

INDIVIDUALS

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Name : ACHARYA LOKESH MUNI

Year of conferment of award : 2010

Address : 37/29, Old Rajender Nagar
New Delhi - 110 060

Date of birth : 17.04.1961

Education : Graduate in Gurukul Tradition
Scholar of Prakrit, Sanskrit & Hindi

Employment : Religious Guru

Contact details : Tel. No. 9313833222
Fax 011-41557083
Website www.ahimsavishwabharti.org
E-mail acharya@ahimsavishwabharti.org

Outstanding contribution :

Acharya Lokesh Muni is a writer, orator and social worker. He is the chief functionary of *Ahimsa Vishwa Bharati*, a Delhi based voluntary organisation which aims at promoting non-violence, peace, communal harmony, working against female foeticide & drug addiction, providing help during natural calamities, etc. Acharya Lokesh Muni worked to de-escalate Hindu Muslim strife after the Jama Masjid explosion in 2006-07 and tension between Dera Sacha Sauda and the Sikh community in 2007. He participated in a 1500 km walk from Haryana to Gujarat to promote communal harmony. He studied Jainism, Buddhism and Vedic philosophy and has 12 books to his credit on subjects like female foeticide, terrorism, principles of peace and brotherhood. For his academic pursuits, the Indian Board of Alternative Medicines awarded him the Doctor of Philosophy. He has also been honoured with the *Naitik Samman* by the Gulzarilal Nanda Foundation and *Bhaskar Puraskar* by *Bharat Nirman Sangathan* for his contribution in restoring human values of peace and brotherhood.

Name	: DR. MOHAMMAD HANIF KHAN SHASTRI
Year of conferment of award	: 2009
Address	: G-52/19, Sir Syed Road Batla House Jamia Nagar, (Okhla) New Delhi- 110 025
Date of birth	: 21 September 1951
Education	: Ph.D. (Comparative Religion)
Employment	: An employee of Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi
Contact details	: Tel No. 09891068307 E-mail drhanifkhanshastri@gmail.com
Outstanding contribution	:

Dr. Mohd. Hanif Khan Shastri is a learned Sanskrit scholar. He has done MA in Sanskrit, Acharya in Purana and was awarded Ph.D. on *Mahamantra Gayatri Aur Surah Fatiha Ka Arth Prayog Evam Mahatmya Ki Drishtri Se Tulnatmak Addhayan* in 1991. Dr Shastri has at least eight books to his credit that have been authored by him. The most popular amongst these publications are Mohangita, Geeta Aur Quran men Samanjasya, Ved aur Quran se Mahamantra Gayatri aur Surah Fatiha, Vedon men Manav Adhikar and Meljol. The publications are considered as masterpiece by cross sections of academicians and scholars. Dr. Shastri has endeavoured tried to promote communal harmony by highlighting similarities between Hindu and Muslim religions through his unique literary contributions in Hindi and Sanskrit. His other activities include delivering lectures, talks and TV shows on theme of communal harmony presented by him on various occasions. His programmes have also been relayed on the All India Radio and telecast by the Doordarshan in the past years. He has also been honoured by the President of India and conferred with a couple of other awards and appreciation letters for his contribution in literature with particular reference to communal harmony.

Name : DR. DOMINIC EMMANUEL SVD

Year of conferment of award : 2008

Address : Dr. Dominic Emmanuel SVD
Sadbhavana, Church Complex
Sukhdev Vihar, New Delhi 110 025

Date of birth : 19th August 1951

Education : Ph.D.

Employment : Religious Priest

Contact details : Tel. No. 011-26925080, 26911336
09810018071

E-mail frdominic@gmail.com

Outstanding contribution :

Dr. Dominic Emmanuel is a catholic priest and has been working with Delhi Catholic Archdiocese. He also worked as spokesperson of Catholic Bishops Conference of India (CBCI), New Delhi. Having completed Ph.D. in 1997 from the University of Westminster on 'Communication as Dialogue: Its Progressive Recognition in Modern Christian, Academic and Broadcast Discourses', Dr. Emmanuel has been working for communal harmony for past two decades. He negotiated with Dera Sachcha Sauda and Granthis of Akal Takht to resolve row between Dera Sachcha Sauda and Sikh Community. He has also contributed in resolving the stand off between Christians and Muslims during September 1996 in the wake of speech of the Pope in Rosenberg University. He has written books on value education for school children and communal harmony. He has also contributed articles such as 'Waiting for Gandhi', *Ishwar Aur Us Tak Pahunchne ke Marg*, Crime and Forgiveness, *Sadbhavna Aur Tyoharohn ke Moti*, etc. in national dailies.

