



Bharatiya Vidya
Bhavan

KARNATAKA
NEWS

Vol.21 • No. 1. January - 2020

*WISH YOU A VERY HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS - 2020
AND HAPPY MAKARA SANKRANTI*

**GOOD GOVERNANCE IS NOT A NEW CONCEPT :
JUSTICE B.N. SRIKRISHNA**



Lighting the lamp by Justice B.V. Nagarathna, Judge, Karnataka High Court on the occasion of Shri Nani A. Palkhivala Centenary Lecture. Others in the picture from left... Justice B.N. Srikrishna, former Judge, Supreme Court of India, Shri H.N. Suresh, Director, BVB, Shri K.G. Raghavan, Vice Chairman BVB, Shri Peeyush Jain, Hon. Treasurer, BVB.

Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan,
Race Course Road, Bangalore - 1.
Tel.: 2226 7303, 2226 5746.
Fax : 2228 7373

Website: www.bhavankarnataka.com
www.facebook.com/bhavan.bengaluru
e-mail : bhavanblrhns50@gmail.com



Re.1/-



*Justice Shri
B.N.
Srikrishna,
Retired
Judge,
Supreme
Court of
India being
honoured by
Shri.
Peeyush
Jain,
Hon.Treasurer,
BVB.*

Nani A. Palkhivala was a legend in the legal world in India, and an intellectual giant. Celebrating his centenary year, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Bengaluru Kendra, and Kulapati Dr. K.M. Munshi Institute of Good Governance, presented the Nani Palkhivala Centenary lecture at Khincha Hall, on December 8.

The lecture focused befittingly on **Good Governance and the Constitution**. It was delivered by Justice Shri. B. N. Srikrishna, Retired Judge, Supreme Court of India.

Justice Shrikrishna was Chief Justice of Kerala High Court, and Judge of the Supreme Court of India. He was also

Vice President of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Worldwide.

Shri.K.G. Raghavan, Vice Chairman, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Bengaluru, welcoming the gathering, said that there could be no better way of celebrating Palkhivala's centenary. He said that Palkhivala was a great lawyer, an eminent jurist, an insightful economist.

Shri Raghavan added that Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan itself, founded by an equally eminent jurist and constitution maker, Dr. K.M.Munshi, was based on the principles of dharma. Palkhivala was for a long time the Vice President of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, and hence it was apt for Bengaluru to have his first centenary lecture here.

Justice Srikrishna began his lecture by saying, “Good governance is not an imported concept. Somehow, an impression has been formed that good governance is a concept that came from the World Bank.

When the World Bank went about propagating the concept of good governance.” But that is not so: the Ramayana and Mahabharata contain a number of examples of good governance, he said, quoting examples to substantiate his point.

Likewise, Kalidasa the poet, spoke on the duty of kings in Raghuvamsha, and how they took care of the welfare of the subjects.

Coming back to the current times, Justice Srikrishna threw light on the concept of good governance with reference to the World Bank, saying the term good governance gained prominence because of its usage by the World Bank while financing developing countries in international development projects.

Governance is defined as the manner in which power is exercised in the management of a country’s economic and social resources for development. It is the “the process of decision-making and the process by which decisions are implemented.”

Elaborating further, Justice Srikrishna spoke of the characteristics of good governance, namely that it is transparent, responsive, consensus oriented, equitable and inclusive, effective efficient, accountable, participatory and follows the rule of law.

There is an inexorable connection between good governance and the Constitution of a country, he added. Further, he remarked, “I would like the constitution to a well-tuned musical instrument and good governance as the ability to perform well on the instrument.”

To illustrate the link between the Constitution and good governance, he highlighted the importance of the preamble. Further, he spoke about the fundamental rights in Part III of the constitution, and the Directive principles in Part IV, which are linked to good governance.

Coming to Palkhivala, Justice Srikrishna remembered how Palkhivala had congratulated him after he had completed the Srikrishna Commission looking into the Mumbai riots of 1992-93, hugged him, cried, and said, “You have done a monumental task.” He also remembered that Palkhivala was such a genius that he was awarded for his exposition of the Advaita doctrine.

