nuclear fuel for India's second stage of nuclear power program, which is a step towards ensuring the energy security of the nation in a sustainable manner and meeting India's clean energy commitments.



DR. R. SATHYANARAYANA

Dr. R. Sathyanarayana is an internationally acclaimed authority on Indian music and dancing. He is broad-based in several physical sciences, humanistic and indological disciplines. He is widely acclaimed for his systematic contributions in the intra-disciplinary and inter-disciplinary bases of modern Indian musicology and danceology. He has published numerous books, including critical editions, translations, commentaries, annotations, monographs, original creative works, and research papers on Indian music, dancing and other cognate subjects. He has received numerous academic distinctions (including doctoral degrees, fellowships, and honorific titles) awards and honors. His publications are acclaimed as the most authentic works on Indian musicology and Danceology. He is a profound scholar in many physical sciences, humanistic disciplines and Indological Shastras. He is both a scientist and an artist of highest caliber.

2. Dr. Sathyanarayana was born in Mysore (Karnataka State, India) on May 9th 1927. He belongs to the lineage of the Saint Composer Sri. Tyagaraja. He hails from a family of several generations of artists and scholars. His paternal grandfather was Pallavi Ramalingayya, famed for extempore composing and singing of intricate pallavis in the 108 Desi Talas and who later studied for some time with Manambuchavadi Venkatasubbayya, senior disciple of the Saint Composer. His father was Musician B.Ramaiah. He started learning music from his fifth year from his mother Smt. Varalakshmi who was the foremost disciple of Veena Sundarashastri of the Mysore Royal Court fame.

3. Dr. Sathyanarayana's works are treasured in innumerable Universities in India, West and European countries. His disciples are spread all over the world practicing Indology and Srividya Tantra. Many Music and Dance Institutions are established based on his counselling and many tantric temples are built in our country and around the world based on his works. Sri Sathanarayana is celebrated as a source-book creator for the century in Indian Music, Dancing and cognate Indological disciplines.

4. Dr. Sathyanarayana has endeavored all his life of Ninety one years silently and ceaselessly integrating art with culture by funneling all cognate areas of sciences, shastras and Indological discipline. He has enriched Indian music and culture through reciprocal reactions and responses. The sum of all his works are an inspiration for future generation scholars and artists. His works are contemporary musicological and danceological texts based on which many generations of scholars will use and propagate and is accepted as the standard that should be honored and emulated for research and practice of these arts in India and abroad. He has dedicated his entire life for Indian Music and Dance in its theory and practice. He is an eminent person who has upheld Indian culture, never aspired for any fruits for his toils and always brought all cognate disciplines into Indian Music and Dance to portray to the world its worthy essence. The artist community of our country has benefited from his works. Premier Institutions of Music and Dance are founded based on his works and consultations. Tantrik temples are built and reformed based on his works on Tantra in India and abroad. He has funneled all his resources into the service of society without distinctions of cast and creed. He is adept in Vedic learning, the Darshanas and the Tantra Shastras. He is a venerated guru in Srividya Tantra. He is a unique synthesis of diverse sources, resources and achievements all of which have a single focus: service to humanity. An intense patriot, he served as a volunteer fighter in the freedom struggle of India, and was determined to seek no political, economic or other rewards.

5. Dr. Sathyanarayana's services to Indian culture are known and honored throughout India and abroad. His pioneering contributions to the research and development of Indian music and dancing in many areas have gained national and inter-national recognition and acceptance. He is a source of inspiration and beacon light for the students and scholars of musicology and danceology in India and abroad. He is the recipient of numerous awards and honours. He has been conferred honorary doctorate degree by several well-known universities in India. To list a few of these : D.Litt. First interdisciplinary award, Mysore University, D.Litt. {Honoris Causa} IKSU University, Khairagarh, M.P. D.Litt from KSGH Music and Performing Arts University, Mysore, Indira Gandhi National Fellowship for Arts, Certificate of Honour: International Biographical Centre, Cambridge. Golden Jubilee Award, Mysore University, for highest creative research in Fine Arts and Languages {three times} Fellow, Member etc. of numerous learned bodies in India and Abroad.

6. The awards and citations of Dr. Sathyanarayana include: Academi Rathna fellowship award by Sangit Natak Academi, New Delhi. Rajya Sangita Vidwan Award from Government of Karnataka, 2011, Sahitya Academy Centenary Award, Bangalore. 2015, Madras Music Academy, Chennai, Musicologist Award, Sangit Natak Academy Award for the Year 2008, Karnataka State Rajyotsava Award Veena Rajarao International Award for Excellence in Music, Karnataka Sangeetha Nrutya Academy Award etc.

