

P F C W

SOUVENIR *Magazine* 2019





PRESIDENT'S FUND FOR CREATIVE WRITING

**PFCW**


SOUVENIR *Magazine* 2019

**PFCW**

SOUVENIR *Magazine* 2019

A UNIQUE VENTURE SINCE ITS CREATION

*Creativity*  
requires the courage to  
let go  
of certainties



# PFCW

A UNIQUE ENTITY  
UNDER THE AEGIS OF THE  
MINISTRY OF ARTS AND CULTURE  
FOR THE  
**PROMOTION AND PROPAGATION**  
OF MAURITIAN LITERATURE

Make an empty space  
in any corner of your mind, and  
*Creativity*  
will instantly fill it



## REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT

### MESSAGE



The President's Fund for Creative Writing has been set up under the aegis of the Ministry of Arts and Culture to promote, propagate and preserve creative writing within languages written and spoken in Mauritius. The Fund provides an appropriate forum to Mauritian writers to fulfil their educational, cultural and artistic aspirations through creative writing.

Everyone has a novel in him. Creative writing is one of the most enjoyable activities that one can have without necessarily aspiring to achieve overnight publishing success! Finding your creative outlet is reason enough to pursue a hobby as a creative writer. There are many reasons why one should put value in the ability of expressing thoughts and feelings through words. With a creative writing hobby, one gets a sense of well being.

Writing creatively is an enjoyable and rewarding pursuit that can be a hobby, a field of study, and even a career. Anyone can be a creative writer. All it takes is a little creativity, some strong ideas, a command of the written language, and an understanding of how literature is typically structured. By reading extensively and practising the craft, one can become a talented and well-versed writer in his chosen field.

Writing of any sort is hard, but rewarding work – the writer gains a huge amount of satisfaction from a finished piece. Being creative can also be difficult and challenging at times, but immensely fun. Every writer knows that as rewarding as the creative process is, it can often be a bumpy road.

Have hope and keep at it!

I must congratulate the Chairperson and members of the President's Fund for Creative Writing for their efforts in encouraging creative writing in Mauritius.

**Paramasivum Pillay Vyapoory, G.O.S.K.**  
**Ag. President of the Republic of Mauritius**



**REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS**  
**MINISTER OF ARTS AND CULTURE**  
(Office of the Minister)

**MESSAGE**

“Start writing, no matter what. The water does not flow until faucet is turned on”  
- Louis L’Amour



I wish to commend the President’s Fund For Creative Writing (PFCW) for the publication of its souvenir magazine in the context of the celebration of the Golden Jubilee of the Independence of Mauritius.

The PFCW, operating under the aegis of the Ministry of Arts and Culture, has for mission the promotion and preservation of creative writings in all languages written and spoken in Mauritius. For almost a decade now, the PFCW has been providing for an appropriate forum to our local writers to fulfil their educational, cultural and artistic aspiration, through creative writing. It has encouraged and assisted a number of deserving writers by publishing their works.

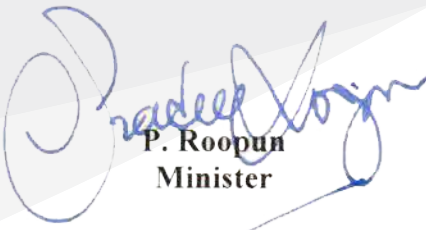
We need to feel blessed that our country is home to many languages, both written and spoken. Mauritius has also known many prolific writers of international fame - such as late Abhimunyu Unnuth, Jean Marie Leclezio, the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2008, Ananda Devi, who was made *Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres* by the French Government, Nathacha Appanah. Prahlad Ramsurrun and many others.

Writing is powerful tool that needs to be encouraged. We all know the latin proverb:

**“Verba volant, scripta manent” which means “spoken words fly away, written words remain”.**

The government is sparing no effort to promote all written and spoken languages through various incentives under the President’s Fund for Creative Writing and the different Speaking Unions. We are also committed to providing a learning experience that enhances our student’s creative, literary, and professional lives.

On this note, I congratulate the PFCW and wish them well in their future creative ventures.



**P. Roopun**  
Minister



# Message from *Chairperson* for **SOUVENIR MAGAZINE**

*What is this life  
If full of care  
We have no time  
To stand and stare ..... W. H. Davies*



I start my message for this Souvenir Magazine with these lines from British poet Davies, who emphasised on “time to stand and stare” in life, for it is in standing and staring that I find myself face to face with life, hence my ability to write.

I continue with my writing then by thanking and congratulating all those writers, who during their standing and staring pause from the din of life, could scribble memorable memoirs on paper, which the PFCW could publish eventually. We stand here for you and without you we are not.

I move on to grab this opportunity and thank the initiator of this prestigious Fund, Mr Cassam Uteem, a former President of the Republic of Mauritius and all the Hon Ministers of Arts and Culture, who all, by turns, kept this noble mission active and moving, under the aegis of their ministry, during their tenure of office.

I wholeheartedly thank the actual Hon Minister of Arts and Culture, Mr Pradeep Roopun for having given the PFCW all the respect, help, advice and support, whenever we found ourselves in turbulence zones.

I thank my team, the members on board the PFCW, my desk officers and staff who have always shown remarkable team spirit while working together as a closely knit family. I could not have achieved anything without their unflinching support, all throughout, be it in foul or fair weather.

At the PFCW, we have always believed in Quality, rather than Quantity, as Literature has no place for mediocrity and sluggishness. This may have hurt some sensibilities, we cannot but apologise in the name of the noble aspects of all literature, be it Mauritian or otherwise.

I enclose here some lines pertaining to Quality, a word to be admired, specially in the literary world.

*One day we shall all depart on a journey free of cost  
Don't worry about seat reservation, it is confirmed  
The flight is always on time  
Our good deeds will be our luggage  
Humanity will be our passport  
Quality will be our visa  
Make sure we travel to heaven in Business class*

This magazine is the 1st of its kind in the history of the PFCW. We sincerely hope it will find a place of pride and prestige on your bookshelf

**Dr [Mrs] Anitah Aujayeb,  
Chairperson, PFCW**

## A BRIEF ON PRESIDENT'S FUND FOR CREATIVE WRITING

### BACKGROUND

In July 2010, new regulations cited as the (President's Fund for Creative Writing) Regulations 2010 were made under Section 24 of the Finance and Audit Act, to provide for the scope of the President's Fund for Creative Writing in English to be extended to other languages written and spoken in Mauritius.

The said Regulation provides for the Fund to be administered and managed by a Committee.

The PFCW operates under the aegis of the Ministry of Arts and Culture.

### VISION

To promote, propagate and preserve the creative writings in all languages written and spoken in Mauritius.

### MISSION

- To provide an appropriate forum to Mauritian writers to fulfil their educational, cultural and artistic aspirations, through creative writing.
- To encourage and assist deserving Mauritian writers by publishing their works.

