

साहित्य संसार

नेपाली साहित्य र संस्कृति प्रति प्रतिबद्ध



Yuyutsu R.D. Sharma

Yuyutsu R(am) D(ass) Sharma was born at **Nakodar, Punjab in 1960** and spent his childhood mainly at his birthplace and at Bhakhra Nangal Township of Shivalic Hillranges where his father worked. He was educated at Baring Union Christian College, Batala, Punjab and later at Rajasthan University where he met **American poet David Ray** who encouraged him to write and publish his poetry.

Yuyutsu remained active in the literary circles of Rajasthan for a few years and acted in plays by Shakespeare, Bertolt Brecht, Harold Pinter and Edward Albee. He received **an M.Phil in English Literature in 1984** for his research on Contemporary American Poetry and later for more than a decade taught English and American literature at different campuses of Punjab University and Tribhuwan University, Kathmandu, Nepal.

In 1995 Yuyutsu quit teaching at the University to pursue his career as a freelance creative writer. He has published three poetry collections and has translated extensively from **Nepali, Hindi, Panjabi** and initiated a literary movement, **Kathyakaya Kalpa** (Content Metamorphosis) in Nepali Poetry.

In 1984, he founded Nirala Series, Asia's largest Series of books on Indian poetry, Nepal, Bhutan and Himalayan Studies and currently works as **General Editor, Nirala Publications, New Delhi**. He also edits **Pratik**, a magazine of creative writing focused on South Asian Writing.

Yuyutsu's forthcoming book of poems, **The Lake Fewa & a Horse** shall appear in the summer of 2003. Currently, he lives in Kathmandu and New Delhi and is working on his first novel.

Yuyutsu also writes a literary column titled '**Crossfire**' every Sunday in Nepal's leading English daily, *The Kathmandu Post*.

Some of the Places where Yuyutsu R.D. Sharma has read his poetry:

Sahitya Academy (National Academy of Letters, New Delhi) Academy of Fine Arts, New Delhi, Royal Nepal Academy, Kathmandu, Special SAARC Poetry Festival, Kathmandu, World Poetry Day (UNESCO, Kathmandu), Indo-Nepal Literary Colloquium, Indian International Centre, New Delhi,

Nepal Television, Channel Nepal, Radio Nepal, Radio Sagarmatha, Metro FM, Rotary Club of Rajdhani, Kathmandu, KTH FM and others.

Some of the Journals and Magazines where his works have appeared:

Chrandrabhaga, Indian Literature, Little Magazine, The Telegraph, Indian Express, Asiaweek, An Other Voice: English Literature from Nepal, The Kathmandu Post, The Rising Nepal, Kantipur, Spotlight, Nepal Letters, Himal, The Sun, Madhuparka, Garima, Kavita and all most all literary magazines in India and Nepal

Books by Yuyutsu R.D. Sharma

POETRY

A Prayer in Daylight (Poems), 1984

Hunger of our Huddled Huts & other Poems, (1989)

Some Female Yeti & other Poems, 1995

The Lake Fewa & a Horse (Poems , Forthcoming),2003

TRANSLATIONS

Dying in Rajasthan, 1985

Short Stories by Ramanand Rathi
(Translated from the Rajasthani)

From the Other End, 1987

Poems by Banira Giri
(Translated from the Nepali)

Folk Tales of Sherpa & Yeti, 1996

Shiva Dhakal
(Translated from the Nepali)

Five Nepali Poets, 1987

(Gopal Prasad Rimal, Bhupi Sherchan, Banira Giri, Shailendra Sakar, Bimal Nibha)
(Translated from the Nepal)

EDITED

Elysium in the Halls of Hell, 1991
Poems about India by David Ray

Dispossessed Nests : The 1984 Poems, 1986
by Jayanta Mahapatra

Fever, 2001
Short Stories by Sita Pandey

Summer Rain, 1995
Three Decades of Poet
by K. Satchidanandan

Bagar: An Asian Poetry Special Number, (1989-90)
Kathmandu, Nepal

Pratik : A Magazine of Contemporary Writing, Since 1990
General Editor, Nirala Series (Since 1989)

Praise for Yuyutsu R.D.'s Works

Young, versatile energetic, he is rocking and rolling with new impressions. Yuyutsu's poetry touches on concerns of global matters, acknowledging that we can never with violence create a Utopia or "construct a gorgeous pagoda from/furious flames/and whistling winds ... Such lines capture for me the futility of the Iraq War, which I refuse to dignify with its official title, even more euphemistic and tainted with doublethink than earlier misadventures. We can't build even a humble pagoda from furious flames and whistling winds."

– David Ray

"Something is always happening in Yuyutsu's poetry. Like some burning concern for truth, something that, I think, a poem should do. For this, we owe Yuyutsu much.

–Jayanta Mahapatra

Yuyutsu has a good eye and a good ear:
The rain stopped in the jungle.
The cicada stopped its chirr.
To have an ear for a sudden silence in unique.
–Keki N. Daruwala in *The Hindustan Times*

"Yuyutsu's poetry has long been a part of the Nepalese consciousness: we use his more aphoristic lines as a paradigm of contemporary Nepali political and social changes."

- *The Kathmandu Post*

"Some Female Yeti is a tribute to the various changing as well as timeless aspects of the Himalayan Kingdom. There is crippling touch of stark and naked reality in these poems. They remind us of the time when women were raped, men were killed and human rights were abused. Yes, some of the poems deal with the democratic upsurge and its aftermath in Nepal."

–Connection

"It is an agony ride through the darkness of modern times. The symbols are powerful and disturbing, the metaphors violent. The female Yeti becomes as icon for man's sexual angst... This collection marks an important phase in the poet's evolution, revealing a more mature poet in terms of symbol, diction and style., 'Hitting notes of a secret language of lust', Yuyutsu has made his poetic presence felt."

–The Observer

"...Highly vibrant portrayal of the individual's existential issues: ranging from the mundane deprivations to the primordial lust and passion, anguish and anger. Equally powerful is the author's projection of the public life in all its shenanigans, conspiracies and treachery.

The most redeeming aspect of Yuyutsu's poetry is his powerful writing style that brings forth the human experience directly without the binds of sophistication that tends to dissipated original spirit. The rawness of his writing is so exhilarating, it brings the full flavor of the locale to the sense."

–The Rising Nepal

"Yuyutsu R.D. brings to the Indian readers a distinct flavor of the Nepalese landscape and culture, in a sequence of poems that pulsate with needle-sharp images—Equally sensitive is his language that, scrupulously avoids stilted diction-words or phrases. His writing is so densely imagistic that he holds reader's attention all the way through. Behind plethora of packed images is a genuine concern for the human predicament the trials and tribulations of the destitute everywhere. Hunger is the theme that runs as an under current-hunger that gnaws into the vitals of both humans and animals."

–Shiv K. Kumar in *The Hindustan Times*

Yuyutsu's poetry is the poetry of agony and anger. It does not soothe; it shocks. It does not lull; it awakens the reader to a reality he is least bothered about. Also, it has a distinct native flavour: maize fields, bare cots, hearths, querns, mud-plastered wall, a grain of monsoon. It is different from the poetry of those who roll in the labyrinth of inner life

or rejoice in the cities where skyscrapers bloom. His poetry is evidently akin to the regional literatures he is familiar with, Punjabi, Hindi and Nepali.

- *The Indian Literature*

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This is what *Asiaweek* has to say of Yuyutsu's translations of Nepali poetry:

' ... magnificent achievement evoking lives of Nepalese peasants while remaining highly readable. The reader will come away breathless from these short, wonderfully concentrated poems.

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