On this occasion Justice B. V. Nagarathna then delivered her Presidential address. Highlights of her speech are as under:

Lauding Justice Srikrishna’s erudition, Justice Nagarathna remarked that he was always approached for solving knotty problems, whether relating to the Mumbai riots of 1992, or chairing the committee constituted for establishment of a separate Telangana State.

Calling Shri. Nani A. Palkhivala a doyen of the Indian Bar and in many ways the savior of our Constitution, she said the legal fraternity must remember him for his unique contribution to Constitutional

Law. For, his incisive legal arguments impelled the formulation of the “doctrine of basic structure” in the famous *Kesavananda Bharati* case.

The Hon’ble Supreme Court elevated Constitutional jurisprudence to a new height by propounding the *Basic Structure Doctrine*, and at once, giving a framework within which the Parliament amends the Constitution and not deviate from the basic structure under the Constitution. When the then Government attempted to seek a review of the judgment, Shri. Palkhivala wrote to the Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi on 09.11.1975 beseeching her to consider the consequence of having the judgment over-ruled.

Sri. Palkhivala had been the Vice President of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan; and she had had the good fortune of interacting with him in the late 1990’s when he had visited Bengaluru Kendra.

About “good governance,” she firmly believed that the Constitution was the fountain head of good governance. First, the Preamble; Second,

Constitutional morality and Constitutionalism; Third, fundamental rights; Fourth, Indian Judiciary were its beacons.

Thus, good governance should be aimed at achieving justice: social, economic and political; liberty: of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship; equality: of status and opportunity; and to promote among them all, fraternity: assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the nation.

The World Bank's interpretation of good governance evolved over time into four key components of good governance, namely accountability, transparency, predictability and participation.

Thus, the thread which connects these is rule of law, a legal frame-work.

For the legal fraternity, good governance spells three things: securing justice by empowering the weaker sections through affirmative action; by setting right faulty administrative decisions and ensuring that citizens who approach the law

courts with their grievance are addressed or extended all legal assistance to secure justice.

For a citizen, the three most important were Democracy, Liberty and Rule of Law.

The Judiciary, led by the Supreme Court played a significant role in ensuring good governance through public interest litigation which touched upon human rights, environment, gender justice, education, rights of minorities, police reforms, electoral reforms and such other special areas including social security and upholding the rights and dignity of individual.

According to Justice B.V. Nagarathna, one of the most significant aspects of good governance is ensuring that the ordinary citizen is not frustrated following non-redressal of his grievances.

Further, she touched upon the safety of women saying nearly half of the Indian population were women. If they were not safe and secure, then, there was no real governance under the Constitution. ●

TRIBUTES TO DR. MATHOOR KRISHNAMURTI



Lighting the lamp by Veda Brahma Sbri. Ashwattha Narayana Avadhani on the occasion of unveiling the bronze bust of Dr. Mathoor Krishnamurti . From left Shri. H.N. Suresh, Director, BVB, M.P. Bhanuprakash, former MLC, Shri. Pathi Sridhara, founder of Pathi Sridhara Shantha Charitable trust and Smt Shantha Sridhara joins.

The bronze bust of Dr. Mathoor Krishnamurti, who established Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan at London and was its Director, was unveiled at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Bengaluru Kendra, on December 6, 2019.

The event was a tribute to the indefatigable spirit of Dr. Mathoor, who worked tirelessly for the cause of Indian culture and spirituality.

Born in Mathoor, Shivamogga, Dr. Mathoor

overcame obstacles through school and later, due to his poverty, to become a Vedic and Sanskrit scholar. After serving the London Kendra of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, he returned to Bengaluru and was involved in the activities of the Bengaluru Kendra.

Shri H.N. Suresh welcomed Pathi Sridhar, Founder of the Shantha Sridhar Charitable Trust, saying “Pathi Sridhar was instrumental in holding this event. Having the bronze bust is his endeavour.”

He also welcomed Dr. M.N. Nandakumar, the current Director of the London Kendra on this occasion.

Pathi Sridhar went back in time saying he had known Mathoor for 20 years. Mathoor struggled during his days as a student. He was influenced by Gandhiji, and became the Director of the London Kendra in 1975. He translated many Tamil books into Kannada. Mathoor himself has written many books in English and Kannada. Some of them are Gandhi Upanishad, Veer Savarkar, Sandhya Upasane, etc. He won many awards: India's Seva Rathna award, Karnataka

Rajya award, Fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society, and the Padmashri. Till the end, he dedicated his life to India's culture. Though he is no more, he is still guiding us. It is my good fortune to have had the bust made."

