

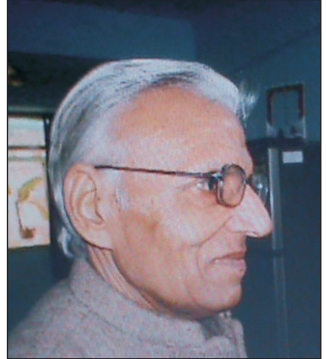


## **BAIKUNTHA RAJBONGSHI (India)**

Baikuntha Rajbongshi is an Asstt. Professor. Dept. of Assamese Pragjyotish College, Guwahati. He has done Doctorate in Assamese, and is interested in writing Poetry and Research. Has published three books.

## **SURESH SALIL (India)**

Suresh Salil was born in 1942. His published anthology include Poetry: '*Khule Mein Khare Ho Kiyon ?*', '*Mera Thhikini Kya Poochho Ho*', '*Karoron Kiramom Ki Zindagi Natak Sa*', '*Bheegee Hui Deewar Par Rosh ?*'. Has translated several anthologies: '*Roshni Ki Khirkiyan*', Hindi translation of Nazim Hikmat, Prbla Neruda, Lorea, Michelangelo, Habba Khatoon. He is specialist on The Life and Works of Ganesh Shankar Vidyarthi. His Awards include: Sahityakar Samman, Ganesh Shankar Vidyarthi Samman and delegation to Bherathi Purisha.



## **ALI SHAREEF (Maldives)**

Ali Shareef is one of the most brilliant poets in Maldives, known for his innovative style and grace. He is respected all over the SAARC region. He is a part of the Maldives Chapter of FOSWAL, and has attended several National and International Conferences and

Seminars of FOSWAL.

## **CHANDRA PRABHA PANDEY (India)**

Chandra Prabha Pandey is an M.A. in English, and has been Associate Professor in Motilal Nehru College, University of Delhi. She has done translations of Indian and foreign poets into Hindi. She is the editor of *Bhartiya Janani*, and Newsletter Editor of University Women's Association. She is Vice



President of Delhi Women's League (AIWC), and Life Member – Indian Association for Women's Studies.

### **CHANDRABHANU PATTANAYAK (India)**

Consultant, Professor, Researcher, Producer and Director of Educational documentaries. Academic Consultant of FOSWAL. Studied Communications, Cultural Studies and Drama at McGill University, Montreal and University of Toronto, and English Literature at the University of Mysore. Worked with many International universities in different capacities. Now working in the area of Cross-Cultural Education, and 'The Essence of Himalayan Culture'.

### **AFSANA KISHWAR (Bangladesh)**

Born on 8 March 1978 in Dhaka, started writing since 2000 in Jai Jai Din. Then she achieved 'Prothom Alo'



Best Feature Writer reward. After that she never had to look back. The writer's first lyrical-novel was 'Roznamcha: Valobasha', an excellent rendering and medley of words added special echelon to the lyrical-novel. 'Nostalgia' 'Troirashik' and 'Pakhi o Somragge'.

2005 was in actual fact an unforgettable year for her. 'Shobdoutshob', an elongated sequel of sixty poetry with aesthetic depiction has been published and attracted the appraisers. In Ekushey Book Fair 2007, 'Paltae Nari, Bahari', a poetry book, was been published from Annoprakash publisher's house. 'Jalpai Opochohondo je karone' is her fifth poetry book. 'Korotite Mrittu', was published in Ekushey Book Fair 2010. The writer, a banker by profession, is working at a private local bank.

### **KUBER DUTT (India)**

Born in 1949, Kuber Dutt retired as the Senior most Chief Producer of Delhi Kendra, Doordarshan, where he did remarkable memorable Live Commentaries. His Poetry Collections include: 'Kaal Kaal Apaati', 'Kavta Ki Rangshala', 'Dharti Ne Kahaphir', 'Keral Prawas', 'Antm Sheershak'. He is also an established painter. He also received many awards and Honours for Literary works and TV productions.



## MURUGESU PONNAMBALAM (Sri Lanka)



Murugesu Ponnambalam, born in 1939, is Masters from Union of Peradeniya. Better known by his pen name Mu. Ponnambalam, he has been a freelance writer since 1960. His creative writings include poetry collections, short story anthologies, and literary criticism : '*Athu*', '*Kadalum Karaiyum*', '*Kali Leelai*', '*Yatharthamum*

*Arthmartamum*', '*Thiranaivu Sarntha Parvaikal*', '*Mudinthupona Thasaiyadal*', '*Kavithiyil Thudikkum Kalam*', '*A Country Entrapped*'. And books for children : '*Kalaikal Seivom*', '*Sevvai Manithan*', and Anthologies of stories for children. He has also translated many books from English to Tamil : '*Casting Pearls*', '*Exploring Masculinity*', '*A Hidden History*', '*Aids in South Asia*', '*The Way We Are*', and '*Living With Tortures*'. He has been the Chief Editor of '*Sathiyam*' and '*Thisai*'. Library of Congress has recorded five of his works.

