

## Sahitya Akademi's "Tagore 150" Celebrations

Sahitya Akademi began the "Tagore 150" celebrations with a gala function held at Meghdoot Auditorium, Delhi in which celebrated poets from various languages read out translations from *Gitanjali* in their respective languages. In order to acquaint readers with the life, works and vision of Tagore, programmes were scheduled and held all over India. To further Tagore studies and to reveal the continuing relevance of Tagore's works in our times, All India Poets' Meets, Writers Delegations, Rabindra Sangeet recitals, Seminars of Tagore's works, publications, staging of Tagore's plays and workshops were organized at key areas like Jorasanko, Santiniketan, Ludhiana, Goa, Midnapur, Kolkata, Bangalore, Mumbai and Delhi.

An All India Poets' Meet was held at the historical site of Jalianwala Bagh in Amritsar on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of November remembering both Tagore and the famous massacre which gave a paradigmatic turn to the independence movement. To acquaint the younger generation with the life and works of Tagore a batch of 28 writers were sent to Jorasanko and Santiniketan in July 2010, and a second batch was sent in December 2010. A one-day seminar on Tagore's works was held at Midnapur and an extensive three-day seminar was held at Delhi which looked at various aspects of Tagore's oeuvre and also his influence on the literatures of various languages in India.

Sahitya Akademi has many plans in 2011 to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> birth centenary of Tagore in a meaningful way. Chief among its plans are instituting a Tagore Fellowship under which Nobel laureates in the field of literature will be invited for a month to give readings and lectures at various parts of India.

The upcoming programmes are a National Seminar on Tagore from the 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> of May 2011 at Rabindra Bhavan, Delhi as well as a "Bharatiya Kavita Utsav" on the 8<sup>th</sup> of May 2011 at Vigyan Bhavan, Delhi.

**SAHITYA AKADEMI  
New Delhi**

Commemorative programmes/ activities taken up during the 150th Birth Anniversary Celebrations of Rabindranath Tagore

**PROGRAMMES HELD**

- The Akademi has already held a programme 'Rendering of *Geetanjali*' in Indian languages on 7 May 2010.
- An *All India Poets' Meet* was held in which poets from different Indian languages took part and read their poems on 9 May 2010.
- One batch of 28 young writers visited Jorasanko and Shantiniketan in the month of July 2010.
- *Poets' Meet* and seminar on *Tagore as an Indian Legend* was held on 13-14 August 2010 at Ludhiana
- A Rabindra Sangeet programme was held on 21 August 2010 at Goa.
- A seminar on Rabindranath Tagore's works was held on 9 November 2010 at Midnapur.
- All India Poets' Meet was held at Jalianwala Bagh in Amritsar on 19 & 20 November 2010.
- Second batch of young writers from different Indian languages visited Jorasanko and Shantiniketan in December 2010.
- The Akademi in collaboration with Punjabi Sahit Akademi, Ludhiana has reprinted 12 works of Rabindranath Tagore in Punjabi translation and the same was released in Shantiniketan.
- A play *Rinsodh* by Rabindranath Tagore was staged by Sangbarta Theatre Group, Kolkata on 27 December 2010 in Bangalore, 29 December 2010 in Mumbai and on 4 January 2011 in Delhi.
- Sponsored a workshop in collaboration with Jana Natya Manch to write a play-script of Rabindranath Tagore's novel 'Chaturanga' into Hindi.
- A three day national seminar on Rabindranath Tagore was held during the Annual Festival of Letters of the Akademi from 17-19 February 2011.