A CD on Veda mantras created with the monetary support from Shantha Sridhar Charitable Trust was released by Shri. M.B. Bhanuprakash, former MLC on this occasion.

Shri. Bhanuprakash, Mathoor's close friend, had come from Shivamogga for the event. "Mathoor Krishnamurthy is no more, but he continues to exist in our minds, emotions and



Shri. Pathi Sridhara, and Smt Shantha Sridhara being honoured by dignitaris on the dais



Vidwan Hosahalli Keshavamurthy being honoured by the dignitaries on the dais

breath, I believe,” he said, adding, “Mathoor had no godfather, yet he rose from the dust to become who he was. People were attracted to him because of his nature, and kept in touch with him, whether it was Balamurali Krishna, or Rajiv Gandhi or Prince Charles.

It was truly befitting that the programme concluded with Gamaka Vachana by Gamaka Gandharva Vidwan Shri. Hosahalli Keshavamurthy, who chose parts of the Kumaravyasa Bharata, and would have been appreciated by Shri. Mathoor had he been alive. ●



A CD on ‘Veda Mantras’ created by the monetary support by Shantha Sridhara Charitable Trust was launched

‘MADHURA MADHURAVEE MANJULA GAANA’



Legendary Kannada singer Nadoja B.K. Sumithra lighting the lamp to mark the inauguration of 114th and 115th episode of ‘Madhura Madhuravi Manjulagana’ while other dignitaries on the dais joins.

It was a trip down memory lane as Doordarshan Chandana and Kalanamana collaborated with Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Bengaluru Kendra, and as legendary Kannada singer, Nadoja B.K.Sumitra, sang the famous song, “Madhura madhuravee manjulagaana.” With that, she sent the 114th and 115th episodes of DD Chandana’s popular programme, “Madhura madhuravee manjulagaana,” to a flying start. More golden melodies followed, enthralling the audience throughout.

The event was held on November 28 at the Khincha auditorium at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Bengaluru. The event included two sessions: Bharata samskruti in the morning; and ‘Chandavalliya thota’ in the evening.

Bharatha stood for Bhava, Raaga and Taala, as explained by Dr. Nirmala Yeligar, Asst Programme Director, from Doordarshan. The evening session was a tribute to T. R.Subba Rao, whose birth centenary it is this year and uses songs of films based on the novels he wrote.



Dr. B.K. Sumitra, singing ‘Madhura Madhuravi Manjulagana’ from the film ‘Sathi Sukanya’ which was released 50 years before.

B. K. Sumitra, one of the chief guests, called Doordarshan her “thavaru mane” or “mother’s house.” She had sung “Madhura Madhuravee Manjulagana” from the film ‘Sathi Sukanya’ 50 years before.

S R B Hussain, Programme Director, Doordarshan, spoke on the occasion saying, “Madhura Madhuravee is a programme which gives a platform to those talented in singing. DD has also been going to different parts of Karnataka to do so. Film music represents our culture and our language.”

Dr. Babu Krishnamurthy, senior journalist and director,

spoke of how a programme like this created unity, and specially mentioned writer Kuvempu, whose writings created a sense of oneness.

Speaking on the occasion, H. N.Suresh, Director, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Bengaluru, lauded the fact that Doordarshan had maintained quality in its programmes because it did not chase TRPs like other TV channels.

Chief Guest A.R. Mitra, writer, speaker and poet, made special mention of those working behind the scenes in such programmes, likening their work to mothers who work so hard, looking after their children.



*Shri. A. R. Mitra, writer, and poet,
speaking on the occasion*

The evening session included songs such as O Nanna Bandhavare, Ommeninnannu, Havina Dwesha, Karpoorada Gombenaanu, Kantaluthumbiralu and Kannadathee Namodathee. Tarasu's daughter, Poornima Sundar, was also present, as also directors S. K. Bhagwan and S. V. Rajendra Singh Babu.