## ABDAAL BELA (Pakistan)

Abdaal Bela was born on 14<sup>th</sup> December 1946 at Sialkot, Pakistan. He has more than a dozen books, including *Gudmud*, *Sun Flower*, *Anhonian*, *Rang Pachkari*, *Urzi*, *Lab Basta*, *Darwaza Khulta Hay* and *Boonda Bandi*, to his credit and has edited several Magazines and Periodicals. He is a producer of video documentaries as well.



## YASHODHARA MISHRA (India)

Born and brought up in Orissa, Yashodhara Mishra is a Professor of English in Madhya Pradesh. She has five collections of short stories, two novels, and several volumes of translated works, apart from articles and poems in various journals. Also translated two in Hindi and one in English. Recipient of several literary awards including 'Orissa Sahitya Academy Award' and 'Katha Prize' Her stories and poems included in anthologies published by Penguin,



Harper and Collins and Rupa. Some of her writings are also part of the school and university curriculum in Orissa and Madhya Pradesh.

### **SUNEET CHOPRA (India)**

Suneet Chopra, born at Lahore, 24 December 1941. Awarded the Tagore Gold Medal for writing at St. Xavier's College, Kolkata in 1957. Read Anthropology, History, Linguistics (African Studies) at the School of Oriental and African Studies, London. Joined JNU where he was among the founder of the Students Federation of India, later funding office bearer of the Democratic Youth Federation of India, now Joint Secretary All India Agricultural Workers Union. Has published poems, short stories and articles on art, history and anthropology.



### **AMEENA HUSSEIN (Sri Lanka)**

Ameena Hussein was trained as a sociologist and is a publisher and fiction writer. She has published two collections of short stories. She is the co-founder of the Perera Hussein Publishing House [www.ph-books.com](http://www.ph-books.com) established to enable and encourage talented South Asian fiction writers to gain exposure and recognition. In 2005 she attended the International Writers Program conducted by the University of Iowa. She was the editor of *Nethra*, a creative literary journal from 2004 to 2007. Her first novel *The Moon in the Water* was long-listed for the first ever Man Asia Literary Prize and was published in January 2009. She has edited *Blue-Stories for Adults* which is Sri Lanka's first ever book of modern erotic stories, published in January 2011.



### **MAHBOOBULLAH KHAN (Afghanistan)**

Mahboobullah Khan is the Editor-in-Chief of 'Kisa Digest' magazine and is Program Manager of 'Shpoon' production. A young writer and poet of Afghanistan, he has worked as translator and announcer with All India Radio in Delhi for a year.







### **SHEHPAR RASOOL (India)**

Shehpar Rasool is a renowned Academician, poet and critic of India. He was born in 1956. He has written extensively on Urdu poetry and his articles have been published in various national and international journals of repute. He has a number of books to his

credit. He has been recipient of many awards, including : Sir Syed Award, Bal Sahitya Samman.

### **GURCHARAN SINGH CHANI (India)**

A graduate of National School of Drama, Gurcharan Singh Chani has been a Fulbright Fellow at Boston University and a teacher at Film and TV Institute of India, Pune. He has done pioneering work in Community/Street Theatre sensitizing people about gender, cultural, social and environmental issues. He was conferred with a National Award in



Community Theatre by Sangeet Natak Akademi, 2000. He has produced and directed many award winning telefilms and documentaries. His latest work is a 26 part documentary series on the Forts of India.

### **SHABNAM RIAZ (India)**



Shabnam Riaz works as a television News Anchor for the National Television network: PTV news. In July 2006 she was given the National Award for Best English News Reader, 2003-2005. She also works as a freelance writer contributing to many leading newspapers like 'Dawn'. She has been

writing for the Op-ed pages for The News. She has written extensively on subjects relating to social concerns, current affairs, health and cultural issues. She is the author of 'The Whispering Wind', which is her first book of Poems. Her volume, 'Twinkling Tunes', was awarded a prize for "Children Literature" held by The National Book Foundation for her book of

children's poetry. Shabnam's poems have also been published in Pakistan Academy of Letters "Eighth October" collections of prose and poetry, and in "Pakistani Literature"

### **DALJEET SACHDEVA (India)**



Daljeet Sachdeva was born in 1960. He has conceived, written, anchored, and produced radio and television programmes for almost two decades. He is Post Graduate in Journalism and Mass Communication, and in Modern Indian History. He is working as an Associate Professor in Electronic Media Production

Centre of Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi. He won National Award for '*Pal Pal Parivartit Prakriti Vesh*', Interantional ICD Prize for '*On the Threshold of a New Century*'. Has written poems, articles, short stories, and features, many of which have been published and won awards.