### OBJECTIVES

**The objectives of the Fund are to finance**

- schemes to encourage and assist deserving Mauritian writers wishing to have their creative writings published.
- the promotion of creative writing in all languages written and spoken in Mauritius,
- the organisation of workshops at national level for Mauritian writers, with local and international expertise and support;
- the organisation of workshops and forums in creative writing, in collaboration with the Mauritius Institute of Education and other Governmental organisations, for writers, trainee teachers and students of primary, secondary and tertiary sectors;
- essay competitions; short story Writing competitions and other literary activities.
- The setting up of a network among education institutions in Mauritius in order to promote creative writing in all genres;

### PROFILE

The Fund is administered and managed by a Committee composed of:

- A Chairperson;
- A representative of the Office of the President;
- A representative of the Ministry of Arts and Culture;
- A representative from the Ministry of Finance;
- A representative from the Ministry of Education;
- A representative of the English Speaking Union established under the English Speaking Union Act;
- A representative of the Hindi Speaking Union established under the Hindi Speaking Union;
- A representative of the Marathi Speaking Union established under the Marathi Speaking Union Act 2008;
- A representative of the Tamil Speaking Union established under the Tamil Speaking Union Act 2008;
- A representative of the Telegu Speaking Union established under the Telegu Speaking Union Act 2008;
- A representative of the Urdu Speaking Union established under the Urdu Speaking Union Act 2008;
- An officer of the MAC who serves as Secretary of the fund
- An officer of the MAC who serves as Finance Manager of the fund



## ACTIVITIES OF THE FUND

Publication of books  
Financial assistance to authors  
Launch of books  
Participation in World Book day  
Organisation of workshops/ Conferences  
Organisation of Literary activities

MAIN EVENT ICW 50TH Independence anniversary celebrations of Mauritius. In 2018 a 2 days conference in Creative Writing entitled **HEAVEN OF FREEDOM**, was organised.

**Dates: 21st and 22nd Sept 2018.**

**Venue : Labourdonnais Hotel, Caudan Waterfront**

Chief Guest:

**\*Patron of the PFCW H E The acting President of the Republic, Mr P Vyapoory**

**\*Hon Minister of Arts and Culture, Mr P Roopun**

**Main Resource Person from India: Dr Prakash Joshi**

[Associate Professor, Harisingh Gour University, Sagor, Madhya Pradesh]

## BILAN

**Major launches of books so far...**

**2015** - 10 books - At the Municipal Council of Port Louis

**2016** - 6 books - At the Municipal council of Port Louis

**2017** - 2 books - At World Book Day

**2018** - 2 Books - On World Book day,

**5 Books** launched on 21 sept 2018 during Opening ceremony of Conference: Labourdonnais hotel

**2 Books** launched at Voila Hotel, Bagatelle in Feb 2019

**5 Books** launched in April 2019, at Voila Hotel, Bagatelle

Since my tenure of office in 2015 we have worked towards setting up of a pool of Readers/and Editors, in all languages, from the general public, after an advertisement in the newspapers

After that we formed a Quality Control Unit to assess quality and finalise the works, making them fit to be published. Despite the fact that the PFCW has no office and staff, [staff of the ministry act as secretary and finance officer to the Fund] we are thriving hard to deliver the goods for the progress and betterment of Mauritian Literature.

“ Without *freedom*, there is no *creation*”

**Dr. [Mrs] Anitah Aujayeb**  
**Chairperson, PFCW**  
**May 2019**



## MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION



**Dear Colleagues & Friends**

I congratulate the President and Board of the President's Fund for Creative Writing (PFCW) and the entire editing team for their hard work and dedication that has resulted in the publication of this souvenir magazine.

ESU's commitment is to create global understanding and to promote human achievement through the worldwide use of the English language. One of the objects of the President's Fund for Creative Writing is "the promotion of creative writing in all languages written and spoken in Mauritius".

Both our organizations therefore share the same goal, which is to encourage the enjoyment and constructive use of languages to explore and express one's feelings, opinions and perspectives.

Creative writing is about the development of one's imagination, sharing human experiences and effective communication. ESU has worked in close collaboration with the President's Fund for Creative Writing on several occasions, namely by conducting creative writing workshops for aspiring writers.

Our aim was to provide them with a platform for the exchange of innovative and positive ideas that could lead to good creative writing. Participants showed enthusiasm, dynamism as well as innovative writing skills and they were prepared to experiment and use their life experiences in their writing.

They went away with greater confidence in their own ability and greater awareness of strategies learnt from practising and experienced writers such as Dr Sushilla Gopaul and Dr Anitah Aujayeb, authors of many short stories and poems. We like to think that we were able to light a small candle in the participants' souls and, in a small way, at least ignited their creativity and imagination.

ESU wishes all the best to the board of the President's Fund for creative Writing.

**Marie-France Roussety**  
**President, ESU-Mauritius**



ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION – 6<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR, KEN LEE BLD, EDITH CAVELL STREET, PORT LOUIS  
TEL: (230) 208 8591 EMAIL: [esumau@intnet.mu](mailto:esumau@intnet.mu) WEBSITE: [esumauritius.org](http://esumauritius.org)



## PRESIDENT'S FUND FOR CREATIVE WRITING

### OBJECTIVES

- To promote Mauritian Literature
- To propagate awareness of Creative writing
- To publish books by Mauritian authors
- To cultivate the reading culture
- To organise launch of books published by the Fund
- To provide financial grants to deserving authors
- To establish a network of writers, printers and publishers
- To organise regular workshops in Creative Writing and other literary activities
- To collaborate with Speaking Unions, which are represented on the Fund's Board, for the benefits of creative activities.

### YEARLY ACTIVITIES

- Publication of books of Mauritian authors
- Launch of books
- Participation in World book day
- Books exhibition
- Workshops on Creative Writing
- Attending and supporting various activities of Speaking Unions



## Message from former *Chairperson*



These lines are not new but are echoed in the introduction of my latest book entitled "THE BIG LIE"

The principle of Darwin does not automatically translate itself into the paradigm of Might is Right.

Are we different from animals we come from?

The present ethical frame-work or moral ethos differentiates from us animals in hundreds of ways. Yet, how do we use our fertile imagination so well, to marginalise people, to crush them with money and power? Both money and power are false coins without relevance in the grave where we are all heading

The message is always the same

The messenger has a different voice, a different face

The message is one of awakening to the life of the spirit, which is more powerful than the body

Should evolution of the body wait for the evolution of the spirit?

The evolution of the spirit is more powerful as it transcends the body at all times.

If we go back to the introduction of THE BIG LIE, we see that

**"The earth plane affords us all only one path, the path of dialogue, consensus, justice, mercy and peace.**

**There is much to be done . Whether it be small or big. We must get ready to chisel a new world in which we can trust and in which we can live with a greater degree of security and peace!!!!**

**There are so many tasks of rebuilding and recreating friendships. Writings, creations and books do this so smoothly and subtly.**

I wish the President's Fund For Creative Writing full steam ahead and my blessings and love to dear Anitah who is heading the Fund so ably.

**With warm wishes to all board members  
SHAKUNTALA HAWOLDAR  
FORMER CHAIRPERSON, PFCW**





# President's Fund for Creative Writing

Under the aegis of the  
Ministry of Arts & Culture



President's Fund for Creative Writing  
C/o Ministry of Arts and Culture  
7th Floor Renganaden Seeneevassen Building  
Port Louis  
Republic of Mauritius  
Tel: 212 5825  
Fax: 213 0012  
Email: [presidentfundcw@gmail.com](mailto:presidentfundcw@gmail.com)

# PRESIDENT'S FUND FOR CREATIVE WRITING

A unit which caters for Mauritian literature in all languages written in Mauritius since years

## VISION

To promote, propagate and preserve the creative writings in all languages written and spoken in Mauritius.

## MISSION

To provide an appropriate forum to Mauritian writers to fulfil their educational, cultural and artistic aspirations through creative writing.

## OBJECTS

The objects of the Fund are to finance:

- ✍ schemes to encourage and assist deserving Mauritian writers wishing to have their creative writings published;
- ✍ the promotion of creative writing in all languages written and spoken in Mauritius;
- ✍ the organization of workshops at national level for Mauritian writers, with local and international experience and support;
- ✍ workshops and forums in creative writing;
- ✍ Essay competitions, short story Writing Competition; and other literary activities.