Padma Shri



SHRI BHAJJU SHYAM

Shri Bhajju Shyam is regarded world over as the most significant painter of his generation. He has painted in the tradition of Gond Pradhan bards well known for painting their songs. He has exhibited his paintings not only in India but also in many other countries of the world like Canada, Hong Kong, England, Germany, Netherland, France, Reunion Island, Kyrgyzstan and others.

2. Born on June 19, 1971, in the Gond tribal village of Patangarh, in the forests of Madhya Pradesh, Shri Bhajju says, "My mother painted the walls of our home, as is our tradition, and she would ask me to help her paint the parts she could not reach." The family sent their three children to school, but they were too poor to put them all through the full term. Sixteen year-old Bhajju left his village and came to Bhopal in search of work. After failing as night watchman his journey as a painter started by working as an apprentice with a pioneering and well recognized Gond artist Jangarh Shyam. He started independent work soon after.

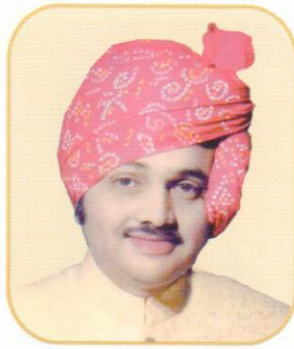
3. Recognition came with his 2002 visit to London, where he was invited to paint the interior of an upmarket Indian restaurant 'Masala Zone' at Islington which was published as a travelogue titled 'The London Jungle Book'. The book was subsequently published in several international languages such as Italian, Dutch, French, Korean, Portuguese and German. It had since become part of an exhibition that toured the UK, Germany, Holland, Italy and Russia. He was invited as a writer to the Book Fair held in Paris for the publication.

4. Since then Shri Bhajju has co-edited a compendium of Gond Art Signature: Patterns in Gond Art and been the sole artist behind two more visual picture books for Tara: The Flight of the Mermaid and That's How I See Things. His latest book, Alone in the Forest is a children's book that draws upon his own childhood fears of the forest to explore the psychology of fear.

5. In all his works, Shri Bhajju's captivating visuals and easy storytelling style fuse his perceptions of the modern world with his tribe's unique visual language. Perhaps the most versatile artist of the Gond art tradition, Bhajju uses inherited forms in very current and expressive ways, while experimenting with innovative subjects and new ideas. "There are new influences in my work, but my art is still the same," he has said, reflecting upon his success. "I never expected this kind of response; I thought people would find my way of looking at the world odd."

6. Several solo exhibitions of Shri Bhajju's painting have been sponsored by individuals, galleries and institutes from within India and abroad. The bibliography on his works contains such authors as John Bowles, 2009, Painted Songs & Stories The Hybrid Flowering of Contemporary Pardhan Gond Art, INTACH Regional Chapter Bhopal where it mentions his works as "The good humor, wit and decorative elan of Bhajju's illustrations combine naive wonder with a sophisticated poise in the face of the Western metropolis".

7. Shri Bhajju has many awards to his credit including Ojas Award, Literature Festival Jaipur-2014, CRESCER magazine 30 Best Children's Book Award Brazil-2011 for Night Life of Tees, BBBY Honour List 2010 London, illustrator Category on 'That's How I See Things' honoured by Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manava Sangrahalaya, Bhopal-2009, Bologna Ragazzi Award, 'New Horizons, 2008 on 'The Night Life of Tees' and includes several state awards.



MAHARAO RAGHUVVEER SINGH, SIROHI

Maharao Raghuvveer Singh, Sirohi is a world renowned historian and many Scholars have done their PhD's under his guidance from various Universities of India.

2. Born on January 27, 1943, he has been a topper from 1st Standard to M.A. Final. He did his Senior Cambridge from the University of Cambridge, England and Master of Arts from the University of Rajasthan in which he is a Gold Medalist. In the summer of 1967, he hosted an All India Youth Conference at Mount Abu in which Sardar Hukam Singhji, His Excellency, the Governor of Rajasthan and Former Speaker of the Lok Sabha, was the Chief Guest and Shri Mathura Das Mathur, the Senior most Minister of the Rajasthan Cabinet, was the Guest of Honour. This Conference was attended by Shri Sharad Yadav, the Senior Leader of Janta Dal United, who was then a prominent Student Leader.

