

G M Syed Memorial Committee

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Two Luminaries Honored for their Contributions to Sindhi Society and Language G M Syed Memorial Awards 2011 Announced

<u>HOUSTON, TX, Two Sindhi luminaries, Mr. Taj Joyo</u> (58) of **Shaheed Benazirabad, Sindh** and **Ms. Veena Shringi** (64) of **New Delhi, India**, were conferred with the prestigious 'G. M. Syed Memorial Awards 2011' in recognition of their contributions to *Sindhi identity, language and Sindhi Rights Movement*.

These awards were announced during the 108th Birthday Anniversary Commemoration of G M Syed, held in January 2012 in Houston, TX. These awards are jointly sponsored by the World Sindhi Congress (WSC) and the G. M. Syed Memorial Committee, a Houston, TX-based educational group.

G. M. Syed Memorial Awards are conferred to honor the memory of Mr. Syed, a visionary leader who pioneered the Sindhi freedom movement and was a beacon of the Sindhi people's struggle for national self-determination. Previous recipients include renowned Sindhi luminaries such as Mr. Keerat Babani of Mumbai, India; Mr. Ibrahim Joyo of Jamshoro, Sindh; Mr Sobho Gianchandani of Larkano; Mr. Mohan Gehani of Bhopal, India; Mr. Ghanshyam Hotumalani of Delhi, India, Dr. Motilal Jotwani of Delhi, India, Mr. Azad Kazi of Karachi; Mr. Khadim Hussain Soomro of Sehwan, Sindh, Dr Safdar Sarki of Texas, USA, Mr. Abdul Wahid Arisar of Umerkot, Sindh, Mr. Sunder Agnani of Jaipur, India, Mr Khamiso Khan (Khaki) Joyo of Nawabshah, Sindh, Dr. Baldev Matlani of Mumbai, India, Dr. M. K. Jetley of New Dehli, India, and Naz Sanai of Sann, Sindh.

Mr. Taj Joyo (58), researcher, writer, teacher, and a renowned literary figure, is currently the Secretary of Sindhi Language Authority and an Associate Professor at the University of Sindh, Jamshoro. Mr Joyo was born in Shahheed Benazirabad (Naswabshah). Mr Joyo has written more than 50 books on various aspects of Sindhi literature such as classical and modern Sindhi poetry, Sindhi literature figures, and Sindh's history. Mr Joyo also edited and published 6 books of Saeen G M Syed. He remained the Secretary of the Sindhi Adabi Sangat – a prestigious body of Sindhi Writers and Poets for 12 years organizing and strengthening the literary activities in Sindh. Mr Joyo is recipient of three dozens of national literary awards for his various contributions to Sindhi language, research and education. Mr. Joyo is a member of several academic bodies such as Higher Education Commission, various examination boards, and national level academic and cultural bodies. Mr. Joyo is also active in various



Mr. Taj Joyo of Shaheed Benazirabad, Sindh

social and grass-root organizations such as Teachers Associations, Sindh Graduates Association to name a few.



The G. M. Syed Memorial Award is bestowed on Mr. Taj Joyo "in appreciation for his contributions to research, education and promotion of Sindhi literature in masses and for his publications of work of Saeen G M Syed."

Veena Shringi (64) is an acclaimed Sindhi writer, journalist, activist and a radio broadcaster. Born in Larkana Sindh, she graduated from the University of Sindh and later in 1970 she migrated to India. In 1976 she joined All India Radio's Sindhi Service and continues to present excellent programs to this day. Her contributions on radio were heard by Sindhi Diaspora community across the globe.

Ms. Shringi has published 20 books of poetry, short stories, translations, and travelogues bringing her the prestigious awards from the Ministry of HRD, Government of India and also from National Council for the Promotion of Sindhi Language. She has been very active in Sindhi cultural scene all over the India and a recipient of the numerous awards from various Sindhi organizations from all over the world.



Ms Veena Shringi of New Dehli, India

Through her writings and radio programs, seminars and conferences, Ms. Shiringi served as an important bridge connecting the Sindhi writers and intellectual community from Sindh and India. In 1985, when Saeen G. M. Sayed visited India, Ms Shringi invited Syed and covered his trip in her writings.

Ms Shringi is a Member of the Literary Committee of Sindhi Academy, Dehli and had served as a member in the National Council for Promotion of Sindhi Language for several years.

Ms. Shringi is also active in the Sindhi women's movement. In 1983 she formed "Maruee", a literary and cultural organization dedicated to the promotion of socio-cultural activities of Sindhi women. Presently she serves as the General Secretary. Under the aegis of "Maruee", Ms. Shringi has organized more than 50 Seminars and conferences, including five international seminars on Shah Abdul Latif, Sachal and Sami, which were well attended by luminaries from all over the world.

The G. M. Syed Memorial Award is bestowed on Ms. Veena Shringi "in appreciation for her lifelong contributions to the unity of Sindhi Diaspora across the globe through her writings, radio programming, and community organizing and cultural activities."

The G. M. Syed Memorial Committee is a Houston, TX-based educational group organized to promote G. M. Syed's message of non-violence, democracy, secularism and the right to self-determination for Sindhis and other oppressed nations within the international community. For more information, visit http://www.gmsyed.org.

The World Sindhi Congress (WSC) is one of the most prominent human rights advocacy organizations for Sindh and Sindhis. The main objective of WSC is to create a better understanding among the international community about the persecuted status of Sindhis in Pakistan and about the Sindhi people's struggles for their human rights, including the right to self-determination. WSC is a registered company in England and Wales, and in USA, organized to carry out non-profit activities only. For more information, visit http://www.worldsindhicongress.org.