

## पद्म पुरस्कार 2023 Padma Awards 2023

# अलंक२ण समारोह-II Investiture Ceremony-II

अप्रैल 05, 2023 April 05, 2023

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Note : \*Not present in the Investiture ceremony \*सम्मान समारोह में उपस्थित नहीं





#### DR. DILIP MAHALANABIS (POSTHUMOUS)

Dr. Dilip Mahalanabis was a world-renowned paediatrician and public health researcher. He pionecred the use of the oral rehydration solution for diarrhocal diseases which transformed the management of this killer illness. He had worked extensively in India and abroad during his long career, initially promoting the use of ORS around the world with the support the World Health Organisation, and dedicated the later stage of his career in conduction and promoting research in public health.

- 2. Born on 12" November, 1934 in Kishoreganj, erstwhile East Bengal in British India. Dr. Mahalanabis and his family migrated to Calcutta during the partition. He received his MBBS from the Medical College, Calcutta. He went on to train in paediatrics in the UK's National Health Service. He worked in organisations such as John Hopkins International Center for Medical Research and Training. World Health Organisation and International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research (ICDDR, B) Unit.
- 3. Dr Mahalanabis's seminal work in the use of ORS in the management of Cholera and Diarrhoeal diseases happened during the Bangladesh war of Independence (1971), which had led to a huge influx of refugees to West Bengal. Faced with the high mortality in children and adult refugees and in the absence of basic medical facilities in the camps, he and his team worked tirelessly to tackle the problem in the catastrophic conditions. His stunning brainwave of using a readily available but carefully measured mix of glucose and some salts as an oral alternative to intravenous hydration dramatically reduced the mortality rate of the suffering children by about 90%.
- 4. Dr. Mahalanabis's work was noted by the World Health Organisation and he was given the responsibility to promote the use of ORS world-wide. He then joined the Diarrheal Disease Control Programme of the WHO. It is now estimated that the practice he promoted has saved anywhere between 50-100 million lives in the past few decades. He later became the Director of Clinical Research at ICDDR, B. He was also associated with Kolkata-based National Institute of Cholera and Enteric Diseases (NICED) and the Institute of Child Health. He went on to establish the Society for Applied Studies a world-class clinical research unit based in Kolkata and New Delhi.
- 5. Dr. Mahalanabis's contribution in the field of public health had brought him numerous international accolades. He was elected as a member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences (1994). He was awarded the Pollin Prize in Pediatric Research (2002) with Dr. Nathaniel Pierce, Dr. David Nalin and Dr. Norbert Hirschhorn. He received the Prince Mahidol (Thailand) for outstanding achievements in medicine and public.
- Dr. Mahalanabis passed away on 16th October, 2022.





#### SHRI S.R. SRINIVASA VARADHAN

Shri S.R. Srinivasa Varadhan, Professor Courant Institute of mathematical Sciences, New York is known for his pioneering work on Probability Theory.

- 2. Born on 2<sup>nt</sup> January, 1940 in Chennai, Shri Srinivasa Varadhan, known as Raghu to his friends and family. He went to school at the local high school, where his father was the Principal. He graduated from high school in 1954 at the top of his class. This was followed by five years of college; two years of Intermediate before entering a degree programme followed by three years that led to a BSc. (Honours) degree as well as an MA degree with a major in Statistics. After graduation, he went to the Indian Statistical Institute in Calcutta to pursue a research career and graduated with a Ph.D degree in 1962. After working for a year at the Statistical Institute, in September 1963, he went to New York University as a post-doctoral visitor. After three years, he joined the faculty as an Assistant Professor.
- 3. Shri Varadhan's was made a full Professor in 1972. He has spent the last sixty years at the Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences, New York. He has been elected a fellow of the Royal Society and a member of the US National Academy of Sciences as well as both Indian Academies of Science. He has received Honorary Degrees from Indian Statistical Institute, Chennai Mathematical Institute, University of Paris and Duke University, During his professional career he has been the advisor to about forty graduate students and in addition mentored many young graduates. He has visited India often and given lectures.
- 4. Shri Varadhan's research during these sixty years has been essentially on probability theory. Although mostly theoretical, it has considerable relevance for applications in many fields; for example, insurance, finance, engineering communications, etc. He has worked on many areas in probability. He has also done pioneering work in Martingale Formulation of Markov Process, Scaling limits Interacting particle Systems, Large Deviation Probabilities in various contexts.
- Shri Varadhan has been recognized with many awards. His earliest award
  is a prize in 1959 for the best student to graduate from his college that year. His
  awards include Birkhoff Prize (1994), Steele Prize (1996) and Abel Prize (2007).
  He has been recognized with the National Medal of Science awarded by President
  Obama of USA.





#### SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (POSTHUMOUS)

Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, a symbol of political awareness of rural India, had given the new dimensions to Indian politics and social life. He always fought for the causes of the common people which will be an inspirational lesson to learn by the new generation.

- 2. Born on 22" November, 1939, Shri Yadav, three times Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and one time Defence Minister in the Union Government, contested about 23 elections of Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha in his political life of 55 years. Due to his political consciousness and decision-making ability, he maintained and enhanced the dignity of these posts. While on one hand he decided to abolish octroi for small traders, on the other hand he took an unprecedented landmark decision of handing over the dead bodies of soldiers martyred on the border to their families. While on the one hand, he abolished the compulsion of English in the competitive examinations of Uttar Pradesh, on the other hand, he had shown a great respect for all the Indian languages.
- 3. After reviving the socialist movement, Shri Yadav established the Samajwadi Party in 1992 by bringing the scattered socialists of the country on a single platform. With the strength of his understanding of social realities and hard work, he won elections from eastern Uttar Pradesh to western Uttar Pradesh thus formed the Governments in Uttar Pradesh. His wise decisions taken in the interest of the upliftment of women not only increased the respect of women but also established new standards for the governments to come for their interest and welfare and Kanyavidyadhan is one of such scheme in this regard. He has also taken many decisions for a new wind of social change and harmony in Uttar Pradesh.
- 4. Strengthening the syncretistic current of politics and breaking party boundaries. Shri Yadav has left behind a huge fan following in all the parts of India due to his commitments for the political healthy ideology thus keeping himself away from the narrowness of caste, religion, community, language and region. Personally, he was easily approachable and accessible for the common people and their causes and rendered full help to all of them even political rivals have appreciated for his traits. Struggling against the Emergency, he has also remained in jail for 18 months. On joining the Government, he announced pension and respect for democracy- fighters. His entire Political career has been an example to follow for decades.
- 5. Shri Yadav was awarded with International Jurist Award by England's prestigious organization International Council of Jurist'.
- Shri Yadav passed away on 10<sup>th</sup> October, 2022.





#### DR. S. L. BHYRAPPA

Dr. S L Bhyrappa is a retired Professor of Philosophy in Regional College of Education (NCERT), Mysore.

- 2. Born on 20" August, 1931 in an utterly poor family in a village called Santheshivara of Channaraya Patna taluq Hassan Dist. of Karnataka, Dr. Bhyrappa lost his mother, an elder sister and elder brother out of plague and his younger brother due to lack of medical help. He earned his living doing different works and continued his education. His experience of death prompted him to study philosophy.
- 3. Dr. Bhyrappa became a Lecturer in Philosophy in a College at Hubballi for two and a half years and then in Sardar Patel University of Gujarat for six years. He did his Ph.D on Truth and Beauty' from Baroda University. Then, he joined NCERT at New Delhi from 1967 to 1971. He was a National Professor for 5 years. He took to writing novels from 1962 and so far, he has published 25 novels and 4 critical works.
- 4. Dr. Bhyrappa has traveled in almost all the countries of the world including Antarctica and the Arctic. He has travelled and stayed in villages of different parts of India and discovered that the whole of India is culturally one. This gave him a vision of oneness of India. With his study of India's history, music, dance and temples, he explored the oneness of the country in almost all of his novels. He has been one of the highest sold novelists of the country. His novels are translated into most of Indian languages like Marathi, Gujarati, Panjabi, Odissi, Hindi, Bengali, Telegu, Tamil, Malayalam etc., in addition to English. Seven of his novels are translated into Sanskrit and they are reprinted 4-5 times in Sanskrit.
- 5. His Novel 'Mandra' has won 'Saraswathi Samman' award. Original Kannada novel 'Avarana' has been reprinted 65 times in Kannada, 21 times in Marathi, 22 times in English. Daatu' which got 'Sahithya Academy Award' has been translated into all the 14 Indian languages. 'Sakshi' gone into 12 reprints. 'Thantu' got translated into English. Marathi, Hindi and Sanskrit. 'BITTI' (Auto biography of Shri Bhyrappa) reprinted 16 times. Many scholars have carned Ph.D by writing thesis on his novels. Most of these thesis are recommended for publications by the examiners and these publications have carned appreciations. Vamshavruksha, Godhuli, Mathadana, Nayi-Nerahu, Grihabhanga all these were filmed and have received best film awards and best story awards and best directions.
- 6. Dr. Bhyrappa has been conferred honorary doctorates from seven Universities. He was conferred Sahitya Academy Award for his novel 'DAATU (Crossing Over). He was conferred Fellowship of Sahitya Academy, which is the highest honor that Sahitya Academy confers on a very senior writer. His novel 'Parva' is recognized by Sahitya Academy as the best Indian novel of the 20th Century. 'Parva' is also translated into Chinese and Russian languages by the selection of Central Government. He was awarded 'Saraswathi Samman' for his novel 'Mandra'. He was awarded by Assam Sahitya Parishad. He was awarded Padma Shri Award in 2016.





#### PROF. DEEPAK DHAR

Prof. Deepak Dhar is a theoretical physicist, working in the general area of Statistical Physics. His present position is Distinguished Emeritus Professor at Indian Institute of Science Education and Research at Pune.

- Born on 30" October, 1951, Prof. Dhar obtained his B.Sc. Degree from the University of Allahabad in 1970 and the M.Sc. (Physics) degree from Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, in 1972. He obtained his Ph.D. degree from the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena (USA) in 1978. After this, he joined the Department of Theoretical Physics at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai and was a member of the Department till his retirement in 2016.
- 3. Prof. Dhar's notable contributions are the exact solution of the abelian sand pile model of self-organized criticality, and the exact solution of the enumeration problem of directed site animals in lattice statistics, slow relaxation in disordered materials, and exact renormalization studies on fractals. He has also written articles for popularizing Science in school children and organized several training schools for college teachers. Working with a large number of students and collaborators, he has contributed to building a vibrant community of researchers in Statistical Physics in India.
- 4. Prof. Dhar is a fellow of the Indian National Science Academy, the National Academy of Sciences of India, Indian Academy of Sciences, and the Third World Academy of Sciences, Trieste. He is also an honorary member of Physical Society of Uzbekistan. He was awarded the prestigious J. C. Bose Fellowship by the Science and Engineering Research Board of the Government of India for the period 2007–2017.
- Prof. Dhar is the recipient of several awards, such as the I.N.S.A. Young Scientist Award (1983), S. S. Bhatnagar Award in Physics (1991), J.R. Schrieffer Prize in Condense Matter Physics (1993), S. N. Bose medal of I.N.S.A. (2001), Third World Academy of Science prize in Physics (2002), Boltzmann Medal (2022), Distinguished Alumnus Award of I.I.T.K.(2022), R. D. Birla Memorial Award of the Indian Physics Association (2022)





#### SMT. VANI JAIRAM (POSTHUMOUS)

Smt. Vani Jairam was an acclaimed singer of exceptional calibre and exquisite artistry. Her remarkable repertoire includes decades of film playback singing in over 19 Indian languages, recordings and live concerts of light-classical Hindustani and Carnatic compositions, devotional Bhajans, Thumris and Abhangs.

- 2. Born on November 30, 1943 in Tamil Nadu, Smt. Vani received her Bachelor's Degree in Economics from Queen Mary's College, Chennai, and thereafter, took up employment with the State Bank of India. However, it was music that was her destiny and calling. She was a child prodigy who could identify ragas as early as the age of 2. Formally trained in Carnatic classical music by revered masters such as Sri. Cuddalore Srinivasa Iyengar, Sri. T. R. Balasubramanian and R.S. Mani, Smt. Vani Jairam went on to perform on stage and All India Radio from the age of 8.
- 3. Smt. Vani was trained in Hindustani Music under the exacting tutelage of Ustad Abdul Rahman Khan. Renowned composer Vasant Desai invited her to sing three songs for the Hindi film Guddi, in 1971. Bol re papihara', took the country by storm. 'Hum ko man ki shakti dena', another song from the same film, remains the Morning Prayer song in many schools across India, even to this day.
- 4. Intricate compositions of renowned Hindi film music directors such as Madan Mohan, Naushad, O.P. Nayyar, Jaidev, Laxmikant-Pyarelal and R.D. Burman were soon offered to her. The crowning glory of her career was singing the songs for Pandit Ravi Shankar's magnum opus Meera, directed by Gulzar. Crossing linguistic barriers effortlessly, Smt. Vani Jairam's songs such as 'Odhun to Odhun' in Gujarati, 'Sukhat che hai sukha' in Marathi, 'Seigaan keno Ami' in Bengali, and 'Megha Barasila' in Odiya, are still cherished in the respective states of India. Moving to the South in 1973, Smt. Vani won the hearts of Tamil film music composers instantly. Her Tamil song 'Malligai en mannan mayangum' composed by M.S. Viswanathan was followed by thousands of unforgettable songs of astounding range in Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam and Teiugu.
- 5. Smt. Vani was the recipient of several awards and honours. Her very first film song 'Bol re papi hara' fetched her the prestigious Tansen Samman for best classical song. She was honoured with the coveted National Award for Best Female Playback Singer three times, in 1976, 1980 and 1991. The Tamil Nadu Government conferred 'Kalaimamani' Award and the 'Life Time Achievement' Award. She also got State Awards from Kerala and Gujarat.
- Smt. Vani passed away on 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2023.





#### SMT. SUDHA MURTY

Smt. Sudha Murty, Chairperson of Murty Foundation is a renowned philanthropist & author.

- 2. Born on 19th August 1950, in Shiggaon, North Karnataka, Smt. Murty completed her Engineering in Electronics & Electrical Engineering from B.V.B College of Engineering & Technology, Hubli, in 1972 and received her Master's degree in Computer Science from IlSc. Bangalore in 1974. She was the first woman engineer to be hired by TELCO (now Tata Motors) and has also worked as a teacher. She established the Infosys Foundation & served as its chairperson for 25 years. Currently, she is the chairperson of Murty Foundation, a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to the preservation and celebration of culture, science, and knowledge systems born out of India. She is on the advisory board of PM Cares Fund. She is also the recipient of nine honorary doctorates from universities across India, including IIT Kanpur. She is serving on several boards like IIT Kanpur, Kharagpur, IIM Kolkata, National Book Trust and others.
- 3. Smt. Murty has successfully initiated and anchored several projects across India in the fields of healthcare, education, art & culture, animal welfare, women's empowerment, and public hygiene. One of Smt. Murty's foremost contributions towards the empowerment of women has been her extensive work with the devadasi community that helped rehabilitate 3000 devadasis, providing them with financial independence through sustainable livelihoods. She has supported relief efforts during 16 natural disasters, built more than 70,000 libraries in Karnataka, and constructed 15,000 toilets and 5 Dharmshalas. She has provided grants to universities for research, individuals for education & financial aid, supported training programs for teachers & vocation skill building, sponsored mid-day meals to feed thousands of individuals on a daily basis, supported animal welfare organizations for the well being of domestic & wild animals & conservation and restoration of Indian heritage monuments.
- 4. Smt. Murty is a prolific writer and has penned several bestselling books across genres from children's books to short stories, novels, technical books, and travelogues. She mainly writes in English and Kannada, but her books have been translated into all the major Indian languages and have sold over 30 lakh copies around the country. Several of her books have also been translated into Italian and Arabic. Her writings are replete with values of compassion and kindness, in keeping with our culture and heritage. As of December 2022, Smt. Murty has 248 titles to her name.
- Smt. Sudha Murty received Padma Shri from the Government of India in 2006. She was also awarded the Rajyotsava award and the Attimabbe award for excellence in Kannada literature from the Government of Karnataka in 2000 and 2012 respectively, the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award in 2020, the R.K. Narayan Award for Literature in 2006.