3. On the 31st of August 1973, Sirohi District witnessed the worst flood of the century and for three weeks Maharao Raghuvveer Singh was on his feet day and night going from town to town, village to village and one devastation site to another braving all hazards and brought immediate relief to the people by way of housing, food, clothing, shelter, Kerosene, and Medicine from his own resources and also prevailed upon the Government to grant new housing sites at higher elevations to eliminate the risk of future floods and thus became the 'Darling of the People' and the Bards composed songs in his Honour.

4. In 1982 Maharao Raghuvveer Singh organized an All India History Congress at Sirohi which was inaugurated by Dr. Nagendra Singhji, the Judge of the International Court of Justice at the Hague who later became it's Chief Justice. He invited His Holiness the Dalai Lama of Tibet for the inauguration of the Universal Peace Hall at Mount Abu on the 9th February 1983 and played host to him at the Sirohi Palace. In August 2014 he was the Chief Guest at the Convention in the Town Hall of Kathmandu (Nepal) and in December 2016, he delivered a moving speech at the huge function organized by the Vishwa Hindu Prishad and Yogi Aaditya at the Pashupati Nath Kshetra, Nepal which was presided over by His Majesty King Gyanendra of Nepal.

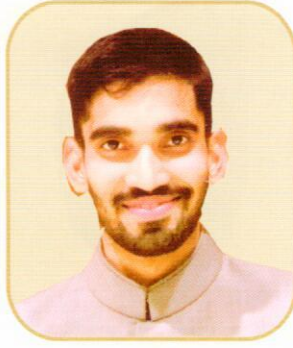
5. In November 2014 Maharao Raghuvveer Singh was the Chief Guest at the Annual Convention of RANA (Rajput Association of North America) at Atlanta (U.S.A.) and was greatly applauded by the entire audience for his masterly speech. He has been the Chief Guest and is addressing big conventions and public meetings across the country from Kashmir to Kanya Kumari and Kutch to Kolkata.

6. Maharao Raghuvveer Singh has been escorting all the VVIP's and giving them a very informative guided tour of Arbudaranya and Mount Abu which reflects his depth of knowledge - Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India in October 1958, Shri S. Radha Krishnan & Shri V.V. Giri, Hon'ble Presidents of India in 1961 and 1966, Prime Minister Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, Home Minister Shri Y.B. Chavan, Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi in June 1984, Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi in August 1985. Prime Minister Shri V.P. Singh during his visit to Udaipur in 1990, Deputy Prime Minister Chaudhary Devi Lal in March 1991 and Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao in 1993 apart from many Central Ministers, Governors and Chief Ministers. He Chaired the function at the Annual Convention of CAPSI at the Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi in 2009 where Smt. Pratibha Patil, Hon'ble President of India, was the Chief Guest and at the huge public gatherings at Wankaner in June 2011 and at Surat in May 2013 where Shri Narendra Modi (Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat who is now the Prime Minister of India) was the Chief Guest. The Public gathering in Surat exceeded 1 lac people. He has a deep study of religion, culture and history of India and many other lands and thus his insight into matters is heard with rapt attention in all parts of India and many parts of the World.

7. In 1981 & 1996 Maharao Raghuvveer Singh organized All India Sanatan Dharma Sammelans at the ancient Capital of Kolargarh near Sirohi which were attended by half a million people, Shankracharyas, Maha Mandleshwars, Madhavacharaya, Vallabhacharaya, eminent Saints and luminaries like Maharaja Dr. Karan Singhji of Kashmir, Maharana Bhagwat Singhji of Mewar, Maharaja Gaj Singhji of Jodhpur and Maharaja Vibhuti Narayan of Benaras apart from Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat (Hon'ble Chief Minister of Rajasthan — who later became Vice President of India), Shri Murli Manohar Joshi (who later became Union Cabinet Minister) and Sadhvi Ritambhra.

8. Maharao Raghuvveer Singh also has deep study of military strategy and armaments and of wild life. Many ancient monuments by way of Forts, Temples, Lakes and Vavs are under his charge in his capacity as the Chairman of various Trusts and he has been rendering yeoman services in the preservation, protection and restoration of those great heritage sites.

Padma Shri



SHRI KIDAMBI SRIKANTH

Shri Kidambi Srikanth is a well known Badminton player.

