Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor of Central University of Odisha, Prof. Chakradhar Tripathi, graced the UNMESHA (Festival of Expression) 2023, Asia’s Largest International Literature Festival held at Ravindra Bhawan, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, today on 04 August 2023. He highlighted the value of the ancient Indian Knowledge system, thought, and philosophy in his address. He said, “Indian knowledge system, Indian philosophy, Indian culture inspire for the welfare of the whole world. Our philosophy believes in one world and one family”.

The creativities reflected in ancient Indian literature like the Veda, Upanishad, and Puranans, the Indian philosophy and cultural ethos enriched the social values of one world, one family. The divine relationship between Meera and Lord Krishan signifies the divine love and creativity of the world. He urged “to reflect the knowledge and thoughts of India in the literature for the betterment of the world.” He also highlighted the salient features of NEP2020 on this occasion, where the creativity of Indian knowledge has been reflected. He emphasized translating Indian books in foreign languages and foreign books in Indian languages by citing the translation work of the English Department, Central University of Odisha.

The Governor of Chhattisgarh, His Excellency Shri Biswabhusan Harichandan; Prof. Santishree Dhulipudi Pandit, Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru University and Prof. Girishwar Mishra, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India; also addressed the Festival. The festival organized by The Sahitya Academy was started on August 3, 2023, and will continue till August 6, 2023. This is the second edition of 'UNMESHA'.

The 'UNMESHA' is India's most inclusive literary festival, and it is not only Asia's largest literary festival in terms of representation of the number of languages, but it is soon on its way to becoming the world's largest literary festival. A new set of writers participated in the discussions, and their creativity got new directions. More than 575 authors from 100 languages participated in the festival. Apart from India, writers from 13 other countries also participated in the festival.

At the International Literature Festival, apart from the multilingual story and poetry recitation, many other topics were being discussed for the first time. These topics include Literature of Physicians, Ocean Literature, Rise of Machines - Authorless Literature, Creativity-enhancing education, and Translation. Other important topics to be discussed are Indian poetry, Indian devotional literature, the cultural heritage of India, unity in diversity, cinema and literature, etc.

Writers, scholars, journalists, translators, publishers, cultural workers, theater workers, and filmmakers from India and abroad participated in this International Literary Festival. Books from Sahitya Akademi and other literary institutions will also be available at attractive discounts during the festival.

Dr. Phagunath Bhoi, Public Relations Officer