

KRISHNA TRUST: Annual Report (2015-16)

1. In the year under review Krishna Trust published two books, titled, (a) *Krishna: Living with Alzheimer's* (Women Unlimited, New Delhi) and (b) Krishna Bhattacharya's doctoral dissertation, *Indology, History Writing, and the Nation: Bengal, 1847-1947* (Frontpage, Kolkata). The book on Alzheimer's has been appreciated widely and excerpted in several publications, and reviewed. Since wider reach of the book will serve the goals of the Trust, it took steps to ensure wide dissemination. Several people have communicated their appreciation to the Trust. Efforts are on to organize a workshop on the book and its theme.
2. As part of the Trust's annual activities, the Krishna Memorial Award ceremonies attract educationists, philanthropists, and social activists who participate in the programmes. Women are present in large number. The recipients are selected by a search committee. As reported previously, in 2014, the first annual awards were given to (a) Noor Jahan Shakil and (b) Amina Khatton for their exemplary services to Muslim girls' education. In 2015 the awards were given to (a) Laxmi Deb, a girl of class VIII and coming from a poor slum dwelling family, and earning merit in the school while being promoted to class IX, and (b) a school, named Tagore Foundation School, which gives special emphasis on training mentally retarded children while educating them in mainstream system.
3. In 2016 the awards were given on 4 March to (a) Tuktuki Mondal who coming from a rag-picking pavement dwelling family in Kolkata, not only pursued education braving extreme poverty and hardship since childhood, but also developed a vision for social work and continues her fight for the rights of homeless people in Kolkata; and (b) Shikha Shikari (Bodak), a health worker in Shramik Krishak Maitri Swasthya Kendra, who has also braved poverty and ill fortune in dedicating her life for care work. Each of the awards carried a citation and a sum of Rs. 15,000/ each.
4. The texts of the two previous annual Krishna memorial lectures were also published and circulated widely in the year under review. These two publications are (a) "I could live like a boy in every other respect": Misperceptions about Education for Women" by Geraldine Forbes, eminent historian and Professor of the State University of New York, Oswego (2014), and (b) "Girl Child Education in India" by Manabi Majumder, a noted social scientist working in the field of education and Professor, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta, and Honorary Director, Pratichi Trust, Kolkata.
5. On 4 March 2016 Dr. Punyabrata Gun delivered the third Krishna memorial lecture on "Women's Health and Universal Health Care was held. It will be also published this year.
6. The work on organising information and research on care workers in Kolkata, with particular reference to migrant care workers continues.
7. As in previous years, in the year under consideration also, the Trust provided financial help to two poor students towards purchase of school books. The recipients of these assistance programmes were: (a)

Akash Sarkar, a student of class IX in SSE Boys, Madhyamgram, 24 Pargans (N) and (b) Laxmi Deb, a girl child of class X in Purba Kolikata Adarsha Vidyamandir.

8. Donations were received in the year under consideration. The Trust acknowledges the donations in particular of Chandra Sengupta (Rs. 10,000/) and Ranabir Samaddar (Rs. 50,000/). The Trust acknowledges the generous help of the Calcutta Research Group and its staff in organising the annual Krishna Memorial event. The Trust is engaged in looking for further sources of assistance and collaboration. The Trust is also trying to widen the distribution of its literature.
9. The Krishna Trust has now a dedicated web platform.