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साहित्य अकादेमी
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संस्कृति मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार की स्वायत्तशासी संस्था
Sahitya Akademi
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Press Release
Condolence meeting of Prof. Manoj Das

A condolence meeting was organized by Sahitya Akademi in respect of Prof. Manoj Das, on 05 May 2021. Sahitya Akademi deeply mourns the passing away of Prof. Manoj Das, distinguished bi-lingual writer, scholar and Fellow of Sahitya Akademi on 27 April 2021. At the beginning Dr K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, briefly described the life and works of Prof. Manoj Das. He paid a humble tribute to the great writer. Dr. Amaresh Patnaik paid his heartfelt tribute to this great scholar. He described how he has grown with his blessings and got a chance to work with this great writer, scholar, social and political leader. He described how irrespective of place, time and person, his story can be referred to any part of the world. He tried for amalgamation of Marxism with spiritualism. Dr. Gourahari Das focussed on how Prof. Manoj Das became a popular writer. He mentioned that three important things of his life was his childhood, sea and perseverance. He mentioned that a number of books of him has been published by Sahitya Akademi. He told about different stories of his childhood and said that such an eminent author can never die. Smt Pratibha Satpathy mentioned that Prof. Das had a number of readers all over the world. She said that he lived the life of a communist and also he was a saint. He discussed about his works in both English and Odia. Sri Tarun Kanti Mishra discussed about the diverse topics covered in his stories. Sri Phani Mohanty expressed how he was loved by all. His career started with writing poems. His first poetry collection was 'Shatabdir Artananda' and first story collection was 'Samudrar Sudha'. He said that it is difficult for anyone to occupy his place. He was a complete man who has lived a total meaningful life.

Smt Sanjukta Dasgupta said that he lives on and will live on as long as a culture or civilization survives. His creations are signposts of literary evolution. He wrote in Odia and also in English. He had also been discussed in the level of Tagore and Premchand. He was a rooted cosmopolitan, a patriot and lover of all human kind. Sri P. Raja said that he has seen in Prof. Manoj Das three personalities - a good friend, better guide and best master. He speaks on how good he was as a friend for last 43 years. He discussed about his influence on his life. He also shared some good memories he has with him. He also said that he is irreplaceable. Smt Mamata Dash spoke on how her life was influenced by him. He shared his travel story of Pondicherry. Prof. Das was a multitalented person and has succeeded in whatever he has touched in his life. She speaks of the influence of Sri Aurobindo on his life, about his teaching English literature and philosophy at Sri Aurobindo International Centre of Education. He will be immortal with his writings. Sri Manindra Kumar Meher said that he was a living God to the people of Odisha. He discussed about his life and works. Dr. Bijayananda Singh, Convener, Odia Advisory Board, briefly described the greatness of his personality and his works. The meeting ended with the speech of Dr. Bijayananda Singh, Convener, Odia Advisory Board, paying homage to the great writer. The meeting was conducted by Dr. Devendra Kumar Devesh, Regional Secretary, Sahitya Akademi.


(K. Sreenivasarao)