

# A R T NEWS



Monthly News Letter// All India Fine Arts and Crafts society, New Delhi // August-September, 2015

## ANNUAL PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION 2014-15 Raghu Rai Center for Photography

An exhibition of photography was held in the galleries of All India Fine Arts & Crafts Society from 9 to 15 September 2015. Nitin Rai, Director of RRCP curated the exhibition. This is a center where the medium of photography is the heart of Institute. Here young minds are directed and given space to explore their inner capabilities through this medium of photography. The photography has been explored in the higher level. Pure photography as well as experimental photography makes these photographs interesting. Creativity has been

well supported by the technology. Among the photographers Veeraj Kapoor created interesting huge spaces in his composition where monks look cornered in minimum space. Shweta Pradha has divided the coloured spaces very well. Vishesh Jolly captured the valley with huge space. Swati Gajraj captured the wall spaces with other elements of some relevance. Vikas Nama, Nandini Keshwani, Kartik Wahie, Mridul Vaibhav, Inderjit Singh, Parth Gupta, Sunakshi Gupta, Feroz Shiv, Jagrati Marwaha and Ananya Sinha did their best in black & white.



Photograph by Swati Gajraj

# Creation of Life by Pijush Kanti Bera

An exhibition of paintings by Pijush Kanti Bera was held at Shridharani gallery from 4 to 13 August 2015.

Bera has done his graduation from Indian College of Arts and Draftsmanship and post graduation in Visual Arts from Dr. Ambedkar University, Agra. Bera has created a relationship which is eternal. He brings man and woman in communicating a certain emotion which brings them closer. Most of his paintings are dominated by red colour which symbolizes love and affection. His figures radiate energy with great zeal. These female figures may also represent a form of deity with many powers to express energy- rather spiritual energy. The silence of these figures speak as per the artist wishes.

'Separation' creates an atmosphere of some disagreement. Though the red colour around the major area of canvas is binding them, but this separation looks momentary.

On the contrary 'Feel for Love' brings closer the male and female figures. They are in an eternal

relationship. From the myths of Adam and Eve relationship since then has always been inseparable. From early cave paintings to the present day paintings the relationship has been an evergreen subject for artists.

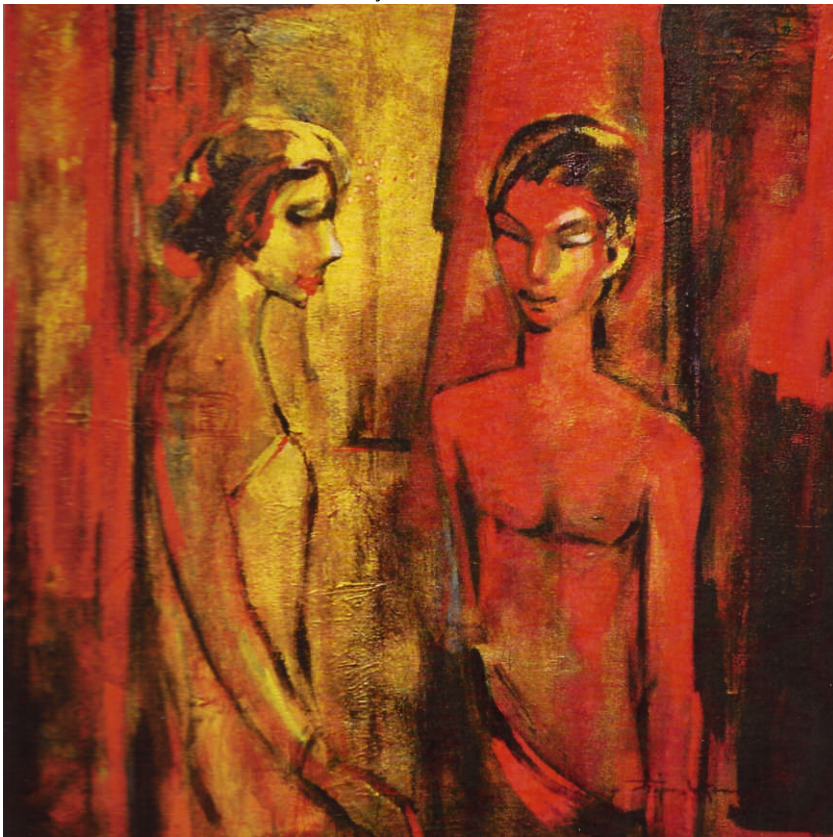
Bera painted different moods of the relationship such as- 'Richness of relation' depicting the smiling faces showing some kind of strong and mutual understanding. The other elements in the composition are free strokes of vertical and circular shapes. 'Richness of love' gives another expression of the relationship. The textures and strokes create different dimensions.