The highlight of the event was the introduction of the songs by N.S. Sreedhara Murthy, he gave

interesting facts about the songs. For example, that the horse that was used in the song Aparā Keerthi from the film, Vijayanagarada Veeraputra, had acted in 158 films, and had acted with Prem Nazeer, MGR, and Sivaji Ganesan; that the music director of the song, Sudarshan, mixed mohana raga and pahadi raga for Doni Saagali, mundehogali and opened new vistas for Kannada Bhavageethe; that the song was filmed in Kodaikanal, the first for films; Ku Ra Si, whose birth centenary it is this year, wanted S. D. Burman to be the music director of the song, Jayate Jayate jayate. Burman could not, but he wrote the basic notes for it.

Finally, it was Jaideep who worked with Burman who directed the song. It was sung by Manna De, whose birth centenary also it is this year. ●



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KALABHARATHI CONVOCATION - 2019



Shri. D. Balakrishna, Eminent Veena artist being honoured by the dignitaries on the dais.

There was a sense of excitement in the air as the young students of Kalabharati at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan assembled with their parents for the 18th Kalabharati Convocation at the Khincha Auditorium on December 14, 2019. They would receive their certificates for having completed the courses in dance, music and arts at the Bhavan. They had accomplished that by attending these courses every Saturday and Sunday, and passing the exam. Some of them would even take part in the music concerts which they would showcase at the event.

The event began with a prayer by Kalabharati students of Carnatic music, who sang exceptionally well, under the very able direction of their guru, H. V. Gayathri.

The Lighting of the Lamp was followed by the welcome speech by Shri. H. N. Suresh, Director of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Bengaluru Kendra. He said that Vidwan D. Balakrishna, the Chief Guest of the evening was the son of Padmabhushan Vidwan Veena Doreswamy Iyengar, and is the foremost among the names that come to the mind when one talks of musicians in India.

KALABHARATHI : CULTURAL PROGRAMME - DEC 14.

“We request him to bless our students and distribute the certificates of completion of the diploma courses that the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan offers in music, dance and the arts.” He added that plans were on to have a Bhavan’s academy of arts in the near future.

The Chief Guest of the day Vidwan D. Balakrishna was trained in the veena by his father and even accompanied him on his gamaka veena concerts. He served the Reserve Bank of India and is an A grade artiste at All India Radio and Doordarshan.

The Chief Guest, Vidwan D. Balakrishna, was then felicitated. Speaking on the occasion and addressing the students, he said, “The first thing that comes to mind when one

hears the words Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan is the Bhavan’s journal. We used to get it at home and read it. It shaped the values of our lives. The articles were very inspiring. It was brought out by Shri. K.M. Munshi, lawyer, educationist and Gandhian.”

He added that he was very happy to know that the students were being trained in arts whether music or dance or drawing and painting. He congratulated all the students, saying that the minimum that the arts give any learner is a sense of well-being and happiness.

It is good for the growth and health of the mind. Now that the students had completed their courses, they could pursue them as hobbies or as teachers and pass on their legacies. They now possessed the ability to analyse



Kalabharati diploma holders along with dignitaries

KALABHARATHI : CULTURAL PROGRAMME - DEC 14.



Students of Veena class perform under the direction of Vidushi Smt. B. Mangala

any concert. They should play music that would make audiences speechless.

He then honoured all the teachers who taught the courses at Kalabharati, and distributed the Srimathi Susheelamma and Shri. Nanjundayya scholarships to the students who secured the highest ranks in the various courses. He also distributed the diploma certificates to those who completed their courses.

Earlier, even before the programme began, he made it a point to see all the beautiful drawings done by the students of the drawing and painting course, under the direction of Mrs. Insha Ummehani and Shri. S. Karthik.

They had been exhibited on the walls of the auditorium.

The event included a veena concert by the students of veena course under the tutelage of Vidhushi B. Mangala and a Carnatic vocal music concert by the students of the vocal music courses who were directed by Vidhushi H. V. Gayathri.

The second day's programme began with a violin recital under the direction of Vidwan Tarun, a Hindustani vocal concert under the direction of Vidhushi Rajeshwari Bhat and the mridanga under the direction of Shri. Raghavendra. ●



Carnatic vocal by students of Vidushi H.V. Gayathri

KALABHARATHI : CULTURAL PROGRAMME - DEC 15.



