

## HUMERA RAHAT (Pakistan)



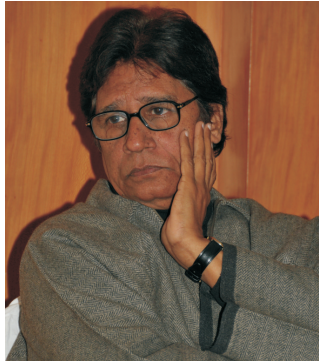
For her short stories, Humera has got a number of Awards. Her topics are mostly the problems of women and children. Two books of her collections of poetry have been published : *Anchal Mein Udasi* and *Tahayur-e-Ishq*. She has attended many Conferences.

## SHEEN KAAF NIZAM (India)

Sheen Kaaf Nizam was born in 1945. His Poetry collection includes:

*'Lamhon Ki Saleeb', 'Naad', 'Dasht Mein Dariya', 'Saaya Koi Lamba Na Tha', 'Saayon Ke Saaye Mein', 'Bayaazen Kho Gayee Hain', 'Gumshuda Dair Ki Gunjti Ghantiyan', 'Rasta Yeh Kahin Nahi Jaata'.*

And Criticism: *'Azkira Ma'aasir Sho'ra-e-Jodhpur', 'Manto-Ahtijaj Aur Afsana', 'Lafz Dar Lafz', and 'Ma'ni Dar Ma'ni'*. He is the Editor of Quarterly Urdu Magazine *'BUHRAAN'* and of *'MEEZAAN'*.



His honours and awards include: *'Iqbal Samman', 'Bhasa Bharti Sammaan', 'Mahmood Sheerani Award', 'Marwar Ratna', 'Raja Man Singh Samman',* and the latest *'Sahitya Akademi Award'* in 2010.

## HUMAIRA ISHFAQ (Pakistan)



Humaira Ishfaq, is a folklorist, literary critic, short story writer, gender analyst, and teacher of Urdu Literature at the International Islamic University, Islamabad,. She is Visiting Scholar of Gender and Women Studies, Allama Iqbal Open University, Islamabad. Her two publications on *Modern Urdu Fiction* and *A*

*Study of Urdu Translations from French Fiction* are already published. Her third book on the poet Mukhtar Sadique is to be published by Pakistan Academy of

Letters, Islamabad . She has been commissioned by the Institute of Folk Heritage Islamabad as co-author/editor of *Encyclopedia of Pakistani Folklore*. Her work *Faiz : Folk Heritage and the Problems of Art and Culture* as co-author is also in process of printing. She is doing her Ph.D on Aziz Ahmed's concept of history and civilization.

### **FATHMATH SAUSAN (Maldives)**

Fathmath Sausan is a young poet and artist of Maldives. She had her education in Maldives, London



and Australia. Fathmath is a versatile talented teacher, author, poet, painter, illustrator and translator. She is currently studying Law and translates legal documents. A new emerging talent on poetry horizon of Maldives, she has been participating in SAARC Festivals of

Literature of FOSWAL.

### **INDE (India)**

Prof. Inde born in 1936, is M.A. in English and Punjabi. Has been teaching as Lecturer; was Editor of Soviet Land. He has two collections of poetry, and two books of Children's Poetry. He has translated Poetry of major poets of Europe, Emily Dicknison, Anna Akhmatova, Rilke, and Yeasts.



### **SANDHYA PAHARI (Nepal)**



Sandhya Pahari is a talented Nepali poet with acclaimed anthologies of poems to her credit. Her '*Mrigatrisna ra Anya Kavitaharu*' is a widely read collection of poems. She is also a well known media person who once worked with Nepal Television. She now works with Nepal Academy.

### **LAXMI SHANKAR BAJPAI (India)**

Laxmi Shankar Bajpai is an eminent Hindi poet.



Working on Doordarshan T.V. Has given several broadcast of National and International events and scripted and narrated Documentaries and T.V. Serials for Doordarshan, National and International events, delivered lectures in many National and International Seminars and

Workshops on Media and Literature, Associated with launch of National Channel and F.M.

Gold Channel of AIR. Recited Poetry in UK, Poland, Surinaam, Trinidad and Tobago.

### **SHEORAJ SINGH BECHAIN (India)**

Sheoraj Singh Bechain, born in 1960, is currently Professor in the Department of Hindi, University of Delhi. Apart from being a teacher and a researcher whose academic work focuses on issues of Dalit Culture and politics, Professor Bechain is a prolific writer who has authored many poems,



short stories and essays as well as an autobiographical narrative *Mera Bachpan Mere Kandhon Par* based on his own life experiences. Among the highlights of his several academic achievements in a Resident Fellowship at the Indian Institute of Advanced Studies at Shimla (2006-2009) and the conferment on him of the Sahitya Bhushan Award (by the U.P. Government in 2009) and the Babasaheb Ambedkar National Award.