He has taken other aspects of the human feelings which enlighten the inner life of the self. The painting 'Inner Soul' has been the reflection of the self within. The inner self might have confused but the atmosphere in the painting is mystified. 'Shadow of life' is also a reflection of self with two different personalities. He has taken such dual personalities which are separating humans from other beings.

'Feel for love'

acrylic on canvas

2'4" X 2'4"





# Samvedan

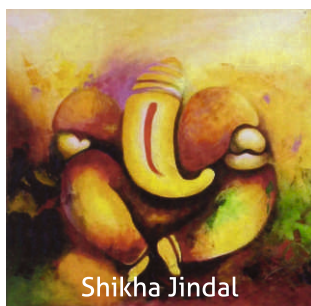
A group show of Paintings, Photography and Sculptures by Art Mantra titled Samvedan was held in the gallery of All India Fine Arts & Crafts Society from 2 to 8 September 2015.

In a short span of time this organization organised many successful exhibitions and art camps to promote young aspiring artists. It also helped differently able artists to promote their talent.

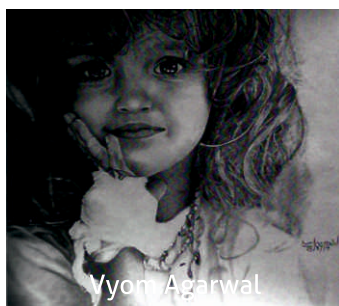
participating artists were- Manisha Jain, co-founder and Director of Art Mantra, Mangae Ram Sharma, Padam Chand, Abhisekh Singh, Aman

Kumar, Deepna Babal, Helia Firouzi, Jasmeet Kaur, Mankush Soni, Monika Morwani, Parkash Das Khandey, Pratima Singh, Shikha Jindal, Ujjawal Kadode and Vyom Agarwal.

Mangae Ram Sharma and Padam Chand were the senior artists with different thought. Mangae Ram is well known for his miniature paintings and Padam Chand is a realistic painter. Manisha jain has transferred her figures in a cubic style. Aman Kumar's photograph is creating meditative mood and atmosphere where as Mankush Soni played with light and shade. Other painters tried to paint their thoughts in their own particular styles. most of them are inspired by the elements of nature. It made the compositions perfect.



Shikha Jindal



Vyom Agarwal



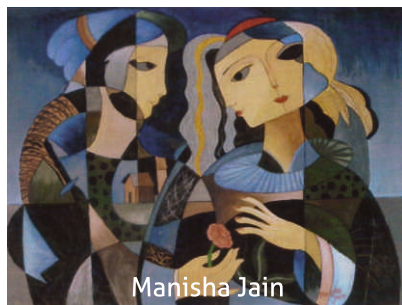
Monika Morwani



Abhisekh Singh



Helia Firouzi



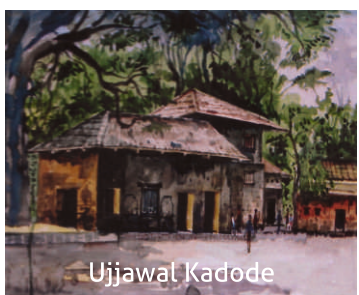
Manisha Jain



Padam Chand



Mangae Ram Sharma



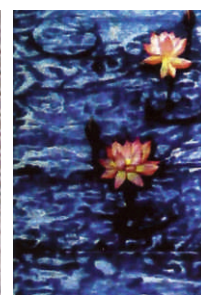
Ujjawal Kadode



Deepna Babal



Aman Kumar



Mankush Soni



Parkash Das Khandey



, Pratima Singh



Jasmeet Kaur

# Pratibimb

Amitesh Kumar held an exhibition of paintings at Triveni Art Gallery, New Delhi from 10 to 19 August 2015.