#### HIS HOLINESS TRIDANDI CHINNA JEEYAR SWAMIJI

His Holiness Tridandi Chinna Jeeyar Swamiji, is the senior most Sanyasi of the highest order of the Tenkalai Srivaishnava Tradition of Vedic lineage.

- Born on 3" November, 1956 in Andhra Pradesh, Shri Swamiji was immensely inspired by a great freedom fighter turned Sanyasi, Shri Pedda Jeeyar Swamiji and learned under a great scholar, "Nyaya Vedanta Vidwan" Sriman T. K. Gopalacharya Swami.
- Shri Swamiji took sanyas in 1980 and at the young age of 23, seamlessly continued to carry
  on the vision of the Vaishnava lineage of Sri Ramanujacharya, expanding the outreach to encompass
  countries abroad. His profound scholarship and incessant innovative noble activities began
  invigorating millions of devoted volunteers from all sections of the society, all around the world.
- 4. With the motto, Worship Your Own. Respect All. Shri Swampi, began activities to keep alive traditional, time tested Vedic values, that would help people in this fast paced modern society. These activities included setting up of a Vedic University in which traditional methods of oral teaching are integrated with essentials of modern education, digitalization of and research in Vedas and related scriptures, renovation and protection of ancient Vedic temples and their systems, organising Grand Yajnas for the welfare of the country and the world, motivating masses with practical implementation of morals and apiritual glories through his exquisite profound scholarship filled lucid discourses on Sri Bhagavad Githa, Sri Ramayana, Divya Prabanchas, Vedanta etc. on TV and other media.
- 5. Shri Swamiji has inspired his millions of devoted volunteers, from all walks of life for serving society through his Social Service Wing Vikasa Tarangin. He has instilled in them the motto, Serve All Beings Ao Service To God Wherever. whenever, there is a need, you will find Chinna Jeeyar there... sharing and caring. Some examples of these services are conducting Pada Yatras to motivate people in difficult times and providing material or financial relief during natural calamities like cyclones, earthquakes and tsunami in coastal areas, Gujrat and Nepal or man made calamities like the Kargil war, During the COVID 19 pandemic, free health services were provided by Swamiji's medical wings, Since 2010, 1.9 million rural and urban women have been provided free screening for cervical & breast cancer. More than 3 lakh women, detected with malignancy, have been counseled and given free treatment by the volunteer doctors, Schools and colleges have been set up to impart free, computer aided education to visually challenged children and to those in remote tribal areas. Jeeyar Educational Trust has branches all over the world. Thousands of children abroad are being motivated to volunteer for social service in those countries. They are also being systematically taught Indian culture and heritage that glorifies humanity in every aspect of life.
- 6. Shri Swamiji is a promoter of world peace and harmony through Sri Ramanujacharya's concept that 'All souls are equal in the eyes of God'. The inspiring Statue of Equality, Hyderabad, inaugurated in 2022 stands testimony to this. He is a blend of ancient Vedic Wisdom and Practice, scientific knowledge and modern outlook.





#### DR. SUKAMA ACHARYA

Dr. Sukama Acharya, Principal of Vishvavara Kanya Gurukul Rurki (Distt. Rohtak) in Haryana, is known for her contribution towards girl's education.

- Born on 1" October, 1961, Dr. Sukama received her Shastri degree (an Honours degree in Sanskrit), in 1978, her Vyakaranacharya degree (a Master's degree in Sanskrit Grammar) in 1980, her Vedacharya degree (a Master's degreg in Vaidik Studies) in 1984 from Shrimad Dayanand Aarsh Vidyapeeth, Gurukul Jhajjar (Haryana) and received her Ph.D. degree on the topic "Vaidic Indra Devata" in 1987 from Gurukul Kangri University, Hardwar.
- 3. Realising that the current system of education is primarily materialistic and fails to impart moral and spiritual values in young learners, Dr. Sukama decided to dedicate her life to the upliftment of womenfolk by initiating young girls into the age-old Gurukul system of Vedic and scriptural learning in addition to the routine syllabi. She, along with her colleague, Dr. Sumedha, set up Shrimad Dayanand Kanya Gurukul Mahavidyalaya at Chotipura in Uttar Pradesh in 1988. Both of them strove hard and jointly ran this institution successfully for 30 years from 1988 to 2017. In order to benefit students in Haryana state too, Dr. Sukama started another Gurukul by the name Vishvavara Kanya Gurukul at Rurki near Rohtak in the year 2018, which provides education to girl students beginning from post-primary stage up to graduation level. Besides, this institute lays special emphasis on the study of Sanakrit Grammar and Sanskrit Literature in addition to the syllabi. Thus, the education being imparted to the girls here is in accordance with the ancient Gurukul system expecting the students to lead a life of devotion to traditional values of Indian culture.
- 4. Dr. Sukama has been ceaselessly working day and night to train young girls academically, ethically and culturally. She herself decided to remain single by not getting married. She has successfully revived the Vedic lore which reflects eternal values in this fast-changing society. This newly started Gurukul has already produced brilliant graduates who are propagating Indian culture and Sanskrit learning by serving in various schools; colleges and universities of the country.
- 5. Dr. Sukama has been conferred numerous awards and honours like Vikram Pratishthan (United States of America 2000), Parammitra Manav Nirman Nyas, Delhi and Guruku) Ashram, Aamsena, Orissa (2004). Aryasamaj Santacruz, Mumbai (2008 and 2019), 'Aarsh Vidya Bhaskar' (International Arya Mahasammelan Mathura, November-2009), President Citation Award By Rotary Club Moradabad (2010), National Vedavidushi Award (Aryasamaj Bhuhaneswar, Orissa 2014), Gurukul Jhajjar, Haryana (2017), Sanskrit-Seva-Samman, Uttar Pradesh Sanskrit Sansthan (2018), Sarvadeshika Arya Pratinidhi Sabha (2018), Arya Abhinandan The Pride of Arya Samaj (2018), Nari Shakti Samman Janata TV Channel (2018), Padmabhushan Mahashay Dharmapal (MDH), Delhi Arya Pratinidhi Sabha (2019), Srimad Dayananda Vedarsh Gurukul Gautam Nagar, Delhi (2020), Haryana Arya Pratinidhi Sabha and Ved Prachar Mandal, Sonipat, Haryana (2022).





#### SHRI PREMJIT BARIA

Shri Premjit Baria is an eminent painter.

- Born on 14<sup>th</sup> November, 1952 in Diu, Shri Baria completed his Diploma in Fine Arts and D.T.C from Sheth C. N. College of Fine Arts, Ahmedabad. After completion of his education qualifications, he was selected as Drawing Teacher in 1975. He successfully completed his 37 years of service as a Drawing Teacher in Government High School, Diu and retired in 2012.
- 3. Under the guidance of Shri Baria, students of Diu District achieved 8 International Awards (Pride of India) in International Children's Painting Competition' as follow: Third Prize in the Regional Painting Competition organized by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific held from Bangkok (Thailand) in 1995; Silver Medal in the Painting Competition organized by the Ministry of Culture, Arab Republic of Egypt in 1997; Merit Certificate for having participated in International Poster Contest organized by the United Nations Population Fund, New York in 1998; Silver Medal in the Painting Competition organized by the Ministry of Culture, Arab Republic of Egypt in 2005; Supportive Award in the World Competition for Children's Drawings organized by Little Zograff Foundation, Tourism Informatical Centre, Bansko, Bulgaria in 2015 (Two Awards); Honorable Mention Award in the World Children's Drawing Competition organized by Little Zograff Foundation, Tourism Information Centre, Sofia, Bulgaria in 2016 and Supportive Award in the World Children's Drawing Competition organized by Little Zograff Foundation, Tourism Information Centre, Sofia, Bulgaria in 2016.
- 4. Shri Baria held several painting exhibitions like Solo Exhibition of Black & White on the theme "Diu-The mirror of Portuguese Architecture" in 2006; a group of 4 Artists Painting Exhibition namely "RRUP-Art Group" in Udaipur in 2017 and a group of 6 Artists Painting Exhibition namely "Spectrum Waves" at Diu Art Gallery-Diu in 2019.
- Shri Baria is member of Executive Board and Governing Body of West Zone Cultural Centre, Udaipur from 1996 to till date. He was Jury Member of Dr. Komal Kothari (Lifetime Achievement) Award, Government of Rajasthan 2018 & 2019 (Two Times). He was also Jury Member of Ravindra Nath Tagore National Scholarship & Fellowship in 2021.
- 6. Shri Baria's paintings have been collected by various dignitaries like Shri Pranab Mukherji, Shri Rajnath Singh, Smt. Pratibha Patil and Smt. Sushma Swaraj. He has also participated as an artist in National Painters' Camps like in 2007 at Kohima (Nagaland) organized by Lalit Kala Academy, Delhi and Art & Cultural Department, Nagaland in 2018 at Jaipur organized by Rajasthan Lalit Kala Academy, Jaipur and in 2019 at Panaji (Goa) organized by West Zone Cultural Centre, Udaipur and Directorate Art and Culture, Panaji, Goa.
- Shri Baria was awarded with "Best Art Teacher for 2005" award on 5th September, 2006 by President of India in New Delhi.





#### SHRI HEMANT CHAUHAN

Shri Hemant Chauhan is an eminent Bhajan and Folk singer.

- 2. Born on 02 April, 1955, Shri Chauhan spent his childhood in Kundani village, a small village of Jasdan taluka of Rajkot district and got his primary education there. He graduated in Economics from Rajkot itself. He worked as a clerk in various Departments of the Gujarat Government. But basically, he belonged to the life of Bhajans. He used to sit and sing bhajans wherever echoed the sounds of a bhajan. So, the government job could not stall him. Soon he left his job and immersed himself in a life of Bhajan singing. In 1971, he trained in classical music in Rajkot which served to mature his vocal cords. Next, he was selected as a B grade music artist in 1976 at All India Radio, Rajkot. This proved a turning point to transform his entire life into a bhaja devotee.
- 3. Over time, Shri Chauhan journeyed from 'B' grade to 'Top' grade in Akashvani. Today hundreds of bhajans sung by him are stored in Akashvani Library. He has performed in various parts of the country including the State of Gujarat in countless music concerts. He is the only artist among the plethora of artists who sings bhajan only on 'Ektara'. He travelled through even the small villages of Saurashtra, researched and unearthed the hymns of famed or anonymous saint poets. Apart from ancient bhajans, he has also sung a lot of folk and Garba songs. He has been continuously associated with Sangeet, Nritya and Natya Akademi of Delhi since the last twenty-five years. He has performed in various programs at home and abroad, i.e., Japan, France, UK, Greece, USA Canada, New Zealand and others organized by this organization.
- 4. Due to the 8200 plus compositions, Shri Chauhan has sung so far, he has got a place in the 'World Book of UK'. He has also been bestowed upon the 'Gaurav Puraskar' by the Government of Gujarat. He has lent his voice to Gujarati films and won many awards as a male singer. He has also been honoured with the 'Academic Ratna' award.





#### SMT. HEMOPROVA CHUTIA

Smt. Hemoprova Chutia is well known handloom weaver and artist of Assam. She has unique style and skill in handloom weaving.

- Born on 22<sup>ml</sup> September, 1955 in Photikachowa Abhoypuria Village, district Dibrugarh in the state of Assam, Smt Chutia's father was a primary school teacher. She could receive education only upto matriculation level.
- 3. Smt. Chutia weaved out four great books namely "Gunamala" written by Srimanta Sankardeva, "Namgukha" written by Madhabdeva and Bhagawat Gita in a unique style in her handloom, in Assamese, Sanskrit and English language. She weaved out all the text of these books in her handloom in the form of four different cloths. This is called in Assamese "Barnab-Astra". The holy book "Gunamala" is weaved out in Assamese language. The length of the cloth is 80 ft and breadth is 18 inches, prepared in Muga cloth with Black wool. The holy book "Namgukha" is weaved out in Assamese language, with Muga silk and Black wool of length 200 ft and breadth 2 ft. The holy book "Bhagawat Gita" is weaved out in both Sanskrit and English language with Muga silk and green wool. Length of the Bhagawat Gita Sanskrit "Barnabastra" is 150 ft and breadth 2 ft. Length of the Bhagawat Gita English "Barnabastra" is 280ft and breadth is 2 ft.
- 4. Smt. Chutia is the recipient of numerous awards and honors including the prestigious "Assam Gourav", awarded by the Government of Assam in 2022, (one of the highest civilian awards provided by the Government of Assam) and "Prag Prerona Award" by Prag News in 2020. Similarly she also received various awards and honours from various persons, organisations and NGOs of the state of Assam, including "Aai Kanaklata Award" by Srimanta Sankardava Sangha, Assam, "Bakul Bon Bota by Bakul Ban Trust in 2017, "Hipini Kalakar Bota" by Down Town University, Guwahati in 2021 and many others.





#### DR. MUNISHWAR CHANDER DAWAR

Dr. Munishwar Chander Dawar is a physician practicing medicine for the past 50 years in Jabalpur Madhya Pradesh. He has been treating his patients at a nominal fee of Rs 2/- since 1972 now up to Rs 20/- since November 2021. His affordable treatment has benefitted the weaker sections of the city and the neighbouring areas around the city of Jabalpur.

- 2. Born on 16th January 1946 in Montgomery district of the former Punjab Province (now in Pakistan), Dr. Dawar's family relocated to Jalandhar Punjab during the partition of India in 1947. He did his schooling from N. D. Victor higher secondary school and pre-medical from D.A.V. College Jalandhar. Later he moved to Jabalpur where he pursued his M.B.B.S. degree from Government Medical College Jabalpur (now Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose medical college).
- Dr. Dawar joined Indian Army as Captain and served during the India-Pakistan war in 1971. He took pre-mature retirement from the army on health grounds. He received three medals during his service in the Indian army-Poorvi star medal 1971, Sangram medal 1971 and 25" year of Indian Independence medal.
- 4. Dr. Dawar started practicing medicine in Jabalpur with a nominal fee of Rs 2/-. He increased the consultation charge to Rs 3/-, Rs 5/- and Rs 10/- in 1986, 1997 and 2012 respectively. After completing 49 years of practice in 2021, his fees was increased to Rs 20/- which is his current fees.
- 5. Dr. Dawar was honoured with many awards such as the 'Jan Shakti Samman' by Shri T. N. Sheshan (then Chief Election Commissioner of India) at Manas Bhavan Jabalpur in 1994, 'Chikitsa Ratna Jabalpur' in the year 2009. In the same year the Madhya Pradesh state Indian Medical Association awarded him the Dr. S. K. Mukherjee (Padma Bhushan Awardee) gold medal for social service. He has been felicitated by 40+ institutions for his selfless services. The collector of Jabalpur had presented him a certificate of appreciation on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2020. He was honoured by the Health Education Minister of Madhya Pradesh in April 2022 for his extra ordinary work.





#### SMT. SUBHADRA DEVI

Smt. Subhadra Devi is a famous artist of Papier Mache Madhubani Art, a craft where waste paper is used to make utility and decorative items.

