

IMPORTANT OBTURIES OF 2018

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Arabinda Muduli, Odia Bhajan singer

- Arabinda Muduli (56), the noted Odia Bhajan singer, musician and lyricist, has passed away in Bhubaneswar, Odisha on March 1, 2018. Having rendered over 3,000 songs.
- He was a devotee of lord Jagannath and sang only Bhajans. He was a disciple of legendary bhajan singer Bhikari Bal.
- A musician, singer and lyricist, Muduli enthralled the audience with devotional songs and had won the hearts of millions of people in Odisha and elsewhere.



Khagendra Jamatia, Tripura Fisheries Minister

- Khagendra Jamataia (64), the Tripura Fisheries and Cooperation minister, has passed away in New Delhi on March 2, 2018.
- Jamataia was a CPI (M) candidate from the Krishnapur constituency in the February 18 assembly election. Jamatia had joined CPI (M) in 1983 and had been winning from Krishnapur constituency since 1988.
- This is the second setback for CPI (M) after the death of Ramendra Narayan Debbarma who was contesting from Charilam (ST) constituency.



Prafulla Das, Veteran Litterateur

- Veteran Litterateur, historian and freedom fighter Prafulla Das passed away at his native village Rajkanika, Odisha. He was 91.
- He was awarded prestigious Sarala Samman for his book “Bahniman”.
- The book “Bahniman” was written on the life of famous freedom fighter Smt. Malati Choudhury.
- He also wrote a number of books on the history of India’s freedom struggle and the role of Odisha.



Davide Astori, Fiorentina captain and Italy international

- Davide Astori (7 January 1987 – 4 March 2018) was an Italian professional footballer who played as a central defender.
- On 4 March 2018, Astori was found dead in his hotel room prior to a league match.
- Astori, capped 14 times by Italy, joined Fiorentina in 2016 from Cagliari and had made 58 appearances for them.



Javed Abidi, Noted Disability rights activist

- Javed Abidi (53), the noted disability rights activist, has passed away in New Delhi on March 4, 2018.
- A former civil servant, Abidi was one of the most authoritative voices in the field of disability rights and believed in engaging the government for ensuring betterment of the persons with disabilities.
- Abidi was instrumental in the drafting and passage of The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 and was the director of the National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People (NCPEDP), which he has set up in 1996.



Sarat Mohanty, Odia actor

- Sarat Mohanty (88), the Veteran Odia film actor, has passed away in Balasore, Odisha on March 3, 2018.
- The comedian, a native of Khirkona, had acted in a number of Odia films. He acted in the film Laxmi released in 1962.
- Other hit films in which he acted are: Amadabata,, Kaa, Stree, Puja Phula, Bhulihuena, Malhajanha, Sakal Tirtha to Charane and from many others. Mohanty had also acted in many TV serials in Odisha.



Shammi, Veteran Bollywood actor

- Shammi (89), the veteran Bollywood and television actress, has passed away in Mumbai, Maharashtra on March 6, 2018.
- Fondly addressed as 'Shammi aunty' by Bollywood celebrities, Shammi started her film career with Malhar as a leading lady and later on moved to the comic genre.
- She acted in over 100 films and TV shows and was best remembered for her role in the Nineties sitcom 'Dekh Bhai Dekh'. She was famous for her comic timing and was quite prolific in both TV and cinema.



Justice D Sreedevi, Former Kerala high court judge

- On 5th March 2018, Justice D Sreedevi, former judge of the Kerala high court, died while she was undergoing treatment for some ailment in Kaloor, Kerala.
- Justice D Sreedevi was 79 years old. She was a social activist. She was born in 1939 at Chirayinkeezhu in Thiruvananthapuram.
- From 1997 to 2001 she was high court judge in Kerala. She was appointed the chairperson of the Kerala Women's Commission in 2001 and 2007.
- She had penned down an autobiography named 'Aa Niyogathaal'.



M K Bhargav, Former Madhya Pradesh Cricket Association (MPCA) chairman

- Former Madhya Pradesh Cricket Association (MPCA) chairman M K Bhargav died here on 6 March 2018 after a prolonged illness.
- Bhargav was a well-known figure in the states cricket circle. He had also served as the MPCA secretary.
- He was associated with the umpiring panel of the Board of Cricket Control of India (BCCI) for a long time.



