

Aksharyadnya- Nasik 2015

A Tribute to a Literary Genius

Presented by

Yashvantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University & Kusumagraj Adhyasan

Conducted by

Achyut Palav School of Calligraphy

APSC always strives to bring you workshops in calligraphy which enhance your knowledge & skills in the art. We have in the past concentrated on letter forms, tools, medium & techniques. Now we wish to bring you a unique concept that highlights the very essence of calligraphy. It is 'acquiring the deep understanding of the meaning behind words to maximize effect of calligraphy'. For the same we decided to concentrate on the works of a single writer or poet & who could be more appropriate than the legendary- 'Kusumagraj'.

A Little about Kusumagraj

Born Vishnu Vaman Shirwadkar on 27th February 1912, 'Kusumagraj' was the pen name adopted by him. People not only know him as a sensitive poet, gifted writer, eminent playwright & novelist but also a humanist who inspired many of his generation & beyond with his writings of freedom, justice & the uplifting of deprived. He was a very insightful writer who was capable of dealing sensitive issues with ease & poise. His enriched personality, social concern, immense creativity & revolutionary attitude are reflected in his writing. Many of his poems have been translated into Hindi by the famous & talented poet Shri. Gulzar.

His work spans over 5 decades with most notable being Vishakha, Marathi Mati, Wadawel (Collection of poems), Yayati Ani Devayani, Natasamrat, Doorche Dive (Plays). There are many novels, one-act plays to his credit too. In 1987, Kusumagraj was presented with the prestigious Gnyanpeeth Award, in recognition of his literary achievements, and in particular for Natasamrat. He has also received Sahitya Akademi Award, Ram Ganesh Gadkari Award, Sangeet Nātya Lekhan Award & Pune University conferred on him the honorary degree of D.Litt.

Details of the workshop

Aim of the workshop

Good Calligraphy inevitably demands a deep understanding of the meaning of text in question & its premise. You must fully comprehend the gist in order to manipulate the strokes so that the text is conveyed in an effective manner. Calligraphy in its true sense recreates the meaning in an artistic form. We will step slightly away from just concentrating on tools & techniques & emphasizing on understanding the deep meaning of words & phrases.

What you need to prepare

Many of you may have read Kusumagraj in the past or at least seen his plays. But for your reference we are sending you a few poems. They will help you get an idea about his style & philosophy. We are also sending you the translations by Gulzar Saab that have been among notable works read by poetry lovers across India

Highlights

- **Self-Expression by Achyut Palav-** an informal & interactive session with Achyut Palav where he will help you understand your surroundings, explore your thoughts & create an outlet that will help you gear up for the days at the workshop.
- **A walk & talk at the Kusumagraj Adhyasan-** an interactive session with an expert on the works of the writer. You will get to see his books, photographs, understand the style & premise of Kusumagraj's works over the past 5 decades.
- **A Morning by the River-** apart from being an important religious centre, Nashik is also the home to the Triveni Sangam. We plan to spend a beautiful morning by the river where we will discuss art & poetry.
- **Poetry Reading & Analysis-** creating a foundation for calligraphy on his literature. We will also review the Hindi translations by Gulzar Saab
- **Dance Performance by Tanvi Palav-** A chance to try your hand at Fusion Calligraphy.
- **Calligraphy Workshop-** 2 days dedicated to learning & creating calligraphy. Paint your emotions on paper & impart a new meaning to the works of Kusumagraj.

Date: 9th, 10th & 11th January 2015

****Participants are requested to reach at the venue on 8th Jan 2015 by 8:00 p.m.** (only stay will be provided from 8th Jan 2015 night)

Venue: Yashvantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University (Nashik)



Fees: Rs. 4,000/- Includes- Stay & Food

Please Note

*** Paper, Inks & tools will have to be arranged for by participants. For your convenience we will be putting up stalls for materials. You may buy them at the venue of workshop.*

***Travel expenses are not included in the above fees. We will be arranging for a bus that will leave from Mumbai at 4:00 p.m. for Nasik. The fare etc will be communicated at a later date. Interested participants will have to confirm at the time of registration & seat will be allotted on complete payment of fees & travel fare. A stop for food can be taken on the way to Nasik. Participants will have to manage for their food on 8th Jan.*

Registration Details

Last Date: 31st December 2014

Contact: Ankita – 022 27891517

Shabla - 08378896611

- **Links to Songs written by Kusumagraj**
<http://www.aathavanitli-gani.com/Geetkar/Kusumagraj>
- **Link to poems**
<http://www.kusumaavali.org/>
- **Gulzar- Reedh an inspiring poem by Gulzar (Marathi Original by Kusumagraj)**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F2k3mXp8BVM>
- <http://gulzars.blogspot.in/2009/08/reedh-one-of-most-inspiring-poems.html>
- <http://pratikshadreamz.blogspot.in/2011/04/avadto-maj-afat-sagar-by-kusumagraj.html>
- <http://www.marathiquotes.com/kusumagraj-kavita/>
- <http://www.arvindguptatoys.com/arvindgupta/kusumagraj-eng.pdf>