Name : DR. RAM PUNIYANI

Year of conferment of award : 2007

Address : 1102, Building 5
Near Rambagh
MHADA, POWAI
Mumbai- 400 076
Maharashtra

Date of birth : 25th August 1945

Education : M.D. (Medicine)

Employment : Retired Professor, Biomedical
Engineering

Contact details : Tel. No. 022-25704061, 09322254043

Fax

Website

E-mail ram.puniyani@gmail.com

Outstanding contribution :

Prof. Ram Puniyani is a well-known scholar who has been writing extensively on the theme of communal harmony and national integration. He has contributed a large number of articles and write-ups, etc. on the subject in numerous magazines, newspapers and journals. He has a number of books to his credit. Having been associated with the Center for Study of Society and Secularism, Mumbai, Prof. Puniyani was also involved in a number of programmes viz. seminars, workshops and training and awareness sessions of the Centre. His activities and programmes on the theme of communal harmony have been more significant after the 1992 communal disturbances. Overall, the contribution of the nominee in the area of communal harmony and national integration is significant at the national level.

Name : **RABINDRA NATH UPADHYAY**

Year of conferment of award : 2006

Address : Tamulpur Anchalik Gramdan Sangh (TAGS)
Shanti Kendra, P.O. Kumarikata
District Baksa, Assam

Date of birth : 1st April 1924

Education : Intermediate

Employment : Social Worker

Contact details : Tel. No. 03624- 235019, 235041

Fax **0361-2522344**

E-mail tagsassam@satyam.net.in

Outstanding contribution :

Shri Rabindra Nath Upadhyay, a social worker and Gandhian to the core, has been working for promoting truth, non-violence, communal harmony and national integration.

Shri Upadhyay gave up his undergraduate studies in Banaras Hindu University and plunged into the freedom movement. He has actively participated in Bhoodan and Gramdan movement under the leadership of Acharya Vinoba Bhave, Shri Jaiprakash Narayan and Shri Dharendra Mazumdar, displaying tremendous organizational skills and courage of conviction.

Shri Upadhyay has been closely associated with peace and constructive activities under the auspices of Tamulpur Anchalik Gramdan Sangh, a non-governmental organisation formed by him. Also, through Mahila Samiti Sena (Women's Peace Corps), he is creating an ambiance of peace and harmony, fostering unity in some of the communally disturbed areas of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Tripura. He has worked tirelessly for peace and development to overcome insurgency and violence and has opposed militancy and secessionism even at the risk of his life.

Shri Upadhyay is the recipient of Padma Shri Award in 2000, Jamnalal Bajaj Award for constructive work in 2003 and Friends of North-East Award in 2004.

Name	: MS. HEMA BHARALI
Year of conferment of award	: 2005
Address	: House No.39, Kasturba Nagar Ulubari, Guwahati –781 007 Assam
Date of birth	: 19 th February 1919
Education	: Trained in Basic Education, Wardha Maharashtra, 1946-47
Employment	: Social Worker
Contact details	: Tel. No. 0361-2456835, 9954052613
Outstanding contribution	:

Ms. Hema Bharali, is a Gandhian, distinguished freedom fighter, front ranking leader of Vinoba Bhave's Bhoodan movement, eminent social worker and a real friend of downtrodden.

After independence of the nation, Ms. Hema Bharali has been associated with non-political organizations that fought for the cause of social upliftment of people at large. She has been engaged in rural development, spread of basic education, prohibition, strengthening of national integration and removal of social discrimination. She has worked for empowerment of women and children, promotion of their welfare, securing social justice and promoting peace and non-violence. She worked for peace during language disturbances in Assam in 1960 and helped the panic stricken people of Tezpur and adjoining areas of Assam--Arunachal border (then NEFA) during the Chinese aggression in 1962. As a social worker, she is committed to the doctrine of *Bahujan Hitaya, Bahujan Sahaya*. She took active part in Vinoba Bhave's Bhoodan movement and undertook *padyatra* to instill the spirit of national integration in the minds of people; to create an awakening among women; and to spread knowledge about forests as a vital factor of environment.

Recognising her dedicated service to the nation, the Government of India conferred the prestigious Padmashri Award on Ms. Hema Bharali in the year 2005.

Name	:	LATE ACHARYA MAHAPRAGYA
Year of conferment of award	:	2004
Address	:	Anuvrat Bhawan 210, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Marg New Delhi-110 002
Date of birth	:	14 June 1920
Education	:	--
Employment	:	--
Contact details	:	No more in this world.
Outstanding contribution	:	

Acharya Mahapragya was a spiritual leader, thinker, philosopher, writer and poet. His writings included nearly 150 books covering topics like Jain Agamas, non-violence, peace, morality, socio-religious harmony and spirituality, science of living, meditation, ecology and economics are a valuable contribution.

Acharya Mahapragya gave Anuvrat Movement a philosophical content for developing value systems of the people which will in turn make the nation stronger. Anuvrat promulgated a non sectarian religion. Acharya Mahapragya gave a detailed curriculum in 'Jeevan Vigyan' i.e. Science of Living, which brings about positive behavioral and attitudinal changes in the students. He invented 'Preksha Dhyan' for inner purification which is valuable for developing self-confidence, tolerance, patience and emotional balance.

Under the guidance of Acharya Mahapragya, a forum for peace and non-violence has been formed in the name of 'Ahimsa Samvay'. He started a unique journey called '*Ahimsa Yatra*' to spread the message of non-violence, fraternity, brotherhood and peace. He went on foot from village to village and town to town comforting people and to carry the message of Hindu-Muslim unity during Gujarat carnage. He also organized reconciliation conferences at various places in Gujarat. He had similarly undertaken "Prem and Sadbhavana" marches in other States.