He did his graduation and post-graduation from Jamia Millia Islamia University, New Delhi. At present he is pursuing Ph D from Raja Man Singh Tomar Music and Arts University, Gwalior. He has been participating in different group shows since 2005 but this is his first solo show.

Pratibimb, reflection is the theme of the exhibition which reflects the mirror image of some happenings. His paintings are showing the effects of socio-economic happenings- here the activities performed by a woman in her social environment. How day to day activity makes an acceptable work by women. His paintings reflect such conditions of these persons.

Prayer to God is the first thing shown in his painting "Ibadat". The lady is sitting in a posture to pray by raising hands and looking towards an infinite space for some spiritual happenings. Surroundings are cool and the minimal work

brings the vision to the center point of the painting. The simplicity in application of divisions and flat tones add to express his theme.

Woman is not to perform some specific tasks of life. "Naach Bandriya Kii Paisa Milega" is an animal performer which can be seen in many small cities in India. It is a traditional tribe which has been here for centuries. Amitesh has seen it in his own perspective where a modern woman has tamed monkeys to perform. A satire to point out some social justice.

The lady with "LOVE ME" written on her cloth and driving a scooter with a helmet is now a very common site in all cities of the country. The confidence and liberty is seen on her face.

On the contrary he has shown lady with her pet goat carrying on her shoulders who is named "Champa". The love and affection is expressed through this contact of bodies.

Similarly a young lady standing in the kitchen is very common household scene but his kitchen is very vibrant with a "Girl with Belan" raising it shows her domain.

All the paintings are simplified with fine out line and flat colours with soft tones.

"Ibadat"

Acrylic on canvas

24" X 30"





# Nouveau

A new way of looking at tar

An exhibition of mixed media paintings and sculptures in coal tar and metal by Simran K S Lamba was held in the Visual Art Gallery, India Habitat Centre, Lodi Road, New Delhi from 12 to 17 August 2015.

A short film maker, Simran K S Lamba has experimented with coal tar instead of oil or acrylic colours on canvas and metal sheets. Besides this some sculptures and installations are also tried. He has well controlled tar- a sticky medium which can be used as thin paint as well as sticky thick impasto and solid form. He has seen potential possibilities in various materials such as, molten metal, metal sheets, copper dust, wires and plates, nails, rivets etc. and used them with full justification.

Coal tar can be used in various thickness which has been explored by Simran for his creative

pursuit. It may be an experience for a viewer to see the matt and glossy surfaces with strong odor of tar. Creativity ignores all such unpleasant odors.

Different effects are given by controlling the thickness and viscosity of tar. "The Chair is an example of the treatment to create thin layers with various textures using solvents and applying heat in very controlled manner.

"Samurai", a mixed media coal tar, ink and oil paints expresses the energy to apply the tar to relate the strength of a samurai. The softness of the tint of ink gives contrast and compliment each other.

In series of faces, 'woman with ear rings' makes a strong composition where dominating lines of face and ear rings of extraordinary size may recall a tribal face with heavy ornamentation.

Reflection of moon in a well creates spiral energy and receding movement. His Sculptures in metal and variation in contrast of metal and tar adds to extra dimension. A worth enjoying experiments.

Series of Faces-6 (The woman with Earring) Coal Tar, Metal, Nails and oil paints 34" X 38"





## Ansuya Singh's Nature's Glory

Dr. Ansuya Singh held an exhibition of paintings in the gallery of All India Fine Arts & Crafts Society in September 2015.

She is a former Reader & Head of Department in Drawing and Painting, Tikaram Girls (PG) College, Aligarh and Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts, J.J.T. University, Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan.

