

Ministry of Culture and Sahitya Akademi Jointly Organise Birth Centenary Commemoration and National Seminar on Acharya Shri Dinesh Chandra Joshi in New Delhi

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The Ministry of Culture, Government of India, in collaboration with Sahitya Akademi, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri National Sanskrit University, Central Sanskrit University and National Sanskrit University jointly organised the Birth Centenary Celebrations and a **“One-Day National Seminar on Contributions of Acharya Shri Dinesh Chandra Joshi in the Field of Sanskrit and Indian Culture”** on Friday, 15 May 2026 at Vachaspati Sabhagar, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri National Sanskrit University, New Delhi.

The seminar commemorated the birth centenary of Acharya Shri Dinesh Chandra Joshi, eminent Sanskrit scholar, noted educationist and distinguished promoter of Sanskrit language and Indian cultural heritage.



The inaugural session commenced at 10.00 a.m. with a welcome address by **Shri Samar Nanda**, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Government of India. Introductory remarks were delivered by Shri Harekrishna Satapathy, Convener, Sanskrit Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi.

Addressing the commemoration event, Shri Samar Nanda informed the gathering that the National Implementation Committee chaired by Union Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Cooperation, Government of India, Shri Amit Shah had approved the commemorative programmes, academic seminars,

cultural events, exhibitions, and spiritual gatherings across the country from 11 April 2026 to 11 April 2027 in honour of Acharya Shri Dinesh Chandra Joshi.

Shri Samar Nanda stated that despite the severe hardships of a remote mountainous region and limited resources, Shri Dinesh Chandra Joshi emerged as a radiant torch-bearer of Indian culture through his scholarship, austerity, spiritual discipline, and unwavering determination. His life, he remarked, remains a timeless inspiration, demonstrating that greatness is attained not through comforts, but through dedication, perseverance, and inner strength.

Recalling Acharya Dinesh Chandra Joshi's deep concern for India's cultural heritage, Shri Nanda observed that Acharya had witnessed India during British rule and clearly understood the psychological and cultural assault that sought to weaken the Sanskrit language, the Gurukul system, and the foundations of Sanatana culture. Referring to the destruction of ancient centres of learning such as Nalanda University, Takshashila, and Vikramashila, he said that such acts were not merely attacks on books and manuscripts, but assaults on the very soul of India and its sacred knowledge tradition.



He further emphasised that Acharya firmly believed that the preservation of Sanskrit was essential for safeguarding India's spiritual consciousness. Patriotism, for him, was not merely an emotion but a sacred vow. Throughout his life, he dedicated himself to the revival and protection of Sanskrit and Indian culture.

The inaugural session was graced by distinguished dignitaries including Shri Murlimanohar Pathak, Vice Chancellor, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri National Sanskrit University. The presidential address was delivered by Shri Madhav Kaushik, President, Sahitya Akademi. Shri Bhagirati Nanda, Professor, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri National Sanskrit University, proposed the vote of thanks.

A major highlight of the inaugural session was the release of a commemorative postal stamp dedicated to Acharya Shri Dinesh Chandra Joshi in recognition of his immense contribution to Sanskrit scholarship and Indian culture. The release of the postal stamp marked a significant national tribute to the scholar's lifelong service towards the preservation and promotion of Sanskrit and Indian knowledge traditions.



The seminar featured three academic sessions devoted to various aspects of Acharya Shri Dinesh Chandra Joshi's contributions.

The first session, focused on "Acharya Shri Dinesh Chandra Joshi: A Great Promoter of Vedic Culture" and was chaired by Ramakant Pandey. Research papers were presented by Prakash Pant, Kirti Vallabh Shakta and Anil Kumar.

The second session, deliberated on "Acharya Shri Dinesh Chandra Joshi: A Leading Promoter of Puranic Heritage, Spiritual Consciousness, and Pilgrimage Culture." The session was chaired by Bihari Lal Sharma and included presentations by Ram Vinay Singh, Radhey Shyam Gangwar and Sarvesh Kumar Tiwari.

The third session, explored "Acharya Shri Dinesh Chandra Joshi: An Ambassador of Sanskrit, Sanskriti and Samskaras." The session was chaired by Om Nath Bimali, with papers presented by Prem Shankar Sharma, Bhartendu Pandey and Sunil Joshi.

The valedictory session was held under the chairmanship of Harekrishna Satapathy. The valedictory address was delivered by Shivshankar Mishra, Vice Chancellor, Maharshi Panini Sanskrit Evam Vedic Vishwavidyalaya. N. Suresh Babu, Deputy Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, proposed the vote of thanks.

Scholars, academicians, Sanskrit litterateurs, researchers and students from across the country participated enthusiastically in the seminar and reflected upon the enduring relevance of Acharya Shri Dinesh Chandra Joshi's contributions to Sanskrit studies, Indian philosophy and cultural heritage.

The organisers reaffirmed their commitment to promoting Sanskrit language, literature and Indian cultural traditions through sustained academic and scholarly initiatives at the national level.

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