Name : **SMT. SYEDA NASEEM CHISHTI**

Year of conferment of award : 2002

Address : W/o. Syed Razul Hussain Chishti
67, 2nd Floor
Anand Lok
New Delhi

Date of birth : --

Education : Graduation

Employment : --

Contact details : --

Outstanding contribution :

A well-known novelist, writer and poetess, Begum Syeda Naseem Chishti published articles and stories in prestigious magazines besides broadcasting on the All India Radio. Twenty Four of her articles and stories on national integration, non-violence, peace and harmony, which were broadcast, have been well received. Her lyrics dealing with patriotism and harmony were set to music and picturized for a programme on Doordarshan under the title of "*Apna Yeh Chaman*". This programme was repeatedly telecast for two years. She has been conferred various prestigious awards. Chishti worked for promoting communal harmony and national integration for a considerable time.

Name : DR. TONTADA SIDDHALING SWAMIJI

Year of conferment of award : 2001

Address : **Address: Jagadguru Tontadraya
Math
Taluka & District Gadag
Pin – 582 101 Karntaka**

Date of birth : 23 February 1949

Education : M.A.
Awarded Honorary Doctorate by
Gulbarga University

Employment : Preaching

Contact details : Tel No. 09448138827 / 09448355599

Websites <http://tce.ac.in>
<http://nhdedcollege.org/index.html>

Outstanding contribution :

Dr. Tontada Siddhaling Swamiji, basically a *yogi* & social worker, worked for eradication of casteism and upliftment of *Dalits*. His Math comprising of the Veerashaiva sect of Hinduism, has been transformed by him into a secular and social institution. He conducted programmes for promotion of communal harmony and helping in normalizing the communal troubles. He revolutionized and transformed the people of Gadag-Betgeri by his numerous educational, literary, cultural, agricultural and secular religious projects. He was awarded Honorary Doctorate by Gulbarga University for his contribution in the field of social service and communal harmony besides other awards i.e. *Rajyotsava Prashasti* by the State Government for his secular service.

- Name** : MAULANA WAHIDUDDIN KHAN
- Year of conferment of award** : 1998
- Address** : Center for Peace and Spirituality
The Islamic Centre
1, Nizamuddin West Market
New Delhi – 110013
INDIA
- Date of birth** : 1st January 1925
- Education** : Graduated from a seminary of traditional Islamic learning and acquired modern knowledge through self-study.
- Employment** : Spiritual leader & writer.
- Contact details** : Tel. No. 91-11-24625454, 24611128
Fax 011-24697333
Website www.cpsglobal.org
E-mail info@cps.org
- Outstanding contribution** :

Maulana Wahiduddin Khan is an Islamic scholar, a renowned speaker with modern outlook & orientation, having authored over 200 books and contributed numerous articles & write-ups to newspapers and journals.

During the communally charged atmosphere in 1992, he made efforts to restore peace and amity between the two communities. He went on a 15-day Shanti Yatra along with Acharya Muni Sushil Kumar and Swami Chidanand Maharashtra, addressing large groups of people at different places on the way from Bombay to Nagpur. Devoted to the development of a complete ideology of peace and spirituality, he presents to the world the true face of Islam based on peace, tolerance and co-existence. He is often invited in inter-faith meetings and programmes to spread the message of peace and harmony. He is also the recipient of the Padma Bhushan, the National Integration Award, the National Amity Award and the Aruna Asaf Ali Sadbhavna Award.

Name : **SHRI ASGHAR ALI ENGINEER**

Year of conferment of award : 1997

Address : Centre for Study of Society and
Secularism
602 & 603, Silver Star, 6th Floor
Behind BEST Bus Depot, Santacruz (E)
Mumbai-400 055

Date of birth : **10 March 1939**

Education : Civil Engineering from Indore, Madhya
Pradesh

Employment : 20 years as an Engineer in Bombay
Municipal Corporation

Contact details : Tel. No. 022-26149668, 26102089, 022-26630086

Fax 022-26100712

Website www.csss-islam.com

E-mail csss@mtnl.net.in

Outstanding contribution :

Born in a Maulvi family of Bohras at Mumbai, Shri Asghar Ali Engineer had a liberal and scientific education. He took up the task of enquiring as to why two communities were coming to clash on so called religious grounds even after partition and concluded that the political and economic factors were more important than anything else in any communal clash. His writings reflect rare sensitivity, originality and excellent comprehension of the ethics of all religions practiced in the country. He has written more than 35 books on the subjects cognate to religion and their rituals besides hundreds of articles on the same subject that have been published in various newspapers and magazines. His research & literary contribution has helped in removing a lot of misgivings about different religions. His fight against dogmas in all communities particularly in Muslims and Bohras, deserves special mention. He is a great faith in the use of Gandhian principles of non-violence to promote communal harmony, national integration and fraternity among the fellow citizens.