2. Born on February 7, 1993 in Ravulapalem, Andhra Pradesh, Shri Kidambi started playing Badminton at the age of 8 years. He joined the Pullela Gopichand Badminton Academy Hyderabad in December, 2009 and started his professional Badminton training in Gopichand Badminton Academy Hyderabad and is supported by the Go Sports Foundation, Bangalore.
3. In the 2011 Commonwealth Youth Games, Isle of Man, Shri Kidambi won the Silver Medal in Mixed Doubles and Bronze Medal in Men Doubles. In the same year, he also emerged winner in the Men Singles and Doubles category at the All India Junior International Badminton Championship held in Pune.
4. In 2012 Shri Kidambi overcame the then Junior World Champion Zulfadli Zulkifli of Malaysia in the Maldives International Challenge to claim the Men singles title. In 2013 in the Thailand Open Grand Prix Gold event Kidambi won the Mens singles title beating the then world number eight and local favorite Boonsak Ponsana in straight sets. In the same year Kidambi beat reigning champion and Olympian Parupalli Kashyap in the All India Senior National Championships in Delhi to claim his first senior national title. In November, 2014, he created a major upset in the final of the 2014 China Open Super Series Premier by beating 5 times World Champion and 2 times Olympic Champion Lin Dan in straight sets thus becoming the first Indian to win a Super Series Premier Mens title. Shri Kidambi finished runner up at the 2014 India Open Grand Prix Gold event in Lucknow in 2015.
5. Shri Kidambi became the first Indian male to win gold at the 2015 Swiss Open Grand Prix Gold by defeating Viktor Axelsen. The same year, he also won India Open Super Series title by defeating Viktor Axelsen in the finals. At the 2016 South Asian Games, he won two gold medals in men's team and men's singles by defeating Prannoy Kumar in the singles final. At the 2016 Badminton Asia Team Championship although his team lost in the semifinal, he remained undefeated. He won the Syed Modi International Badminton Championships Grand Prix Gold title by defeating Huang Yuxiang in the final.
6. In 2017 Shri Kidambi and Sai Praneeth both hailing from Hyderabad and being coached by Pullela Gopichand created history when they became the first ever Indian pair to enter the finals of a ranking event in Badminton; He won the 2017 Indonesia Super Series Premier beating Japans Kazumasa Sakai thereby becoming the 1st ever Indian man to do so. He also went on to win 2017 Australian Super Series beating Chinas Chen Long making a record of entering three consecutive Super Series Events Finals.
7. Shri Kidambi promoted Badminton Discipline in India at Grass Root Level among young kids. Many Youngsters have been inspired towards Badminton Sport after Shri Kidambi won China Open Premier Super Series Event Men Singles Title in the year 2014 and India Open Super Series 2015 Men Singles Title. He has promoted HARITA HARAM (SAPLING OF TREES) for the Betterment of Society. He also promoted Swachh Bharat Abhiyan cleanliness drive aimed to initiate the theme of cleanliness all through the India
8. Shri Kidambi has received various honours and awards including the Young Achiever Of The Year 2016 Sports Award By Sakshi Media Group; Arjun Award 2015; Times Of India Sports Award; Peoples Choice For The Best Players Of The Year 2016 etc.

Padma Shri



SMT. LENTINA AO THAKKAR

Smt. Lentina Ao Thakkar was born in the year 1933 at Merangkong , a hilltop village inhabited by the Ao Naga tribe of Nagaland. The village was then governed by the special administration evolved by the then, British regime. Every village then was a compact fortified unit. There were then, no roads, no schools, no water supply and no medicinal facilities.

2. One important development in case of Smt. Thakkar took place when she was a grown up girl. She entered the government school at the village along with two other girls. Out of these girls, she alone reached upto class two. She then shifted to Chuchuyimlang where one of her elder brothers was serving as an Assamese teacher in the middle school there. She studied at Chuchuyimlang up to class six and then entered in class seven at the high school in Mokokchung. The distance between her village, Merangkong and Mokokchung is 60 K.M. She with her 3 brothers used to take turns to carry rations periodically to and from Mokokchung on foot. It was a strenuous operation.

3. A new turn in Smt. Thakkar's life took place as her school teacher brother could arrange to admit her in 1951 at the Gram Sevika Vidyalaya run by the Assam Branch of the Kasturba Gandhi Memorial Trust at Guwahati. As this organization is located on the Sarania Hill, it is popularly known as Sarania Ashram. Here she received her training as Gram Sevika for two years and as midwife at The Government Civil Hospital for another 2 years.

4. Having completed her training at Sarania Ashram, Smt. Thakkar returned to Naga Hills in 1955 where she was posted as one of the Gram Sevikas at the proposed Kasturba Gram Seva Kendra at Chuchuyimlang. Naga Hills then was a district under the state of Assam. It was politically disturbed then which underwent violent situation by the end of the year. Kasturba Gram Seva Kendra At Chuchuyimlang came to Chuchuyimlang, one month after Nagaland Gandhi Ashram founded by Shri Natwar Thakkar under the auspices of Bharatiya Adimjati Sevak Sevak Sangha. 3 Gram Sevikas then staffed the Kasturba Kendra. Smt. Thakkar was the junior Sevika of the Kendra.