Nature has inspired her because she was brought up in a rural surrounding. Later on she visited different places which enriched her vision.

Experience of the subtle changes in seasons and day to day sunrise to sunset in the environment inspired to paint. Whether it is autumn or spring the colours and the balance of nature has given her perfect subject to paint. Besides the visual effects the real glow of the atmosphere depicted the "Nature's Glory". Fully bloomed tree with red flowers creates the glowing atmosphere.

Trees without leaves and blooms also have the harsh truth of Nature. The simplicity and truth is well presented in her paintings.



## S P Verma's Spectacle of Nature

S P Verma held his exhibition of paintings in the gallery of All India Fine Arts & Crafts Society in September 2015.

He is a former professor of History at Aligarh Muslim University, U P. Besides many awards he was honoured veteran artist by All India Fine Arts & Crafts Society in 2010.

Verma has worked in simplified and geometric shapes to express his concepts. The simplification of a realistic subject may eliminate many elements and create a new imagery. The doors of his painting 'Entrance' has left impression of the door and created spaces by well balanced composition. His canvases are textured. These textured surface and flat colours create different dimension.

Repetitive geometrical design with squares and triangles create pattern which has dimensional feeling due to various tones of colours. Being straight and diagonal lines, it has its own vibration which attracts the viewer to experience it.





# HUE The Art & Soul of Surfing

A group show of paintings and sculptures by four artists from Kolkata was held in the gallery of All India Fine Arts & Crafts Society from 16 to 22 September 2015.

Sonali Maitra Paul presented her sculptures in bronze. Her day to day experience in the environment gives her numerous compositions. The hand pulled rickshaws is a land mark of Kolkata since British Raj. Other simple happenings in the corner of a street creates interest to capture the real insight of people. Simplification helps in creating small works with intensity of action and feelings.

Romi Majumdar has simplified her figures with a touch of folk traditions. Big eyes are symbolic of communication or mesmerizing to attract each other. Male and female relation has the strong bonding. Singing birds add to the contacts.

Majumdar has also done some collages with many decorative elements. The life style and relationship are the main expressions which she explored.

Supriti Banerjee has compositions with household subjects which are seen in our houses like ladies gossiping and sharing some life experiences. Simplicity of subject and execution makes as simple as the subject. She also showed Indian wash paintings which is her main medium of graduation. As the traditions follow the subject matters are either mythological, religious or social. Indrajit Banerjee has some fascination for the out side world. Moving around and experiencing the historic monuments and trying to feel the grandeur of bygone era. He has painted monuments and tried to bring out the weather effects which turned it into ruins. He has also felt and painted the life of Buddha.

These artists tried to express the simplicity of life and created works in their own creative limits.





# The Curved Trunk

Exhibition of Paintings done on Ganesha by Vijay Singh was held in the gallery of All India Fine Arts & crafts Society from 23 to 29 September 2015. Vijay Singh started working as a senior artist with his father late shri Ram Singh and his uncle late shri Babu Singh at their studio 'Rangroop'. Later on in 1976 he started his own studio by the name of 'Alokik Art Studio' and continuing his creative pursuit along with his regular studio work.

This exhibition was dedicated to Lord Ganesha. All the paintings were made on Ganesha. In his catalogue with the painting of Ganesha on left page some prayers in praise of Lord were written. One of them is--"The Prayer for Prosperity is based on the word, Gam, which is the beej mantra for lord Ganesha. We ask for good fortune and many blessings and wishes for our current and future life time. We bow in homage to Lord Ganesha who protects us with long lives of health and happiness."

Going through the exhibition of paintings on Ganesha in the gallery, it binds the viewer to see each one is different in posture and in different

mudras. He is one of the best known and most worshiped deities in India. He is widely revered as a remover of obstacles, as a God of beginning and is worshiped at the start of religious and social rituals and ceremonies. He is often shown riding on or attended by a mouse known as his vahana. Vijay Singh has tried many aspects of Ganesha. The characteristics of each painting is related to the theme of the Ganesha based on iconography. The postures are most appropriately balanced even standing on one leg with heavy pot belly and a number of arms. The dark backgrounds in most of the works help the image to come out and give relief to the image of Ganesha. Strong contrast complemented the ivory and silvery effect of images.