Hindustani vocal by students of Vidushi Smt. Rajeshwari Bhat



Students of Violin class perform under the direction of Vidwan Tarun



Mridanga by students of Vidwan T.A.S. Mani



Display of art work by the students under the direction of Smt. Insha Ummehani

ACHYUTASHRI AWARD PRESENTED



*Achyutashri
Rashtriya
Puraskar was
conferred on
Smt. Subhadra
Parthasarathy,
renowned
Harikatha
Vidwan by
Shri S.Suresh
Kumar, Minister
for Primary and
Secondary
Education,
Karnataka
while others
join.*

Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan and Shadja Kala Kendra Trust held the Nadoja Santa Shri Bhadrageeri Achyutdas Memorial Kathakeertan Vaibhava – 2019, and the annual award function, Achyutashri Rashtriya Puraskar on 16th November, at the KRG Hall, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Bengaluru Kendra.

On the occasion, the award was bestowed on Shrimathi Subhadra Parthasarathy, renowned Harikatha artiste from Mysore.

A special felicitation was also held to honour Keertanacharya Lakshmandas Velankar, on his completing 80 years.

The programme began with Hindustani classical music performances by the students of Shadja Kala Kendra.

In his welcome speech, Dr.Dattatreya L. Velankar, Managing Trustee, Shadja Kala Kendra Trust, said Maha Meru Bhadrageeri Achyutdas, a towering example of the Harikatha tradition, was being remembered on the occasion of Kathakeertan Vaibhava - 2019.

He also welcomed Pujya Swami Omkaranandaji who had established Bhadrakashrama at Turuvukere and in California, propagating Hindu culture. He welcomed the Chief Guest,

Shri. S. Suresh Kumar, Minister for Primary and Secondary Education, Karnataka, known for his support to art and culture, as well as 83-year-old Shrimathi Subhadra Parthasarathy, for her contribution to the field on this occasion.

Shadja Kala Kendra was started in 2011 by Bhadrageiri Achyutdas and Velankar's guru, Pandit Vinayak Torvi, he said, for awareness, propagation and education of Hindustani classical music and Harikatha tradition.

Shrimathi Subhadra Parthasarathy, from Nanjangud, Mysore, started kathakeerthan programmes when she was 12. She trained in kathakeerthan under the famous Haridasa Vidwan Srinadipuram Srinivasa Rangachar and Sri Gamaki Ramakrishna Shastri and became a well known Haridasa herself.

Now 83, she has dedicated 70 years of her life to Kathakeertan. An expert in Tiruppavai upanyas, she has received awards such as Sangeet Natak Academy's Karnataka Kalashree, Keerthana Kalatilaka and Bhagawatha Shiromani.

Dr. Velankar mentioned that the kathakeertan kala was slowly vanishing but the silver lining was that there were some students who still came to be trained in the field: "More than quantity, there is quality."

The programme included a book release event followed by the award ceremony. The book, titled "Narada Bhakti Sutragalu – Dasa Santa Sahityada Kannadiyalli," written by Keertanacharya Lakshmandas Velankar.

Karnataka Minister for Primary and Secondary Education Suresh Kumar said this attended the event for three reasons.

One, he had known Bhadrageiri Achyutadas well, having visited Dasashrama which was in Rajajinagar, his constituency, and also having stayed at his Kendra in Nelamangala.

The second reason was because he and Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan ran a BBMP school in Srirampuram for slum children, which followed a CBSE syllabus, a unique and successful initiative.

The third was that the Guest of Honour was his friend

Dr. Giridhar Kaje, who had helped him overcome spondylitis.

Responding to Dr. Dattatreya Velankar's comment that the kathakeertan tradition was disappearing, Shri. Suresh Kumar said it was everyone's responsibility to retain, nurture and help it grow.

The event also included a Harikatha programme by Vidwan Eshwardas from Yellapura, a direct disciple of Santasri Bhadragegi Achyuthdas with several programmes to his credit.

