

Conversation with Sheetal Mani

A man who can be said the synonym of simplicity. The man who while understanding all the aspects of life wrote a new history for some. The man who while experiencing all the pains of life come out with a new image. The man who seated in all exams of life, determined to pass with whole access, although faced difficulties but rejected the impossible from his dictionary. His remembrance –

“For two times meals a day.....I used to walk hours and sometimes returned with empty stomach because (as) of being late to the site where food is to be given and I get scold too..... to return with the empty stomach was sometimes ok but those scolds were really insufferable”. He comes out to say **“till these days, I wander in my dream on the streets of Banaras searching for food and shelter”** only reveals his deep-hidden faced reality but he who feels grateful to GOD, even then, for supporting him either in the face of Gurus or the sayings of great personages, he who while being obliged to his Gurus always stood ready to receive the duties, given by them, came out to be a

real student, is none other than Dr. Jagannath Pathak, a well known name in the field of contemporary creative writings in Sanskrit. He was born in Sasaram, Bihar in the year 1934 and he retired as a principal from Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, Ganganath jha campus, Allahabad in 1994.

With exuberance of imagination and unrivalled powers of expression, he come out with many works and translated other. In 1981, his poetry collection “Kaapishayani” won the “Sahitya Academi” Award for Sanskrit. In 1992, “Vachaspati Samman” for “Mridwika” , also he won the “President Award” in 2005.

He now leads the literacy galaxy of Prayag where he is well-settled at present and by his precious presence adorns Jhusi, Allahabad, a historical place related to many mythological characters. Lets have a glimpse to the life of that poet..... Excerpts from an interview.....

Ques:1 What is Life? How you define it and how you lived that?

⇒ Although, I won't be able to stand with any principle for life, but a thought from the Great EPIC "Mahabharata", inspired my life too deep

⇒ सुखं वा यदि वा दुःखं प्रियं वा यदि वाप्रियम्।
प्राप्तं प्राप्तमुपासीत हृदयेनापराजितः॥

-महाभारत

⇒ सुख हो या दुख, प्रिय हो या अप्रिय, जब जो कुछ प्राप्त हो उसे उस समय हर्ष से स्वीकार करें अपने हृदय से उसके समाने पराजय स्वीकार ना करें (हिम्मत ना हरे)

Ques: 2 What made you to leave the home, Sasaram unexpectedly, after some years of getting married?

⇒ Only the determination to study forward. If I had considered obstacles then have never stepped towards the goal. I left my home but time to time I got a helping hand and that was the favor of GOD.

Ques: 3 A situation of your life that shook you deep inside (most difficult time of your life)? How you overcome that?

⇒ The turning point was the death of my wife after a long period of suffering. One sher of Ghalib comes to my mind –

“Sambhalne De Mujhe Ae Naumidi, Kya Qayamat Hai !

Keh Damane Khayale-Yar, Chuta Jaye Hai Mujh Se”

The sayings of great personages and Srimad Bhagwad Gita, relieved me to overcome that.

Ques: 4 Something which you think remained unachieved?

⇒ The real meaning of humanism, the life which defines it, remained unachieved.

Ques: 5 One mistake that always triggers you?

⇒ Countless.....difficult to put on fingers. Again a sher of Ghalib comes to my mind....

⇒ “मुझसे मेरे गुनाह का हिसाब ऐ खुदा न माँग”

Ques: 6 Whom do you give the credit for your achievement?

⇒ I am very grateful to all my teachers who guided me for what to do and which path to travel.

Ques: 7 The thing that did relief you while facing difficulty?

⇒ Many linings of Ghalib urges to live that seem quite close to my heart and mind.

Ques: 8 One unexpected and great happiness of your life?

⇒ Hmm, it can be... the receiving of the “President Award” from the hands of the President.

Ques: 9 Your views to the present ongoing business of the world? How do you see the future?

⇒ Only darkness seems to prevail; only the help of GOD can rescue the world!

Ques: 10 **What have you decided in the future to do?**

⇒ This question reminds me of a sher of Ghalib –

“उन्गलियोँ फिठार अपनी समय खुचकोँ अपना”

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