

TAG's Josephine Dias Puroskar conferred upon Joshua along with Books Release Function & Kantaram Singing Competition

Tiatr Academy of Goa conferred Josephine Dias Puroskar upon Joshua Rocha Pereira, an upcoming child artiste for his contribution to tiatr, its song and music on 19th July at the Multipurpose Hall of Directorate of Art and Culture, Patto Panaji. The award had been sponsored by son of Josephine Dias, a senior tiatr artiste. The function was followed by Josephine's 75th birthday celebration; TAG's books release function and Kantaram Singing Competition.

Shri. Churchill Alemao, Ex Chief Minister of Goa was the Chief Guest while Shri. Tony Fernandes, Ex MLA of St. Cruz Constituency and Shri. Anthony Barbosa, a social worker were the Guests of Honour. Smt. Jennifer Oliveira, Sarpanch of V.P. St Cruz was the special invitee.

Shri. Tomazinho Cardozo, former President of TAG spoke on the life and contribution of Josephine Dias to the tiatr stage. Two books namely **Khella Mollar Thaun Tiatr Machier – Jewel of the Konkani stage Rosy Alvares-achi Jivit Kotha** written by **Skyla Corte** and **Sonvgam (Ek-Anki Nattkuleancho Jhelo)** written by **John Aguiar** which were published by TAG under its scheme 'Preservation of Tiatr Literature' and a book '**Roman's - EMA The Mystery Girl**' written by Josephine's husband late F.X. Dias in 1995 and published by her son Arvind were released at the hands of the Chief Guest. Shri. Fausto V. Da Costa, a well-known journalist, editor of 'Gulab' and Tiatr researcher spoke on all the books released. Rosy Alvares expressed her feelings and thanked TAG for publishing the book and all those who helped her daughter in writing the book.

The guests congratulated Joshua Pereira for his contribution to tiatr. Speaking on the occasion Shri. Churchill Alemao said that if the parents encourage their children to read books in Konkani in roman script it will help in keeping our Konkani in Roman script alive. Awardee Joshua thanked TAG for conferring Josephine Dias Puroskar upon him and promised to continue his work in the field of tiatr.

Kantaram Singing Competition for juniors and seniors in the categories of duets, duos, trios, quartets and choral songs was held which received a good response. The competition was judged by well-known tiatr personalities Aniceto Lourenco and Fr. Roland Lin Fernandes. The result of the competition will be declared shortly.

Shri. Menino Fernande, President of TAG welcomed the gathering while Shri. Suresh Divkar - Member Secretary of TAG proposed the vote of thanks. The function was compered by Shri. Socorro Fernandes, Vice President of TAG.