## ASSISTANCE TO AUTHORS:

- ✍ Publication
- ✍ Financial Assistance

Application Forms available on website:  
[www.pfcw.govmu.org](http://www.pfcw.govmu.org)

*"I find television very educating. Every time somebody turns on the set, I go into the other room and read a book."*

- Groucho Marx

*"Books are the quietest and most constant of friends; they are the most accessible and wisest of counselors, and the most patient of teachers."*

- Charles William Eliot

*What really knocks me out is a book that, when you're all done reading it, you wish the author that wrote it was a terrific friend of yours and you could call him up on the phone whenever you felt like it. That doesn't happen much, though."*

- J.D. Salinger, *The Catcher in the Rye*

*"If there's a book that you want to read, but it hasn't been written yet, then you must write it."*

- Toni Morrison

*"Only the very weak-minded refuse to be influenced by literature and poetry."*

- Cassandra Clare, *Clockwork Angel*

*"I declare after all there is no enjoyment like reading! How much sooner one tires of any thing than of a book! -- When I have a house of my own, I shall be miserable if I have not an excellent library."*

- Jane Austen

## With best compliments from the chairperson and Board members of the pfcw

We sincerely hope you enjoyed our activities in the context of the 50th anniversary of the Independence of our country and will keep great interest in the PFCW which remains for the progress and betterment of Mauritian literature.

Conference, Exhibition of books of Mauritian authors, Launch of books published by the Fund: 21 and 22 September 2018



## PROCEDURES A CREATIVE WORK HAS TO GO THROUGH BEFORE BEING ACCEPTED BY THE PRESIDENT'S FUND FOR CREATIVE WRITING

### Step 1..

The author applies to the PFCW for [a] Financial grant of 30,000 rs  
Or [b] for publication

### PROCEDURES FOR FINANCIAL GRANT

2. The PFCW asks the author for a synopsis of one page in relation to the work proposed
3. The synopsis is accepted/ rejected, based on the criteria of the PFCW which is to accept creative works like novels, poems, short stories and not entertain biographies, accounts of History, dissertations or compilation of articles
4. The PFCW asks for the manuscript in case the synopsis is accepted
5. The manuscript is handed over to one reader in case of financial grant
6. The Reader approves the quality of the work and writes a signed report for the same. The work can be rejected here in case the work is of poor quality, plagiarised or comprises political or racial intonations.
7. The author is requested to insert the logo of the PFCW in his book
8. The author proceeds with the publication of his work on his own and sends 5 copies of the published book with the logo of the Fund to the Ministry
9. The cheque of 30,000 Rs is issued in the name of the author.

### PROCEDURES FOR PUBLICATION

2. The PFCW asks the author for a synopsis of one page in relation to the work proposed
3. The synopsis is accepted/ rejected, based on the criteria of the PFCW which is to accept creative works like novels, poems, short stories and not entertain biographies, accounts of History, dissertations or compilation of articles
4. The PFCW asks for the manuscript in case the synopsis is accepted
5. The manuscript is handed over to two readers, who read and give a signed report on the quality of the work
6. The work can be rejected here in case the work is of poor quality, plagiarised or comprises political or racial intonations
7. The work is handed to an editor for editing purposes, while liaising with the author concerned
8. After the editing, the book is sent to the QUALITY CONTROL UNIT of the PFCW, which deals with finalising all aspects with the help of the author.
9. Meanwhile, the Desk Officer of the PFCW is requested to start the tender procedures at the Ministry.
10. The soft copy of the manuscript [read, edited and approved by the Quality Control Unit, together with the logo of the Fund] is given to the Printer who gets the tender to print the book
11. The author is handed 400 copies of the 500 printed. 100 copies are sent to various schools and reading centres
12. An official launch is organised by the Fund and in the presence of the Minister of Arts and Culture.

HEAVEN OF

# freedom

By

International Scholar- **Dr. Prakash Joshi**



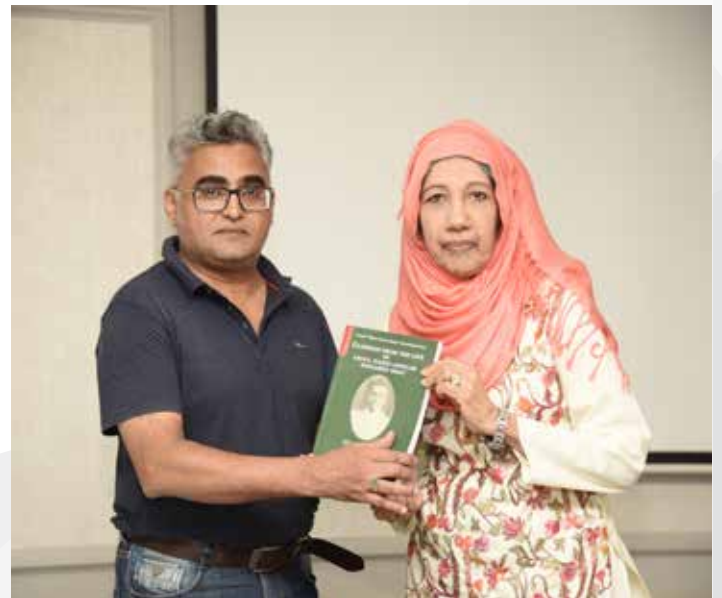
CONFERENCE AT

**LABOURDONNAIS HOTEL, CAUDAN WATERFRONT**  
**SEPTEMBER 2018**

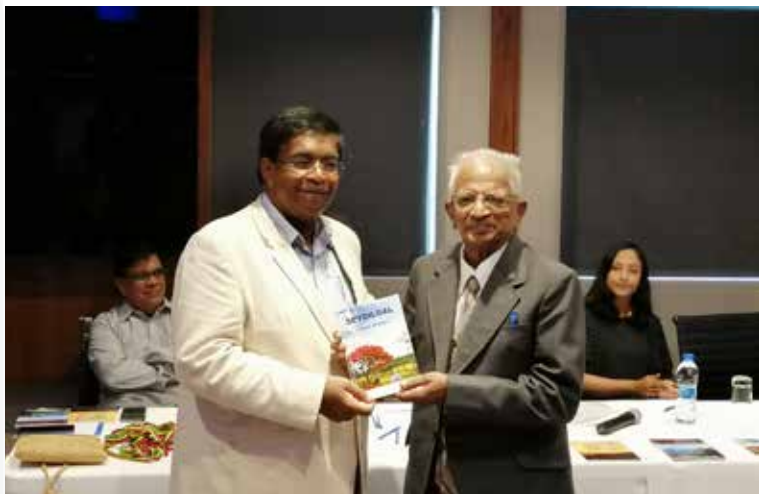












## Message by Dr. *Prakash Joshi*



The last of the ten quick-fire questions that Roshan Hassamal, my interviewer on Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation television, asked me to end the interview, required me to tell the name of the best place I had visited in my life as long as I had lived it. My answer was quick and spontaneous

'Mauritius'. For a few long seconds he looked at me as if to ascertain that I wasn't insincere, and then said, "Mark Twain was probably right". To be absolutely honest, I didn't know what Mark Twain had said about Mauritius; and, to be absolutely honest again, didn't want to let the interviewer know that I didn't know. And the first thing I did after reaching my hotel room at Voila Bagatelle was to search google to find out what Mark Twain had said

about this beautiful island nation.

