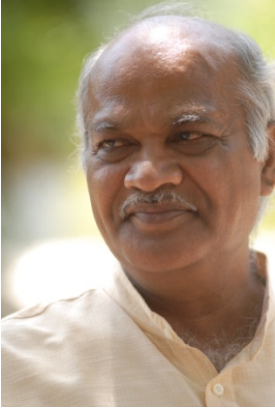


Professor Lingadevaru Halemane



Director of the Rangayana-Theatre in Mysore, India

1. Who was your supervising tutor when you visited the University of Würzburg?

I visited Würzburg as a visiting scholar to teach Kannada language. My inviting professor was Dr. Haidrun Bruckner, Chairman of Indic studies.

2. We would be happy to get to know something about your academic/ professional career and it would be nice if you could describe your professional work in a few words.

Master of Arts in Linguistics from Annamalai University, Tamilnadu. Master of Arts in Kannada literature from Mysore University from Karnataka. Worked in Central Institute of Indian Languages, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India since 1973 till 2009 in different capacities as lecturer, Research officer. Heading departments like Adult and non formal education, Educational technology and mass communication. Worked as Kannada head of the department to teach Kannada to non Kannadigas. Possess thirty five years of experience in teaching Kannada to non Kannadigas including Indians and foreigners. Produced teaching and learning materials for teaching Kannada to non Kannadigas both in print and audio visual form.

Worked as Director of State Resource Centre for Adult education from 1987 to 1981. Worked as Consultant to National Literacy Mission Government of India from 1991 to 1995. Served on several national committees as member for National Literacy Mission.

I am a playwright, literary critic, researcher of cultural studies, weekly column writer in Periodicals. Published more than 35 books, which include dramas, linguistics, research in the area of applied linguistics, cultural studies. Also translated dramas from other languages to Kannada. Translated five major dramas of Bertolt Brecht's into Kannada language.

I have been associating with theatre movement of Karnataka since 1975. As a result now I am the Director of Rangayana which is a theatre repertory and school established by the government of Karnataka. I am responsible for permeating theatre activities in Karnataka and establish the Institute of national and international repute.

3. What do you think about the cultural differences of your home country and the EU? Do you have any experience regarding a scientific or economic exchange between India and the European Union?

Yes there is cultural difference between India and E.U. India is still an agrarian country. Villages are the backbones. Also India is a multi lingual, multi ethnic and multi cultural country. Plurality is its

essential quality. European Union though has plurality not in the form of India. E.U. has gone far ahead in technology, economical growth. However they try to preserve their cultural heritage intact. That is what fascinates me.

I do not have direct experience as far as scientific and economic exchange is concerned. But certainly I am aware of cultural exchange. Many universities in Germany have Indic study departments. Through these departments many scholars have got an opportunities to visit India and learn many Indian languages and under take research activities. Scholars from India also got in return the similar opportunities. Maxmuller Bhavan has been conducting periodically the cultural programmes and film shows. My state Karnataka has even signed an MOU with Bavaria.

4. What do you think about the importance of Alumni in terms of the cultural, academical and economical exchange?

It is fantastic. It gives an opportunity to share the experience and find space for exchanging the activities in the field of culture, academics and economic. As I am heading a Cultural Institution of high repute, I look forward participate in such a meet and be benefited.