Highly skilled Vijay Singh has confidence in controlling tones and textures. Highly ornamental images with iconographic symbols make an appropriate combination.

Vijay Singh concluded his exhibition with "Salutation to the Supreme Lord Ganesha whose curved trunk and massive body shines like a million Suns and showers his blessings on everyone. Oh my Lord of Lords Ganesha kindly remove all obstacles always and forever from all my activities and endeavors."





# Rangroop Poonam

A solo show of paintings by Rangroop Poonam was held in the gallery of All India Fine Arts & Crafts Society from 23 to 29 September 2015. She is the disciple of Rangroop Ranjeet Singh. He started his work in the studio 'Rangroop' founded by late Ram Singh and late Babu Singh. Poonam is following the same school's philosophy and creating her works. It may be so called calendar art of fifties and sixties but present generation has come with big change in concepts and execution. She exhibited her paintings in many group shows including at All India Fine Arts & Crafts Society.

This solo show was divided in two sections. First, that she has learnt from the studio of Rangroop in which the female figure has been shown in different environment and highly decorated body attire. This particular style is appreciated as calendar art and used extensively by certain business and industrial houses.

Second section is the recent works she created with different thought and also different treatment to the painting.

A lady using a musical instrument like 'Tambourine' or we call it 'Dhaplee' is beating vigorously to a tune to attract and listen. She is carrying her baby tied with cloth on her back. This strong and energetic lady is just the opposite to her earlier works which has more tenderness and glamour in the figures. Brush strokes on body and folds of clothes show the life struggle and determination to face any challenges.

Similarly a painting of lady with a child on her lap and mending a basket. She is surrounded with house hold pots and utensils. This denotes another struggle of life which this woman going through.

An old blacksmith is working in his furnace to prepare something with iron. An experienced blacksmith surrounded with his limited daily needs struggling for survival.

Poonam has worked with all feelings and zeal to show the struggle for existence.



# Bengal Art Strokessss

An exhibition of paintings and sculpture by six artists from Bengal was held at Lokayata Art Gallery, Hauz Khas, New Delhi from 25 September to 1 October 2015.

Samir Sarkar exhibited his paintings which are vaguely influenced by the Egyptian art. It has only one figure that is wearing head dress like Nefertiti, an Egyptian queen. It may not be in all paintings but some kind of head dress is symbolizing some thought behind the concept of these paintings. This head dress is to live in disguise or concealing the identity or dual personality. He has revealed the present scenario of human nature.

Gopal Choudhury painted various aspects but music is involved in all the paintings. He might be trying to be more experimental but his concepts have some common thought. Musical keys are or playing flute determines the close contact with the most affectionate contact. All his paintings are skillfully executed to reveal or hide elements.

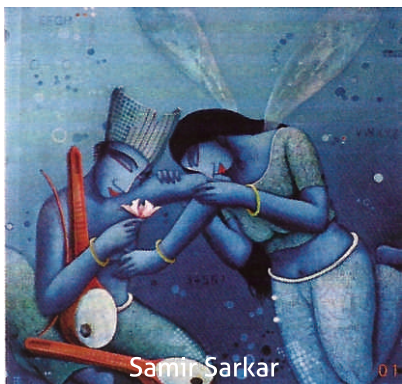
Subrata Das painted the divine love of Radha and Krishna. His figures are of the modern period. The divine love has been painted by artists in their own style. Our traditional schools have painted

numerable paintings on Radha and Krishna. Modern artists have been painting them in modern attire. Holding a flute makes the Krishna complete.