When I learnt that he, Mark Twain, had called Mauritius the original of which heaven was a mimetic copy. As I put his idea in my words, I sent out a silent peal of joy recalling that lovely saying 'great men think alike'. Well, it would be far too vain of me to place myself in the category of the great Mark Twain. But, for sure, I would give to the people of Mauritius the entire credit of bringing up this island nation so nicely and of keeping it more or less free of the corrupting touch of crass materialism in a period of around a hundred and a quarter century after the visit here of that one-of-the-greatest men of letters the United States has had.

My visit to the island was on account of the invitation by the Chairperson of the President's Fund for Creative Writing, Dr. (Mrs.) Anitah Aujayeb, to be a resource person at the Workshop on Creative Writing, that was one of the events to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the independence of Mauritius. As I saw it from my perspective, the workshop came out as a good showcasing of the exemplary cultural awareness Mauritians have.

Functioning under the Ministry of Arts and Culture and with the President as its Patron, the President's Fund in a way extends its activities to almost every section of Mauritian population through the various language unions, which include French, English, Hindi, Urdu, Marathi, Telugu and Tamil Speaking Unions.

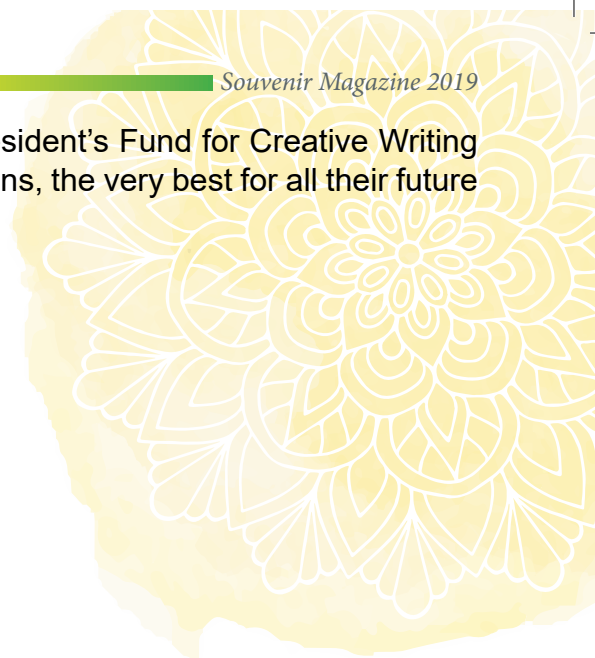
The activities of the Fund become a platform for these unions to come together and work for a common cultural vision for the beautiful nation of Mauritius. Besides the workshop, the Chairperson of the President's Fund had made arrangements for me to deliver talks on topics related to creative writing at the Open University of Mauritius and at the Mahatma Gandhi Institute. At both the places, I met gatherings of people eager to know things about creativity and creative writing. For me, it was both enthralling and enlightening to see this eagerness and, hidden in this eagerness, an immense promise for the future of Mauritius.

I believe that the President's Fund is doing an exemplary work in keeping the people of the island creatively and culturally alive and active as they contribute to the material prosperity of the island. With the constant reminder of their very humble but human beginning at the Apravasi Ghat in their front yard, Mauritian people have kept their economic progress within sight of humanity and humanness.

And the role of the Ministry of Arts and Culture in keeping that human spirit alive deserves to be fully lauded. I congratulate the President's Fund for Creative Writing and the Ministry of Arts and Culture for the great curatorial work they are doing to support new writers by extending them help in the publication of their work, in helping them know about the changing trends and conventions in the field of creative expression by organising workshops and seminars, and in helping them to reach



out to a wider audience by holding literary events. I wish the President's Fund for Creative Writing and the Ministry of Arts and Culture, under which the Fund functions, the very best for all their future endeavours.



## CREATIVITY AND CREATIVE WRITING A CRITICAL THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVE

Creativity permeates human life. Creativity functions in science laboratories; it functions in the world of businesses and professions; it functions in the domains of architecture and crafts. It functions even in such unlikely areas as travelling where one can plan and travel creatively, or in the kitchen in the preparation of recipes and dishes; it functions, too, in the way people plan and organize their days and weeks and years.

Without creativity, humanity would not have progressed the way it has since the cave days of our long-ago ancestors. In the Preface of their book entitled *The Cambridge Handbook of Creativity*, Kaufman and Sternberg write about “three components” of the definitions of creativity and creative ideas: “First, creative ideas must represent something different, new, or innovative. Second, creative ideas are of high quality.

Third, creative ideas must also be appropriate to the task at hand or some redefinition of that task. Thus, a creative response is novel, good, and relevant” (xiii). Seana Moran in a chapter in the same book lists six exhaustive spheres of contemporary life where creativity works; and in the second sphere of the list she mentions “the arts and sciences, with an abundant stream of paintings, dramas, theories and concepts” (74). Without going any further into this argument and discussion, we can understand for sure that ‘creativity’ is indispensable in the life we live and is inevitable for our progress and even survival.

Coming to the core issue of discussion here, it may raise some eyebrows if one begins by stating that creative writing is, scientifically speaking, Darwinian activity. However, this is the suggestion the reader would draw from E. O. Wilson’s statement in his Foreword to the book entitled *The Literary Animal*. Wilson writes: The mind is a narrative machine, guided unconsciously by the epigenetic rules in creating scenarios and creating options. The narratives and the artifacts that prove the most innately satisfying, spread and become culture. The societies with the most potent Darwinian innovations export them to other societies (ix).

The statement of Wilson lays it down as a theory that human creations, including those called ‘scientific’, have all flown and grown from that narrative machine. Creative writing is one among many Darwinian innovations that the human mind, being that narrative machine, has invented. And the function of this special invention of the human mind is to find the affirmation and endorsement of its scientific and cultural discoveries. As such, the function of creative writing is to unify and amalgamate all scientific and cultural discoveries of the human mind. Besides this function of amalgamation, creative writing also sublimates human creations in sciences and culture. One would instantaneously recall Wordsworth speaking as follows in his ‘Preface to Lyrical Ballads’:

Poetry is the breath and finer spirit of all knowledge: it is the impassioned expression which is in the countenance of all Science. Emphatically may it be said of the Poet, as Shakespeare has said of man, “that he looks before and after.”

He is the rock of defence of human nature; an upholder and preserver, carrying everywhere with him relationship and love (qtd in Brett & Jones 249). Having thus firmly established that creative writing is an instinctive and innovative activity of the human mind, and also having ensured the exalted place of this instinctive creative activity, the first questions that confront us are the questions about the character of creative writing, about what makes creative writing different from other types or kinds of writing, and about the origin of creative writing.

Speaking of the character of artistic creativity, of which creative writing is a part, one would sooner or later refer to Aristotle’s idea of an artist as one who carries out an idealization. Aristotle thinks of a creative writer as not the one who “describes a thing that has been” but as the one who speaks of “a

kind of thing that might be" (43). Aristotle goes on to speak of art in general and poetry in particular, which is a form of creative writing, as "more philosophical and of graver import than history, since its statements are of the nature rather of universals" (43). In Aristotle's theory, thus, an artist or a creative writer follows the principle of 'probability', which is almost akin to the principle of necessity, rather than that of 'possibility'. The former of the two deals with 'truth' rather than 'fact'. In Aristotle's theorization, therefore, a creative writer is the creator of 'universal truth(s)' -- such truths as are always alive and relevant, and not dead as the 'facts' in history.

Larry Phillips presents a very much evolved and yet a simple view of artistic or creative writing:

You have the sheet of blank paper, the pencil and the obligation to invent truer than things can be true...to take what is not palpable and make it completely palpable and...have it seem normal...so that it can become the part of the experience of the person who reads it (qtd. In Morley 03).