5. Apart from helping activities of the Kendra such as spinning, weaving and in helping to run the Balwadi, Smt. Thakkar being a trained midwife had to attend to pregnant women at Chuchuyimlang village and in other far flung villages in the area. This service was highly valued and appreciated by the villagers. In a recent interview given by her, Smt. Thakkar said, "Now when I see the babies delivered by me become grand parents, it is my greatest reward". Due to the difficulties of different kinds faced by the Kasturba Kendra and due to militant environment the two Assamese senior Sevika had to leave. The entire responsibility of running the centre then had to be borne by Smt. Thakkar. She managed the centre alone for many years with the help of a local girl. Another major development in her life was her marriage with Shri Natwar Thakkar of Nagaland in 1956. It was registered under the Special Marriage Act. This added strength to Shri Natwar Thakkar by getting a valuable assistant. The couple has faced blessings and adversities together all these years.

6. Smt. Thakkar also served as a member of Khadi and Village Industries Association (KVIC) in late 80s for two years. She was trained on Gandhian lines and she has silently worked on Gandhian lines all her life. One daily paper published in Nagaland describes her as, "Nagaland's First Gandhian Woman " in, "Morung Express" of 5/2/2018 and the title odan article on her in the National daily, The Hindu has mentioned her as "A Gandhian in Nagaland". She has rightly earned these titles.



DR. RUDRAPATNAM NARAYANASWAMY THARANATHAN

Dr. Rudrapatnam Narayanaswamy Tharanathan, the younger of popularly known Rudrapatnam Brothers, belongs to a family of musicians of repute, who have kept up their musical lineage for over three generations with extraordinary zeal. Rudrapatna, a village on the banks of river Kaveri in Hassan district (Karnataka), is known for Vedic, Sanskrit and Music studies, in addition to Agriculture. Dr. Tharanathan is the grandson of Sri R. K. Krishna Sastry, who was a versatile Harikatha exponent, playwright and a scholar in Kannada and Sanskrit; and the son of Smt. Savitamma and Vidwan R. K. Narayanaswamy, one of the senior disciples of Sangita Kalanidhi Musiri Subramanya Iyer. Vidwan Tharanathan was initiated into Carnatic music by his father, and later he came under the tutelage of his uncle Sri R. K. Venkatarama Sastry, a famous violinist and a disciple of Sangita Kalanidhi Mysore T. Chowdaiah. The vidwans of Rudrapatnam family all belong to saint Tyagaraja shishya parampara.

2. Born on November 6, 1946, Dr. Tharanathan along with his brother Mr. Thyagarajan, began their concert career in 1956, and so far, they have given innumerable concerts all over India and abroad, to the accompaniment of highly acclaimed artists. They are one of the senior most Top-ranking duos of AIR / Doordarshan, and have been regularly featured in their National Programme / Sangeeth Sammelan concerts. Their music, deeply influenced by the great music maestros of yesteryears, is chaste and adheres to the pristine traditions of Carnatic Classicism. Clarity in Raga delineation, purity of Sruthi, stability in Gamakas, exquisite Bhava and a perfect rendition of Sahitya are the salient features of their vocal duet concerts. Rudrapatnam Brothers are considered as worthy torch bearers of the Alathur style of singing with a touch of flashes typical of Vidwan Ramanad Krishnan. Their interpretation of Ragas like Manirang, Varali, Begada, Shahana, Mukhari, Phalamanjari, Malavi, Kannada, Sri, Janaranjani, etc. bear testimony to their musical greatness and excellence with a standing of over 60 years.

3. Dr. Tharanathan has an excellent academic track record with M.Sc., Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry. Having served as a Lecturer in Chemistry, he joined Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI), Mysore, as a Senior Scientist and later in 2006 retired as Additional Director. He had been to Germany several times on Max Planck Society and Alexander von Humboldt Fellowships as a Post-Doctoral Fellow, Visiting Scientist and Visiting Professor. He has published over 170 Research Papers / Review Articles in Peer — Reviewed International Journals, guided over 35 students for Ph.D. / M.Phil. degrees of various Universities, and he is one among 6 distinguished Indian Scientists, who published the greatest number of highly cited Research Papers, successively during 2012/16, as featured by Thomson Reuters, Web of Science, USA, 2014 / 2016.