- 2. Born on 29<sup>th</sup> February, 1936 at Balour Village, in Darbangha, Bihar, Smt. Subhadra learned different types of traditional art and painting from her mother. Her husband's income was not much and hence she started making Madhubani Paintings to support her family. She used to go by foot to Madhubani Handicraft Office, which is 12 kilometers far away from her village, to sell one painting. Not only that, she used to go to the forest and make colors by bringing flowers and leaves from the forest.
- 3. Smt. Subhadra started making different types of toys of papier mache and started doing Madhubani painting on it. This way, she gave a new look to papier mache art. Before this papier mache art was made in Jammu and Kashmir, but she gave a new form to this art which became famous Madhubani Papier Mache Art and hence she is known as the Mother of the Madhubani Papier Mache Art.
- 4. Smt. Subhadra used the culture of Mithila in this art and made many things on the base of culture of Mithila. She invented many new designs in this art. She started demonstrating this art in the different parts of India with the help of Handicraft Department of Government of India. Organization like CCRT, Craft Council of India, Madras Craft Foundation, Dastkar, HHEC, Craft Museum, Pragti Maidan helped her very much in the promotion of her art. She has participated in various exhibition and workshop across the India. She went to Spain also for performing her art. She formed a group of women in her village and taught this art to all of them and slowly people in the entire Madhubani district learned this art. This art has become a means of livelihood for thousands of people in today's time. Now a days, her family members are helping her and taking the art forward. Her brief biography is available in the syllabus of NCERT in the class of XI.
- Smt. Subhadra has got many awards including State Award in the year of 1980 and National Award in the year of 1990.





#### DR. KHADAR VALLI DUDEKULA

Dr. Khadar Valli Dudekula is popularly known as the Millet man of India. He has worked relentlessly for the past 25 yrs and has been successful in bringing back millet food to the consciousness of human race. Along with Millets, he is working to develop "sustainable living models" for the planet.

- 2. Born on 15th January, 1958, Dr. Khadar received his Bachelor of Science, Education and Master of Science Education degrees in 1979 and 1981 respectively and got his Ph.D in Steroid Biochemistry from Indian Institute of Science Bengaluru. (1986-87). He then worked as Post Doctrate Fellow in Oregon graduate Centre, Beaverton, Oregon, USA till 1991. He then joined CFTRI Mysuru, as Senior Scientist in Biochemistry and Nutrition Department. In 1993, he went to the US again to join CR&D at DuPont company Wilmington DE and worked as scientist in various departments till 1997. Realising that there was a need to redefine and change our food, he resigned his job and returned to India and worked as an Independent scientist to establish the role of Millets in preventing and curing modern day disease.
- 3. Dr. Khadar established Hasuru Hani Clinic and trained doctors to use food systems to heal people along with homoeopathic medicine. Since 25 years, he has actively been travelling to villages and cities across Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana and from the past 5 yrs all across India, to spread awareness about millets as our staple grains and their importance in preventing and healing diseases and as the most Sustainable food for the future. He has been invited as a Speaker on Millets in USA, UAE and Nigeria.
- 4. Dr. Khadar has also trained thousands of farmers on rain fed agriculture called Jungle Krishi. Dry land farmers across India who were marginalised are now becoming economically sound as he brought demand for the villager's produce as super food across Indian cities.
- Dr. Khadar is a recipient of several awards, amongst which Ahimsa Prashasti by Jain Samaj Mysuru (2015); Krishi ratna by Raitu Nestam Foundation (2021) and Nava Nakshatra by TV 9 (2021) are a few. Also, Honorary Doctrate has been conferred on him by SGT University Gurgaon in January, 2023.





#### DR. RADHACHARAN GUPTA

Dr. Radhacharan Gupta is a famous mathematician, who is known for his work of research and writing devoted to Ancient Indian Mathematics.

- Born on 26" October, 1935 at Jhansi, Dr. Gupta did the B.Sc. in 1955 and M.Sc. (Mathematics) in 1957 from Lucknow University. He was awarded Ph.D. degree by the Ranchi University in 1971 and the Honorary Doctorate in Historical Science by the World University (USA) in 1986.
- Dr. Gupta started his career as a mathematics teacher. He served as a lecturer at Lucknow Christian College from 1957 to 1958. After that he joined Birla Institute of Technology Mesra (BIT RANCHI) in 1958 and served in various positions. He was elected fellow of the National Academy of Sciences, India in 1991. He was elected a corresponding member in 1995 and then an effective member in 2002 of the International Academy of the History of Science, Paris (France), In 1972, Dr Gupta was appointed a member of the International Commission on History of Mathematics to represent India. He addressed the British Society for History of Mathematics, at Cambridge, England in 1977, when he attended the XV International Congress of History on History of Science (Edinburgh). In 1979, he became the founder editor of the Ganita Bharati journal and served it for 27 years. By now he has published half a dozen books and about 500 articles of various types related to History of Mathematics. Two of his books have been published by NCERT, New Delhi. (1) Pracheen Bhartiya Ganit ki Aitihasik v Sanskritik Jhalkiyan, (2) Madhya Kalin Bhartiya Ganit ki Aitihasik v Sanskritik Jhalkiyan. In 2015, the 80th birthday of Dr. Radhacharan Gupta was celebrated at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay (Centre of History of Science and Technology) and the book 'Ganitananda' containing a collection of Radha Charan Gupta's works was released. He was President of the Association of the Mathematics Teachers of India from 1994 to 2010. He had participated in several National and International conferences and had presented invited papers.
- 4. For his significant work in promoting and popularising history of mathematics, Dr. Gupta was awarded the Kenneth O. May medal in 2009 by the International Commission on the History of Mathematics. In 1996, the distinguished service award was presented to him by the Vijnana Parishad of India (Society for Applications of Mathematics). In 1998, he won the Kunda Kunda Academy award for his work on Jain Mathematics. In July 29, 2022 he was awarded the 'Pearls of Bundelkhand' in Jhansi. The 'Mahaviracharya Puraskar (2021)' was awarded to him in September 2022 by the Digambar Jain Trilok Shodh Sansthan Hastinapur.





#### **USTAD AHMED HUSSAIN**

Ustad Ahmed Hussain is a foremost exponent of Ghazal format of music. He alongwith his brother Ustad Mohammed Hussain has enthralled music lovers with his melodies.

- 2. Born on 03<sup>rd</sup> February 1951 in Jaipur, Ustad Ahmed Hussain's father, Late Ustad Afzal Hussain was a well known musician of his time. Starting his career as a child artist in All India Radio Jaipur in 1959, he honed his skills by following a scrupulous disciplines regimen. Ustad Ahmed Hussain and his brother Ustad Mohammad Hussain sing together. He has successfully carved this own unique and personal style. Despite having completely different voice, they have masterfully blended them together, with characteristic coordination to create a distinct melody of their own. They have chosen to do their compositions in Light Classical Music, there by retaining the intrinsic purity of the form. The musical combination of beautiful lyrics and their dulcet voices has enabled them to leave indelible mark on the heart and souls of ghazal listeners everywhere. Today, they have to their credit, 80 ghazal albums, Guldasta, Shraddha Bhawna, Noor-E-Islam, Ek Hi Saroop (ShabadKeertan), KhyaleYaar, Hum Khyaal and others. They have also performed the program for the cause of the help of the cancer patients, physically handicapped and thalesemia patients without any charge.
- 3. Ustad Ahmed Hussain has participated in Silver and Golden Jublee Programme celebrated by Amir Khusro Foundation at Delhi and Darshak Sanstha Jaipur and Srijan Sanskritik Sanstha, He has also participated as Judges of Music Audition Board, All Indian Radio New Delhi and Rajasthan University Jaipur, Sare Ga Ma, Zee TV, AdaabArz - Sony TV, Ghazal Sara, ETV Urdu Rajasthan.
- 4. Ustad Ahmed Hussain has been honoured with several awards such as Rajasthan Sangeet Natak Academy Award by Chief Minister of Rajasthan (1999-2000) and Central Sangeet Natak Academy Award by Hon'ble President of India in Delhi (2016-2017). He has also received titles viz. Shahsha-E-Ghazal, Bhajan Samraat, Roohe Ghazal.





#### USTAD MOHAMMED HUSSAIN

Ustad Mohammad Hussain is a foremost exponent of Ghazal format of music. He alongwith his brother Ustad Ahmed Hussain has enthralled music lovers with his melodies.

- 2. Born on 2" December 1953 in Jaipur, Ustad Mohammad Hussain's father, Late Ustad Afzal Hussain was a well known musician of his time. Starting his career as a child artist in All India Radio Jaipur in 1959, he honed his skills by following a scrupulous disciplines regimen. Ustad Mohammad Hussain and his brother Ustad Ahmed Hussain sing together. He has successfully carved this own unique and personal style. Despite having completely different voice, they have masterfully blended them together, with characteristic coordination to create a distinct melody of their own. They have chosen to do their compositions in Light Classical Music, there by retaining the intrinsic purity of the form. The musical combination of beautiful lyrics and their dulcet voices has enabled them to leave indelible mark on the heart and souls of ghazal listeners everywhere. Today, they have to their credit, 80 ghazal albums, Guldasta, Shraddha Bhawna, Noor-E-Islam, Ek Hi Saroop (ShabadKeertan), KhyaleYaar, Hum Khyaal and others. They have also performed the program for the cause of the help of the cancer patient and physically handicapped and thalesemia patients without any charge.
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PROF. C. I. ISSAC

Prof. C. I. Issac, Member of Indian Council of Historical Research is an eminent litterateur.

- 2. Born on 14<sup>th</sup> December 1952 in Chelakombu village in Kottayam District of Kerala, Prof. Issac after completing primary education at CMS UPS Chelakombu, pursued further education in History at the NSS Hindu College, Changanacherry of Kottayam District. He procured a Master's degree in History from Kerala University, Trivandrum. In 1978, he joined as a Lecturer at the prestigious CMS College Kottayam, and in 1995, he bagged a Ph. D from MG University Kottayam. After retiring as the Head of the Department of History in 2008, he has dedicated his time to numerous research works in History and literature.
- 3. Prof. Issac is the member of the Indian Council for Historic Research since April, 2015. He has also served as the Chairperson of the National Educational Reform Committee for Social Sciences in the NCERT programme. He has been working with the intellectual forum of Bharatheeya Vichara Kendram since 1980 in various capacities as General Sectary, Vice President and Working President. The association with Bharatheeya Vichara Kendram helped him strive for positive social changes. He was able to bring several unnoticed social, economic, cultural and historical problems to the attention of contemporary society through the association of Bharatheeya Vichara Kendram.
- 4. Prof. Issac has published twenty five research papers in History and Literature, in various reputed academic journals of India and abroad. In addition, he has published twelve books, six of which were in English and six in Malayalam. The books addressed several social, literary and ageold historical problems.





#### SHRI P. KALYANASUNDARAM

Shri P. Kalyanasundaram is the Founder President of an NGO named Anbu Paalam. He is widely recognised across the world for his role in serving the poor and needy that laid the foundation for empowering through education and health.

- 2. Born on May 10<sup>th</sup>, 1940, Shri Kalyanasundaram received his B.A. (Tamil) from the Madurai Thyagrajar College. He studied Certificate course in Library Studies from Madras University in the year 1963 and started his career as Librarian of Tuticorin Sri Vaikundam Kumarakurubarar Arts College since August 25, 1963. He donated the entire salary to the beneficiaries and worked as a server in a hotel for personal needs.
- During service, Shri Kalyanasundaram obtained many Degrees by correspondence course. In 1995, Goa University awarded him as India's Best Librarian. In 1996, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), Delhi honoured him as 'one among 10 best Librarians in the world'. In 1997, Cambridge University conferred him with the title "The most notable intellectual in the world".
- Shri Kalyanasundaram established Anbu Paalam on August 15, 1953 at the age of 14. After retirement, since 1998, he renders yeomen service vigourously.

United States of America awarded him 'Man of the Millennium' with 5.5 million Dollars. He donated entire 35 crores for the welfare of poor children. In 2002, United Nation honoured him as 'One Among 20 Unmatchable Achievers' of the 20<sup>st</sup> Century.

5. In 2013, Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam presided over the Diamond Jubilee function of Anbu Paalam and addressed among students as "Make Paalam Ayya as their Role Model". Biography of Shri Kalyanasundaram has been published in Tamil, English and Kannada and shortly, it is being translated into other Indian Languages.





#### SHRI MARAKATHAMANI KEERAVAANI

Shri Marakathamani Keeravaani is a famous music composer, record producer, singer, and lyricist who predominantly works in Telugu Cinema along with Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada and Hindi films (where he is also known as MM Kreem)

- Born on 4" July 1961 in a Telugu family in Kovvur, West Godavari district, Andhra Pradesh, Shri Keeravaani completed his formal education in Kovvur and got proficient in Carnatic classical music under the tutelage of Sri Kavitapu Seethanna and Sri Dattappa. He started stage performances at a very young age after becoming an ace violinist.
- 3. Shri Keeravaani started assisting music directors like Sri Rajamani and Sri Chakravarthi and soon was launched as a music director with by Sri Ramoji Rao the media baron with the movie Manasu Mamatha in 1990. Very soon he became the most sought after music director from the southern film industry having worked with stawart directors like K Raghavendra Rao, K Balachander, K Vishwanath, Ramgopal Varma, IV Sasi and many others. He amassed immense popularity in the audience. With the advent of his cousin SS Rajamouli as film Director, the have done a dozen films which has raised the stamina of the Telugu filmdom year after year.
- 4. Shri Keeravani has thus far composed music for more than 250 feature films apart from numerous private albums. Some of his popular works are Kshana kshanam, Seetharamayya Gari Manavaralu, Gharana Mogudu, Soorya Manasam, Varasudu, Allari Alludu, Allari Priyudu, Criminal, Subha Sankalpam, Devaraagam, Pelli Sandadi, Annamayya, Zakhm ,StudentNo.l, Jism, Paheli, Sri Ramadasu , Magadheera , Eega, Baahubali series, and RRR.
- Shri Keeravani has been honoured with several awards. The song 'Naatu Naatu' of the film RRR, composed by him (written by Shri Chandrabose) won the Oscar award for the category of Best original song. Some of other accolades are Academy Awards 2023 for Best Original Song for Naatu Naatu (TBA); Critic's Choice Movie Awards 2023 for Best Song for 'Naatu Naatu'; Golden Globe Awards, 2023 for Best Original Song for Naatu Naatu National Film Award, 1997 for Best Music Direction for Annamayya; 13" South Filmfare awards; 11 Nandi awards and Tamil Nadu State Film Awards (1991) for Best Music Director for Azhagam.





#### SHRI AREEZ KHAMBATTA (POSTHUMOUS)

Shri Areez Khambatta was the Founder Chairman of the Rasna Group, who created the world's first soft drink concentrate in dual format, which went on to becoming a household name among consumers and one of the greatest marketing success stories in the country.

- 2. Born on 22" September, 1937, Shri Khambatta graduated with Chemistry in 1959 from Gujarat College, Ahmedabad. His entrepreneurial venture, Rasna, was born in 1978 and after experimenting extensively with Indian flavors, was almost immediately a success. The company operated from an industrially backward area to cater to the vast demand in the sweltering Indian summer. Thereafter, it launched international product varieties with new additions that were instantly successful as exports. He also did a Food Flavor Creation course from University of Minnesota and went on to becoming a professional member of The Institute of Food Technologists, USA and one of India's best flavourists. It is due to his vision that Rasna remained an Indian-owned company, discussed in case studies, whose price band has not increased in the last 15 years, growing from strength to strength; when many other brands have sold out to foreign entities. Rasna was the original start-up and Make in India brand that used solely domestic raw material, due to which thousands of farmers, vendors and service providers gained a livelihood and thousands of youths got employment.
- 3. Shri Khambhatta was the Commandant of the Ahmedabad Home Guards for 20 years during communal riots and other times, and Chief Operation Officer of Civil Defence during the war. He was President of the Ahmedabad Parsec Panchayat for several years and Vice President of The Federation of the Parsi Zoroastrian Anjumans of India, as well as Founder Chairman of WAPIZ, the World Alhance of Parsi Irani Zorthostis. He was socially active in organizations like Junior Chambers, Lions International and was also President of Gujarat State Chess Association. Mr Areez Khambatta was deeply committed to the cause of modern-day entrepreneurs and discussed various aspects of entrepreneurship with the Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India, where he had frequently lectured and also addressed students at the Indian Institute of Management and other business schools.
- 4. Shri Khambatta founded two Trusta, doing yeoman services for the needy and underprivileged; especially in rural India, in the field of health & education, women's empowerment, social upliftment and old age homes. The philanthropic activities include supporting the disabled, free estaract surgery, donation of cancer treatment equipment and incubators, check-ups and consultations. During the Covid crisis, the Trusts conducted vaccination camps, donated oxygen cylinders, oscillators, concentrators, free food etc. to various hospitals; within and outside his home state of Gujarat.
- 5. Shri Khambatta was awarded the President's Home Guard and Civil Defence Medal, as well as the Paschimi Star, Samarseva and Sangram Medals. He was honoured with the National Citizen's Award for outstanding contribution in the field of Commerce by President. Shankar Dayal Sharma and was awarded a Samman Patra by the Finance Ministry for his contribution to the National Exchequer by being the highest tax payer of Gujarat.
- Shri Khambatta passed away on 19" November, 2022.