In terms of simplicity, there cannot be a better definition of creative writing than what Phillips delineates; and this definition accommodates the two sets of people on the two sides of the 'act' of writing. On one side of the act of writing is the writer, and on the other is the reader. As it gets implied in this definition, an interesting aspect of creative writing is its dual ownership. While in the stage of creation, it is the writer who owns the writing in the sense that he/she puts his/her impressions and experiences in it. Once what has been written reaches the reader, he/she appropriates the writing by seeing his/her own experiences in it or by experiencing the experiences of the writer.

Whether we go by the Aristotelian theory of it or by Phillips's definition, creative writing primarily or even essentially has or has to have a therapeutic purpose, which makes it remarkably different from other kinds of writing. First for the writer and then for the reader, this therapy of writing and reading can and does have many layers. To quote David Morley:

[W]hile creative writing is no panacea, some writers find its practice therapeutic; and some teachers of writing believe that writing is a powerful aid to various types of therapy, from the treatment of depression to social rehabilitation. More accurately, writing may contribute towards self-development and self-awareness... (03).

Writing becomes therapeutic for the writer because, as Morley goes on to say, it "wakes you up – it forces you beyond your intelligence and quotidian attention – and anything that makes you think" and, in the process, helps the writer in "finding perspectives on" themselves and on others (04).

And to make his or her writing therapeutic, the writer also needs to delve deep into the unfathomable infinite in their own psyche, into the "self" that Sri Aurobindo sees as "lone, limitless, nude, immune" in his beautiful short poem 'Thought the Paraclete' (125-26). Here is a part of the poem, with the middle lines eliminated:

*Hungering, large-souled to surprise the unconned  
Secrets white-fire-veiled of the last Beyond,  
Crossing power-swept silences rapture-stunned,  
Climbing high far ethers eternal-sunned,  
Thought the great-winged wanderer Paraclete  
Disappeared slow-singing a flame-word rune.  
Self was left, lone, limitless, nude, immune.*

When and if the writing comes from that 'limitless' and 'immune' depth of the creative writer's psyche and being, it gets a therapeutic quality to work on the reader too. The belief that reading cures in a

somewhat homeopathic way is nothing new to the people who have read and studied or taught the 'theory of literature' over a period of time.

The belief has its origin in Aristotle's concept of 'catharsis', which he speaks of while talking of the dramatic form of 'tragedy' in his famous treatise 'The Art of Poetry', and by which he suggests that creative writing cures the reader by either providing an outlet to or by a reformation of certain unwanted emotions. In a somewhat different form, the idea of the therapeutic value of literature for the reader gets a strong mention in Wordsworth's romantic 'theory of pleasure' too.

Delineating his theory, Wordsworth speaks of the poet's "task" of "producing immediate pleasure" as "an acknowledgement of the beauty of the universe" and as "a homage paid to the native and naked dignity of man" (qtd in Brett & Jones 248). In our times, medical science has scientifically proved the therapeutic value of literature for the readers. Of the many findings, there is one that Blake Morrison singles out for extended mention in his article titled 'The Reading Cure' published in The Guardian of 5 January 2008.

Referring to Jane Davis's "Get into Reading scheme", which, among others, had "groups of people with learning disabilities, Alzheimer's, motor-neuron disease, mental health problems", Morrison brings in the testimonies of the medical staff about how the scheme helped many patients with mental health issues showing remarkable improvement after their joining 'Get into Reading' groups. Many similarly successful stories of reading therapy have given us the word 'bibliotherapy'.

There can be at least two answers to the question about the origin of literature in particular and art in general. One of these answers speaks of literature as a divine creation, a creation of God. The earliest literature in ancient India, for example, always claims its descent from God. (To clarify a little, the earliest literature we are referring to here is not that of the Vedas, which have the reputation of being books of religion.) It usually happens in ancient Indian epic tradition that the narration is attributed to the Supreme God of the cult to which the epic belongs.

For example, Vyasa, the author of the Mahabharata, attributes the narration to divine illumination and employs Lord Ganesha as the lexicographer for his oral narration. A more pertinent illustration is an adaptation of the selection of sections from Gunadhyaya's Brihatkatha, an epic written much before the 3rd Century CE but not available except in references and adaptations. Kathāsaritsāgara, which we are citing here, is an 11th Century adaptation of Brihatkatha by Somadeva and is the most well-known among quite a few adaptations of the original Brihatkatha. Loosely translated as the 'Ocean of Streams of Stories', Kathāsaritsāgara opens with a customary invocation; and then the story moves to the abode of Śiva. The teller of the stories in Kathāsaritsāgara is Śiva and the listeners are His Consort Pārvati and Pushpadanta, Śiva's favourite Gana who steals into the place deceiving Nandi the guard, by his magic power.

On being discovered, Pārvati curses him to become a mortal and live on earth till he meets Kaṇabhūti the Pisācha and tells the stories to him. Mālyavan, the other Gaṇa, who pleads for Pushpadanta, too gets cursed to be born as a mortal, only to be released from the curse when he carries the stories to the humans on earth through Kaṇabhūti, the Pisācha. This, then, is the Indian theory of the divine origin of literature.

The other theory of the origin of literature is evolutionist and comes from Darwinism. The theory comes for a brief explanation in the Introduction of the book titled Literary Animal: Evolution and the Nature of Narrative. Gottschall & Wilson, the editors of the book, cite the case of a researcher at the Department of English at the Binghamton University finding the immense possibility of applying the Darwinian theory as explained by "the English zoologist Desmond Morris's 1967 bestseller The Naked Ape" to understand Homer's Iliad as a drama of naked apes – strutting, preening, fighting, tattooing their chests, and bellowing their power in fierce competition for social dominance, desirable



mates, and material resources” (xviii).

Talking about the origin of literature, therefore, is like talking about the origin of the universe – there is that Creation Theory that attributes the creation of the universe to God’s act; and then there is that Evolution theory that thinks of the universe as a product of Big Bang and the follow up. Collectively, we humans are far too insignificant a part of the universe to make any conclusive statement about its creation. After all, even the ‘Big Bang’ is also a theory that may or may not be true. But, we can be sure of Literature and its creation because it is a phenomenon that belongs to the human world only. At least we can legitimately assume so and, therefore, can be proud of the fact that we can replicate God’s or Nature’s Creation in and through creative writing. In conclusion, it can be stated that Literature is a combination of ‘inspiration’ and ‘craft’ – the former presumably coming to us from some ‘divine source’ and the latter from our own ‘practice’ of it. Literature, thus, is a phenomenon of dual origin. If a biological metaphor would not be out of place, this discussion on ‘creative writing’ can be concluded by saying that while divine inspiration ‘fathers’ Literature, craft ‘mothers’ it.

**Dr. Prakash Joshi**

**Department of English & Other European Languages**

**Dr. Harisingh Gour Central University**

**Sagar 470003, Madhya Pradesh, India**

### **Works Cited**

- Aristotle. On The Art of Poetry. Translated by Ingram Bywater. London: Oxford University Press, 1920.
- Aurobindo, Sri. “Thought the Paraclete”. The Golden Treasury of Indo-Anglian Poetry, edited by Vinayak Krishna Gokak. New Delhi: Sahitya Akademi, 1970.
- Kaufman, James C. and Robert J. Sternberg. Preface. The Cambridge Handbook of Creativity. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010.
- Moran, Seana. “The Roles of Creativity in Society”. The Cambridge Handbook of Creativity, edited by James C. Kaufman and Robert J. Sternberg. Cambridge University Press, 2010.
- Morley, David. The Cambridge Introduction to Creative Writing. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007.
- Morrison, Blake. “The Reading Cure”. The Guardian 5 Jan 2008. [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). Web. 5 Feb. 2019.
- Wilson, E. O. Preface. The Literary Animal: Evolution and the Nature of Narrative, edited by Jonathan Gottschall and David Wilson. Evanston, Illinois: Northwestern University Press, 2005.
- Wordsworth, William. Preface. Lyrical Ballads: Wordsworth and Coleridge, edited by R.L. Brett and A.R. Jones. New York: Routledge, 2005.

