

Name : Chinnaswamy B.

Birth Place : Mudnakudu, Chamarajanagar Dist.

Pen Name : Mudnakudu Chinnaswaamy

Date of Birth : 22-09-1954

Parents : Mo: Gowramma, Fa: Basavarajaiah)

Ed. Qualification: M.com. M.A. (Kan), D.Lit.

professional

experience : Retired as Director (Fin) & Financial Advisor in Bengaluru

Metropolitan Transportation Corporation (2014)

Financial Advisor at Karnataka Residential

Educational Society, GoK (2015-17)

Visiting Professor for the Ambedkar Chair at

Mysore University (2016-17)

Hobbies : Literature, Culture, Theatre and Social Work

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email: mudnakudu@gmail.com,

PUBLISHED WORKS

Poetry Collections: Kondigalu mattu Mullubeligalu (1989)

Godhuli (1993)

Naanondu Maravaagiddare (1998) Matte male baruva munna (2000) (Reprint of first two collections) Chappali mattu Naanu (2001)

Kanakaambari (2003)

Chandirana kannu Ingalaarada hunnu (2004)

(Selected poems)

Buddha Beladingalu (2010) Male minda nela (2017) Korona KavitegLu (2020)

Namma Elubina Handaradolage (2022)

(Selected poems)

Aa Maha Mugulunage (2024)

Plays : Kenda Mandala (1991)

Mooru beedi natakagalu (2004) Bahurupi (Poetry drama- 2003) Mudnakudu Natakagalu (2010)

Short Stories : Mohada deepa (1999)

Papa prajne (2015)

Essays : Nondavara novu (2002)

Maatu - Manthana (2004)

Ondu koda halina samara (2008) Aparimithada kattale (2010)

Chinnudi (2015)



Bahutvada Bharata mattu Bouddha Tatvikate

(2018-2019-2022-2023)

[Received Central Sahitya Academi Award-2022]

Buddhanusasanam (2021)

Ambedkar Anusandhana (2021)

Basava Darshana (2022)

Hostila Rangoli (2021)

Dhammayana [Doctrines of Buddhism]- (2024)



Bhima Bai (1994)

Belakina Saradararu (2025)

Autobiography :

Nenapin Hakkiya Haralu Bittu (2018)

Travelogue

Kaviteya Kai Hididu (2023)

Letters

: Ole- Okkane (2005)

Thesis :

Kangala Mundana Kattalu (2018- 2022)

Translations

Yuva bouddharigondu darshana (2002)

Deegha Nikaya (Revision-2012)

Dalita darshana (2014) Anguttara Nikaaya (2018)

(Dasaka Nipata)



Edited Works : Dalita kathegalu (1996)

Kavya Bangara (2005)

(Poems of Mysuru Dasara Poets' Meet -2004)

Marali manege (2006)

(Chief Editor- Ambedkar's Dhamma deeksha golden

Jubilee Edition)

Kavya -2005

(Annual edition for Karnataka Sahitya Academy)

Dalita Kavya (2019)

(Post Independence Dalit Poetry - for Kannada Sahitya Parishat)

Bouddha Kavya - 2020

(Poems on Buddha - for Gulbarga University)

In English : Dalit Cosmos - 2023

(Understanding Caste, Marginalisation and Dalit

Literature in India) Published by Routledge, UK

Kannada Book Authority, Govt. of Karnataka has published his complete works in four volumes in 2018- 2019

Volumes – 1. Poetry, 2. Short Stories, 3. Essays 4. Monographs, Speeches and Misc.

In other languages: Selected Poems

Poemas Mudnakudu Chinnaswamy (Spanish- 2005)

Tr. Rowena Hill

Before It Rains Again (English- 2016)

Tr. Rowena Hill



Selected Poems:

In Indian

languages : Angar ki choti per (Hindi-2001)

Tr. Dharanendra Kurakuri

Zaqm kasak awaaz (Urdu- 2012)

Tr. Nooruddin Noor

Ila oka jeevitam (Telugu- 2017)

Tr. S. Raghunatha [Revieved Kuvempu Bhasha

Bharathi Award]

Payathan ani mi (Marathi-2017)

Tr. Baburao Kamble

Short Stories : Moogadi Baadha (Telugu- 2018)

Tr. Ranganatha Ramachandrarao

Essay : Asmita ki khoj (Hindi- 2010)

Tr. Bhalachandra Jayasetty

Milk of Equality, Soured (English-2024)

Tr. Dr. Jyoti S.