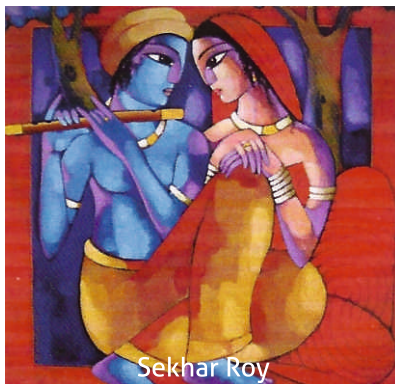
Sekhar Roy has also painted the same mythological theme of the Divine Love of Radha and Krishna. He has stylized the figures with bigger eyes to emphasize the spiritual vision. Blue coloured Krishna is identified and red around him complements to depict the emotional side of the relations.

Sambhu Nath Goswami depicts the emotional aspect of human life. A nude male figure bent down hiding his face reveals the moments of some growth or suddenly some thing is going to happen. His works has some mysticism which hides the time and space with subtle moment. Colours and textures highlight and subdue the elements of paintings.

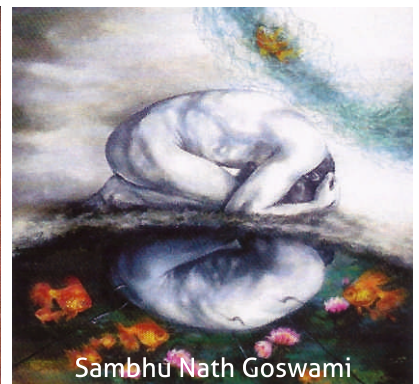
Subrata Paul is a sculptor trying to find out the so called complexities of nature and human relationship. This dependency is very simply expressed in nature, that is, flora can live without man but man can not live without trees and plants. This invisible relation has been tried here to search beyond the physical world. His sculptures have all the rhythm and movement which is seen in nature.



Samir Sarkar



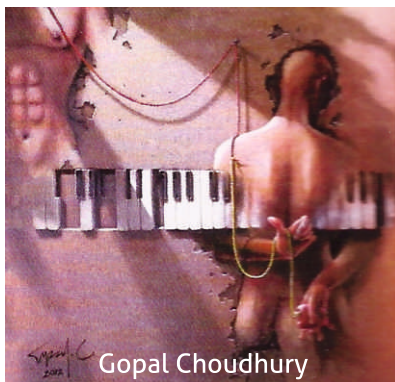
Sekhar Roy



Sambhu Nath Goswami



Subrata Das



Gopal Choudhury



Subrata Paul



# Hope & Despair

Exhibition of paintings by Narendra Kumar was held in the gallery of All India Fine Arts & Crafts Society from 2 to 8 September 2015.

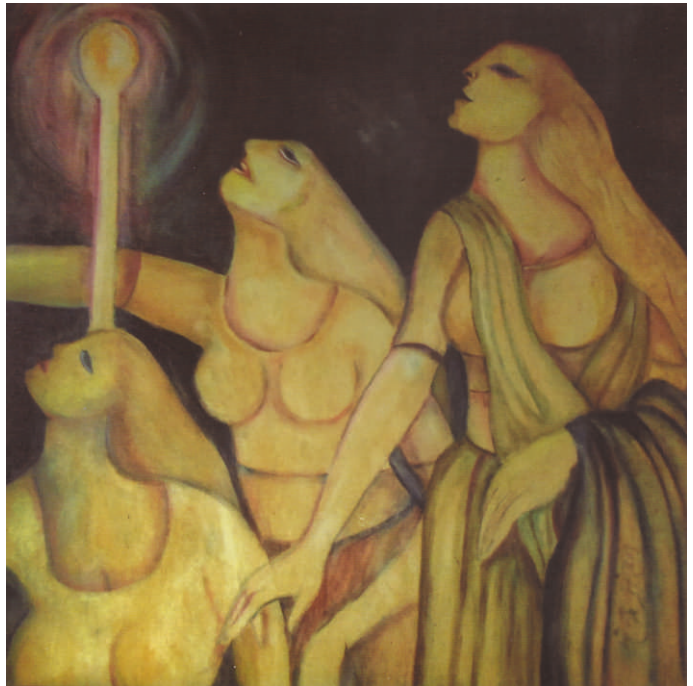
He has done his Diploma in Fine Arts from Patna Art College and Post graduation from Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi. Narendra Kumar says, 'A painting is beautiful when we derive a special kind of pleasure from its contemplation, a pleasure different altogether from the sensual pleasure. The object, which gives such pleasure in us, has a unique beauty inherent in the object itself and it has nothing to do with usefulness nor good or bad in any moral or ethical sense.'