## REPORT FROM THE *Chairperson*

### **PRESIDENT'S FUND FOR CREATIVE WRITING**

EVENT: CONFERENCE 21 AND 22ND SEPTEMBER 2018

Venue: Labourdonnais Waterfront hotel, Caudan, Port Louis

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

- To promote the visibility aspect of the PFCW
- To provide a platform for all authors of Mauritian origin
- To disseminate appropriate information about the PFCW and its schemes
- To define the various fundamentals of Creative Writing
- To ponder over problems and issues met and discussed by authors
- To share views and to see how we can move towards a better service
- To have a display of books published by Mauritian Writers

#### **MAIN SPEAKERS:**

Dr Prakash Joshi, Associate Professor, Harising Gour Central University, Sagar, Madhya Pradesh, India

Dr[ Mrs] Anitah Aujayeb, Chairperson, PFCW

Dr Kumardutt Vinaye Goodary, Senior Lecturer, Mahatma Gandhi Institute

#### **INVITEES FOR THE CONFERENCE:**

Presidents and members of all Speaking Unions represented on the Board of the PFCW

All authors who benefitted from both schemes of the PFCW till now

All new authors whose books were launched during the Official Opening Ceremony

Students of Literature

Teachers of Literature

Literature lovers

All readers/ Editors and Quality Control Pool of the PFCW

#### **CHIEF GUESTS AT THE OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY**

H E, The Acting President of the Republic and Patron of the PFCW, Mr B Vyapoory, GOSK

Honourable Minister of Arts and Culture, Mr P Roopun

#### **OUTCOMES:**

All attendees came out from the Conference fully apprised of all rules and regulations of the PFCW

Dr Prakash Joshi, from India, deliberated fully on Creative Writing Techniques in all genres

It gave an opportunity and platform for great networking among all attendees

The exhibition of books gave the attendees a good picture of Mauritian Literature.

#### **SPECIAL NOTE**

Dr Prakash Joshi was welcomed by the Mahatma Gandhi Institute, Dep of Creative Writing, to deliver a lecture to which students and staff of MGI attended.

Dr Joshi was also the Guest Speaker in a gathering at the Open University of Mauritius

Dr Joshi was interviewed for the English television programme entitled ENCOUNTER, at the MBC

Dr Joshi also appeared in the Hindi Programme entitled SRIJAN ON MBC television



## General Recommendations: ICW the conference held.

Participants conveyed the idea that they would like such a conference to be an annual feature of the PFCW schedule

Our Guest Speaker recommended that we should go for QUALITY instead of QUANTITY, after having a look at the books published

Participants in the Exhibition of books deplored the fact that not much time was given to the guests for a proper tour of the exhibition.

It was also sad that there were no buyers of books, so guests should be motivated to buy Mauritian Literature

### *TITLE OF OUR CONFERENCE: HEAVEN OF FREEDOM*

*Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high*

*Where knowledge is free*

*Where the world has not been broken up into fragments*

*By narrow domestic walls*

*Where words come out from the depth of truth*

*Where tireless striving stretches its arms towards perfection*

*Where the clear stream of reason has not lost its way*

*Into the dreary desert sand of dead habit*

*Where the mind is led forward by thee*

*Into ever-widening thought and action*

*Into that FREEDOM OF HEAVEN my Father, let my country awake*

**Rabindranath Tagore: GITANJALI**

## MESSAGE FROM QUALITY *Control Unit*

As member of the quality control group for President Fund For Creative Writing, I have read, corrected and approved four books.

There are few achievements a person can do in life:

1. **Plant a tree**
2. **Write a book**
3. **And faith in your endeavours.**

Anton Chekhov rightly said: "Medicine is my rightful wife and literature is my mistress, when I get tired of one, I spend the night with the other".

Creative writing has no barriers, no limits, it is within each one of us. If you have an idea, a theme, a topic to share, write it down, ideas will flow and the work is achievable.

The PFFCW is the best platform and an opportunity to build a resilient rainbow nation. Nation building can be a reality when we read books written by Tamil, Telugu, Marathi, Hindi, Mandarin, English and French creative writers.

Mauritian writers have the potential and some writers have shown stunning creativity. The works have been appreciated and read. Hopefully CIE will prescribe some Mauritian writers in the syllabus at Ordinary & Advance level (English literature).

Dr. Anita Aujayeb, the president of PFCW has given a new impetus to the fund and her dedication is laudable.

I wish the PFFCW a long and fruitful future.

**Mrs. T. Dewnarain.**  
**Mauritian Writer**  
**Quality Control Unit**

Mystery is the heart of  
*Creativity*



# Can Poetry Change the WORLD

Everybody cannot be equally sensitive to the often subtle and delicate vibrations of poetry and yet, everybody has the potential to understand and enjoy poetry.

However, it is only by looking at a poem in detail that we can do justice to the considerable creative effort that went into its crafting. Our purpose in life is not our happiness only, it is to serve the force that sent us into the world.

We poets and writers do not need drums to beat before us or crowds to shout out our names. We identify the purpose of our existence and surrender to the forces and guiding hands of nature. Dormant forces, faculties and talents become alive.

Poetry is 'The record of the best and happiest moments of the happiest and best minds,' says Shelley. And to be the happiest with the best minds, one has to sail in rough seas of life. It is after going through the vicissitudes of life that we as poets can understand the pleasures and pains of mankind. Definitely, poetry then becomes the most philosophic of writing as clearly stated by Aristotle.

Thinking always ahead, thinking of always to do more, creates a state of mind in which all is possible. Poets may derive their sources of inspiration from anything, anywhere – an abundant solitude, the fragrance of sandal wood, a child knee – deep in mountain grass, the swirling clouds, animals mating, wind arabesque, the churchspire to mention but a few. 'A small scene of nature could contain the images of the Universe,' Says Leonardo Da Vinci.

A well – crafted and engagingly contemplative work may change the mindset of a reader with a trigger of emotions. Poetry endowed with freshness, sensuality and rich inventiveness

provides a liberating image of the indomitable spirit and versatility of man. Poetry voices man's exposed condition in a world of severe conflicts.

It catches the dewdrop and reflects the cosmos. Poets want to spread the message of peace, equality and fraternity where there is no sex discrimination, children are loved and protected, bridges are made instead of walls and all men live like brothers.

Yes, Poetry can change the world for a better tomorrow. The poem below summarizes poets' feelings in general across planet earth.