## **FORTHCOMING PROGRAMMES**

1. Instituting Tagore Fellowship where a Nobel laureate in the field of literature will be invited for a month and arranging their readings and lectures at different parts of the country including Shantiniketan.
2. An international seminar on Tagore will be held at Shantiniketan in 2011.
3. 150 young writers inclusive of women writers will be visiting Jorasanko and Shantiniketan in four batches on a quarterly basis selected from 24 Indian languages (Two batches have already visited).
4. *Bharatiya Kavita Utsav* where nearly 150 poets from Indian languages will take part and read their poetry at different parts of the country.
5. One hour documentary on Rabindranath Tagore.
6. Reprinting all the works of Tagore in all the languages already published by the Akademi.
7. An exhibition of Tagore works and on him in English and in all the Indian languages published by different Indian and foreign publishers.
8. A seminar on *Geetanjali - in Indian languages* (translations of Geetanjali in different Indian languages will be discussed. For example, in Hindi there are 38 translations by different translators, in Kannada more than 6 and in Punjabi nearly 4 versions are available). This will facilitate analysing the history of translation of Geetanjali in Indian languages.
9. *The Great Encounter: Dialogue Between Gandhi and Tagore.*  
Several socio-political and cultural issues, what two great minds thought about shall be discussed in the seminar.
10. A National Seminar on novels of Rabindranath Tagore particularly with reference to the significance of *Gora* will be organized.
11. Seminars/ Symposiums at local and regional level on . important Indian writers like Kuvempu, Bendre, A.N. Krishna Rao in Kannada, Subramaniam Bharati in Tamil and Asan in Malayalam, Devendra Satyarthi and Amar Bharathi in Punjabi, Suravara Pratapa Reddy,. Bejawad Gopala Reddy in Telugu, etc. who have been influenced by Tagore and his literature, will be organised.
12. Seminars at certain places associated with Tagore like Tripura, Orissa and Karnataka, etc. will be held.
13. The bibliography of works on and by Tagore available in the Sahitya Akademi library in a CD format as well as in a booklet to be published.

14. Bibliography of *Geetanjali* in Indian languages to be published during the year.
15. Procuring important prints of Tagore's paintings and drawings for display in all the premises of Sahitya Akademi offices throughout the country (Bangalore, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai and Delhi)
16. A fresh anthology of Tagore's writings for children in different Indian languages to be published.
17. Anthology of poetry on Rabindranath Tagore written in different Indian languages will be published in English and Hindi.
18. Seminar on Rabindranath Tagore in all languages recognized by the Sahitya Akademi at different parts of the country.
19. A play to be staged based on the short story 'Mujhe Tagore Bana De Maa' by Mohan Bhandari in Punjabi.
20. The Mandi House Circle is a cultural hub and hence it is suggested to request the Government to declare the Mandi House Circle as Tagore Circle or Rabindra Chowk. It is also suggested to have life size statue of Rabindranath. Tagore sculptured by a renowned sculptor to be installed in the Circle. It could be unveiled by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India (Now Lalit Kala Akademi is looking after this).
21. Requesting the Postal Department to release a Commemorative Stamp on Rabindranath Tagore on the occasion of 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary (for organizing the function).
22. Arranging stage productions and concerts of Tagore plays and poems.
23. Rendering of Rabindra Sangeet will be organized at the end of all the literary activities.
24. One writer each selected from 24 languages (age below 40) will be invited in a programme in Delhi, where they will express their frank opinion about the relevance of Tagore's writings to-day. This programme may be held for two days.
25. Recital of Tagore's poems in Assamese, Bodo, Manipuri, Oriya and English translations, to be held in Kolkata or in Guwahati. Same, type of programmes of other language translations in regional languages will be held in Bengaluru, Chennai, Mumbai and Delhi.
26. A commemorative volume on Tagore on the occasion of 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary.

27. Screening of the films based on Tagore's various works

Sahitya Akademi is planning to organize an event - Tagore in Cinema, Cinema in Tagore.

About 35 short and long films inclusive of documentary and feature films will be screened in a week long festival to be held in Delhi along with the debates and discussions involving authors and actors who are connected with the films.

28. Rabindranath Tagore's selected poems in different Indian languages will be brought out in an anthology in Bengali and Hindi translations.

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**Sahitya Akademi  
and  
Ministry of Culture, Government of India**  
cordially invite you  
to a

**National Seminar to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Rabindranath  
Tagore**

7-9 May 2011  
Sahitya Akademi Auditorium (1<sup>st</sup> Floor)  
Rabindra Bhavan, 35 Ferozeshah Road, New Delhi 110001

**PROGRAMME**

**Saturday, 7 May 2011**

Tea : 3.30 p.m.