#### DR. PARSHURAM KOMAJI KHUNE

Dr. Parshuram Komaji Khune is known for his outstanding work for the Adivasi and naxal area. He is working as Natyakalavant (Drama Actor) for 50 years in Zadipatti Rangabhumi in 800 folk arts and dramas and performed in around 5000 various roles.

- Born on 22<sup>rd</sup> February, 1952 in small village Gurnoli situated in complete adivasi area and huge forest area of Maharashtra State, Dr. Khune completed his primary education from Z.P. School, Gurnoli and later completed his secondary and higher education from Nawargaon, District Chandrapur. He completed Diploma in Homeopathic Medicine and Surgery (D.H.M.S.) from Nagpur.
- 3. Dr. Khune worked as an active sarpanch at Gurnoli Gram Panchyat for 10 years. He worked to overcome superstitions, old customs and traditions from the Adivasis and uneducated people from naxal backward district who had become the victim of it. The impact of his life and his role is unique. Everyone who ever came in his contact in the form of dramas got impressed with his skill. Many youngsters took inspiration from his work and could stand on their own feet. He also works for old artists for their pension. He became their role model of East Vidharbhiyans and Adivasis.
- 4. Dr. Khune is known as 'Dada Kondake of Vidarbha'. He received Shetinishta Puraskar in 1991 by the Government of Maharashtra for his various inventions in the field of agriculture. In 1992, he received Sunil Bhawasar Puraskaar for Juggler's show. In 1993, he was honoured by Kala Gaurav Puraskar. In 1994, he was awarded by the District Administration for participating in Akhil Bhartiya Nehru Yuwa Kendra, Madras. In 1996, he was awarded with Smita Patil Smruti Puraskar for Manav Mandir, Nagpur. In 2012, he was rewarded by Kala Dan Puraskar by the Government of Maharashtra for his contribution in the field of drama art.





#### PROF. NAGAPPA GANESH KRISHNARAJANAGAR

Prof. Nagappa Ganesh Krishnarajanagar, the first and founding Director of the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Pune and IISER, Tirupati is known for his excellent research contributions in the chemistry and biology of nucleic acids, focusing on therapeutic and diagnostic applications of DNA analogues, structural biology of collagen peptides and the emerging area of DNA nanotechnology. He is internationally recognized for his original and creative contributions to the design of Peptide Nucleic Acid (PNA) analogues for effective cell permeation.

- 2. Born on 25" May, 1953, Prof. Ganesh obtained his B.Sc (1970) and M.Sc (1972) degrees in Chemistry from Bangalore University and did his Ph.D (1976) in Chemistry at Delhi University. He joined the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CSIR) at Hyderabad in 1981 and he relocated to National Chemical Laboratory (NCL-CSIR) in 1987. He has more than 180 publications in reputed international journals, two international patents and guided 46 students for their doctoral degrees.
- 3. Prof Ganesh is a Fellow of all the three Science Academies in India and also a Fellow of The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS). He served as the President of Division of Organic and Biomolecular Chemistry of IUPAC (2012-2013). He has served as Member/Chairman of various policy making and Project Advisory Committees of the Department of Science & Technology (DST) and Department of Biotechnology (DBT), some being Nanoscience Advisory Group of DST Nanoscience mission; DBT Taskforce on Nanobiotechnology, Research Advisory Board of Institute of Nanoscience and Technology (INST) Chandigarh, Chairman, Governing Council of Center for Nanoscience and soft-matter (CeNS) Bengaluru and Member, Management Council JNCASR Bengaluru.
- Prof. Ganesh has served as a member of the Editorial Advisory Boards of various international chemistry journals. He is the Founding Editor for ACS Omega (since April 2016) the first open Access Journal from the American Chemical Society and is currently leading its editorial team. As the First and Founding Director of new established IISER Pune and Founder Director of IISER, Tirupati, he has provided great leadership to Institution building to establish IISERs as premier brand science education and research institutes, now attaining international recognition.
- 5. Prof. Ganesh has received innumerable awards, the most important ones being Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar award of Chemical sciences (CSIR) and TWAS Prize for Chemical Sciences, SASTRA-CNR Rao Award of SASTRA University (2015), H K Firodia Vijnan Bhushan Award (2015) Doctorate of Science (honoris causa) of Vidyasagar University (West Bengal) and National Researcher Award in Nanoscience and Technology (2016). This year he was awarded National Science Chair of DST, New Delhi





#### SHRI ANAND KUMAR

Shri Anand Kumar, the founder of Super 30, is a pioneering educator who has changed the lives of many underprivileged students in India. His two-decade-old journey has turned the dreams of countless students into a reality by offering them free residential education to help them gain admission to India's premier institutions such as the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT).

- Born on 1st January 1973 in Patna, Bihar, Shri Kumar graduated in Mathematics from BN College, Patna University. He faced financial difficulties in his youth and was unable to pursue higher education, which led him to create an initiative to help those who faced similar challenges. He has written a number of articles for national and international journals and newspapers.
- 3. Shri Kumar's dedication and work brought him recognition in India and around the world. National and international media have noticed his inspiring work, with people visiting his home to learn more about his initiative. In 2019, a Bollywood biopic was made about his life, and eight Indian states declared it tax-free. Before the film, a book titled "Super 30" was already written in English, Hindi, and several other regional languages, and it was well-received. Discovery Channel and Japan's NHK channel also made documentaries on Kumar and Super 30.
- 4. Shri Kumar has been recognized by various global publications. In 2011, Europe's magazine Focus named him as "one of the global personalities who can shape exceptionally talented people." The UK-based magazine Monocle included him on its list of 20 pioneering teachers of the world in 2011. Time magazine listed Super 30 in the Best of Asia 2010, while Newsweek magazine included his school in the four most innovative schools worldwide in 2010. Canadian MP Marc Dalton praised Anand Kumar's "inspiring work" with underprivileged children as a successful model for education in the Canadian parliament. He has also shared his experiences and initiatives with students and faculty at prestigious universities such as MIT, Harvard University, Stanford University, University of British Columbia, and Tokyo University.
- 5. Shri Kumar has received numerous awards for his contribution to education, including the "Rashtriya Bal Kaiyan Award" in 2017. "Maharishi Ved Vyas National Award" in 2015. He was also awarded the Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad Shiksha Puruskar for his outstanding contribution to education in Bihar in 2010. In 2019, he received the Education Excellence Award from the Foundation for Excellence (FFE) in San Jose, California. The National Institute of Technology, Delhi, conferred an honorary Doctorate on him in recognition of his work.





#### SHRI DOMAR SINGH KUNVAR

Shri Domar Singh Kunwar is a renowed Natya Nacha folk dance artist who dedicated his life in preserving the tradition, for over 5 decades. He has performed plays in 13 dialects & languages. Through his plays, he has spread awareness about eradicating superstition and social media evils like child marriage.

- 2. Born on January 13, 1947 in Latabod village of Chhattisgarh Shri Kunwar completed his higher secondary education in 1962. He formed Mayaru Mor Latabod Loknacha in 1966 after getting Nacha art education in 1960 from his father and Guru. He entered as Kalajatha Director in 1991 and gave stage performances in cities and metropolitan cities like Delhi, Kolkata, Nagpur etc. He formed many Kalajathas and imparted training.
- 3. Shri Kunwar gave more than 10,000 stage and street performances in many villages, towns and cities of India. He worked for making. Durg district fully literate in 2002 and in eradication of leprosy, diarohhea, malaria etc. He worked for better health environment, vaccination, pure drinking water, sanitation, house to house toilets etc. Through his 100 songs and 60 playes, he has spread awareness across villages and cities for child marriage prevention and many more mythological and social evils. This awakening is continued through his Nacha Gammat performances.
- 4. Shri Kunwar has been honoured with many awards. He was first honoured by District Literacy Committee, Durg in 1991. Other honours conferred on him are Kala V Natya Samata National Award by Sahitya Mumbai in 2022; Barhapali Nishad Lok Samman in 2003; Scheduled Caste Development Council Gyan Peeth Shri Samman in 2011; Bhuiyan Samman in 2008; Dau Mandraji Award by Sutradhar Sanstha in 2002; Leprosy Eradication (DENLEP) in 1998; Lokkala Shikhar Samman Indian Dalit Literature Adak, Chhattisgarh in 2013; Dharti Putra Samman; Chhattisgarh Mati Putra Samman etc.





#### SHRI MULCHAND LODHA

Shri Mulchand Lodha is a famous social activist from Rajasthan, who has devoted his entire life for the welfare of poor and tribal people.

- 2. Born on 15<sup>th</sup> March, 1948 in Amet of Rajsamand district, Shri Lodha completed his B.A.-B.Ed. Degree from Mumbai. He had inclination for social service especially for the poor, the destitute and needy people from his student life. He joined RSS and worked for the expansion of its activities in various regions in the capacity of Zila Pracharak. He encouraged the volunteers of RSS to serve the needy people.
- 3. Shri Lodha was moved to see the condition of tribal people of Dungarpur and Pali districts. When he came to Pali district as its Zila Pracharak, he worked for the betterment of the Garasia tribe of Goria Bhimana area of Pali district. When there was a massive famine in that area, he organized activities on massive scale on food and medicine distribution, animal camps, fodder centre, etc.
- 4. Shri Lodha was made, "Pradesh Sangathan Mantri" of "Seva Bharati" the largest NGO of Rajasthan, in 1990 by RSS recognizing his social works. In this capacity, Sh. Lodha organized several training workshops for the RSS volunteers, wherein they were trained for service to the poor and backward tribal people. He established Jagaran Jan Seva Mandal in 2000 in a small village Majhola in Dungarpur to serve the tribal people. Later, he shifted his workplace to Vagdari, where the state government granted land for this organization. He also started working for the poor orphan children by providing them food, free education etc. Around 300 such children have been benefited with free education.
- 5. Shri Lodha started, "Acharya Mahapragya Eye Hospital", in Vagdari 2004. Around 1,25,000 patients of tribal area have got benefits through 315 eye camps. More than 18000 eye operations have been successfully conducted. He started School for the poor tribal families in 2005. In 2008, he introduced a Dining Hall for the students, patients and Social workers.
- Shri Lodha, even at the age of 75 is still serving the poor and the needy people with the same enthusiasm, vigor and zest.





#### SMT. IYMUDIYANDA RANI MACHAIAH

Smt. Iymudiyanda Rani Machaiah is the foremost senior folk exponent of the Ummathat Dance Art of Kodagu Dist. in Karnataka.

- 2. Born on 04<sup>th</sup> April, 1943, Smt. Machaiah is fiercely propagating the cause of folk dance in the role of performer, organiser and trainer. The Ummathat, Bolkat and Kathiyat are the prominent folk and popular dances of Kodagu district of Karnataka. The Ummathat is very popular and graceful group dance by young talented women artists lead by her. She is one of the well-known organisers of folk dancer and singer. She has blended into her folk songs, conservation at the dynamic spirit of innovations. She has continued to bring within the borders of regional tradition, all her movements and feeling with a touch of creative instinct. Keen on making a global presence, her works of experimentation have been applauded all over India. Her traditional Ummathat dance style is making the sense of pleasant phenomenon of universal appeal. Her recent contribution to the folk dance world is her own new innovation. "The Kodava Kolat" and "Kodagu Tribe" dance, which has made a tremendous impact in the cultural circles in the state.
- 3. Smt. Machaiah's team has performed at prestigious institutions such as Karnataka Uthsav, New Delhi; Phoolwaion Ko Sheher, New Delhi; Cultural Exchange Programme, Jammu & Kashmir; Cultural Exchange Programme, Andaman & Nicobar Islands; Cultural Exchange Programme, Himachal Pradesh, Kulu, Cultural Exchange Programme, Mumbai; Hariyana Cultural Programme; International Film Festival, Bengaluru; Cultural Exchange Programme, Mizoram; Cultural Exchange Programme, Punjab and many more.
- 4. Smt. Machaiah founded "Kaveri Kala Vrinda" in 1986, She organised cultural festivals every year to promote the Kodava Folk Dances, apart from imparting training in Ummathat, Bolkat and Kolat. The organisation is affiliated with Nehru Yuva Kendra, Kodagu Dist., Madikeri. This organisation is extremely successful and initiated newer audience to the world of folkdance.
- Smt. Machaiah was honoured with 'Rajyothsava Award' from the Government of Karnataka in 2005 for her achievements in the field of folk dance and cultural activities.





#### SHRI AJAY KUMAR MANDAVI

Shri Ajay Kumar Mandavi is a tribal craftsman of wood carving, an environmentalist, and a social reformer.

- 2. Born on 11<sup>th</sup> October 1967 in a Gond tribal family, Shri Mandavi was a child prodigy in art. He never got any formal training of wood carving and learnt the art by observing his father. His journey as a wood carving artist began, while making small boats and wooden toys on the banks of the river in the village. He also used to make small idols of Lord Gancah. In the subsequent years, he also carved many other objects including the National Anthem and other significant symbols and some of the mythological faces.
- 3. Shri Mandavi gained a name for himself, when he was asked to train the inmates in Kanker Jail. During the tenure of his training in Kanker, he came up with some remarkable art pieces, which brought him national and international acclaim. The District Jail of Kanker, was recognized and placed in the Golden Book of World Records for making the largest wooden piece of "Vande Matram" in the form of wooden letters (44 feet long and 22 feet wide).
- 4. Shri Mandavi also formed the Shanta Art Group, having most of the members escaped from Maoist incidents at different times and joined the mainstream of society through art. It is an initiative for the rehabilitation of prisoners. He has led several reform initiatives such as Child development along with youth and women employment under National Tribal Reform Projects. He has also been associated with social welfare activities of Government and private agencies for the cause of tribals.
- Shri Mandavi has won many awards and social acclaims for his selfless services and craftsmanship. He was honored by the Chhattisgarh State Government for his craftsmanship in 2006. Got a place in the Limca book of Record in 2007 for making unique wooden calligraphic art. In 2008, the then Honble President of India honoured him for Wooden Calligraphic Art and Wooden Sculptures in New Delhi. In the year 2008, he was felicitated by the then Union Defense Minister for creating the National Anthem (Jana-Gana-Mana) and National Song (Vande Matram) in wooden calligraphy. In the same year, he was felicitated for his Wooden Sculpture Art by Shri Shri Ravishankar, the founder of Art of Living, in Jagdalpur, for creating Bhagavad Geeta in wooden letters. He was conferred with the title of Bastar Art-son by Arzoo Foundation, Bhilai, in 2009. In the same year Citizen Global Platform Finland, acknowledged his Eco-friendly brick-making technique through red soil or Gravelly soil (Moram) as a unique Environment conserving initiative. In 2018 his Wooden Cailigraphic sculpture of "Vande-Matram" was acknowledged by the Golden Book of World Record as the largest wooden creative work. Recently he was invited as "Youth Icon" in the Youth-20 Samvad Programme, jointly organized by Union Ministry of Youth Welfare and Nehru Yuwa Kendra Sangathan (under the G-20 year long activities).





### SHRI GAJANAN JAGANNATH MANE

Shri Gajanan Jagannath Mane has been rendering his service to the down trodden community especially in the field of leprosy eradication and rehabilitation of leprosy patients and their families.