**Mrs. Pramila Khadun**  
Mauritian Writer  
Reader / Editor  
PFCW



# A WORLD CALLED *Tomorrow*

*We sat around a hearth of dim fires  
Sipping our coffee laced with sugar.  
Considered as most acclaimed and influential poets,  
By the usual world of glitz and glamour,  
We were rather focusing on mankind's fate  
While the river flowed languidly.*

*We remembered the illustrious moments  
Of great inventions, of great makers of civilization,  
Of fighters of liberty, the writers and the satires,  
The painters and the singers and the accompanying musicians,  
And the sweet sweat on the neck of farmers.*

*We, as avant-gardistes of our times,  
Could not allow our minds to play old thoughts.  
Our unrelenting passion for humanity's progress  
Which must glow like paint on canvass,  
The gleaming light that stands on man's path  
Will never leave man like old trash or recycled garbage.  
Man's evolution must not lead to man's degeneration.*

*While the columns of smoke rose  
Like falcons flapping their wings  
For the great heights, with graceful composure*

*We eased our troubled hearts  
And prayed for man's unity, for peace and for love.  
Prayers have powers, conclusively, incisively.*

*With our uniform loneliness, we started drawing  
On plain paper with our box of crayons  
Of a world called tomorrow*

**Mrs Pramila Khadun**



## CELEBRATING BOOKS AND WRITERS

According to prescribed International days, fixed by the United Nations Organisation, the 23rd April is considered to be the World Book day. It is a day to reflect on the importance of books, any book, scientific, spiritual, storytelling or any other genre.

In brief it is a day to celebrate books in all solemnity and elegance which can be attributed to books. Books, as the storehouses of great knowledge have made many a life, have enthused many a reader with the requisite joys of living through good reading.

**“Un homme qui lit en vaut dix”**

say the French while the British gentry claim that.

**“if we encounter a man of rare intellect, ask him what book he reads”**

and the latin adage is more than famous.

**“Tollé légé, Tollé légé**

**(Take up and Read, Take up and Read)”**

because everyone in the golden old days knew that the Reading Culture was the best culture in the life of men even though no book day was celebrated.

Every day was reading day, every time was reading time.

Traditionally on World Book Day, the world of literature celebrates the Writer's day as well. Writers are put in the forefront, are given the floor, debates are organised around writers and their creations and so on.

Writers are given a special place on World Book day, for books would never have crowded on shelves in libraries and at home without the wonderful pens of the more wonderful writers.

Writers are invited by institutions to deliver exposes on their works, their creations and their achievements. Students of various institutions come to know about the world of literature and their creative skills get a boost. Some of them come up with lovely poems which they deliver on the day. They start seeing things in a different way.

They realise that there is a world which is much better than the materialistic and vain world of intoxicants, rebellions and lies that they unfortunately indulge in, and that is the world of literature where they can take refuge anytime.

Now, the Ministry of Education has decided to celebrate the 23rd April as the English Language Day. English, as we all know is the official language of our island. That has been the greatest legacy the British people left to us with great respect and gratitude for all the days, months and years they spent in our country. Generations of Mauritians ahead will always be proud of this legacy and will leave no stone unturned towards protecting and preserving it. The President's Fund for Creative Writing had been conceptualised to promote Literature in English

The PFCW was then opened to all languages spoken and written in English as we know that languages open all doors to all vistas of life and have also been the key to all achievements of Mauritians around the world. Academically and professionally, languages have been an asset to be proud of .

**Dr. [Mrs] Anitah Aujayeb**

## The *ink* of a pen thicker than the blood of a martyr

*Reading makes a full man, conference a ready man, writing an exact man" wrote Francis Bacon.*

The three qualities are the most treasured possessions in a person's literary life. Reading enables one to keep abreast of the world around him and to imbibe the best that is known and thought in the universe. A learned man with a liberal outlook, according to Bacon, is a full-fledged man but he is not a ready man. A ready man must be sharp and quick-witted.

He must cultivate this sharpness via conversation, discussions and debate. Lastly he must develop the exactness, must be able to express himself correctly and cogently and must write his thoughts and hereafter must lead to his parochialism. Thereupon he will emerge as a citizen of the world. He will henceforth shed his prejudices and be more objective in his approach and more humane in his outlook. He will at the end of the day develop a well-integrated personality.

Our education should not be geared towards examinations only as if it is the end-all and be-all of life. Real education consists in a liberal outlook which one can cultivate or develop only if one exposes oneself to the thoughts and ideas of others. Richard Steele succinctly wrote: "Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body". When we read, we can rub and polish our brain against that of others. Reading books, magazines and papers develop our personality. It is an art in itself. It is an escapism from the conundrum of daily routine and we are switched off from the anxieties of this fast changing world. For sure: "a man who does not read is like one who does not know to read and write."

Despite the onslaught of technological breakthrough, reading still retains its primordial place

in our midst. It is no doubt an uphill task to initiate old and young alike to read and write. Against this backdrop, the President Creative Writing Fund (PCWF), fathered by the then visionary President of the Republic, Cassam Uteem, was initially created to stimulate budding writers with hidden talents to write in English language. It has weathered its ups and downs.

Now with the recent nomination of Dr Anitah Aujayeb as president, the PCWF is set on its rails and given a new impetus on this noble mission after a long inertia. It has now been extended to all languages spoken in Mauritius. A new boost-up has been given and today we have a flowering of new hidden talents. An array of books are on the pipeline waiting for submission and final touch by the writers. A new synergia has been triggered. PSWF functions under a tutelage of the Ministry of Arts and Culture and with time it has been well structured and endowed with a secretarial team served as a link to record entries, distribute and collect manuscripts to all the components like Readers, Quality Control Unit, Editors and Printers. It has been endowed with a budget of its own to function.

There is no reason to doubt that the PCWF will not honour its pledge in its mission and will henceforth convert our literary world into an oasis. Thus Mauritian literature will be made to shine more brightly in its firmament.

**Philip LI CHING HUM**  
**Mauritian Writer**  
**Quality Control unit Member**



# Message

from  
Urdu Speaking Union



Mauritius is a tiny island having a plural society where each community holds to its cultures.

Each community takes pride of its culture and language which it ensures is imparted to its offspring. As far as the cultural and literary language of the Muslims is concerned, this community has identified themselves with Urdu as it treasures their religion and cultural heritage.

Urdu flourished as the language of the Muslims who used it not only as a medium of instruction for religious education but also as a vehicle of cultural expression. Urdu is not only the ancestral language of Indian origin but is also the universally-recognized poetic language of love.

Urdu is one of the most sophisticated languages defining beauty and grace. It is known to touch the soul the way it imparts hidden meanings in prose or poetry like other beautiful languages can.

Urdu has been present and alive in Mauritius right from the early days of its history when its name was Isle de France. Today, Urdu is a vital part of the rich cultural and linguistic diversity of our rainbow island. The teaching of Urdu was initially established in Madrassahs and Mosques. Gradually it paved its way and with the help of the Government of Mauritius, Urdu is now present up to the tertiary level. Indeed it is remarkable that substantial efforts were made to raise the level of Urdu.

According to UNESCO, Urdu is the 3rd most spoken language in the world.

For the survival and cultural development of Urdu language, many institutions are in force and working in a collaborative endeavor for its promotion and progress.

For instance, The Urdu Speaking Union, National Urdu Institute, Mahatma Gandhi Institute, Islamic Cultural centre, Mauritius Broadcasting cooperation, the President's Fund for Creative Writing, the High commission of India and the High Commission of Pakistan, many NGO's are indeed active institutions who are working in parallel to keep the ball rolling.

Create with the heart; build with the mind

## UNE HEUREUSE *Constatation*

### Une heureuse Constatation

L'année 2018, peut – on dire, a été très riche dans le domaine de l'écriture. Plus d'une dizaine de livres publiés à Maurice grâce au prix très convenable des maisons d'édition et surtout à l'aide financière du President's Fund for Creative Writing (PFCW).

Bien peu de pays de cette région de l'Océan Indien bénéficient de tels avantages.