**Inaugural session: 4:00 p.m.**

- Welcome Address : Agrahara Krishna Murthy  
*Secretary, Sahitya Akademi*
- Introductory Speech : Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari  
*Convener, Hindi Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi*
- Presidential Address : Sunil Gangopadhyay  
*President, Sahitya Akademi*
- Guest of Honour : H.E. Mr. Saidbeg Saidov  
*Ambassador of the Republic of Tajikistan*
- Key Note Address : Indra Nath Choudhuri  
*Eminent scholar and critic*
- Vote of thanks : Brajendra Tripathi  
*Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi*

**Sunday, 8 May 2011**

**First Session: 10:00 a.m.**

**Novels of Rabindranath Tagore**

- Chair : Wagish Shukla
- Papers : Ashutosh Bharadwaj  
: Rameshwar Mishra  
: Uday Prakash  
: Jyotish Joshi
- Tea

**Second Session: 12:00 noon**

**Short Stories of Rabindranath Tagore**

Chair	:	Gopal Rai
Papers	:	Ramshankar Dwivedi
	:	Manohar Bandyopadhyay
	:	Shankarlal Purohit
	:	Shakuntala Mishra
		Lunch

**Third Session: 3:00 p.m.**

**Plays of Rabindranath Tagore**

Chair	:	Ram Gopal Bajaj
Papers	:	Satyendra Taneja
	:	Usha Ganguly
	:	Gautam Chatterjee
	:	Bharat Ratna Bhargava

**Monday, 9 May 2011**

**Fourth Session: 10:00 a.m.**

**Essays of Rabindranath Tagore**

Chair	:	Nandkishore Acharya
Papers	:	Shambhu Nath
	:	Soma Bandyopadhyay
	:	Anant Mishra
	:	Girishwar Mishra

Tea : 11.30 a.m.

**Fifth Session: 12:00 noon**

**Poetry of Rabindranath Tagore**

Chair	:	Prabhat Tripathi
Papers	:	Pranav Kumar Bandyopadhyay
	:	Ranjit Saha
	:	Narendra Mohan
	:	Awadhesh Pradhan
		Lunch

**Sixth Session, 3.00 noon**

**Children Literature of Rabindranath Tagore**

Chair	:	Harikrishna Devsare
Papers	:	Prakash Manu
	:	Surendra Vikram
	:	Amar Goswami
	:	Devendra Kumar Devesh

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**Sahitya Akademi  
and  
Ministry of Culture, Government of India**  
cordially invite you to

***Bharatiya Kavita Utsav***  
(to commemorate 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore)  
on  
**8 May 2011**  
Hall No.5, Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi

**PROGRAMME**

**Inaugural Session: 11.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.**

- Welcome : A. Krishna Murthy  
*Secretary, Sahitya Akademi*
- Presidential Address : Sunil Gangopadhyay  
*President, Sahitya Akademi*
- Inauguration : Kunwar Narain  
*Eminent Hindi Writer & Sahitya Akademi Fellow*
- Key-Note Address : Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharjee  
*Eminent scholar and critic*
- Guest of Honour : Sugatha Kumari  
*Eminent Malayalam Poet*
- Readings : Nabaneeta Debsen (Bengali)  
Virendra Kesar (Dogri)  
Arun Kamal (Hindi)  
Chandrasekhar Kambar (Kannada)  
Arambam Ongbi Memchoubi (Manipuri)  
N.D. Mahanor (Marathi)
- Vote of thanks : *Vice-President, Sahitya Akademi*

Lunch : 1.00 p.m. – 2.00 p.m.

**First Session : 2.00 p.m. - 3.30 p.m.**

- Chair : Keki N. Daruwalla
- Readings : Mangalshingh Hazowary (Bodo)  
Rajendra Shukla (Gujarati)  
Shafi Shauq (Kashmiri)  
Madhav Borkar (Konkani)  
Jaswant Deed (Punjabi)

Dholan 'Rahi' (Sindhi)  
K. Shiva Reddy (Telugu)

Tea : 3.30 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.

**Second Session : 4.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m.**

Chair : Ashok Vajpeyi (Hindi)

Readings : Hirendra Nath Dutta (Assamese)  
Jayant Mahapatra (English)  
Somdev (Maithili)  
Jos Yonjan 'Pyasi' (Nepali)  
Pratibha Satpathy (Oriya)  
Santhosh Maya Mohan (Rajasthani)  
Harshdev Madhav (Sanskrit)  
Damyanti Besra (Santali)  
Vairamuthu (Tamil)  
Sheen Kaaf Nizam (Urdu)

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**SAHITYA AKADEMI BOOK EXHIBITION**  
**DISPLAY OF BOOKS BY, AND ON, RABINDRANATH TAGORE**

**11.00 A.M. to 6.00 P.M.**

**7-9 MAY 2011**

**EXHIBITION HALL, VIGYAN BHAVAN, NEW DELHI**

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Visit our Website at : <http://www.sahitya-akademi.gov.in>

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Briefcases, handbags, umbrellas, tape recorders  
and cameras are not allowed in the auditorium for security reasons.