- 2. Born on 14" May 1949, Shri Mane completed his basic education and successfully completed boiler competency examination to help him professionally. He joined Indian Navy at the tender age of 16 inspired by the Indo-China war and sacrifices made in it by the soldiers. He participated in the 1971 India Pakistan war and has been awarded the "Sangram Medal" for his participation in the war.
- 3. Shri Mane started his work towards leprosy rehabilitation in the year 1991 and till date has been continuing to do so at Kushtha Seva Sanstha. Hamiman Nagar, earlier known as Hamiman Nagar Kushtha Rugna Vasahat, Kalyan. The population of this colony is over 800 residents. He has successfully brought control over spreading of Leprosy disease in the area and cured over 500 patients completely by running an in-house dispensary affiliated to Kalyan Dombivli Municipal Corporation and A.D.H.S. Maharashtra Government. As a part of the rehabilitation program, he has implemented various programs within the colony which have helped the patients and residents of the colony to earn a livelihood, who otherwise find it difficult to get mainstream employment. Some of the notable projects undertaken in the colony include Candle-making, Chalk sticks making, running of a dairy farm etc. In order to ensure that the future generations are self-dependent and are able to get mainstream employment, education up to graduation for children from the colony is ensured by the Sanstha. This is being done with the help of donations received in the Radha Krishna Temple which was built in the premise of the colony in the year 2000. Patients here are given monthly financial support by Kalyan Dombivli Municipal Corporation and Sanjay Gandhi Niradhar Yojna.
- 4. The rehabilitation center won the first prize for their dairy farm project from Sasakawa Leprosy Foundation, Japan in the year 2011. Patients are taught self-reliance in this colony. Patients and their children are given employment in Kalyan Dombivli Municipal Corporation and private sector. Women are trained for tailoring and tailoring machines are given to them for earning a ivelihood. The colony has been able to achieve total control over the spread of this disease.
- 5. Shri. Mane has been recipient of many awards, such as "Sangram Medal" for participation in 1971 India Pakistan war; Gunwant Kamgar Puraskar in 1993 by Government of Maharashtra; Kushtha Rugna Seva Karya Puraskar by Ex-servicemen Board, Thane District; Kushtha Rugna Seva Puraskar by Kalyan Dombivli Municipal Corporation; Samaj Utthan Puraskar by Government of Maharashtra in 2018 and many more awards from private institutions like Maharashtra Icon, Kokan Bhushan, Adarsh Dombivlikar puraskar etc.





# DR. ANTARYAMI MISHRA

Dr. Antaryami Mishra, a distinguished Odia litterateur, a reputed columnist and researcher, has been contributing to the study of Odia language, grammar culture and history for nearly five decades. Though differently abled, he wrote relentlessly in various research articles and books to prove Odia as a Classical Language and much of his thoughts, research work and writings on Odia language opened the vision to other intellectual research scholars and Odia lovers. He expressed historical studies including the growth and development of Odia as a classical language in his research book "Odia-Eka Shastriya Bhasa" published in 2013, prior to declaration of Odia as Classical Language by the Government. This book has been published in Hindi as well.

- 2. Born on 1" July, 1950, Dr. Mishra is prolific in writing columns for the greater cause of a linguistic Odia University and Odia Bhasara Shastriyata, which led to Government of Odisha forming a special committee for preparation of a report to be submitted for classical status of Odia language. He was also later nominated as a special member to the Committee.
- 3. Dr. Mishra has been continually awarded nominations by the State Government as member of the "Odisha Sahitya Academy" and has recently been nominated as a member to the "Kendriya Sahitya Academy". He is the co-writer and leading research scholar of "Odis Bhasa'ra Itibruta" published by Odia Bhasa Pratishthan and co-editor of "Cultural Heritage of Odisha" series on 30 districts of Odisha and contributed several research articles in the series.
- 4. Dr. Mishra is the son of freedom fighter Late Shri Satyabadi Mishra and have chosen the art of literary production from childhood. Being devoted to spiritualism right from his student career, Dr. Mishra, in his later life, has earned name as a great researcher, an orator, a columnist, spiritual preacher, and a professional commentator. His persistent effort to establish aspects of antiquity and classical traits of Odia language is commendable. His divine discourses are embodied with spiritual and philosophical rudiments and illuminated with blissful grace. By virtue of his writings, criticisms, research articles and preaching, he had unveiled intrinsic truth, hidden essence and inherent mysteries. He is a very popular preacher of Sri Jagannath Cult, Ramayana, Shrimad Bhagwat Geeta, Shrimad Bhagwat and Veda Vedanta.
- Dr. Mishra was conferred D.Litt. (Honoris Causa) by North Odisha University for his columns, research and writing of books on "Classical Odia". He has been awarded the "President's Certificate of Honour" for the year 2019 for his contribution to Classical Odia language.





### DR. RAMKUIWANGBE JEME NEWME

Shri Ramkuiwangbe Jeme Newme is an eminent social worker from Assam. He is the Patron of the Zeliangrong Heraka Association, North East India.

- Born on 25<sup>m</sup> May, 1947, Shri Newme obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree from Shillong Government College in 1975. He was appointed as Personal Assistant to heroic freedom fighter and spiritual luminary Ranima Gaidinliu in 1977. In 1980, Shri Newme was appointed as the Sub-Inspector of Schools under the North Cachar Hills District Council in Haflong and retired as District Primary Education Officer in 2011.
- 3. Shri Newme is the founder General Secretary of Zeliangrong Heraka Association, North East India in 1974. He condemns apostasy and revolted against forceful religious conversion in the North-East region and propagates indigenous culture and faith. His tremendous contribution towards women empowerment and girls education are widely known. He raised many deprived and impoverished students and helped them achieve their dreams.
- 4. Shri Newme was instrumental in 2009 peace talk by risking his life and resolving the ethnic conflict between Naga and Dimasa community. He transcripted the Holy book Tingwang Hingde and authored the book Biography of Rani Ma Gaidinliu.
- 5. Shri Newme is a recipient of numerous prestigious awards. He has been conferred Shri Guruji Samaj Prabadhan Puruskar (1997) by Jana Kalyan Samati of Pune, Bombay in the name of Zeliangrong Heraka Association for preserving and promoting indigenous Heraka faith and culture and for social upliftment in the North-East region, Bhaorao Deoraj Smrity Sewa Samman (2010), Lucknow for his selfless service in protecting Heraka custom and religion, Vivekananda Kendra Institute of Culture Sanman (2015), Guwahati for his tireless efforts in inspiring several communities to re-connect with their ancestral faith and for nurturing inter-community and inter-regional bonds with his national vision and Doctor of Science (Honoris Causa) from NITTE University (2018), Mangalore for his substantial contribution for gender empowerment and overall development of North Eastern society.





## SHRI UMASHANKAR PANDEY

Shri Umashankar Pandey is an eminent social activist and water conservationist from village Jakhani, Banda District, Uttar Pradesh. He played a leading and vibrant role in the construction of India's first water village, with the innovative approach and pioneer of "Khet Par Med, Med Par Ped" program.

- 2. Born on 05<sup>th</sup> February, 1971 in highly backward village Jakhni of drought prone Banda district of Uttar Pradesh where there was no school, no electricity and no road. Shri Pandey presented an example of public participation in the Bundelkhand region by connecting the people of the village for ground water conservation. Noticing the youth population migrating to the cities due to unemployment as agriculture failed in his village due to water scarcity, he made a resolution to convert his village, Jakhni into a Jalgram. He started water conservation work of Jakhni from 1" June, 1995 on community basis. Due to his efforts, lot of farmers got benefitted and their income increased drastically
- 3. With no government aid in hand, Shri Pandey called upon public participation of farmers, youth, unemployed people, men and women of Jakhni village who worked tirelessly and free of cost to construct ridges in farmlands for conserving rainwater and diverting the village waste water to the farms. The collective efforts led to the village being endowed with 33 wells, 25 handpumps, 6 ponds and 2 drains that brim with water throughout the year 30 years back, the village that observed mass migration is now the first water village of the country, whose water conservation model is being replicated by other villages all across the country.
- 4. Shri Pandey's impovative method of "Khet Par Med, Med Par Ped" was praised by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in Mann Ki Baat. The Prime Minister also called upon countrymen to adopt Medbandi through his speech in Man Ki Baat. In the year 2015 and 2016 under the Jal Kranti Abhiyan, Ministry of Jal Shakti. Government of India built 1050 water villages on the Jakhni Model. Due to his innovative way of water conservation, water level in Banda district rose upto 1 meter 34 cm. He also worked at several places in Modhya Pradesh and Gujarat. NITI Asyog, Government of India shared Jakhani as the best example and a successful experiment of traditional water conservation in community basis without government support. Because of its practicality, his model is being adopted across Uttar Pradesh and the nation.
- 5. Shri Pandey has received many National Awards and International Awards. He was honored by the Ministry of Jal Shakti with the most coveted 'Water Warrior' Award in the 2" National Water Awards. He also received Rajya Bhujal Award, Jal Praharee, The Water Digest, World Book of Record, Vidya Bhushan Award, State Award and Governor Award and many more.





### SHRI RAMESH PARMAR

Shri Ramesh Parmar is a well known handicraft artist and engaged with manufacturing of tribal dolls, traditional tribal dresses and tribal toys for last 30 years. His contribution towards establishing this tribal product as identity of region all over India by participating in handicraft fairs is significant.

- Born on 1" May, 1963 at Ratitalai, Jhabua, Shri Parmar got married to Smt. Shanti Parmar in 1981. Despite belonging to Scheduled Caste, having grown up in tribal area they had strong inclination towards tribal traditions from the beginning. Both Shri and Smt. Parmar had indomitable desire to preserve these traditions and symbols associated with them, which were being eroded by the slaps of modernity. To fulfill this desire, Smt. Shanti Parmar got an opportunity in the year 1993 when she participated in entrepreneurship training from Udhyamita Vikas Kendra, Jhabua. The guidance and encouragement received in this training changed the direction of the couple's life and they took initiative to introduce the new generation to ancient traditions through tribal dolls and other related products. Due to social and regional conditions of that time he had to struggle a lot. Due to living in backward area like Jhabua he had to depend on the neighboring state Gujarat to bring even raw material for this work. But the couple did not give up and despite many hurdles he received a district level award from Jhabua Collector and his dreams got new wings and after this, he did not look back. He realized that this art cannot be preserved for the purpose of earning their own living, so to make this art popular among the masses, other youths should be involved. To connect with this, he started giving training in this art form. To achieve their goal he restarted nearly dead Prashikshit Ayodhyogik Kamgar Samitee and through it started organizing training camps at various places across the district. Till now he has trained more than 1000 such young artisans and all of them are proficient in this art and employing the art to earn livelihood.
- 3. Shri Parmar started to participate in Handicrafts fairs at various places across the country with aim to acquaint the common people with tribal culture. He has participated in more than 100 such National and State fairs across the country which includes Kalidas Samaroh Ujjain. At present he is participating in various national and international fairs under the aegis of Mahkaleshwar Swayam Sahayat Samooh under The Urban Livelihood Mission.





## SMT. SHANTI PARMAR

Smt. Shanti Parmar is a well known handicraft artist and engaged with manufacturing of tribal dolls, traditional tribal dresses and tribal toys for last 30 years. Her contribution towards establishing this tribal product as identity of region all over India by participating in handicraft fairs is significant

- Born on 15th July, 1968 at nearby village Bhagor, Smt. Parmar got married to Shri Ramesh Parmar in 1981. Despite belonging to Scheduled Caste, having grown up in tribal area they had strong inclination towards tribal traditions from the beginning. Both Shri and Smt. Parmar had indomitable desire to preserve these traditions and symbols associated with them, which were being eroded by the slaps of modernity. To fulfill this desire, she got an opportunity in the year 1993 when she participated in entrepreneurship training from Udhyamita Vikas Kendra, Jhabua. The guidance and encouragement received in this training change the direction of the couple's life and took initiative to introduce the new generation to ancient traditions through tribal dolls and other related products. Due to social and regional conditions of that time she had to struggle a lot. Due to living in backward area like Jhabua she had to depend on the neighboring state Gujarat to bring even raw material for this work. She did not give up and despite many hurdles she received a district level award Jhabua Collector and her dreams got new wings and after this, she did not look back. She realized that this art cannot be preserved for the purpose of earning their own living, so to make this art popular among the masses, other youths should be involved. To connect with this, she started giving training in this art form. To achieve their goal she restarted nearly dead Prashikshit. Ayodhyogik Kamgar Samitee and through it started organizing training camps at various places across the district. Till now she have trained more than 1000 such young artisans and all of them are proficient in this art and employing the art to earn livelihood.
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## DR. KRISHNA PATEL

Dr. Krishna Patel is a popular and versatile folk singer, who popularized the Sambalpuri folk songs across the world through her landmark creation of Sambalpuri song "Rangabati Rangabati" in 1978.

- 2. Born on 29" November 1958 in Kuchinda village of Sambalpur district of Odisha, Dr. Patel being inspired by her mother, from early childhood started learning music by her singer-mother and continued practising 'Chaupadi' and Janana'. Later on she got imparted regular formal training on music from pivotal gurus like Late Fakir Mohan Pattnaik, a great folk singer, Guru Arun Prassana Seth, Guru Pradip Patra, Guru Prabhudatta Pradhan and from Guru Prafulla Mitra. She got accredited as B' Grade artiste in All India Radio, Sambalpur in the year 1970 and was upgraded to 'A' grade later on. Her first song recorded and broadcast was in Sambalpuri, "Ja ja kala bhamara..." (written by Binod Pasayat) followed by "Man bagicha thi phutichhe mali..." of Ramprasad Purohit, the popular duet "Aye malti sunaguri re..." with Jitendra Haripal, "Ahare lari matara..." and many more such songs which made her the Nightingale of Western Odisha.
- 3. Dr. Patel became the household name for the chartbuster folk based Sambalpuri duet song, 'Rangabatee Rangabatee...' that took both Krishna Patel and co-singer Jitendra Haripal (Padma Shri awardee) to the zenith of popularity, which was recorded for All India Radio, Sambalpur in 1976-77 and re-recorded later on in Hindustan Records for Indian Record Company (INERCO), Kolkata around 1979-80. It is reported that Rangabatee song is broadcast in various Radio stations of world including BBC, London and Russia. The song earned fame and recognition for Odisha in Republic Day National Parade. The Government of Odisha organize a grand festival each year in the name "Rangabati Utsav" as a token of respect to the song and also declared the name of the native village of the lyricist Mitrabahanu Gauntia as "Rangabati Bilung".
- Dr. Patel represented the country in the Indian Festivals in Moscow in 1987, the Dweep Mahotsav in Andaman and Nicober island in 1988 & 1999, the Fete-De-Pundicheri Festival in 2000. She also represented India in the Bali Yatra Mahotsav held at Bali, Indonesia.
- 5. The Odisha Sangeet Natak Akademi honoured her in 2002 for her significant contribution towards promotion of traditional art of Odisha. She was conferred with the Degree of Doctor of Literature (Honoris Causa) by Utkal University of Culture, Bhubaneswar on 10th of April, 2015 in recognition of her outstanding achievement in the field of Creative Folk Art and Music.





#### SHRI KAPIL DEV PRASAD

Shri Kapil Dev Prasad is a traditional handloom weaver who is known for keeping the 'Bavan Buti' weaving art alive and its expansion. It is made with different colour threads on the cloth woven on handloom.