### **MUHAMMAD ASLAM SIRAJ DIN (Pakistan)**



Muhammad Aslam Siraj Din was born in 1947 at Sangrur, India. After partition, his parents migrated to Pakistan. He has been an educationist and has written a number of books, including *Farda* and *Samar Saamir* (short stories). Siraj Din

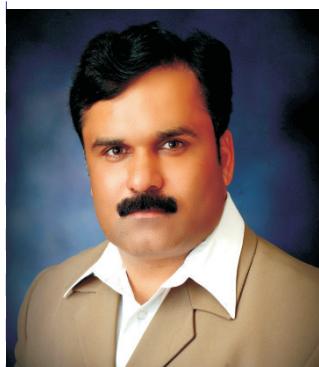
has won several awards, including Pakistan Academy of Letters Award and Hijra Award.

## **LUTFA HANUM SALIMA BEGUM (India)**

Lutfa Hanum Salima Begum, born 1962, has four collections of poetry to her credit. Her poems have been translated into other languages also, Hindi, Nepali, Bengali, Kannada, etc. Recipient of 'Munin Borkotoki Award' in 1996, she teaches Assamese literature in Cotton College, Guwahati.



## **INAYAT ULLAH AAJIZ (Pakistan)**



Inayat Ullah Aajiz belongs to Faisalabad (Lyallpur), He was born in 1969 in Gujranwala. In 2000, the institution "*Hum Khayaal*" published a book of his poetic collection by the name of "*Har Mausam Teri Yaad ka Mausam*". Member of "*Halqa Arbab-e-Zauq*", Progressive Writers Association,

Faisalabad; Member '*Anjuman Tarqqi Pasand Musanfeen*' Faisalabad, '*Hum Khayaal Foundation*.' He represented Pakistan in India and England.

## **MITHILESH SHRIVASTAVA (India)**

Mithilesh Shrivastava, a Hindi poet and Art and Theatre Critic was born in 1958. He has been writing on the contemporary art and theatre and social themes in the reputed newspapers, magazines, audio & visual



media. He was awarded the 'Young Poetry Award' of the Hindi Academy of the State of Delhi. His collection of poems is: *Kisi Umeed Ki Tarah*. He works for bridging the gap between the contemporary poetry and the people through '*Likhawat*', a group of friends and poets dedicated to take literature to the masses. He is the coordinator of the Dialogue, a literary programme of The Academy of Fine Arts and Literature. He visited Surinam as a delegate to attend Hindi Bhasha Sammelan at Paramaribo to participate in Poets' Meet.



### **NAZ FATIMA (Pakistan)**



Naz Fatima was born in 1971 at Sahiwal. She is a poet and novelist. Her poetry books are : “*Mein Koi Aur Hoon* and *Hamesha*” acclaimed in literary circles. She is associated with “*Halqa Arbab-e-Zauq*”, Progressive Writers Association, Faisalabad; and is a Member of

Anjuman Hum Khayal Foundation.

### **IRA PANDEY (India)**

Ira Pande has taught at Panjab University and been an editor and writer for the last 15 years. Her first book, *Didi: My Mother's Voice*, was published in 2005 (Penguin-India). She has translated Manohar Shyam Joshi's *T'Ta Professor*, which won both the 2009 Crossword-Vodafone Award and the 2010 Sahitya Akademi Award for the Best Translated work in English. Her latest work, a translation of her mother Shivani's work, *Apradhini*, has just been released by HarperCollins-India, titled *Shivani's Apradhini: Women Without Men*.



She is currently Chief Editor of the Publications Division of the India International Centre in Delhi.

### **RANA M. SANAULLAH (Pakistan)**



Born in Lyallpur (Faisalabad) in 1976. Rana Sanaullah completed his education in LLB, MA Political Science, MA History from University of Punjab, Lahore. A fiction writer and a journalist, he is also the Vice President of Hum Khayal Foundation. He is also interested in the theatre. He is associated with

Progressive Writers Association Faisalabad.

### **ASGHAR WAJAHAT (India)**

Asghar Wajahat is a well-known Hindi author who

writes fiction, plays, literary essays and film scripts. A Professor of Hindi at Jamia Millia Islamia, he is currently writing film and TV scripts based on his own writings, one of which is being directed by the veteran filmmaker Govind Nihalani. His play *Jis Lahore Nai Vekhya*, in defence of secular social values, has been a phenomenal success in the sub-continent and abroad.