4. Together the brothers have been the recipients of numerous Prestigious Awards namely, Karnataka State Rajyotsava Award, Ananya Puraskar, Sangita Kala Acharya by Madras Music Academy, Awardees of Central Sangeet Natak Akademi, Sangita Kalaratna by Gayana Samaja, Bangalore, several other National Awards and they are the Asthana Vidwans of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam and Avani Sringeri Shankara Mutt. During 1961-64, individually they won AIR Music Competition Prizes, which were given at New Delhi by Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, the then President of India. They have released a number of Cassettes / CDs of their concerts, published several articles and have given a number of Lec-Dems/Workshops on various aspects of music, and currently they continue to train a number of students for proficiency in Performing Music.



SHRI RUDRAPATNAM NARAYANASWAMY THYAGARAJAN

Shri Rudrapatnam Narayanaswamy Thyagarajan, the elder of popularly known Rudrapatnam Brothers, belongs to a family of musicians of repute, who have kept up their musical lineage for over three generations with extraordinary zeal. Rudrapatna, a village on the banks of river Kaveri in Hassan district (Karnataka), is known for Vedic, Sanskrit and Music studies, in addition to Agriculture. Shri Thyagarajan is the grandson of Shri R. K. Krishna Sastry, who was a versatile Harikatha exponent, playwright and a scholar in Kannada and Sanskrit; and the son of Smt. Savitamma and Vidwan R. K. Narayanaswamy, one of the senior disciples of Sangita Kalanidhi Musiri Subramanya Iyer. Vidwan Thyagarajan was initiated into Carnatic music by his father, and later he also came under the tutelage of his uncle Sri R. K. Venkatarama Sastry, a famous violinist and a disciple of Sangita Kalanidhi Mysore T. Chowdaiah. The vidwans of Rudrapatnam family all belong to saint Tyagaraja shishya parampara.

2. Born on July 15, 1943, Shri Thyagarajan along with his brother Dr. Tharanathan, began their concert career in 1956, and so far, they have given innumerable concerts all over India and abroad, to the accompaniment of highly acclaimed artists. They are one of the senior most Top-ranking duos of AIR / Doordarshan, and have been regularly featured in their National Programme / Sangeeth Sammelan concerts. Their music, deeply influenced by the great music maestros of yesteryears, is chaste and adheres to the pristine traditions of Carnatic Classicism. Clarity in Raga delineation, purity of Sruthi, stability in Gamakas, exquisite Bhava and a perfect rendition of Sahitya are the salient features of their vocal duet concerts. Rudrapatnam Brothers are considered as worthy torch bearers of the Alathur style of singing with a touch of flashes typical of Vidwan Ramanad Krishnan. Their interpretation of Ragas like Manirang, Varali, Begada, Shahana, Mukhari, Phalamanjari, Malavi, Kannada, Sri, Janaraniani, etc. bear testimony to their musical greatness and excellence with a standing of over 60 years.

3. Shri Thyagarajan, with an M.Sc. in Mathematics served as a Lecturer before joining AIR, Mysore. Having qualified in the UPSC exams, he assumed office as Programme Executive (Music) in Mysore and later in other stations of AIR in Karnataka. Subsequently he got transferred to Doordarshan Kendra, Chennai, as Deputy Director of Programmes and later he retired in 2003 from Bangalore Doordarshan Kendra. He has to his credit a number of Musical Features produced during his tenure in AIR / Doordarshan which bagged Awards of distinction. Currently he is serving as Guest Faculty to teach Music for Post-Graduation in Jain University, Bangalore. He served as an External Examiner for conducting Music Examination at Singapore Indian Fine Arts Society, Singapore, during 1986-88.

4. Together the brothers have been the recipients of numerous Prestigious Awards namely, Karnataka State Rajyotsava Award, Ananya Puraskar, Sangita Kala Acharya by Madras Music Academy, Awardees of Central Sangeet Natak Akademi, Sangita Kalaratna by Gayana Samaja, Bangalore, several other National Awards and they are the Asthana Vidwans of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam and Avani Sringeri Shankara Mutt. During 1961-64, individually they won AIR Music Competition Prizes, which were given at New Delhi by Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, the then President of India. They have released a number of Cassettes / CDs of their concerts, published several articles and have given a number of Lec-Dems / Workshops on various aspects of music, and currently they continue to train a number of students for Proficiency in Performing Music.



