

## **Prof. Nand Kishore Acharya Presented the Prestigious Literary Award Maharana Kumbha Samman 2012**

February 1, 2012

Prof. Nand Kishore Acharya, Professor of Eminence, with IIIT-H's *Centre for Exact Humanities (CEH)*, was presented the prestigious award **Maharana Kumbha Samman 2012**, by the Maharana Mewar Foundation, Udaipur, India, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to Hindi literature.

Prof. Nand Kishore Acharya was conferred the **Subramaniam Bharati Award** in Oct 2011. The award, presented by the Kendriya Hindi Sansthan, a national level institution under the Government of India's (GoI's) Ministry of Human Resources Department (MHRD), recognizes contributions to Hindi literature. The award consists of one lakh rupees cash and a citation by the President of India.

The citation of the award has the following about him.

*Dr. Nand Kishore Acharya, born on 31 August 1945, is an Indian playwright, poet, and critic from Bikaner, Rajasthan.*

*He is one of the foremost creative writers of our times. Beginning his writing career early with an analytical work on the writings of one of the most eminent writers of India, Ajneya, Nand Kishore Acharya himself grew to find his own distinct voice in the affectionate guidance of literatures like Ajneya and Chhagan Mohta. Even Ajneya wrote when he first met Acharya found it difficult to believe that this thin, shy, young man was the author of "Ajneya ki Kaavya Titirsha", a book that had with great simplicity and critical acumen had analyzed the person and the poetry of this founder of new poetry in India and who had given Indian literature a whole new dimension.*

*His plays, poems criticism, articles on issues of contemporary concerns and on education and his translations have given Hindi literature a new insight, a new direction and a new recognition of values. A command of almost every genre of creative writing, clear incisive vision and originality of verbal expression has earned him great respect amongst his contemporaries. His writing explores the grey and untouched subliminal zones of myths, legends and history, redefining human sensibilities and piercing the contemporary social and political scenario, and in his poems it delves deep into the recesses of human experiences enthralling the reader like a whiff of fresh fragrant breeze. Dr. Acharya has distilled the forts, havelis, squares, narrow alleys, windows and casements and the desert breeze so beautifully in his poetry that Ajneya called him the 'inimitable bard of the beauty of the desert'. His areas of interest are literature, non-violence and Gandhianism, Human rights, Political economy, ancient Indian polity, scientific humanism, culture and history, education.*

*Rajasthan Sahitya Akademi journal Madhumati has published a complete number (July to August 2000) of theirs focusing on him as person and poet. His original insightful and thought provoking writing has created a special place for him on the horizon of Indian literature, and Bikaner takes pride in this creative genius's presence and creation.*

*He has been conferred Rajasthan Sahitya Akademi's highest honour Mira Award; Bihari Puraskar by the KK Birla Foundation; All India Play writing honour Bhuvaneshwar Award; Rajasthan Sangeet Natak Akademi Award; Bhuwalaka Award (2001);*

*He is a member of Central Hindi Society which is Chaired by The Honorable Prime Minister of India; Member of Vatsal Nidhi Trust; Gandhi Smarak Nidhi; Central Sahitya Academy. He also worked as Assisatn Editor in Everyman's; Co-Editor in Naya Pratik, Editor of Arumaru and Marudeep (weekly) and Chiti (bimonthly) journals.*

*His collections of poetry include are Jal Hai Jhan (1980), Kavita Mein Nahin Hai Jo (1995), Anya Hote Hue (2008), Gana Chahta Patjhad (2008), Kewal ek Patti ne (2011); Plays like as Dehaantar (including Kimidam Yaksham 1987), Gulam Badshah (including Hastinapur 1992), Kisi aur ka Sapna.*

*He has done MA in History and English literature and then PhD from University of Udaipur. He was Head of History Department in Pampuriya College, Bikaner and is presently Professor of Eminence at International Institute of Information Technology Hyderabad.*

*Recently, Dr Acharya was declared the recipient of the 'Subramaniam Bharati' Award of Kendriya Hindi Sansthan for the year 2008 for his immense contributions in the Hindi literature through Creative and Literary Criticism writings. He has edited the highly acclaimed 'Ahimsa Vishwakosh' in Hindi published by Prakrit Bharatiya Academy, Jaipur. He has also been a writer-in-residence at Mahatma Gandhi International Hindi University for almost six years and delivered lectures on literature and non-violence during this period. His research work includes the cultural polity of the Hindus and polity in Shukrneetisaar. His writings on Gandhi and human rights have also been appreciated widely. He has also received the 'Naresh Mehta Smriti Samman' for his sociological and cultural writings."*

**Contact:** For more details of Prof. Nand Kishore Acharya's literary works, please contact Ms. Nagamani, Administrative Assistant, CEH, at +91 40 6653 1408 or [nagamani.n@iiit.ac.in](mailto:nagamani.n@iiit.ac.in).

### **About Centre for Exact Humanities (CEH)**

The Center is primarily devoted to fundamental research in Humanities, and aims to conduct de-novo research in understanding human elements and human society.

The following define the character of CEH's work.

- CEH's research engages in inter-disciplinary inquiry spanning varied domains of human knowledge and imagination.
- CEH seeks to draw insights from the Indian analytical traditions as well as from modern theoretical activities.
- CEH's research environment leverages ICT.

For more information about CEH's research and faculty, contact Ms. Nagamani, Administrative Assistant, CEH, at +91 40 6653 1408 or [nagamani.n@iiit.ac.in](mailto:nagamani.n@iiit.ac.in).