### **KUNZANG CHODEN (Bhutan)**



Kunzang Choden was born in 1952 in central Bhutan. She was educated in India, and later in U.S.A. She worked as a teacher and development expert for some years before she started to write in the early 1990s. Her first book, *Folktales of Bhutan* was published in 1994. Her novel

*The Circle of Karma*, has been translated into French, Dutch and Turkish. She writes about women and social issues in Bhutan, and is currently working on illustrated children's books.

### **MANGALES DABRAL (India)**

Mangalesh Dabral is a poet, translator and journalist. He was born in 1948. Five collections of his poems and three books of prose writings have been published, which include *Pahar Par Laltein*, *Ghar Ka Rasta*, *Hum Jo Dekhate Hain*, *Aawaaz Bhi Ek Jagah Hai*, *Lekhak Ki Roti*, *Ek Baar Iowa* and



*Kavi Ka Akelapan*. He has received a number of literary awards, including Sahitya Akademi Award, Pahal Samman, Sahityakar Samman of Delhi Hindi Akademi, and Kumar Vikal Samman. As a journalist, Dabral has served Jansatta (Hindi daily) for 19 years.

### **GITA KARKI (Nepal)**

Gita Karki was born in Eastern Nepal. She is a prolific poet and organiser and coordinator of women's activities. She is the Founding President of Nari Sahitya Pratisthan 1999.



She has two collections of poems to her credit. They are *Malai Andhyaronai Chahincha* (2005) and *Salka Thuta ra Ekturkra Gham* (2009). She is a teacher and social worker. She has participated in our Writers' Conferences and Poetry Festivals.

### **RAGHBIR SINGH (India)**

Dr. Raghbir Singh, born in 1939 in a village in Ludhiana District of Punjab, is an eminent literary critic and scholar of Punjabi language. Taught in Punjab University Chandigarh for thirty years. Was also Professor and Head of the Department of Punjabi at Punjabi University, Patiala. Since 1965 he has been editing a prestigious literary quarterly 'SIRJANA'. Raghbir Singh has penned, edited, translated and transcribed about a dozen books, 'Yatharthi' being the foremost. As a literary personality and as well as an academician he has served on highest academic bodies, such as Syndicate and Senate of various universities of North India and has also remained member of literary institutions like Sahitya Akademi at the National level. General Secretary of the Kendri Punjabi Lekhak Sabha, Dr. Raghbir Singh has received several awards and honors, including: Fellowship of the Punjabi Sahit Sabha, New Delhi, and Shiromani Sahitak Patarkar Award of the Punjab Government.

### **RAKSHANDA JALIL (India)**

Rakhshanda Jalil has edited two collections of short stories and published eight works of translations. She has written a collection of essays on the little known monuments of Delhi, called *Invisible City* (Niyogi, 2008, reprint, 2011); and co-authored two books with Mushirul Hasan, *Partners in*



*Freedom: Jamia Millia Islamia* (Niyogi, 2006) and *Journey to a Holy Land: A Pilgrim's Diary* (OUP, 2009). She was co-editor of *Third Frame*, a journal devoted to literature, culture and society brought out by the Cambridge University Press. She has submitted her Ph D on the 'Progressive Writers' Movement as Reflected in Urdu Literature'. She runs

an organization called *Hindustani Awaz*, devoted to the popularization of Hindi-Urdu literature and culture. Her debut collection of fiction, *Release & Other Stories*, is expected to be published by Harper Collins (India) by May 2011.

### **ARBAB DAUD (Pakistan)**

Arbab Daud, hails from a family of staunch Pashtun Nationalists in Pakistan. Having a background in Politics, his writings are mostly based on geo-political and socio-economic issues of the Pashtun belt. He writes fiction as well, but has no published writing in fiction hitherto. Having a Masters degree in Business Administration from Philippine Christian University, Manila, he is currently serving as Program Coordinator to Afghan Management and Marketing Consultants (AMMC) in Kabul, Afghanistan.

### **PANKAJ SINGH (India)**

Pankaj Singh is among the most eminent poets of Hindi. Essence of his poetry rests upon his rare sensitivity and long association with the radical left ideas. He has worked as a media person in Paris, London and India. There are three collections of poetry to his credit: *Aahaten Aas Paas* (1981), *Jaise Pawan Paani* (201) and *Nahin* (2009). He has extensively written on art, literature, cinema and international politics. His poems have been translated into Urdu, Bengali, English, Japanese, French, Russian and Polish.

He lives in Delhi and works as media person.

### **RENUKA SINGH ( India)**

Dr. Renuka Singh is a Professor in Sociology in Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. She is a scholar of Buddhist thought, and has worked on Buddhist spiritual traditions and Buddhist practice of meditation. Author of several books on Buddhism and on His Holiness Dalai Lama, she is held in high esteem globally.