PROF. RAJAGOPALAN VASUDEVAN

Prof. Rajagopalan Vasudevan, M.Sc., PhD. is the DEAN & Professor of Department of Chemistry, Thiagarajar College of Engineering, Madurai, Tamil Nadu. He has 42 years of teaching experience with publications in reputed international and national Journals. He did his Ph.D. in Physical Organic Chemistry.

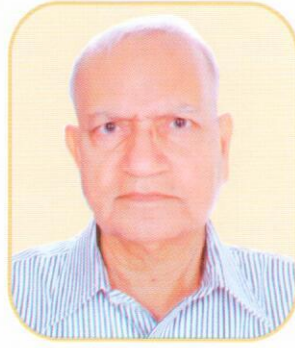
2. Born on January 30, 1945, Prof. Vasudevan received his Bachelor degree, Post Graduate degree and Doctorate degree in chemistry from University of Madras. He joined Thiagarajar College of Engineering in the year 1975 as lecturer and rose to a level of professor and Dean.

3. Prof. Vasudevan is a man on a mission to clean India from plastic waste. He had a different approach towards plastic. He describes plastic as poor man's friend and ban is not a solution. With the view of changing the way plastic is treated in the country, in the year 2002, he innovated a technique of making roads using plastic waste, an eco-friendly process. Soon after he patented the technology (A-CH\871\198254), he could have earned a buck load by selling it off to private companies. Instead he chose to share it with the Government of India for free. While the world is struggling with a method to dispose plastic, Prof. Vasudevan, with his persisting experiments, has cracked the code on this global issue. His dry process has been recognized by Indian Road Congress and it released the code (IRC:SP:98-2013) for his process. This technique is being implemented in many states of India. In 2015, Government of India has made it a rule for road developers to utilize plastic waste in road construction within 50km radius of any city with a population over 5 lakhs. This technology serves the twin purpose of increasing quality of roads and also solves the problem of plastic pollution. He has developed newer products using waste plastic like Plastone (one among five innovations of the year 2016) and cold process, corrosion free rods etc.

4. Prof. Vasudevan was awarded with projects by AICTE, New Delhi. The Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi signed a MoU with him on Preparation of Status Report on Reuse of Plastics Waste in Road Construction and MoU on Performance Studies on Built Plastic Tar Roads. The Department of Science and Technology, Govt. Of India, awarded three project of worth Rs 1.2 crores for finding solutions of waste plastics, e-waste and other waste materials. Under Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, a project sanctioned to build low cost Toilet using plastone has been successfully carried out. He signed a MoU with Indonesia for technology transfer.

5. Prof. Vasudevan was awarded with Tech Icon of India-SAFAIGIRI award constituted by India Today Group under Swachh Bharat scheme and was presented by The Honourable Prime Minister of India Mr. Narendra Modi on October 2, 2015. He was a Nominee for Amazing Indians Award Constituted by Times Now Group. He was awarded the Tapman Award by Tamil Nadu Plastics Manufactures Association. His Highness The King of Mewar, Udaipur appreciated his service to the society and the environment with a "Maharana Udai Sing Award — 2017. The Kalam Innovation Centre, New Delhi recently awarded him the Dr. Abdul Kalam Innovation Governance Award on January 20, 2018. He is equally concerned in improving the ethical values of life, particularly among students through spreading the values of SRIMATH BHAGAVATH GITA.

Padma Shri



SHRI MANAS BIHARI VERMA

Shri Manas Bihari Verma, former Distinguished Scientist of Defence Research and Development Organization, worked on TEJAS Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Program from its Conceptualization, Project Definition, Detail Design and Systems Configuration freeze to Prototype fabrication, Aircraft Integration tests and Flight Test. He worked in this Program as Deputy Project Director, Project Director (General System), Program Director LCA and Program Director LCA-Navy and Director Aeronautical Agency, Bangalore.

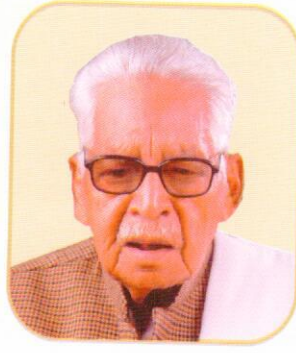
2. Born on July 29, 1943 at Village Bour in Darbhanga District of Bihar, Shri Verma after his superannuation had been associated with NIT Patna as Chairman Board of Governors, Central University of South Bihar, Gaya, as member of Executive Council, Darbhanga College of Engineering, as Chairman, Board of Governors and Women's Institute of Technology Darbhanga as Member of Managing Council.