Patangrao Kadam, Former Maharashtra minister

- Dr. Patangrao Kadam (8 January 1944 – 9 March 2018) was an Indian politician from the state of Maharashtra. He previously held the forest ministry in the Maharashtra government.
- He was also an educationist and was the founder of Bharati Vidyapeeth.
- Kadam died of renal dysfunction at Mumbai's Lilavati Hospital on 9 March 2018.



Stephen Hawking, World famous British scientist

- Stephen Hawking (76), the legendary British theoretical physicist, has passed away in Cambridge, United Kingdom on March 14, 2018.
- He is known for his groundbreaking work with black holes and relativity. He contracted motor neurone disease in 1963.
- Mr Hawking was the author of popular science books, including 'A Brief History of Time', and was translated into 40 different languages. The physicist had won the Albert Einstein Award, the Wolf Prize, the Copley Medal, and the Fundamental Physics Prize.
- His life story was the subject of the 2014 film 'The Theory of Everything', starring Eddie Redmayne.



Narendra Jha, Actor

- Narendra Jha (55), the noted film and television actor, has passed away in Nashik, Maharashtra on March 14, 2018.
- He was born in Madhubani, Bihar. He began his small screen journey with Mandira Bedi's Shanti and went on to model in TV ads.
- He is best known for his performances in films such as "Raees", "Kaabil", "Mohenjo Daro" and "Haider"



M Sukumaran, Malayalam writer

- M Sukumaran (76), the well-known Malayalam writer, has passed away in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala on March 16, 2018. The writer, whose works focused on the sufferings of the dispossessed, won the prestigious Kerala Sahitya Akademi award for his book 'Marichittillathavarude Smarakangal' in 1976.
- He later went on to win the award again in 1997 for Janathikam. In 2006, the writer won the Kendra (Central) Sahitya Akademi award for his short story collection 'Chuvanna Chihnangal'. Another one of his seminal works is 'Seshakriya', which made into a film, and he won the State Government Film Award for Best Story in 1981.



Kedarnath Singh, Veteran Hindi Poet

- Renowned Hindi poet and critic Kedarnath Singh passed away at the age of 83.
- Prof. Singh was a recipient of the Jnanapeeth award in 2013.
- He won the Sahitya Akademi award in 1989 for his poetry collection Akaal Mein Saras.



Peter Peterson, Blackstone Co-Founder

- Billionaire Peter Peterson, who co-founded world's largest private equity firm Blackstone Group, died of natural causes, aged 91.
- The son of Greek immigrants, Peterson served as the commerce secretary under US President Richard Nixon.
- Founded with an initial investment of \$200,000 in 1985 by Peterson and Stephen Schwarzman, Blackstone now manages more than \$430 billion in assets.



Les Payne : A Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter, columnist and editor of Newsday

- Les Payne (76), a fervid and fearless Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter, has passed away in Manhattan, United States on March 18, 2018.
- He served as an editor and columnist at Newsday and is a founder of the National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ).
- Payne received a Pulitzer Prize for his investigative research 'Heroin Trail' in 1974.



Bruno Boban, Footballer

- Tragedy struck in the third division of the Croatian football league when striker Bruno Boban, 25, collapsed and died on the pitch after being hit in the chest with the ball from close range during a match on Saturday.
- Boban was playing for Croatian third-tier side Marsonia against Slavonija Pozega when, in the 15th minute, the ball hit Boban in the chest from close range after a defender's clearance.



Pyarelal Wadali, Veteran Sufi Singer

- Pyare Lal Wadali (75), the famous Sufi singer, has passed away in Amritsar, Punjab on March 9, 2018.
- He was the younger of the singers of legendary Sufi set Wadali Brothers. The Wadali Brothers – comprising Puranchand Wadali and Pyarelal Wadali – had carved a distinct mark for themselves in the genre of Sufi music.
- Born into the fifth generation of musicians, Pyarelal and Puran Chand Wadali became popular with their Sufi music and were spotted after performing at the Harballabh temple in Jalandhar in 1975.



C.V. Rajendran, Tamil film director

- C V Rajendran (81), the renowned Tamil film director and producer, has passed away in Chennai, Tamil Nadu on April 1, 2018.
- Some of his few memorable films are Kalatta Kalyanam, Sumathi En Sundari and Raja starring Sivaji Ganesan and Jayalalithaa and Poononjal.