- Born on 5° August, 1955, Shri Prasad could receive his education up to middle class. He could not enroll in high school due to financial constraints. From the age of 15, he has been continuously working on weaving cloth with Bawan Buti art on handloom, his family profession. Thousands of weavers have been trained in this art by him. Sarces, bed sheets, curtains, table cloths, shawls, dupattas, etc. made by the weavers of Bihar Sharif are liked in India and abroad.
- 3. Shri Prasad formed a Primary Weavers Cooperative society in 1980 by organizing the weavers in his village Bavan Vigha. He has been contributing in providing employment and other government assistance to the weavers through the cooperative society. Due to his efforts, Government of India, Ministry of Textiles, New Delhi, under the National Handloom Development Program (NHDP) is running a block level cluster in Bihar Sharif, which is benefiting thousands of weaving families.
- 4. Shri Prasad has been associated with many handicraft weavers' organizations. In 1982, he was elected as a member of the Board of Directors of the Bihar Sharif Regional Handicraft Weavers Cooperative Union Limited, Bihar Sharif. He was also elected member of the Board of Directors of Bihar State Handloom Weavers Co-operative Union Limited, Rajendra Nagar, Patna. In 1990, he was able to export Bavanbuti and Upendra Maharathi Design's Bed Sheet, Table Cloth, Curtain and Baby Caring Cloth to Germany and Australia by joining Bihar State Export Corporation Limited Patna. In 1992, he got constructed a common work shed for weavers by Nirmit Nigam in Bavan Vigha, in which weavers are still doing weaving work.
- 5. Shri Prasad is the recipient of numerous awards and honours. He has been awarded the "National Award" by the Weavers Cooperative Society in 1993-94 by the Government of India, Ministry of Textiles, New Delhi; "Weaver's Award" by the Government of Bihar, Directorate of Handicrafts & Silks, Bihar Patna in 2001-02, "Akshat Naman Patra" by Takshik Educational Society, Delhi in 2004-05, "Samman Patra" by District Magistrate Nalanda and "National Merit Certificate" by Government of India Ministry of Textiles, New Delhi, He has also been honoured by the Upendra Maharathi Craft Research Institute, Patna and the famous Raymond Company, Mumbai in the textile sector.





# SHRI SHAH RASHEED AHMED QUADRI

Shri Shah Rasheed Ahmed Quadri is the senior most Master Craftsman engaged in the field of Bidri Ware Handicrafts which is world famous ancient craft. He is widely recognized for his role in Bidri Ware Handicraft, as he has represented the said craft on various occasions which includes national and international levels and bring of beauty of Bidri Ware Handicrafts across the various countries.

- 2. Born on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 1955, Shri Quadri hailing from respectable well known family engaged with Bidri Craft since their forefather period, and studied upto 12<sup>th</sup> PUC. Engaged in the traditional art of Bidri Handicraft, he achieved many goals by inventing many new Bidri Ware articles.
- 3. Shri Quadri has starting working in hereditary family craft of Bidri Ware Handieraft since childhood and after his involvement in this craft, has got lots of encouragement and started discovering new patterns, designs and articles for the improvement and development of this ancient old craft. During the year 1986, he founded M/s. Novel Bidri Craft at Bidar (Karnataka State) and undertook various tasks which include inventing new articles, designs, etc. and thereafter also provided training to the beneficiaries, so that the Bidri handicraft industry shall get many more craftsmen and craftswomen and an initiative towards development of craft also.
- 4. Shri Quadri has discovered many new patterns, designs and articles which was liked and appreciated not only in national level but globally also. He is a senior most Master Craftsman who had started journey from his childhood and achieved a good name not only in Bidar but also in international level. He has participated in many programme, exhibitions, crafts mela, Handicraft Expos, and many more to the list and visited for live demonstration at Boston (USA), Rome (Italy), Singapore, Netherland (Holland), Barcelona (Spain), Kingdom of Bahrain, Muscat (Sultanate of Oman), Chicago (USA), Geneva (Switzerland), Kunming (China).
- 5. Shri Quadri is the recipient of numerous awards and honours. He has been awarded with the Karnataka State Award in 1984 by the Government of Karnataka; National Award in 1988 by the Government of India; District Rajya Utsav Award in 1996 by the District Administration; Great Indian Achievers Award in 2004 by the Former Minister of Delhi; Karnataka Rajya Utsav Award in 2006 by the Government of Karnataka; Shilp Guru Award in 2012 by the Government of India and Kalanidhi Award in 2016. He got the honour to participate on Karnataka Tableau in Republic Day at Rajpath, New Delhi on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2011 and awarded 2<sup>th</sup> Prize to Karnataka for Karnataka Bidri Ware Tableau sponsored & organized by Karnataka Information Centre, Bangalore.





### DR. BAKSHI RAM

Dr. Bakshi Ram is a famous agriculture scientist.

- Born on 1" July, 1959, Dr. Bakshi Ram received his Graduate, Master and Doctorate degrees in Plant Breeding from CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar. He has a distinction of being Director of ICAR-Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore and UP Council of Sugarcane Research, Shahjahanpur, two oldest sugarcane institutions of the country established in 1912.
- 3. Dr. Bakshi Ram has made commendable extension efforts to ensure that the farmers get benefitted from his varieties. As a result, varieties developed by him occupy 29.94 lakh hectares in Punjab, Haryana, UP, Uttarakhand and Bihar during 2020-21 which was about 89.9 percent of total sugarcane area in these states and 58.8 percent of the total sugarcane area in the country. Following his Modified Selection Procedure for developing early maturing varieties combining high cane yield and high sugar recovery, 22 sugarcane varieties were released and notified.
- 4. Co 0238, developed by Dr. Bakshi Ram, paved the way for sweet revolution in the country through large scale adoption. Co 0238 accounted for about 27.9 lakh hectare area (84.2%) in five sub-tropical states and 54.9 percent of the sugarcane area in the country. Adoption of Co 0238 led to about 19.7 t/ha higher cane yield and about 2.44 units higher sugar recovery. The gross economic benefit of Co 0238 is estimated at Rs. 2.71.885 crores, with an additional income of Rs. 67,010 crores during 2014-15 to 2019-20 in Punjab, Harvana, UP, Uttarakhand and Bihar. Breakthrough performance of Co 0238 in UP state has reversed the trend of demand for a sub-tropical variety in tropical states for the first time in the history of sugarcane agriculture in the country. Co 0238 has greatly contributed towards achieving the highest ever sugar production, that in turn led to a Governments' Policy decision on permitting direct conversion of sugarcane juice and B-Heavy molasses into ethanol. As a result, India has achieved 10 per cent ethanol blending which led to a saving of about Rs. 15,000 crores. Thus, Co 0238 has got the potential of eradicating poverty among farming community and to provide economic boost to sugar mills leading to National Prosperity.
- 5. Dr. Bakshi Ram has more than 435 publications to his credit and served as the President and Members of six academic Societies. For his illustrious achievements, he has been conferred with 48 Awards / Felicitations / Honours including Haryana Vigvan Ratna Award. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Award, Fellowship of National Academy of Agricultural Sciences and Life-Time Achievement Awards by NFCSF Ltd., Society for Sugarcane Research and Development and All India Sugar Trade Association.
- 6. After Dr. Bakshi Ram retirement, he is advising the farmers and sugar factory personnel of 31 sugar mills in Haryana, UP and Bihar on increasing the sugarcane productivity with judicious use of minimum inputs to improve the net income of the farmers.





### PROF. SUJATHA RAMDORAI

Prof. Sujatha Ramdorai is a Research Mathematician working in the areas of Algebra and Number Theory. She currently holds a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada. Prior to this, she was a Professor at Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) Mumbai. She is known for her contributions in the areas of Quadratic Forms and Noncommutative Iwasawa Theory.

- Born on 23<sup>st</sup> May, 1962 in Bengaluru, Prof. Sujatha received her Bachelor's degree from St. Joseph's College, Bangalore University in 1982 and her Masters Degree in Mathematics from Annamalai University in 1985. She completed her Ph.D degree in Tata Institute of Fundamental Research in 1992 and continued in various Faculty positions at TIFR.
- 3. Prof. Sujatha served as a Member of the National Knowledge Commission (2007-2009), National Innovation Council, Government of India (2010-2014) and as a Member of the Scientific Advisory Council to the Prime Minister of India (2010-2014). She has played a role in strengthening international academic cooperation and Scientific Research between India and other countries. In the last decade, She has focused on outreach activities. She conceptualised, planned and executed the Ramanujan Math Park, at the campus of the Agastya Foundation, located in Kuppam in South India. Some of the exhibits there have been chosen as among the World's Best Mathematical Exhibits.
- 4. Prof. Sujatha has also focused on creating quality online Digital Resources in Mathematics, aligned to the school curriculum in India, through Gyanome Foundation. She has also mentored students interested in Mathematics and was an invitee to the White House for a Panel Discussion on STEM Education and Mentorship under the Obama Administration. As a member and ambassador of the International Women in Mathematics, she works actively to advance Education, Research and Policy in STEM with Equity, Diversity and Inclusion as objectives.
- Prof. Sujatha is the recipient of several national and international awards such as the INSA Young Scientist Award (1993), Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship (1997-1998), Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award (2004), ICTP Ramanujan Prize (2006), Krieger Nelson Prize (2020).





## DR. ABBAREDDY NAGESWARA RAO

Dr. Abbareddy Nageswara Rao is widely known in the Botanical world for his outstanding contributions to the Orchid taxonomy and conservation in India. He has discovered from India maximum number (35) of orchid species which are new to the world.

- Born on 19<sup>th</sup> June, 1954, Dr. Ran obtained M.Sc. Degree in Botany (1977) from Andhra University, Waltair. Later, with the Research Fellowship from the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, he worked on Orchid Flora of Arunachal Pradesh for his Ph.D. thesis in Botanical Survey of India, Eastern Circle, Shillong (Meghalaya) from 1978 to 1982 and submitted to Andhra University. He was awarded Ph.D. Degree in 1985.
- 3. Dr. Rao served for 30 years in the Department of Environment and Forests, Government of Arunachal Pradesh as Orchidologist in State Forest Research Institute, Itanagar. Later, for 4 years, he served as the Project Director, Centre for Orchid Gene Conservation of Eastern Himalayan Region, Hengbung in Senapati district of Manipur, During the 38 years of his experience in the field of Orchid research, he has carried out several diligent explorations in the virgin forest areas of Northeast Indian states. Some of his outstanding contributions to the Indian Orchidology are the discovery of 35 new species; 46 new distributional records to India; 65 new records to N.E. India. To his credit, he has more than 200 research papers on various aspects of Orchidology published in various national and international journals. As a part of ex situ conservation enriched several orchid Gene-banks in N.E. India. He imparted training in Orchid propagation and cultivation to many Women SHGs of Adi, Aka, Apothani, Bogun, Monpa, Sherdukpen, Nishi, Kamti, Wancho, Kuki, Naga tribes of Arunachal and Manipur.
- 4. Dr. Rao, during his service period, also acted in ex officio, as the Chairman for the Orchid Task Force to form DUS Test Guidelines, Protection of Plant Varieties & Farmers Right Authority (PPV & FRA), Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India; Member of Orchid Specialists Group, Indian Sub Continent (SAARC) Region, IUCN; Member in the RAC and QRT, National Research Centre for Orchida, Pakyong, Sikkim, under ICAR, New Delhi; Member of Expert Group on Botanic Gardens, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India; Member of State Medicinal Plants Board and State Biodiversity Board, Arunachal Pradesh, Department of Environment & Forests.
- 5. Dr. Rao, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the Orchid Taxonomy and Conservation in India, is honoured with Dr.T.M. Hynniewtta Biodiversity Gold Medal (2014) by The East Himalayan Society of Spermatophyte Taxonomy (EHSST), Siliguri; Suraj Prakash Vij Memorial Award, (2016) by The Orchid Society of India, Chandigarh; Indian Record - by Limon Book of Records (2020) for discovering maximum number of Orchid species (35) from India.





### SHRI PARESH RATHWA

Shri Paresh Rathwa is a well known "Pithora" artist (Lakhara – in local language) from Kawant, Chhotaudepur district of Gujarat State

- 2. Born on August 17, 1968, Shri Rathwa completed his study only up to 10" Standard due to his poor economic condition and started accompaning "Pithora" Lakhara (Artist) from his village since early childhood. At a young age of 22 he was recognized as a "Pithora" Lakhara (Artist) by his own Rathwa community. Since 1990 he was writing (painting) Pithora from village to village and participated in various international, national and state exhibitions, tribal festivals and Mela to preserve and promote the traditional tribal art form "Pithora" and represent TRI, Gujarat, Tribal Development Department and the State Government in many occasions.
- 3. Shri Rathwa had visited "Adivasi Museum" of Tribal Research Institute, Gujarat in the year 1995. When the then Museum Curator Mr. Ghosalkar came to know that he is "Pithora" writer (Artist) he was very impressed with his work and at the same time he expressed sorrow over disappearing of "Pithora" art from tribal culture of the state. He gave a lot of insight and courage to save this endangered art form. That's how the journey of preserve and promote the endangered art "Pithora" has began.
- 4. Shri Rathwa participated in "International Painting Exhibition" held at Fuzita Vinte Museum, Japan in 1995, Roberto Sioline, Milao, Italy in 2000. He participated and performed live demonstration of "Pithora" in more than 30 "Painting Exhibitions, Trade Fairs, Tribal Festivals and Kala Mahotsav" organized by TRIFED, TRI, Gujarat, other State TRIs, Ministry of Tribal Affairs and other Ministries of Government of India since 1995.
- Shri Rathwa painted "Pithora" on walls of many such iconic buildings and Government offices such as DMRC INA Metro Station, New Delhi, on the walls of TRIBES INDIA show room situated at TRIFED, New Delhi in 2017, on the office wall of Ministry of Tribal Affairs, New Delhi and on the walls of DIET Office, GCERT Building, Gandhinagar.
- 6. Shri Rathwa imparted online training to art lovers from seven different countries to paint "Pithora". Today, through these relentless efforts, this art form has gained State, National and International recognition. He has been able to give "Pithora" a prominent place in art galleries as well as museums in foreign countries like England, Italy, France, Japan etc.
- 7. Shri Rathwa was honoured with State Award by Cottage and Rural Industries Department in 2018. He was awarded "Best Pithora Artist" by the Governor of Gujarst and the Chief Minister of Gujarat at Chhotaudepur in 2019, awarded "BEST ARTIST" by the Chief Minister of Gujarat at Rajkot in 2020; Honored with "Gujarat Travel and Tourism Excellency Award" by the Chief Minister of Gujarat at Gandhiragar in 2021.





## SMT. K. C. RUNREMSANGI

Smt. K. C. Runremsangi is the Dance Instructor under Institute of Music & Fine Arts, Art & Culture Department, Government of Mizoram. She is serving as Guru Shishya Parampara Scheme in 2017-2018 under North East Zone Cultural Centre, Dimapur, Nagaland.

- 2. Born on 2<sup>rd</sup> April, 1963, Smt. Runremsangi passed Pre-University Course under North Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Shillong and passed a Certificate holder in A+ Grade in Traditional Dance, Music and Folk Song under the Institute of Music & Fine Arts, Art & Culture Department, Government of Mizoram. She is also a B High Grade Radio Artist under All India Radio, Aizawl. She has graced the Mizoram greatest State Festival Chapchar Kut for several years and has also performed in Cultural Meets throughout Mizoram. She has also represented not only Mizoram, but in several places across India like Tripura, Manipur, Assam, Meghalaya, Goa, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, New Delhi, Lakshadweep as well as outside India including Pyongyang, North Korea.
- Smt. Runremsangi has released 8 Albums of Traditional Songs and Modern Folk Songs during the years 1986 - 2014. She has taught Cultural Dances, Folk Song and Folk Music in a number of rural areas, schools and colleges in Mizoram for more than 50 occasions. She has acted as a Judge in several Folk Song and Cultural Dance Competitions.
- 4. Smt. Runremsangi was awarded 1" Prize on 03" March, 1990 in the Folk Song Competition organized by Aizawl Centenary Celebration Committee. On account of her outstanding performances in Folk Music, she was awarded Sangeet Natak Akademi Award 2017 from the then President of India.





### SHRI PATAET KUMAR SAHU

Shri Pataet Kumar Sahu is a traditional herbalist (Vaidya). He is widely recognised across the Western Odisha for his role in popularising herbal medicines and planting herbal plants.