It was a Harikatha on 'Kanakadasa', based on his life and teachings. ●



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For Details:

ಭಾರತೀಯ ವಿದ್ಯಾ ಭವನ
Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan

H.O.: Race Course Road, Bangalore - 560 001.
Ph.: 22267303 / 22265746 / 22267421, Fax: 2228 7373
Website: www.bhavankarnataka.com
Email: contactus@bhavankarnataka.com

School : # 21, Ward No. 97, 5th Main Road,
Gautam Nagar, Srirampuram, Bangalore - 560 021.
Ph: 23132055, Email: bhavanbbmp@gmail.com

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NATIONAL SEMINAR ON “PHILOSOPHICAL MUSINGS ON GAUTAMA BUDDHA AND ACHARYA SHANKARA”



Prof. M.L.N. Murthy, former vice-chancellor, Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Tirupathi, lighting the lamp to mark the inauguration of one day National Seminar while other dignitaries join

Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Bangalore and Pali Institute, Kalburgi, in collaboration with Karnataka Samskrit University, had organised a one-day national seminar on “Philosophical musings on Gautama Buddha and Acharya Shankara” on November 20, 2019, Wednesday, at Khincha Auditorium.

Great scholars namely Prof. M.L.N. Murthy, former vice-chancellor, Rashtriya Samskrit Vidyapeetha, Tirupathi;

Dr. S.R. Leela, former professor and former MLC, Bengaluru; Dr. Shatavadhani R Ganesh, noted Samskrit scholar; Prof. V. Girish Chandra, Vice-Chancellor (Acting), Karnataka Samskrit University, Bengaluru; Prof. Veeranarayana NK Pandurangi, Registrar (Acting), Karnataka Samskrit University, Bengaluru; Shri Rahul Kharge, President, Pali Institute, Kalburgi; and Shri. H.N. Suresh, Director, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Bengaluru; adorned the stage.



Prof. M.L.N. Murthy, former vice-chancellor, Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, addressing the gathering

Prof. M.L.N. Murthy spoke on the importance of the study of the sayings of Gautama Buddha and also Acharya Shankara, remarking that it was a mistaken notion that the Advaita of Shankara is a grab of Buddhism.

A thorough study of the two systems is the need of the hour, he said. Dr. S.R. Leela remarked that Pali, the language in which Gautama Buddha spoke and preached is mellifluous, even used in some Samskrit plays.

It is highly suitable for inculcation. The study of Pali is very important in many ways, she remarked. Dr. Ganesh remarked that there is no contradiction to the actual sayings of Gautama Buddha and Acharya Shankara. Both contributed towards the betterment of society.

Only later developments in Buddhism gave rise to many sub-schools, he added.

Prof. Girish Chandra remarked that there were many parallels and divergences as well between the two systems. However, both greatly contributed to Indian philosophical development. Prof Veeranarayana Panduragi spoke on the philosophical contribution of Advaita and Buddhism, remarking that a thorough academic study was necessary.

The seminar included three sessions comprising of three different topics viz the absence of soul, the empirical world and Shunyavada. In the first session, Prof. J Srinivasa Murthy spoke on the concept of soul and how exactly it was conceived in Buddhism.

Dr. Ganesha Ishvara Bhat, spoke on the same concept from the perspective of Advaita and showed parallels and divergences on the same in the commentary of Acharya Shankara on Brahma Sutras. Prof. V. Haridasa Bhat, Chairperson of the session, summarised the two views and spoke on how the divergence was caused.

In the second session, Dr. Sharath Chandra Swamiji spoke on the aspect of the empirical world as dealt with in Buddhism, quoting many Buddhist classics. Dr. Mahabaleshwara Bhat spoke on the theory of empirical world according to Advaita and showed a comparison of the same with Buddhism.

Chairperson Dr. A.V. Nagasampige summarised the session, remarking that the various darshanas were a progressive development of philosophical thinking.

In the third session, Dr. Vinay P spoke on the concept of Shunya in Buddhism and showed how the concept evolved in the Buddhist classics, quoting

and referring to many Buddhist texts.

He remarked that the final concept of Shunya may be seen in the writings of Nagarjuna. Dr. Manjunatha Bhat spoke on the philosophy of Advaita and showed how Advaita is not Shunya Vada. He quoted from many Advaita and Vishishtadvaita works as well. Chairperson Dr. Srirama Bhat summarised the views, saying that there was no contradiction between Buddhism and Advaita.

The concluding ceremony included speeches by eminent scholars in the field.