### **BIMAL GUHA (Bangladesh)**

Bimal Guha, the poet, was born on 27 October 1952 at Bajalia Village of Chittagong District. He is the eldest son of Prasanna Kumar Guha and Manadabala Guha.

Bimal had his early education in local school and college, and later in universities at home and abroad. He had his PhD in



modern Bengali poetry from the University of Dhaka. He entered the literary arena in 1968 while a school student and is still continuing his literary activities. His first book of poems *Ahongkar, Tomar Shabdo* was published in 1982 and he has published as many as 21 books to his credit including 13 books of poems. A leading poet of his generation, Bimal Guha's poems are about the problems of our time, more particularly about the difficulties of adjectment that a feeling and thinking individual faces in an increasingly alienating world. He demonstrates, in his poems, great adroitness in the use of simile and imagery. He has developed expression of art to arrest time and space into a newer vision. He was awarded *Bangladesh Parishad National Literary Award* for poetry in 1979 by the Government of Bangladesh; *National Literary Award* for poetry in 1979 by Kingbadontir Amra, Dhaka. He is

also a *Poet-Celebrity* of the Bangladesh Writers Club, Dhaka in 2002. Dr Guha now heads an administrative office of the University of Dhaka.

### **NIRMAL KANTI BHATTACHARJEE (India)**



Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharjee, a former Director of the National Book Trust, is regular contributor of articles and reviews in various newspapers including The Statesman. He led a Delegation of Indian Writers to Moscow during the Festival of India in Russia.

Born at Silchar (Assam) in 1947 Nirmal did his M.A. in English Literature with a Post-Graduate certificate in English and taught English Literature at a Gauhati University College till 1985. He served on panels of many national and international bodies. Returned to the Sahitya Akademi in 2002 he is currently Editor, Indian Literature, a bi-monthly journal.

### **MAHBOUBA IBRAHIMI (Afghanistan)**

Mahbouba Ibrahimi, was born in 1976 in Wardak province. She migrated to Iran during the war in Afghanistan in 1980. She has worked as an editor for different Afghani journals and publishing house. She graduated from Tehran University. She is the author of a collection of poems, "*Winds are my Sisters*" in 2006.



### **LAKSHMI KANNAN (India)**

Lakshmi Kannan is a bi-lingual writer who writes in English and in Tamil. She uses the pen-name of 'Kaaveri' for her writings in Tamil. A poet, novelist, short story writer and translator, she has published twenty books till date that include four collections of poems in English, several books of fiction in English translation as well as her original works in Tamil. Penguin, Bharatiya Jnanpith and K.K.Birla Foundation, Delhi have published three collections of her novellas and short stories in Hindi translation.

Lakshmi was the Indian participant in the International Writing Program at Iowa (USA); a Writer-in-Residence at the University of Canterbury at Kent, (U.K.), a

British Council Visitor to the University of Cambridge, U.K., a Fellow of the Indian Institute of Advanced Study at Shimla and a Sahitya Akademi Writer-in-Residence attached to the English department of Jamia Millia Islamia University, Delhi.

She has given readings and talks in many national and international seminars at home and overseas and has extensively published critical essays on gender sensitivity, on retrograde practices on women in the name of religion and custom, on translation and on the politics of 'regional' and 'national' literature. She is based in Delhi.

### **HEMANT KUKRETI (India)**

Hemant Kukreti teaches Hindi Literature in a Delhi University college. A sensitive Hindi poet whose poetry weaves social concerns with sensitive poetic idiom, he was honoured with distinctive literary award for his incisive poem Sil-Batta. He has a number of anthologies to his credit.



### **RAVINDRA NATH SRIVASTAVA (India)**

Born in 1964. Critic, Editor, Essay Writer, Folk Lyricist, Singer, Edited Criticism book on "Sitakant Mahapatra". He is Secretary, Hindi Academy, Delhi Government and Secretary, Maithili-bhojpur Academy, Delhi, Hon. Professor of Hindi and Indian culture, Subharti University, Meerut. Her writings include 10 poetry collections published, namely : *Yugpath*, *Sameekarn Me*, *Ek Naya Vinyaas*, *Charuta*, *Aakash Se Adhik Satvar*.



### **MAHEEN HISBANI (Pakistan)**

Maheen Hisbani is a TV Anchor and Director in Sindhi Media, She is a poet and a Social Activist. She has done her Masters in Public Administration with specialization in Human Resources Management, and Masters in Sindhi Literature 2006. She speaks Sindhi, Urdu, English and Siraiki fluently. Her published works include, a volume of poems, "*Toon*" (You).