- Born on 18<sup>th</sup> August 1955 in a middle-class farmer's family in the village Nandol in Kalahandi District in Odisha, Shri Sahu could complete his education upto 11<sup>th</sup> class due to financial problems.
- 3. Being highly inspired by his grandfather Shri Gobarddhan Sahu, a traditional healer, a love for herbal plants aroused in his tender mind from his childhood. It led him to have irresistible passion for creating a herbal garden on 1.5 acres of his own land consisting of about 3200 rare varieties of herbal plants. This herbal garden is a centre of attraction for the Botany students of many colleges for their practical classes and exposure visit. An Ayurvedic library has also been created by Shri Sahu consisting of 921 valuable books. This library is open to all and regular discussions on Ayurveda are held every day. He also writes on herbal plants and medicine and these writings have been published in Health Magazines.
- 4. Under the active guidance of Shri Sahu some institutions have been set up for the popularisation of herbal medicine and plantation of herbal plants in many places. Susruta Baidya Sangh was set up in the village Chhatikuda in the year 1999 which consisted of 132 traditional healers from different parts of the district. In 2000, Aswini Kumar Kalahandi Baidya Sangh was set up under his guidance. He has also adopted Phup Jhudi Primary school and formed a Green Health Troop in the school and planted 200 varieties of herbal plants on the school campus. He himself teaches the students on the usefulness of plants.
- 5. Shri Sahu was an active member of a survey team which discovered 350 herbal plants of rare varieties in the Ghana Forest. He has made documentation of so many medicinal plants with photos in three big registers for the easy identification for the later generation. This has attracted the kind attention of our Hon'ble Prime Minister in the popular programme Maan Ki Baat on 26" September, 2021.
- 6. Shri Sahu is the recipient of several awards and honours. He was conferred "Prakruti Bandhu" for the year 2009-2010 by Forest and Environment Department, Government of Odisha. He was awarded with the title "Banausadhi Prabeen" in 2007 by Mutyunjaya Vaidya Sangh, Dangarmurli and "Ayurveda Siromani" in 2011 by Ashwini Kumar Kalahandi Vaidya Sangh, Kalahandi. He was also honoured with the title of "Dhanwantari" in 2021 by Arogya Bharati Bhopal, Western Odisha Branch.





## PANDIT (DR.) RITWIK SANYAL

Pandit (Dr.) Ritwik Sanyal is a world renowned Indian Classical Vocal Maestro and senior most exponent of the Dagar Gharana of Dhrupad, the profound and ancient classical music tradition of India. Over past 45 years, he has immensely contributed to India's classical music culture as Singer, Composer, Scholar, Teacher, Philosopher and Writer.

- 2. Born on 12° April, 1953, Pandit (Dr.) Sanyal's musical journey started at a tender age with his mother Smt Ranu Sanyal, an accomplished writer and vocalist. In 1963, the rigorous training of Dhrupad started with the two greatest Dhrupad exponents of recent times Ustad Zia Mohiuddin Dagar and Ustad Zia Fariduddin Dagar. Academic studies of philosophy nurtured his mind and soul from his illustrious father- a philosopher and mathematician Professor Batuk Sanyal of IIT Mumbai. After completing his post-graduation in Philosophy from Mumbai University, he was sent to Varanasi by his Guru to complete his Masters in Vocal Music from Banaras Hindu University, from where he also completed his Ph.D. research under eminent musicologist Prof. Premlata Sharma.
- 3. Pandit (Dr.) Sanyal was a Professor and also served as Head of the Department of Vocal Music and Dean, Faculty of Performing Arts, Banaras Hindu University. He has taught thousands of students during his carrier of 37 years in academics and guided 27 scholars to Ph.D degree. A huge number of disciples under his mentorship are nurturing the art of Dhrupad, Khyal and Instrumental Music across the globe. His 30 prominent disciples are already notable performers today. He has authored three well-known books. Philosophy of Music, 'Dhrupad: Tradition and Performance in Indian Music from UK and 'Dhrupad Pancasika'. His treatise on Dhrupad co-authored by Dr. Richard Widdess of University of London is an excellent overview of Dhrupad tradition and performance.
- 4. Pandit (Dr.) Sanyal has assimilated the Dagar tradition of Dhrupad and evolved a distinctive style of his own in his renditions of Dhrupad, voice culture and innovative pedagogy, both traditional and institutional. He also had the privilege to perform with his Guru Ustad Z. F. Dagar pioneering Dhrupad on many new platforms in India and abroad. He has also infused new dimension to Dhrupad performances incorporating Sanskrit verses, modern poetry. Western and Indian instruments, choirs and fusion renditions. He has created new Ragas-Shrutivardhini, Deepranjani, Gopini and Nagesh Todi. He Continues to compose Dhrupad under his pen name 'Shrutigyan'. He is a 'Top' Grade artist of All India Radio and Doordarshan and appeared numerous times in National Programs of Music, BBC and other International channels with several albums in India and abroad.
- 5. Pandit (Dr.) Sanyal has been honoured with many awards which include the prestigious Kendriya Sangeet Natak Akademi Award 2013, Uttar Pradesh Sangeet Natak Akademi Award 2002, Uttar Pradesh Ratna 2016, Swati Tirunal Samman 1995 and Lifetime Achievement Honor by Dhrupad Mela Varanasi 2010. He is a distinguished member of several Indian and International Institutions advising on cultural policy, education curricula and reform. He continues to impart the wisdom of Dhrupad to the talented future generation.





### SHRI NEK RAM SHARMA

Shri Nek Ram Sharma is a farmer and activist associated with 'Nirog Yatra', an informal group that is spreading the message of good farming and good health among the farmers and consumers within Himachal Pradesh.

- 2. Born on 1" May, 1964 in village Nanj of Mandi District, Himachal Pradesh, Shri Nek Ram after finishing High School in 1983, decided to focus on the family profession of agriculture on his family farm. He pioneered the commercial cultivation of vegetables and angora rabbit farming in the Karsog Sub-Division. However, when he realised the decline in productivity despite increasing application of chemical inputs, he turned to chemical free farming. He started visiting farmers in nearby villages to motivate them to take up chemical free farming and the adoption of traditional seed varieties.
- 3. Shri Nek Ram also noticed that the households of the Panchayat were facing a severe scarcity of fodder as a result of degradation of the common lands surrounding the villages. Women of these villages had to visit faraway grasslands for grass. He mobilised the local mahila mandals in 20 villages to help community institutions ensure successful ecorestoration and availability of fodder and grass. Thereafter, he assisted Forest Department to mobilise and train mahila mandals across the Karsog and Gohar Forest Divisions to help them manage their forest resources for better productivity and ecological stability. He has, for the past 20 years, relentlessly promoted re-introduction of bio-diversity in farms and on platters to include traditional grains, oilseeds and pulses, a mission that has touched thousands of people. When a large and ecologically devastating hydro-electricity project with 11 m wide and 38 Km long twin-tunnels was planned to be set up in a fragile region along the Satluj river, Shri Nek Ram with other likeminded people of the area got this ill-planned project stopped.
- 4. Shri Nek Ram's mission to promote traditional food crops and chemical-free agriculture took wings after he was associated with the Millet Network of India in the year 2011. He has motivated peoples' groups in hundreds of villages in the state to re-introduce cultivation of millets and other nutritious traditional crops. For years, he has participated in local and international level fairs, spreading this message of going back to our roots vis-a-vis farming and lifestyle habits. Now he is helping local women's groups to set up stalls at fairs to serve millet based nourishing food. He is also supporting many farmer's groups by providing natural farming related inputs via internet.
- 5. Shri Nek Ram's life-long mission has taken the shape of Nirog Yatra, an informal association that is connecting with farmers and consumers so that the message of ecological farming, good health and possibility an alternate economic paradigm can be passed on for the benefit of the future generations.





# SHRI KAKCHINGTABAM SHANATHOIBA SHARMA

Shri Kakchingtabam Shanathoiba Sharma is a distinguished Guru of the traditional indigenous martial art form of Manipur known as "Thang-Ta" which is an art of warfare, a way of life with a vast scope involving physical and mental aspects based on traditions, culture, and spirituality which was learned by the entire Manipuri society during the old days to protect their homeland from external aggressors. He is widely recognized for his outstanding contribution in the field of Thang-Ta.

- 2. Born on 1" April, 1955 in a renowned family practicing Mukna Kangjei a traditional hockey cum wrestling, and the art of Thang-Ta, Shri Shanathoiba learnt different principles and techniques of Thang-Ta both physically and philosophically under various renowned Gurus such as Padma Shri awardee Gurumayum Gourakishor Sharma, Gurumayum Sana Sharma, Moirangthem Ibetombi Singh, S. Devabrata Singh, Haobam Ibotombi Singh (Bormantri), P. Manichand Singh, K. Biren Singh and others.
- 3. Over the last four decades, Shri Shanathoiba has dedicated himself entirely for popularizing the art of Thang-Ta. He established the Association for Paona Memorial Arts and Rural Development Services (APMARDS), Thoubal Wangkhem in 1981 which is one of the leading centers of Manipuri art & culture. He has travelled throughout India and to a number of countries to promote the art form. He has organized numerous workshops and festivals on Thang-Ta in association with various Government Departments, delivered lectures and demonstrations at many national and international events. He has written numerous articles and made many publications on Thang-Ta.
- 4. Shri Shanathoiba is the Principal cum Director of the Huyen Lallong Manipur ThangTa Gultural Association, Irilbung, Manipur. He has served as an Expert Committee Members
  of Ministry of Culture, Government of India and Centre for Cultural Resources and Training,
  New Delhi, (2008-2020), a member of the First and Second Academic Council of the Manipur
  University of Culture for two terms (2016-2022). He has served as the General Council
  Member of Manipur State Kala Akademi for two consecutive terms (2012-2018) and he is also
  presently serving as the General Council Member for the third term (2022-2025). He has also
  been associated with Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy, Imphal in the formation of
  Committee on Thang Ta, associated with Directorate of Arts and Culture, Manipur (since
  2011), and has also served as Thang-Ta Guru of Shri Shri Govindaji Temple Board, Manipur.
- 5. Shri Shanathoiba is a recipient of Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 2014, Manipur State Kala Akademi Award in 1993-94, Kala Bhusan (Thang-Ta) from Manipur Sahitya Parishad in 2010, Fellowship from Manipur State Kala Akademi in 1987-88, title "Safa Lanfaba" (Brave Warrior) in 1997 and "Joypatra Award" in 2022 from Shri Shri Govindaji Temple Board, Manipur, Young Scholarship (1981-82) and Junior Fellowship (1992-93) from Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India etc.





#### SHRI MOHAN SINGH

Shri Mohan Singh is an eminent poet, playwright, critic, actor, director and activist. He is President of Duggar Manch, a foremost voluntary organization of Jammu Kashmir, working for the promotion, preservation and development of the language, literature and culture of Duggar', the land of warriors and patriots.

- 2. Born on 8<sup>th</sup> February 1955 in Duggar (District Samba), Shri Mohan Singh belongs to a family of soldiers. His grandfather, Thakur Rasal Singh was (geetan) Captain in State forces, and his father, Thakur Sakatter Singh had also served in State forces, but had left the job not compromising with discrimination. He was the first ideal of Mohan Singh who taught him to fight for justice and not to bow in under any circumstances. But, when he came into contact with Kehri Singh Madhukar, a stalwart of Dogri literature, Mohan Singh found the real path and poetry became the passion of his life.
- 3. Shri Mohan Singh was introduced to other stalwarts of Dogri such as Vedpal Deep, Ramnath Shastri, Dinu Bhai Pant, etc. by Shri Madhukar. He published his first book USS LOK, a collection of poetry, in 1978, when he was only 24 years old. He introduced a new idiom to Dogri poetry in general and to Dogri drams in particular. He is the first-ever street playwright of Dogri as well as of Jammu and Kashmir. He formed a group of young writers-artists namely Duggar Manch in 1976 and performed more than a thousand street play shows in far-flung and urban areas of the State and across the country under the banner of Duggar Manch. Message-oriented Street plays, written and directed by him, have done a tremendous role in the enlightenment of local folk for their language and culture.
- 4. Shri Mohan Singh being the convener of Dogri Sangharsh Morcha, struggled for the inclusion of Dogri language in the 8" schedule of the Indian Constitution and achieved the goal on 22 December 2003. As a cultural activist, he worked for the preservation of the rich but dying folk theatre of Duggar. He is a versatile actor and director of theatre, cinema, Doordarshan and Radio and an approved drama voice for AIR and a drama artist for Doordarshan. He also acted in Dogri and Hindi feature films.
- 5. Shri Mohan Singh has published 39 books, in which, 32 are original work, comprising poetry, plays, street plays, novels and criticism etc.; two translations from other languages and five compilations. His poetry and plays have been translated into other Indian languages. His plays are included in the syllabus of M. A. Dogri of University of Jammu and M. A. Hindi of the Central University of Jammu. One of his plays Neyam has been included in the syllabus of civil services examination.
- 6. Shri Mohan Singh is the recipient of several swards which include State Academy Award for creative writing in 1984 for Kala Suraj (play), Sahitya Akademi Award for creative writing 1991 for Apani Daffi Apna Raag (collection of three plays), Jammu Kashmir accession Golden Jubilee Award in 1997, Bharatiya Dalit Sahitya Akademi Award (J&K) in 1997, Sahitya Akademi Award for translation in 2001 for Machhere, Duggar Sahitya Rattan Award by Dogra Sadar Sabha J&K in 2004 and State Academy Award for creative writing in 2008 for Dogri Rangmanch.





### SHRI THOUNAOJAM CHAOBA SINGH

Shri Thounaojam Chaoba Singh is a veteran politician and former Union Minister of State and Ex - Deputy Chief Minister of Manipur. As an MLA for five terms, Member of Parliament for three terms and Minister in the State as well as at the Centre, he has distinguished himself in "Public Service" for the past more than five decades since 1969.

- 2. Born on 10" May, 1937, Shri Chaoba Singh did his I-COM from D.M. College, Imphal, Manipur and took up teaching as a profession. He took part in the rich cultural tradition of Manipur as an Artist in Theatre and acted in several Mythological productions partaking roles such as Arjun in Mahabharata before he entered politics. He also received best Actor Awards and established the Public Theatre Artistes Association in 1956 and serving as it Chairman since 1978 till date.
- 3. Shri Chaoba Singh entered Public Service in 1969 and took up several rural grassroots activities like digging of public ponds for villages and developing playground in all the villages in his constituency. He made special efforts to bring development to the minority ST population of Kabuis in his Constituency by ensuring them jobs and livelihood.
- 4. Shri Chaoba Singh was elected for the first time as MLA in 1972 and was elected continuously 5 times as MLA. In 1974, he served as the Deputy Speaker of the Manipur Legislative Assembly. In 1977, he served as Minister of State in the Government of Manipur and in 1980, he was elevated to a Cabinet Minister of Manipur. In 1994, he was appointed the Deputy Chief Minister of Manipur.
- 5. Shri Chaoba Singh was elected as Member of Parliament (three times) to the 11", 12" and 13" Lok Sabha in 1996, 1998 and 1999. He served as the Union Minister of State for Sports, Youth Affairs, Culture and Food Processing in the NDA Government under the Prime Ministership of Late Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee.
- 6. Shri Chaoba Singh also served as the President of the Bhartiya Jarita Party. Manipur Pradesh for two terms from 2000 to 2003 and from 2013 to 2016. He has worked relentlessly for the development of the Party in Manipur at the grassroots level by working tirelessly for uplifting of weaker sections of society irrespective of caste, creed and religion. He also contributed immensely to the promotion of Sports in Manipur and also in the preservation of the historic palace Compound Manipur called "Konung Lampak".
- 7. In the field of agriculture, Shri Chaoba Singh established the Utlou Joint Farming Cooperative Society in 1965 and in 2002, the Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Bishnupur District was sponsored and established. He also established the Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Agricultural Institute, Bishnupur District in 2017 and is now serving as its Chairman.