Dr. Ramachandra Bhat, Retired Vice Chancellor, Swami Vivekananda Yoganusandana University, Bengaluru said the seminar was extremely successful and cleared many misconceptions.

H.H. Ananda Bhanteji, Director, Mahabodhi Society, Bengaluru, spoke on Buddha's message to the world. Prof. Mallepuram G Venkatesh, Retired Vice Chancellor, Karnataka Samskrit University, remarked that this was a long-cherished dream, finally realised on that day. ●

BVB-Infosys FOUNDATION CULTURAL OUTREACH PROGRAM:

The troupe, Abhivyakti Kalathanda from Dharwad, staged dance performance at Vasantha Vallabharaya Kalyani, open air theatre on November 23, 2019. The event was part of the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan and Infosys Foundation Outreach program. These are held on the fourth Saturday of every month at this venue.

Abhivyakti Kalathanda was started by Ranga Kala Vidhushi Seeta Chappar who taught

Kannada to students who studied in English medium schools. She also created awareness among them of Dasa Sahitya, using the medium of dance to do so.

Following performances by the students at many cities, Seeta Chappar gained recognition.

Her troupe has performed across India. She has used Haridasa sahitya, Vachana sahitya, and bhaavageethe in folk song style and directed them in dance form.



Bharatanatyam performed by Abhivyakti Kalathanda from Dharwad

What was unique about the event was that she used the keertanas of Haridasa and Haridasis which involved riddles and conversation and debate and presented them in dance format. Among these were keertanas by Purandara Dasa, Kanaka Dasa, Sripadaraja, Vijaya Dasa, Indresh Vitthala Das, Prasanna Venkatesha Dasa, Haridasi Helavanakatte Giriyamma and Haridasi Harapanalli Bheemavva.

In all, there were 13 keertanas staged as dances:

The first was Gajanana Stuthi by Prasanna Venkatesha Dasa from Bagalkot.

The second was Sharanu Sharanu Sri Gajanana Sharanu Sharanu - by Vijaya Dasa – a description of Parvati avatar.

Next was “Shiva Shiva Shiva Enniro” by Kanaka Dasa.

This was followed by “Bhagyada Lakshmi Baaramma” by Purandarasa. And then by yet another by Purandara Dasa depicting the Dashavatharama through two sakhis who danced to “Narayana Narayana Narayanayare Pele Sakhi.”

Then, Vyasaraja’s “Thumbitu Beladingalu Ee Vanadolu,” picturised the separation of gopikas from Krishna.

Ogaturoopaka was next, wherein Rukmini and Krishna ask each other riddles. Rukmini answers Krishna’s riddles with ease; not so Krishna. Haridasis also contributed to the Haridasa tradition: this keertana by Haridasi Harapanalli Bheemavva, goes thus: “Kiwi iddu Keladu, Kanniddu Kaanadu.”

The next one was by Haridasi Helavanakatte Giriyamma, “Elli hodallenusukha, namagille paadaithe,” which was sung in the janapada or folk style.

Purandara Dasa’s keertana, “Aho Raatriyalli Indina Dinadalli Bandu Ninthawanaare?” was a conversation between Satyabhama and Krishna when she suspects that he has visited Rukmini before coming home.

Conversation between Rukmini and Satyabhama, each of whom wanted to prove that Krishna loved her better, and how Krishna mollifies both. Created by Sripadaraja, the song goes, “Kanjanetre shubhamanjula

gaatre, kunjara gamane,
niranjanangi, niranjanangi.”

A Keertana was “Eddam
Thaddam Maathanaduvi,” by
Dharwad’s very own Dasa,
Indiresh Vittala Das, who wrote
this song after he went for a
darshana of the Lord at Tirupathi.

The 12th one, by
Purandara Dasa, was a
conversation between Rukmini
and Bhavani where they speak
disparagingly of each other’s
husbands: “Tharuleranne
kappumaiyava yaatara
cheluvane?” This song also
encapsulates the Dashavatara.

The last keertana, also by
Purandhara Dasa, “Muttina
Seragabido, Ranga” is about
Krishna’s playfulness with the
gopikas.