3. Shri Verma has also been working on Popularization and strengthening of Science and Computer Education for school children in rural areas of Bihar, with operation of three Mobile Science and IT Lab Vans and thirty Laptop Computers, initiated by the NGOs Viksit Bharat Foundation Bihar Branch and Agastya International Foundation Bangalore. He has also been associated with the Philanthropic organizations Maharajadhiraj Kameshwar Singh Kameshwari Priya Poor Home & Eye Hospital Darbhanga as Chairman Board of Trustees, and Kalyani Foundation, Darbhanga as Member Board of Trustees.

4. With the initiative, planning and design efforts of Shri Verma, about one hundred and fifty Line Replaceable Units of aircraft General Systems were designed, manufactured and flight qualification tested and indigenous strategic and critical technology and Ground Test Facilities were set up in different establishments of DRDO, HAL Divisions, CSIR Labs for LCA and futuristic Aircraft Programs.

5. During Shri Verma's tenure as Program Director, TEJAS LCA made its first Supersonic Flight (MACH 1.4), reached its service ceiling and started high 'g' manoeuvres with three prototype aircraft on the flight test line. During this period over four hundred flight test sorties, with different aircraft configurations and flight software versions were successfully flown. The Full Scale Engineering Development Phase One of LCA was completed, and Phase two with three more prototype and eight pre production variants of LCA were taken up. Simultaneously full scale engineering development of Naval Variant of LCA was started.

6. Shri Verma was recipient of Aeronautical Society of India award for Indigenous Development in the Year 1998, DRDO Scientist of the year award 2001, and DRDO Technology Leadership award 2004.



SHRI YOGENDRA

Shri Yogendra, popularly known as Babaji, is all India Patron of SANSKAR BHARATI.

2. Born on January 7, 1924, at Gandhi Nagar, Basti, Uttar Pradesh, Shri Yogendra father Shri Vijay Bahadur, Advocate, was a congress worker. His interest was basically in art and drawing. In 1941-42, he came in contact of RSS and became full time Pracharak of Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh, under motivation from Shri Nanaji Deshmukh. With one Angocha and some basic required personal belongings in one small bag, which also has diaries with names, addresses and birth dates of each and every worker, he smoothly travels whole of country every movement. Gifts received are emotionally accepted but physically distributed then and there, shows his emotional behavior.
3. Shri Yogendra always remains in touch with all workers, particularly in sad or adverse moments. He knows people personally, remembers names and conveys wishes to every worker on his birthday or other occasion. Though interest in art was seen in earlier age, but in younger span of life, it came in light through many exhibitions such as Maa ka Vibhajan, Shivaji, Dharamganga, Janta ki Pukar, Sankat Main Gaumata, Amargatha of 1857, Videshi Shadyantra, Maa ki Pukar etc.
4. Sinch then Shri Yogendra started to think about cultural progress of country and artists and it gave birth to SANSKAR BHARATI in 1981. It is an organization working in cultural field, at present with 8 vidhas. So many renowned and established names and artists are its associates and it gives inspiration, platform and guidance to artists at all level from remote villages to big cities, and it is the result of restless journey of Shri Yogendra.
5. Shri Yogendra facilitated about 2500 senior Kala Sadhak in Amrit Mahotsav, which was celebrated at 78 places through out the country. During last celebration at Delhi, Honorable Former Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Bajpayee said "Rashtra karya ke liye hum dono sath chale. Hame rajnitik aur Yogendra ko sanskritik karya ke liye bheja gaya". Shri Yogendra knows millions of people and millions of people know him. He is swaroop of Brahma. His dedication, simple but impressive personality, his aura and sensitive heart, inspires every person who comes in his contact and numerous artists in various fields have been motivated by him, resulting in Cultural Revolution, names SANSKAR BHARATI. He is working for SANSKAR BHARATI day and night. Due to his dedication — Sadhna, so many artists — Kala Sadhak are active in society to give cultural oxygen and to nourish our heritage, especially under the name SANSKAR BHARATI and definitely, all these efforts and events have resulted in cultural awareness and creativity in the society at large.
6. Shri Yogendra has received the following awards: Kala Sadhak Award at Amrit Mahotsav, during platinum Jubilee celebration at 78 places through out the country in 1997-99, Bhaurao Devras Sewa Samman, Lucknow in 2005-06, Devi Ahilya Bai Rashtriya Purushkar in 2008 in Indore by Smt. Sumitra Mahajan, currently Lokh Sabha President, Chandra Shekhar Azad Samman by M.P. Government in 2010, Dr. Hedgewar Pragya Purushkar by Bara Bazar Library, Kolkata in 2012 and various other honors.