The theme Hope and Despair express two aspects of our life. The expressions of human figures in most of the paintings are a kind of fear which affects the psyche of the people.

Narendra Kumar has observed the feelings of those people who lived in such conditions.

'Fear' is expressed in this work which has resulted due to some happenings. Other associated figures are reflecting the same feelings. The composition is tightly knit with shapes around the main figure. The treatment of painting is done with transparent thin colours. The fear is also reflected in the application of colours.

'Hope' is a painting with three female figures looking upwards to communicate with some unknown energy. This is the



Hope

oil and acrylic on canvas

36" X 36"

moment when we automatically start seeing up to remember ones God or the almighty with hope or to thank. From where this mighty energy has contact with human beings? People following any religion or sect always look up with hope to get contact with their almighty. Figures in this painting are vigorously looking up with hope to get some kind of relief out of despair. In one of the paintings 'Hope' female figures are looking upward and a face with halo is seen as their imagined god or some super power.

Besides this Narendra Kumar also experimented with some abstract subjects like 'Music Today' and 'Two Women' which is showing the fast track life style as well as the modern music in full volume.



## Obituary

**Dhara Singh**, an employee of all India Fine Arts & Crafts Society suddenly expired on 1st August 2015 at his residence.

The President, Members and Staff of the Society share the loss of the family and pray to the almighty for the peaceful journey of the departed Soul.

## Obituary



### B N Sehgal

4. 2. 1942 to 30. 8. 2015

An eminent painter and poet Sh. B N Sehgal expired on 30th August, 2015.

He did his graduation in Applied Art from College of Art, New Delhi in 1974.

He was a life member and Hon. Joint Secretary of All India Fine Arts & Crafts Society. He was an honoured veteran artist of AIFACS since 2003. He was patron of Creative Artists' Society, Meerut, UP.

He participated in many group shows and artist's camps which includes- Indo-korean Artists exhibition in New Delhi in 2004. 'Quest for peace' artists camp at institute for Social Education, Vastu Kala Academy, Secular Home, New Delhi in 2002. 'Kala Kumbh' artists camp organised by AIFACS at Bikaner in 2003. 'Amrit Kala Kumbh' artists camp organised by AIFACS at Amritsar in 2003. Tenth Kalavrat International artists camp and Festival, Ujjain in 2005. Indo- Mauritius artists camp in Mauritius organised by AIFACS under the cultural exchange programme with Mauritius in 2003. Art workshop organised by Kala Sanskriti and Yuva Vibhag, Bihar, Patna and

Zila Prashashan, Nalanda jointly in 2006.

Participated in Senior artists' camps organised by AIFACS from time to time.

He got Shyamala Nand Memorial Award by Shilpi Sangh, Patna in 2007. 3rd Creative voiz Friends of Art Award 2012.

He visited important Art Galleries and Museums abroad, namely- Shri Lanka, Singapore, Bangkok, Pattaya, Cambodia, Mauritius, Paris, Rome, Vatican City, Florence, Venice, Pisa, Milan, Hongkong, Macau, Beijing, Xian, Shanghai, Amsterdam, Barcelona, Bilbao, Madrid, Berlin, Dresden, Prague, Bratislava, Vienna and Istanbul. In India he visited Kerala and Kanyakumari.

Sehgal had explored some of the areas in his early life and the images of its grandeur left deep impact on his physical & spiritual body and mind. These images, time and again, forced him to create through his expression-painting or poetry. He selected painting for his expression. His mountains are not different, they also vibrated and radiated cosmic energy.

The President and members of the Society and staff shared the loss of the family. We all pray to the almighty for peace to the departed soul.