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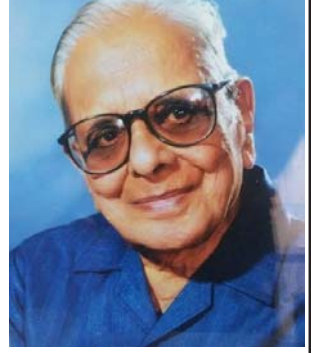
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OBITUARY : PROF. L. S. SHESHAGIRI RAO

Iconic Kannadiga No More

With the passing away of an elderly literary figure, lot of culture is lost to the next generation. Despite the invaluable body of work left behind by L. S. Sheshagiri Rao, his presence will be missed for long , as an epitome of the finest of traits of a Kannadiga—simple, warm hearted, love and respect for other languages and cultures, yet with a justifiably proud Kannada identity.



Mention his name, and what comes to mind is his famous English-Kannada lexicon, a catalyst for popularizing Kannada. Over six decades of exposure and activity in the field of Kannada literature rendered him a valuable treasure and ambassador of the best of Kannada and Karnataka. LSS was a worthy mascot of art and literature.

If the critical observation of the Kannada literary world right from the Navodaya period made him a repository of learning, contrastingly, his English Sahitya Charitre, was about the history of English literature. This was what made him interesting and unique. The book won him the Kendra Sahitya Academy award.

Indian society once revered school teachers, their families considered as literate and cultured by virtue of their financially frugal but enlightened upbringing. Rao's father was a school headmaster, from whom he picked up his love for reading. Yet he took to English, becoming an academician of repute. Having legendary mentors such as B. M. Srikantaiah, A. N. Murthy Rao, and S. V. Ranganna perhaps made the difference. Kannada remained his forte, making him a foremost academician and litterateur in bridging the English-Kannada divide. In this sense, LSS continues to remain a unifying figure, especially in current times when language fanaticism invariably assumes destructive tendencies.

Comfortably straddling two literary worlds whose matrix and approach were completely different, to become an award-winning writer and thinker in both, is the lasting contribution of LSS for a more tolerant, inclusive world. Top awards were his.

- Jyothi Raghuram

Fri 03. | **6.30 p.m. - KRG Hall**
Carnatic Music :
(Instrumental Violin) by
Shri. Janardhan S., and party

Sat 04. | **6.30 p.m. - Khincha Hall**
ROTARY BANGALORE WEST PRESENTS

"Thaali Kattok Thayaar"
ತಾಳಿ ಕಟ್ಟೋಕ್ತಯಾರ್ *Hilarious Kannada Drama*

Saroja, daughter of Somashekar Rao, is the synosure of three aspirants, Lakshman, Sadashiv & Rajanna. All the three have schemed to have Saroja as wife, to appease the film director !!!
Thaali kattok Thayaar, who is the lucky one ???



Fri 10. | **6.30 p.m. - Khincha Hall**
Kathak recital :
Ms. Sonali Loomba

Fri 17. | **6.30 p.m. - Khincha Hall**
Bharatanaty recital :
Ms.Sakshi Srinivas

Sun 19. | **6.00 p.m. - Khincha Hall**
Gauri Shankar Endowment:
Kathak dance recital :
Students of Guru
Smt. Anjana Guptha

Fri 24. | **6.30 p.m. - Khincha Hall**
Kannada Drama by
Sanchaya Amateur Group

PROGRAMME : JANUARY - 2020

Sat 25. | **6.00 p.m. -**
BVB -Infosys Foundation
Cultural outreach programme :
Carnatic Fusion Music :
Thavil Raja & Troupe
Thavil : **Shri K. Raja**
Carnatic Flute :
Shri. Tejasvi Raghunath
Mridanga :
Shri Aniruddha Srinivas Bhat
Violin : **Shri Pranav Manjunath**
Drummer : **Shri Karthik Mani**
Morsing : **Shri Karthik Vydhatri**
Venue : **Vasantha Vallabha Kalyani,**
Konanakunte, Vasanthapura,
Bengaluru.



Thu 30. | **6.30 p.m. - Khincha Hall**
Gandhi Trust Celebrate -
Gandhijis 150th birth anniversary

Fri 31. | **6.30 p.m. - Khincha Hall**
Bharatanaty recital :
Ms. Manjushree C

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