Books about the Author and his works:

• Bayala Belaku (2008) & (Revised- 2010)

Ed: Appagere Somashekara

• Beyuva Bege (2011)

(A doctoral thesis on M.C's life and works by

Dr.Mallappa Cheluvadi)

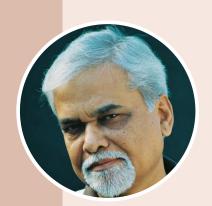
• Bahutva Kathana (2019)

(Felicitation Volume at 65, Ed. by Subhash Rajamane)



Participation in Events on Literature, Culture, Society & Theatre:

- Participated in prestigious poets' meets like Sahitya parishath 80, Dasara poet's meet, Hampi, Lakkundi, Kadamba State festivals,
- Curated a poetry workshop at Mudigere in in1995 for State Sahitya Academy along with Dr. C. Naganna.
- Working President for 'Dasara Festival Poets meet' in 2003 and 2004.
- Chaired Poetry conference in 'All India Kannada Literary Meet' held at Gadag in 2010 and at Dharwad in 2019.
- Chaired Poetry conference in 'All India Kannada Dalit Literary Meet' held at Saranath U. P. in 2017 conducted by Dept. of Kannada and Culture.
- Poetry reading and discussion on poems at IIHS, Bengaluru in Jan 2017
- Inaugurated Dasara Poetry festival at Mysuru.
- Participated in 'All India Radio Republic day poets' meet' held in Nagpur representing Karnataka. The poem 'Sandals and I' has been telecast in 22 languages for the occasion on 26th of Jan 2017.
- Delivered valedictory speech at Vidrohi Sahitya Sammelana on 24-12-2017 at Shahada, Nandurbar dist, Maharashtra
- Translations of poems in English have been published in Indian Literature, The New Quest, Little magazine and e-magazine, Muse India. And also in Driesch Verlag, a German magazine from Austria.





- Participated in many prestigious poetry conferences conducted by various reputed organizations like State and Central Academy of letters.
- Chair Person of the Chamarajanagar District Literary Festival 2010 held in Kollegal from 4-3-2010 to 7-3-2010.
- Chair Person of Kalyana Nadina Sharana Sammelana in Jan. 2011, which predominantly propagates the Vacana movement.
- Chair Person of Akhila Bharath Dalita Sahitya Sammelana in June 2011, a popular literary movement in the State.
- Chair person of Kavyayana Kavigosti at Chamarajanagar in Aug, 2024
- Inaugurated historic Janasahitya Sammelna in Bengaluru on 8-01-2023 which was organised by the progressive group of writers against Kannada Sahitya Parishat's exclusion of certain sections of the writers in it's All India Kannada Literary Conference.
- Inaugurated the Meem Poet's meet on 7/8-10-2023 at Markaz Knowledge City, Kozhikode, Kerala. The interview was published in 'Pravasi Vayana', a Gulf magazine in Malayalam in Nov. 2023 issue.
- Presided over the prestigious Dasara main Poets' meet on 21-10-2023 at Mysuru
- Participated in the seminar organised by the French Institute of India, Pondichery on 23/24-11-23 and presented a paper and recited poems.

Theater and Visual Art:

- Scripted and directed the play 'Bahuroopi' for Rangayana repertoire for the National Theater Festival 2002 held in Mysore. It was lauded as unique.
- Directed 'Mouni' a play based on a short story by noted writer U.R.Anantha Murthy for a theatre festival in May, 2003.
- Acted in a documentary titled 'Mayaa loka' based on the works of K.P.Tejaswi a well known Kannada writer directed by Kripakar Senani.

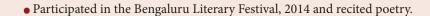
International Events:

- Prof. Rowena Hill, a British-born Venezuelan poet, has translated 47 selected poems into Spanish and English. A Spanish literary magazine from Columbia, 'Arquitrave' has published 10 of them in its June 2003 issue.
- The Spanish anthology has been later published by the Cultural dept. of the Venezuelan Govt., (CONAC) in 2005 under 'world poetry series' as "Poemas: Mudnakudu Chinnaswamy". He is acclaimed for being the first Kannada poet to get published an anthology in Spanish.
- A Hebrew anthology contains two of his poems, 'A rag and bone boy' and 'Meeting of the Angels' translated and published by Amir Or, Israel.
- Mysore University, in collaboration with 111Asia Pacific and the Indian Association for Canadian Studies, arranged for a poetry recital and discussion in the XIX International Conference held in Mysore in Jan 2003.
- Recitation of poems at Hollywood (Las Angeles) on 18-5-2004 under the aegis of 'Bodhi Tree' before the invited audience.





