



Visva-Bharati
Granthana Vibhaga
6 A. J. C. Bose Road, Kolkata 700 017

Monthly Performance Report : April 2013

Programme

A special 9 day Book-fair was organized by the Granthana Vibhaga from 5th to 13 April 2013 at its Sabhagriha to reach out to the Tagore readers.

Inaugurated by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Professor Sushanta Dattagupta, the chief-guest of the programme was Sri Sirshendu Mukhopadhyay, the eminent litterateur. Smt Bodhirupa Sinha, Adhyaksha, Patha-Bhavana was also present.

In the welcome address, Dr Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay, Director, Granthana Vibhaga dwelt on the foundation of VBGV in 1923 to publish Rabindranath Tagore's works and also to support the activities of Visva-Bharati financially. He discussed how the birth of this publication house had influenced and revolutionized the publication in Bengali, both in content as well as production. He emphasized the importance of maintaining and improving the art of publication in Bengali publication in general and Granthana Vibhaga in particular.

Sri Sirshendu Mukhopadhyay, celebrated fictionist, commended the idea of special book fair to make Tagore literature more popular with the readers, particularly of the new generation. He also praised the idea to have a performance of the students of Patha-Bhavana, who maintain the originality of Tagore culture. He further said, 'the ambience of this place is quite conducive and that it has the potential to become a successful centre of research on Rabindranath Tagore.'

Smt Mahasveta Devi, eminent litterateur social activist and a former student of Patha Bhavana, could not attend the programme for her sudden illness but sent the an excellent note in Bengali. The English translation of the text is given below :

'SEEKING FORGIVENESS'

Those students and teachers who have come from Patha Bhavana, Santiniketan, I seek forgiveness from all of them. I am unable to attend the programme today for my sudden illness and this regret for absence will stay with me till my death.

I got admitted in the Santiniketan School in 1936, at the age of ten.

I studied there from 1936-1938, in the fifth, sixth and seventh standards. I was in pain when I had to come back from there and cried a lot for quite some days.

My experience of studying in Santiniketan school was such that, even today, I can vividly recall everything.

Let me speak a bit to all those children who are studying in the fifth, sixth and seventh standards now - during our times, we used to play on the ground situated right in front of 'Sri Bhavana'.

In one of the corners of that ground there was a big pond, where we had learned to swim. I would like to ask you, do you get drenched in the rain? While getting drenched along with our teachers, we used to plunge ourselves in the pond. One day, during my seventh standard, we dived into the Kopai River on such a rainy day, and found out that a snake was there in the water to accompany us. I was very scared that day.

I am talking about 1936-1938. Under the direction of Gurudeva, the dance dramas like 'Chtrangada', 'Chandalika' and 'The House of Cards' were performed and Gurudeva went to Bombay, and also, probably, to Ceylon, with his troop of dancers. Do you know that to build the school in Santiniketan, Gurudeva had sold the copyright of his books?

I learned great lessons from my days spent in Santiniketan. I have learned to be dynamic and perpetually occupied with work from my days in Santiniketan school.

I still feel that I have not been able to write anything worthwhile today. But I promise to you that for you, I will write "Amader Santiniketan" (Our Santiniketan) again'.

Prof Sushanta Duttagupta, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, in his address parished the progress made by Granthana Vibhaga both in the quality and quantity of books and journals in the last one year. He said that Visva-Bharati is one of the few universities in the world which has its own publishing department. He wished Granthana-Vibhaga to be as successful as the Oxford and Cambridge University Presses.

The students of Patha-Bhavana presented some scenes of the dance drama *Chandalika*. The performance was highly appreciated by the audience.

Publication

Books published in the month :

1. *Svarabitan 10*
Pages 116 ; Price Rs.75/- ; ISBN-978-81-7522-415-5 (V.10)
ISBN-978-81-7522-021-8 (Set)
2. *Svarabitan 49*
Pages 112 ; Price Rs.75/- ; ISBN-978-81-7522-566-4 (V.49)
ISBN-978-81-7522-021-8 (Set)
3. *Rajarshi*
Pages 176 ; Price Rs.65/- ; ISBN-978-81-7522-038-6
3. *Katha O Kahini*
Pages 172 ; Price Rs.65/- ; ISBN-978-81-7522-160-2

Sale

Books sold : 11,635 copies.

Income

Rs.6,96,588/- (Rupees six lacs, ninety six thousand, five hundred eighty eight only).

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