

# **IMPORTANT OBTUARIES OF 2018**

**PRESENTED BY : YASHIKA**



# Ashok Mitra, The first Finance Minister in the Left Front government in West Bengal

- Ashok Mitra (90), the noted scholar has passed away in Kolkata on May 1, 2018.
- Besides serving the State Government, he also worked with the Central Government as the Chief Economic Adviser from 1970-72,.
- A teacher of Economics, who taught in UN Economic Commission, Mitra was also associated with World Bank for many years.
- He was one of Bengal's most prolific columnists and was known for his deep and critical analysis of society and its politics.



# Ankit Chadha, Indian story-tellers

- Ankit Chadha was popular for his unique style of storytelling in Urdu.
- It is said that, Ankit Chadha had gone for a walk along the shores of Uksan lake and drowned in the lake after he slipped accidentally. He was 30 years old.
- He had performed at various national and international stages, and also in universities like Harvard, Yale and Toronto.



## P P Lakshaman, Former AIFF President

- P P Lakshmanan (83), the former President of the All India Football Federation (AIFF) and ex-member of the Appeals committee of FIFA, has passed away at Kannur in Kerala on April 30.
- He was the first Indian to be chosen as the member of FIFA's appeal committee.
- He was an eminent member of FIFA World Cup Appeal Committee for two consecutive editions, Germany 2006 and South Africa 2010.
- He had also served as Kerala Football Association president.



# Kottayam Pushpanath, Popular Malayalam detective novelist

- Kottayam Pushpanath (80), the renowned Malayalam detective novelist, has passed away in Kottayam, Kerala on May 2, 2018.
- He expanded the world of horror fiction in Malayalam literature and wrote over 100 detective and horror novels in Malayalam. His original name was Pushpanathan Pillai. It was Kottayam Pushpanath who translated Bram Stoker's 'Dracula' into Malayalam.
- Among his novels, 'Brahmarakshas' and 'Chuvanna Anki' were later adapted into movies. Many of his works were translated into various languages including Tamil, Telugu and Kannada.



## Keyur Bhushan, Freedom fighter, writer

- Keyur Bhushan (90), the well-known Gandhian, freedom fighter and writer, has passed away in Raipur, Chhattisgarh on May 3, 2018. Bhushan, born at Janta in Bemetara district, took part in the 1942 Quit India movement as a student in Raipur, and was incarcerated.
- During the 1980s, when terrorism was raging in Punjab, he had undertaken a foot-march to promote peace.
- He penned novels, collections of short stories and poems. He also edited 'Sapthahik Chhattisgarh' and 'Antyoday'.
- Bhushan represented Raipur constituency in the Lok Sabha in the 1990s.



# Dr Nirmal Hirawat, Former Madhya Pradesh minister and senior Congress leader

- Dr Nirmal Hirawat (74), the former Madhya Pradesh minister and senior Congress leader, has passed away at Katangi town in Balaghat District on May 9, 2018.
- The Congress leader, who was well-known as a doctor among the local residents, was instrumental in getting the status of a tehsil for Katangi.
- He was a member of former Chief Minister Shyama Charan Shukla's cabinet.



# Ravinder Sharma, Artist-Philosopher, called Guruji, the founder of Adilabad's Kala Ashram

- Ravinder Sharma, fondly called Guruji, the founder of Adilabad's Kala Ashram died at the age of 65 years.
- A trained artist, Guruji had been awarded Kala Ratna by the Andhra Pradesh State government in 2014.
- After bifurcation of the State, the Telangana government awarded him the Ugadi Puraskaram in 2015.



# Dave Michener, veteran Disney animator

- On 15<sup>th</sup> February 2018, Dave Michener, popular animator, who had worked for many Walt Disney films, died due to a virus, at his residence in Los Angeles, United States.
- Although Dave Michener died on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2018, the news of his death was revealed recently by his wife.
- He was 85 years old. He had worked in various movies like 'The Great Mouse Detective' (1986), 'The Fox and the Hound' (1981), 'The Rescuers' (1977), 'Oliver & Company' (1988), and 'Robin Hood' (1973).



# Tom Wolfe, best-selling author and journalist

- Tom Wolfe was a literary legend of the 20th Century and frequent Esquire contributor, a writer whose style wasn't limited to his trademark suits.
- He was a pioneer of New Journalism, which brought novelistic flourishes to nonfiction writing, and is one of the American writers who best captured the heart of the counterculture at a chaotic time.
- Wolfe, who died in New York at the age of 88, leaves behind him an impressive legacy of work: essays, criticism, longform reporting, and fiction



# Yamunabai Waikar, Lavani singer and Padma Shri recipient

- Yamunabai Waikar (103), the acclaimed Lavani singer and Padma Shri recipient, has passed away in Satara district, Maharashtra on May 15, 2018.
- Born into a poor family, Yamuna Vikram Jawale learned singing and started performing along with her sisters at a young age. Soon offers to act in the 'Tamasha' theatre followed, and she became famous as Yamunabai 'Waikar' across Maharashtra.
- She also worked to create awareness about water conservation during the 1972 drought in Maharashtra and campaigned against archaic and regressive rituals of her Kolhati community.