## DR. JANUM SINGH SOY

Dr. Janum Singh Soy is a retired University Prof., Head of Hindi Department, Kolhan University, Chaibasa, Jharkhand by profession and novelist, poet, author, editor, by passion in Ho language and literature.

- 2. Born on 8° August, 1950, Dr. Soy belonging to Ho scheduled Tribe, received his Bachelor of Arts degree (Hindi hons.) from Tata College Chaibasa, Ranchi University in 1971 and Masters of Arts degree from Ranchi University in 1974. He was appointed against first sanctioned post of the Hindi Department at Ghatsila College, Ghatsila in the year 1977. He served the Institution also as a BURSAR. In year 1991, he completed his Ph.d in Ho language and documented thesis named as "Ho Lok Geet Ka Sahityak Aur Sanskritik Aadhyan". He is also the member of Tribal Regional Language (TRL) department as an expert in Kolhan University.
- 3. Dr. Soy contributed almost 40 years in the field of Ho literature. The Book 'Baha Sagen' (part-1) was published in 2009 which is the very first poetry which introduced as a 'Author'. In the same year 2009, A Ho Novel was launched in the name of 'Ho Kudi which proved to be one of the huge achievements for him and Ho society too as it is only novel in Ho literature. This novel is scripted in 'Devnagri' and the language is 'Ho'. Ho Kudi is also the part of JPSC syllabus since 2009 till date including Kolhan University syllabus. His third book named as 'Baha Sagen' (part-2) was released in 2010. The fourth book, Tiara Sagen (part 7) was released in 2012 and then the fifth book 'Hara Sagen' (part 1) was released in 2013. Adding to it, these books are also the part of Kolhan University syllabus. As 'Editor', he published book 'Aadhunik Ho Shist Kavya' in 2013. Many of his books are ready to launch and some of them are in process.
- 4. Dr. Soy is the recipient of numerous awards and honours. He received "Samman Patra" in 2009 by Birsa Aadivasi Sanskriti Kala Academy, Jamshedpur. In 2012, Jann Madhyam Ranchi awarded him with "Prashasti Patra" for the best novel 'Ho Kudi'. In 2014, Birsa Memorial Society, Jamshedpur presented him "Maan Patra" with the title Kol Guru Lako Bodra Award. Aadivaasi Ho Samaaj Mahasabha and Aadivasi Ho Yuva Mahasabha, Chaibasa awarded him with "Sarwakallik Lekhan" in 2018. In 2019, he received "Samaan Patra" by the then Governor Smt. Draupadi Murmu in Ranchi. Aadivasi Ho Samaj Mahasabha awarded for providing remarkable contribution in the field of Ho literature titled with "Lifetime achievement award" in 2021. All India Radio, Aakashwani Doordarshan, Ranchi invited him four times for discussing upon various topics which includes Ho society and culture.





## SHRI KUSHOK THIKSEY NAWANG CHAMBA STANZIN

Shri Kushok Thiksey Nawang Chamba Stanzin is the head of Thiksey Monastery, Leh-Ladakh. He is considered as one of the main architects of modern Ladakh for his selfiess lifelong contributions in religious, social and political spheres. He was the first and only Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha (1998-2002) from Ladakh till date and made noteworthy contributions during his tenure.

- Born on 20" May, 1943 in Chuchot Village, Leh Ladakh, Shri Kushok Thiksey was recognised as reincarnation of Kushok Thiksey(Thiksey Rinpochey) at the age of 5 by Dalai Lama. At the age of 10, he was sent to Drepung Monastery's Gomang Tatsang in Tibet for his studies. He received many important oral transmissions and initiations during his short educational sojourn in Tibet until 1959.
- 3. Shri Kushok Thiksey contributed immensely in preserving the very rich monastic heritage and tradition of Ladakh. He streamlined the monastic institutions by setting up exemplary initiatives at Thiksey and Diskit Monasteries. His ingenious welfare initiatives in 1980s like setting up monastic schools and library to impart quality education to the monks, his successful model of common kitchen serving free food to all the resident monks, his pledge to provide complete expenses for the medical treatment of the resident monks, the provision of pension-like fund for the older monks etc. have completely revolutionised the monastic institution in Ladakh while simultaneously preserving the incredible age old Himalayan monastic culture. He also strengthened Ladakh Gonpa Association as a democratic and self-sustaining mother society of all monasteries of Ladakh during his presidentship (1990-97).
- 4. While inspiring the local artisans and preserving the rich artistic heritage of Ladakh, Shri Kushok Thiksey fully sponsored to build the spiritually vibrant statue of Maitreya Buddha(49ft.) in 1983 at Thiksey Monastery which was the first of its kind in Ladakh and one at Diskit Monastery in 2010 beautifully showcasing Ladakh's artistic heritage and has now become a unique hotspot for both devotees and tourists. Thiksey and Diskit monasteries have now become main centre of spiritualism.
- 5. Shri Kushok Thiksey has always been extra vocal about imparting the best education to enlighten Ladakhi society. He established Lamzang School in 1989 at Thiksey. His biggest accomplishment is that of instituting Shesrah Skyed Tsai Ling Library and Learning Centre. Thiksey with all the modern facilities like computer, internet facilities, open gym etc. and he dedicated it to the community. Since its establishment, he has conducted 45-days free winter tuition for students. The students as well as teachers are from different faiths and villages strengthening the secular motto of the institution.
- Shri Kushok Thiksey contributions were recognised recently when he was conferred
  with Ladakh's highest civilian award 'Ladakh Dpal Rngams Award' in 2021. He has been
  awarded with various other honours by different monasteries of Ladakh as well as by the
  Central Tibetan Administration.





#### SHRI MOA SUBONG

Shri Moa Subong is a professional musician, music composer, actor, audio & video editor and an inventor of 2 musical instruments Bamhum & Tikzik.

- 2. Born on 8th September, 1960, Shri Moa's most noted accomplishment and contribution to the nation is his invention of a new wind Indian musical instrument called Bamhum, which was unveiled by the then Governor of Meghalaya, Shri M.M. Jacob on 3rd May 2005 at Shillong during the International Bamboo Festival and for which he also received the National Award from the then President of India Shri Pranab Mukherjee. Tikzik, the other musical instrument invented by him was unveiled by Shr. Lipokmar Tzudir, Director NEZCC on 2th May 2014. It is a new bamboo percussion that produces multiple sounds.
- 3. Shri Moa and his spouse Guru Arenta Subong formed a Naga Folk Fusion band called Abiogenesis. Together they have evolved a new form of Naga music called Howey music which is a fusion of Naga and other Indian folk with various forms of modern rhythms. Abiogenesis has performed in 8 countries: Finland, Estonia, Thailand, India, Russia, Bhutan, Tunisia & Myanmar including an exclusive performance for Bhutan's Royal family on 15th August 2011 at the Indian Embassy, Thimpu and to 160 Consul Generals at the Raj Bhawan. Mumbai on 16th November 2013. The band is empanelled by ICCR, NEZCC, Festival of India (ICR). He was selected in the Innovation Scholars In-Residence-Program (4° Batch) where he was one of the very privileged few to reside in Rashtrapati Bhavan w.e.f. 3° March to 18° March 2017. He served as the Director of Music, Mokokchung District Art &. Culture Council (MDACC) for 4 years 1996 to 2000 and is a founding member of MDACC. He served as Vice President of Mokokchung District Table Tennis Association for 3 years 1996 to 1999. He was inducted as Programme Committee Member of NEZCC for three years w.e.f. 27° July 2020.
- 4. Shri Moa has received a number of awards. He received National Award from the President of India on 4" March 2017 for his invention of the Bamhum at the Ninth National Grassroots Technological Innovations & Traditional Knowledge Awards. His Abiogenesis received the Governor's Award for Excellence in Music on 26" January 2017 at Raj Bhavan, Kohima. Abiogenesis received the Pride of North East Award from Global University, Guvvahati on 7" February 2020. Shri Moa and Smt Arenia were awarded by the Deputy Commissioner for Mokokchung District on the occasion of Nagaland's Golden Jubilee Statehood in recognition of their excellence performances and innovative contributions to the district in the field of music.





#### MS. RAVEENA RAVI TANDON

Ms. Raveena Ravi Tandon is a famous multifaceted Indian actor.

- 2. Born on 26<sup>5</sup> October, 1972, Ms. Tandon is daughter of acclaimed film maker Shri Ravi Tandon. She made her acting debut in 1991 with "Patthar Ke Phool" for which she received her first Filmfare Award. She was nominated for a national award for her performance in 'Satta'. Her performance in national award winning Shool received universal applause. Films like Dilwale, Mohra, Dulhe Raja, Aks, Ghulam e Mustafa, and many more were commercial blockbusters that Ms Tandon delivered.
- 3. Though perilous for a mainstream commercial actor Ms. Tandon decided to give back to society in contributing to the cause of women empowerment. Her ground breaking performances in films like Daman, that dealt with Marital rape, Jaago and Maatr, based on real-life traumatic incidents, garnered critical acclaim and praise from women organisations. A powerful performance in KGF 2 that went on to become the third highest grossing film of all time, Ms Tandon then went on to deliver a strong performance in the Netflix web series Aranyak, embroidered with a socially relevant message that talks about women in uniform and their sacrifices.
- 3. Ms. Tandon is also a philanthropist, environmentalist and a wildlife photographer. Hon'ble Prime Minister himself, praised her work on promotion of organ donation. Her Rudra Foundation is doing praiseworthy work for the cause of children, women & animal welfare. During the Covid pandemic, when Oxygen was a scarcity, her foundation ensured truckloads of cylinders were able to reach the needy. She is the Wildlife Goodwill Ambassador of Maharashtra and also the first participant from the entertainment industry to be a delegate at W20. From commercial to art house cinema, from rank entertainers to socially relevant films; from taking up women's causes to wildlife concerns, her journey is worth emulating and honouring.
- 4. Ms. Tandon has received numerous awards. She received National Film Awards, India 2001 for Daman: A Victim of Marital Violence; Filmfare award, Critics Award for Best Actress and Screen Award for best supporting actress for Aks; Dada Saheb Phalke Film Academy Award 2017; Lions Gold Award 2018 for Mattr; Dada Saheb Phalke Best Actress Award 2021; Filmfare OTT Awards 2022 for Aranyak. She also Society Achiever International Film Festival Award; Best Actress Award for Aranyak, Filmfare OTT Awards, IWM Digital Awards, Hindustan times; Navbharat times Actor par Excellence, ANANDALOK, ABP PURASKAR for Aranyak; ITA Special Award Scroll of Honour; Stardust Award, Indian Cinema's Real Power women 2022.





# DR. ISHWAR CHANDER VERMA

Dr. Ishwar Chander Verma is currently Senior Consultant at the Institute of Medical Genetics / Genomics at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital in Delhi. He has played a stellar role in establishing medical genetic services in India.

- 2. Born on 25 December, 1936, Dr. Verma obtained MBBS at Amritsar Medical College, MRCP from London, and DCH from Glasgow University. He received Genetic training in Switzerland, UK and USA. He joined AlIMS, Delhi as a Lecturer in 1967, and was appointed Professor of Paediatrics in 1988. The Genetic unit he set up was recognized as WHO Collaborating Center in Genetics, the only one in Asia. He set up the first Genetic center in India at AlIMS, Delhi in 1968, the first registry for genetic disorders, and was the first to provide advanced genetic tests at low cost using indigenous methods. After retirement set up a state of the art genetic center in SGRH in 1997, where he retired as Director in 2018.
- 3. Dr. Verma has been involved for 20 years in investigating the health problems of tribal communities -in Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Onges, a Negrito tribal community), Muria Gonds of Bastar district, Kondhs of Udyagiri in Orissa, and Paniyans and other communities in Kerala. Ae provided genetic counseling to thousands of patients and established prenatal diagnostic for prevention of genetic disease. He has used Next Gen sequencing technologies for diagnosis and discovery of new genes. He was instrumental in starting a number of patient societies for thalassemia, mental retardation, muscular dystrophy etc.
- 4. Dr. Verma has established the burden of genetic disorders in India, which provide reliable baseline data for planning services. He was the main geneticist in the study that show the increased frequency of Down syndrome in the low dose radiation from monazite in Keraia. He has 445 research publications to his credit. He has been editor-in-chief of Indian Journal of Pediatrics from 1993 to 2018, which has the highest among all medical journals in India.
- 5. Dr. Verma has been an adviser on several Committees of Government of India. He played an important role in developing the rare diseases policy by the Government. He has been an adviser to WHO Geneva and SEARO for 20 years. He has fellowship of NAMS, RCP (London), AAP and APRS (USA). He has served as president of Indian Society of Human Genetic, Indian Academy of Paediatrics Delhi, Society of Fetal Medicine and Indian Society of IEMs. He has made immense contributions to improve the health of patients with genetic diseases in India, and for training of physicians and scientists in medical genetics to establish the infrastructure for medical genetic services in the country.
- Dr. Verma has received numerous awards. He received the BC Roy MCI National award. He has also received awards from ICMR, NAMS, Ranbaxy Science Foundation, Guru Nanak University; and Life time achievement awards from AIIMS, ND, Cloud Nine Group of hospitals, and Scigenome Foundation.





### SMT. COOMI NARIMAN WADIA

Smt. Coomi Nariman Wadia is the Chairperson and Conductor of the Paranjoti Academy Chorus. She is India's first female conductor of choral music and is recognised internationally for her definitive first performances of new music, not only in india, but from all over the world. She has been the Music Director and Conductor of the Paranjoti Academy Chorus for the past 56 years.

- Born on 6° August, 1933, Smt. Wadia received her Diploma in Commercial Art from the Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy School of Art, Mumbai. Concurrently, she was trained as a pinnist and won Palamkote Awards for both her Associate (ATCL) and Licentiate (LTCL) diplomas of the Trinity College of Music, London.
- 3. The Paranjoti Academy Chorus founded by Dr. Victor Paranjoti was the first Indian choir to go on a concert tour of Europe in 1961. As a teenager, Smt. Wadia joined Dr. Paranjoti's chorus as a soprano, and soon, her exemplary musicianship and innate leadership skills saw her in a quasi-assistant conductor role to the maestro. On the death of Dr. Paranjoti in 1967, she picked up the baton and took the already internationally acclaimed chorus to new heights. Besides performing in major cities all over India, the choir has performed in concerts, festivals, and radio and television broadcasts in Europe, the USA, the Middle East, Japan, Philippines and South Korea.
- 4. Smt. Wadia besides championing compositions by Dr. Victor Paranjoti, commissioned Indian composers like Shri Abel D'Cruz, Shri J Amaldev, and Shri Nariman Wadia to write for the Chorus. The legendary composer Shri Vanraj Bhatia (Padma Shri awardee) wrote four works especially for the Paranjoti Academy Chorus. Hundreds of Indian singers and instrumentalists have performed concerts, often their Indian debuts, under her baton.
- 5. In 1972, Smt. Wadia represented India at the inauguration of the Kennedy Center, Washington, and at the Choral Festival at the Lincoln Centre, New York. She won first prize at the IX International Choral Song Festival in Poland in 1974, and second prize in the IX International Choral Festival in Tolosa, Spain in 1977, where the Mayor also awarded her the Golden Olive. At the Stuttgart Partnersingen Sister Cities Festival in 1981, she was selected to conduct the final concert with over 700 singers. In 1991, Pandit Ravi Shankar invited the choir to perform his compositions in the One India Show. In 2000, His Holiness the Dalai Lama invited the Chorus to perform at the World Festival of Sacred Music in Bangalore. In 2005, she represented India at the 7th World Symposium on Choral Music in Kyoto, Japan. In 2009 and 2011, she and the Chorus were invited by the Government of India to perform Christmas music at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi, for the then President of India, Smt. Pratibha Patil.
- Smt. Wadia was awarded the Laadli of the Century award by the Laadli Media & Advertising Awards for Gender Sensitivity for her trailblazing and inspirational work in 2018.