- Visited the University of Andes, Merida, Venezuela on the invitation of the Center for Asia, Africa and Latin American countries Diaspora from 23-5-04 to 30-5-04 and presented papers on 'Caste system in India: Past and the Present' and 'Protest Poetry in South India'.
- Recited poetry at various places in Merida and at the Cultural centre, Caracas, Capital city of Venezuela (poems in Spanish translation are published on its web-site).
- Participated in the Granada International Poetry Festival in February 2007 and recited poems at various places in Nicaragua along with other participating poets from 47 countries around the world.
- Participated in the Sha'ar International Poetry Festival held at Tel-Aviv, Israel in Nov, 2007. Recited poems at Nazareth and Jerusalem. The poem 'If I were a tree' was dramatized and staged in Jerusalem. Interviews were published in the local press.
- Visited Istanbul, Turkey to attend the conference on post retirement benefits
- Visited Johannesburg in May 2009 and toured parts of South Africa.
- Attended Akka 2010, a Kannada literary and cultural conference held in New Jersey.
- In Nov. 2010, attended UITP Asia Pacific congress and presented a paper on Public Transport Financial Policy in Hong Kong. (Visited Shanghai, Macao and other places.)
- Attended a conference on Passenger Transport at Geneva, Switzerland in May, 2013

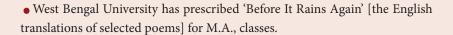


- Attended a seminar on 'Dalit literature in Translation' and presented a paper besides recitation of poetry at East Anglia University on 29-30, June 2015, in Norwich, UK.
- Visited Nottingham University from 11th to 27th May 2016 on the invitation of AHRC network, UK. Poetry recitals at various places.
- Attended poetry recitals at 3 multimedia libraries of the Ville De Paris Mediatheques de la Ville de Paris (France) between March 10-15, 2020.
- Attended 'CADALFEST Celebrating Dalit and Adivasi Literatures and Performing Arts' in Nottingham, UK between Oct. 14-16, 2022

In the Text Books:

- About 50 poems are prescribed in various Kannada language text books from primary 5th std. to post graduate courses in universities.
- English translation of the poem Naanondu Maravagiddare as 'If I were a tree' has been prescribed for 1st year P. U. C. in Karnataka.
- 'Kenda Mandala' a play is the text for 2nd B.A., in Karnataka University.
- The poem "Nanondu Maravagiddare' has been prescribed for 1st PU, Kannada text by the Maharashtra Govt.
- Poem 'Rylina antharanga bahiranga' is prescribed for 12th CBSC Kannada text.





• Nottingham University, UK has also prescribed 'Before It Rains Again' for M.A., classes.

Cultural and Social Activities:

- A noted public speaker and vocal advocate for eradicating caste system, the inhuman practice of untouchability and against fundamentalism.
- A regular invitee for speeches, conversations and poetry recitals on public platforms and the media.
- Founder President, Buddhist Literary and Cultural Association, Gadag.
- Director, Dalith Sahithya Parishath, State Committee which is spreading subaltern culture and literature in Karnataka.
- President, Sambuddha Education and charitable Trust, which constructed Saranata Buddha Vihara at Chamarajanagar.
- Vice President, International Buddhist Youth Organization, Chamarajanagar Branch.
- Member, Dalita Adhyayana Peetha for 2007-08, kannada University, Hampi.
- Member, Translation Committee of Buddhist Scriptures in Mahabodhi Society formed by Governament of Karnataka.

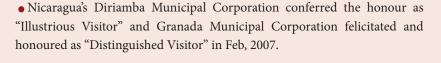


- Member, Rajyotsava Award Selection Committee 2016 & 2023.
- Member, Publication Committee, Kannada Sahitya Parishat- 2016.
- Member, State Book Selection Committee, Dept. of Library for 2018-2020.
- Member, Kannada feature film preview committee for 2019-2020



Awards and Honors:

- Kannda University, Hampi has awarded D.Lit., for the thesis *The Caste System and Untouchabality in India in the background of the Concept of Global Village.*
- Waramballi award in 1999 2) Mrithunjaa Sarangamath award 1999 and 3) 1st Prize in GSS poetry competition 1998 for 'Nanondu Maravagiddare' a collection of poetry.
- 'Sirasangi Lingaraja sahithya award' for Mohada Deepa, a short story collection.
- 'Nadachethna award' has been given for overall achievements.
- Toronto Kannada Association felicitated during the visit in May 1999.
- Felicitation by University of Andes, and Center for Asia, Africa and Latin American countries Diaspora, Merida, Venezuela in May 2004.