J'espère que ces deux atouts à la disposition des auteurs mauriciens encourageront ces derniers à produire davantage d'ouvrages littéraires pour enrichir L'Île Maurice.

**A. R. Ibrahimsah**  
Mauritian Writer



Art,  
freedom and Creativity  
will change society faster  
than politics

# My Impression

I am pleased to convey my warm greetings to the Chairperson and members of the President's Fund for Creative Writing, on the issue of the first Souvenir Magazine of the PFCW, since its inception. The cultural fabric of our society is consolidated by the rich ancestral languages and values, and it is encouraging to note that Government continues to provide its unflinching support to uplift this precious heritage of ours.

The setting up of the President's Fund for Creative Writing unfolds the commitment and dedication of Government for the promotion, propagation and preservation of creative writings in all languages written and spoken in this multi cultural society.

It is a secret to none that creative writing encompasses a wide array of writing types. Everything from poetic works to works of non fiction can be found in the creative writing genre. It is also a fact that the style of creative writing focuses on writing from emotions and thoughts rather than just giving information. Any writing that expresses emotions or expresses free thinking falls into the category of creative writing.

It is in this same context that the President's Fund for Creative Writing has been encouraging Mauritian writers in their respective fields: poetry, novel, novella, memoirs, short story, autobiography, drama, among others.

Creative writing comes from simple thoughts and emotions that the writer is feeling or thinking before it is put on paper. So as Justice Parmenter has rightly pointed out: "It is wrong to think that creative writing is a 'frivolous' waste of time"

**Mariam Goodur, M.S.K**

**Author, Translator.**

**President of Muslim Ladies Council and**

**Former Senior Events Management Officer (Ministry of Arts and Culture)**

You can't use up Creativity.  
The more you use, the more you have



# Mauritius

**M**y motherland, the land of four colors, the land of sweetness

**A**s is described by its rich history, filled with wars and battles

**U**nited it stands today, giving freedom to each and every son of its soil

**R**eferred as the land of the sun, sea and sand, the beaches, the golden skin

**I**t is where was found the lost Dodo, killed till its last by those hungry colonizers

**T**he land where I took birth, the land I admire, the land away from which I shall not survive

**I**magination pours strongly in every corner of this island, be it in songs or in poetry

**U**nmistakably the jewel of all the Indian Ocean

**S**weet is its fragrance, sweet is its beauty, my homeland it is!

*A small retreat surrounded by the blue lagoon  
Loved by all those who upon seeing its nature, do swoon!*

**Miss Anoucheka Gangabissoon  
Writer**



# Zistwar

## ENN LIV

*Zanfan, zenes ek vie  
 Less mo rakont zot mo sekre.  
 Kan mo ti pran nesans  
 Mo ti pe glace dir twa.  
 Kumadir enn premier reyon solei lor enn lamer liss.*

*Mo ti enn zanfan gater lor letazer.  
 Kan lepassan zet ene lei lor mwa,  
 Banla feite mwa, mo kontan.  
 Kumadir zanfan pe gagn gidi-gidi  
 Mo ti fier mo destin.*

*Me malerezman pa pou lontan.  
 Wei ziss pou pa kwar  
 Ban zanfan ki mo finn fer reve,  
 Ban zen ki mo finn fer pase,  
 Bann gran ki mo finn fer panse,  
 Zot tou vir lede ar mwa.*

*Kumadir mo enn vie bonn fam dan lakaz  
 Si zordi mo pe ouwer mo leker ar twa  
 Ce parski twa, to ena drwa de lom,  
 To ena proteksyon unit, to ena kuwan,  
 SOS Villaz, l'OMS ek Ombudsperson.*

*Me mwa, mo ena zis twa pou rakont mo sor.  
 Kan dimoun rans ar mwa, mo lavi lenfer kumanse  
 Zot fer tou kalite dessin lor mwa, makil mwa mo dir twa,*

*Kumadir klounn dar sirk.  
Zot pas sizo ek lam ar mwa  
Koumadir dokter pe anlev timer  
Ena dechir mwa kumadir papie tissue*

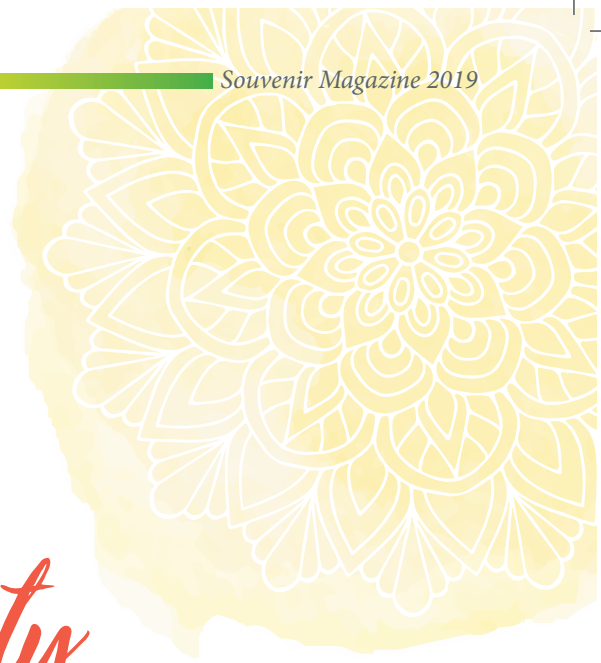
*Mo pa pou dir zot kikote,  
Zot pe riye, riye mo sor.  
Zot, zot alerzi et lapousier  
Me zot less li fer montagn lor mwa.  
Lafin lane lazwa dan tou leker.  
Nou, nou kumadir dan ICU.  
O nom prepte ek lord*

*Nou trouw nou zordi dans bwat  
Tanto dans kamion ek dimin dans Marchicose.  
Bondie, prosenn nesans  
Re fer vinn ene liv  
Pa fer mwa vinn enn dimoun  
Pa parski mo kontan lamizer, non  
Se zis pou mo pa fer sa bann erer  
Ki zordi zot pa fer ar mwa.*

**Oter:**

**Neerunjun BEEGUN (Board Member)**

*Imagination*  
is the beginning of  
*Creation...*



# My Property

*Nor a golden studded palace  
neither an air-conditioned cosy room  
not a long black dress with pearls  
not a jaguar which glitters black  
i need but pen and paper  
with ink enough to last for eternity*

*you may build castles  
you can open 'sesame' doors  
keep the gold, keep the gems  
spill your joys, drown your desires  
leave but some coins for pen and paper  
with ink enough to say what i want*

*when the shadows of clouds  
hover around in circles  
as the bright sun enters the horizon  
light your house, fill your cup  
let drift aside from under the curtain  
some light to write what i can.  
on the white paper of my life*

*paints the black ink, some sorrows  
soin pains, some sighs  
deep felt inner needs slowly  
move the paper and the pen  
with sobs enough to last for ever.*

*Paper and pen, my shadows eternal  
pen and paper, my life, my pains  
travel through rains and sun  
breathing life where life is not  
i need my pen and paper  
to make myself live to eternity*

**Dr [Mrs] Anitah Aujayeb**

**A song, a smile, a line,  
these are things greater than  
riches of mighty kings.**



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The President's fund for Creative Writing,  
would like to thank

it's patron, the excellency the acting President of Republic  
**Mr. P. Vyapoury**

The Honorable Minister of Arts and Culture,  
**Mr P. Roopun**

The Speaking Unions represented on the board

The staff of the Ministry  
And each an everyone who has contributed towards the creation of the Magazine.

We wish you all a good reading.

Everybody is born Creative,  
very few remain  
*Creative.*