# Balakumarn, Indian Tamil writer, author

- Balakumaran (71), the veteran Tamil novelist, has passed away in Chennai, Tamil Nadu on May 15, 2018.
- He was famous for his novels like 'Mercury Pookal' and 'Irumbu Kuthiraigal' which earned him a good fan following. He created strong women characters.
- Balakumaran was a recipient of a number of awards, including the state government's 'Kalaimamani' honour.



## Dr Bansidhar Panda, Odia industrialist

- Noted Odia industrialist Dr Bansidhar Panda, Founder and Chairman Emeritus, of Indian Metal and Ferro Alloys (IMFA), one of the country's leading ferro-alloy companies, died at his Bhubaneswar residence. He was 87.
- he established IMFA starting with a plant at Therubali in the then remote and backward district.



## Arun Date, Marathi singer

- Arun Date (84), the veteran Marathi singer, has passed away in Mumbai, Maharashtra on May 6, 2018.
- Date, famous for non-film 'bhavgeet' (lyrical poetry) songs, had crooned numbers like "Shukratara" and "Ya Janmavar", which became very popular among people.
- He was the first recipient of the state government's 'Gajananrav Vatave Puraskar'.
- His father, Ramubhaiyya Date, was also a well-known classical music connoisseur.



# Anne V. Coates, Oscar-Winning British film editor

- Anne V Coates (92), a British film editor, has passed away in Los Angeles, California on May 8, 2018.
- She was best known as the editor of David Lean's epic film Lawrence of Arabia in 1962, for which she won an Oscar. Received the BAFTA Fellowship in 2007.
- She also received an Academy Honorary Award, known as a Lifetime Achievement Oscar, in November 2016 by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. She continued working up to the time of her death.



# Balkavi Bairagi, Noted Lyricist, Poet, Politician

- Nandram Das Bairagi (87), the noted Hindi film lyricist, poet and politician, has passed away in Neemuch district of Madhya Pradesh on May 13, 2018.
- The multi-faceted personality, who was also MP minister in the Congress government earlier, was born in Manasa on February 10, 1931.
- He was popularly known as Balkavi Bairagi as he wrote some classic poems in his childhood. He wrote lyrics for more than two dozen Hindi films.
- Bairagi was a Lok Sabha member between 1984 and 1989 and also a former Rajya Sabha MP.



# Margot Kidder, Actor Who Played Lois Lane In Superman

- Margot Kidder, the vivacious actress who played Lois Lane opposite Christopher Reeve in the *Superman* movies and then waged a public battle with bipolar disorder, has died.
- Margaret Ruth “Margot” Kidder, born in Yellowknife in Canada's Northwest Territories in October 1948, was Canadian and American, an actress and an activist.



# Yaddanapudi Sulochana Rani, Veteran writer, novelist

- Yaddanapudi Sulochana Rani (78), the veteran Telugu writer & novelist, has passed away at California, United States on May 21, 2018.
- She hailed from Kaza village of Krishna district in Andhra Pradesh. She was considered among the top fiction writers of her time.
- An author of over 40 novels, her works mainly centered on human relationships. Some of her famous novels include Murali Krishna, Radha Krishna, Aagamana, Aathmeeyulu, Abhijata, Secretary, Jeevana Tarangalu and Kalala Kougili. Many of her literary works have been adapted to film and TV screenplays.



# Alan Bean Former US astronaut, who was the fourth man to walk on the Moon



- Alan LaVern Bean (March 15, 1932 – May 26, 2018) was an American naval officer and naval aviator, aeronautical engineer, test pilot, and NASA astronaut; he was the fourth person to walk on the Moon.
- He made his first flight into space aboard Apollo 12, He was the last living crew member of Apollo 12.
- He was the first astronaut to dive in the Neutral Buoyancy Simulator and a champion of the process for astronaut training.



# Vinod Bhatt, Gujarati humour essayist and biographer

- Vinod Bhatt (14 January 1938 – 23 May 2018) was a Gujarati humour essayist and biographer from Gujarat, India.
- He had authored more than 45 books including satire, comedy and biographies.
- He received the Ranjitram Suvarna Chandrak, the highest literary award in Gujarati, in 1989.
- He also received the Kumar Chandrak in 1976 and the Sanskar Chandrak in 1980. He was awarded the Sahitya Gaurav Puraskar by Gujarat Sahitya Akademi in 2005. In 2016, Gujarat Sahitya Akademi awarded him the Ramanlal Nilkanth Hasya Paritoshik