- Bendre award- 2001 by Bendre Pratishtana, Dharwad.
- Dr.Ra.Gow. award by Karnataka Sangha, Mandya in 2009.
- Karnataka State Sahitya Academy award -2009
- Dr. Sa. Ja. Nagalotimath Sahitya Prashasti- 2010, Bidar for 'Aparimitadakattale' collection of essays.
- Alwas Nudisiri award- 2013
- Karnataka State Rajyotsava Award- 2014
- Mallepuram G. Venkatesha literary award- 2015, Mallepuram Pratishtana, Kalburgi.
- Basavalingappa award- 2016, Bengaluru.
- Felicitation by Jagadguru Tontadaryamath Gadag -2016
- 'Dhamma Samman' National award from Karnataka Bouddha Samaja, Bengaluru-2018
- Murugashree Award, Chitradurga -2018
- Periyar Award -2021, Vicharavadigala Vedike, Karnataka





- Buddhist Fraternity Council, Nagapur felicitated with 'Dhamma Gourav' during its Jatha on 10-10-2023.
- Akshara award conferred by the Govt. of Odisha at the State Book Festival held at Bhubaneshwar on 2-3, Dec 2023.
- Shivarama Karanth Award 2024, Mudabidri, Karnataka.

Other notable Achievements

- Karnataka Sahitya Academy has produced a documentary on the life and works of Dr.Mudnakudu Chinnaswamy and brought out a CD besides uploading it on its website.
- Dept. of Information and Publicity has produced a documentary on the life of Mudnakudu Chinnaswamy in the 'Neladasiri' series..
- "Munjane Surya" an audio CD containing songs of MC has been brought out by the Lahari Audio Co.Ltd., Bangalore.
- Interview conducted by a Swedish Radio journalist Mr. Peter has been broadcast in Austria, Germany and Sweden on Dec 6, 2006.
- Dr. Mallappa Rudrppa has done his Ph.D. on the life and work of Dr.Mudnakudu Chinnaswamy in Gulbarga University.
- Doordarshan and other visual and print media have interviewed and published his literary achievements a number of times.

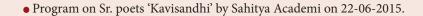


- "Outlook" weekly magazine in its special issue of April 26, 2021[Ambedkar Anniversary Special] adjudged him as one among '50 Dalits, Remaking India' and carried a brief which is a significant recognition at national level.
- The Caravan magazine carried a detailed article, well researched on his life and literature by Srikar Raghavan, in its Oct, 2023 issue.

Seminars - talks on the works of MC conducted by:

- Kannada Sahitya Parishath, Mysore Dist. at Mysore on 6th April 2003
- Bharatha Yatra Kendra, at Chamarajanagar on 14th Nov.2004
- Dalit Sahitya Parishath, at Gulbarga on 9th Jan, 2005.
- Karnataka Sahitya Academi on Poetry in Gulbarga in Sept. 2005.
- \bullet Zen Writers Forum in Bangalore on Travelogue on 20-1-2008.
- Poetry recital and discussion in Kannada Adhyayana Kendra at BU along with Rowena Hill in Jan 2013
- Poetry recital and discussion at 'Kavyabodhi' Honnavara, on 23-3-2014
- Poetry recital and discussion at IEFL, Hyderabad on 31-10-2014
- Poetry recital and discussion at Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Bellary on 14-11-2014.
- Suchitra cultural academy, Bengaluru, arranged conversation on poetry and his life.





- Interview on AIR FM channel direct relay on 19-02-2018.
- Interview in DD1 Chandana on 30-4-2018, Buddha Jayanthi for Shubhodaya-direct relay.
- Workshop and conversation with the poet under 'Chakora' online organised by Karnataka Sahitya Academy
- Kannada & Culture dept has organised 'Sadhakarodane samvaada' (conversation with the author) on 22-12-2018 in Chamarajanagar.
- Interview by Book Brahma web magazine
- Felicitation by the Bharthiya Students organisation on 26-01-2023 on getting the prestigious Central Sahitya Akademi Award.
- One day seminar was conducted by Bharthiya Students organisation in collaboration with the Mysore University on 22-02-2023.
- One day seminar was organised by Ladai Prakashana and Dalita Sahitya Prishat with a title Philosophical bases in Mudnakudu Literature on 26-03-2023.



The flag bearing poem of MC

If I were a tree

If I were a tree the bird wouldn't ask me before it built its nest what caste I am.

When sunlight embraced me my shadow wouldn't feel defiled. My friendship with the cool breeze and the leaves Would be sweet.

Raindrops wouldn't turn back taking me for a dog-eater. When I branch out further from my roots Mother Earth wouldn't flee shouting for a bath.

The sacred cow would scrape her body on my bark, scratching wherever it itched and the three hundred thousand gods sheltering inside her would touch me.

Who knows, at the end, hacked into pieces of dry wood, burning in the holy fire, I might be made pure, or becoming the bier for a sinless body be borne on the shoulders of four good men.

- MUDNAKUDU CHINNASWAMY

