

PRESENT



✦
**S MUTHIAH
MEMORIAL
LECTURE**
✦

*Lives of a Writer:
Exploring
beyond the Book*

**APR
13
2024**

**SATURDAY
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
MMA
MANAGEMENT
CENTER**

SHREEKUMAR VARMA

WRITER, POET & JOURNALIST



SYNOPSIS

In "Lives of a Writer: Exploring beyond the Book," acclaimed writer, poet, and journalist Mr Shreekumar Varma shares his insights on a captivating journey into the intricate world that lies beyond the pages of literature. Through poignant anecdotes, personal reflections, and illuminating insights, Varma delves into the essence of a writer's life, transcending the mere act of writing to explore the profound influences, experiences, and passions that shape their creative existence. From the depths of solitude to the heights of inspiration, Varma's talk would be a compelling exploration of the joys, challenges, and revelations inherent in the writer's journey, inviting listeners to discover the rich tapestry of humanity woven into every word penned by these storytellers. Join Mr Varma on a thought-provoking odyssey that celebrates the boundless creativity and indomitable spirit of writers, illuminating the profound connections between life, art, and the enduring power of storytelling.

PROGRAMME

5:15 PM Registration & High Tea

6:00 PM Welcome Address

Gp Capt R Vijayakumar (Retd), VSM

Executive Director

Madras Management Association

Opening Remarks by the Chairman

Capt D P Ramachandran (Retd)

Founder & Chairman

Colours of Glory Foundation

Address by the Chief Guest:

S Muthiah Memorial Lecture on the theme "Lives of a Writer: Exploring beyond the Book"

Mr Shreekumar Varma

Writer, Poet & Journalist

Q & A

Concluding Remarks

7:25 PM Vote of Thanks

PROFILE



Mr Shreekumar Varma

Writer, Poet & Journalist

Shreekumar Varma is an author, playwright, poet, newspaper columnist, literary reviewer and translator, known for the novels *Lament of Mohini* (Penguin), *Maria's Room* (Harper Collins), *Kipling's Daughter* (AngloInk), *Devil's Garden* (Puffin), *The Magic Store of Nu-Cham-Vu* (Puffin) and the historical book, *Pazhassi Raja: The Royal Rebel* (Macmillan).

He received the R. K. Narayan Award in 2015. He was awarded the Charles Wallace Fellowship, 2004, and was Writer-in-Residence at Stirling University, Scotland.

His plays include *Bow of Rama* (dir. Noshir Ratnagar), *The Dark Lord* (Vinod Anand), *Platform* (Yamuna Naso), *Midnight Hotel* (Mithran Devanesen), *Cast Party* (Michael Muthu), *Ganga at Rishikesh* (Mathivanan Rajendran & Venkatesh Harinathan) and *Five* (Ajit Chitturi).

He published and edited the fortnightly, *Trident*. He was charter member and President of the Rotary Club of Madras Southwest. He was on the Jury for the inaugural *The Hindu Literary Prize*, *The Prakriti Prize*, the International Red Cross and Press Institute of India Prize. He translated poetry and part of a novel from the Malayalam to English for the Oxford University Press' *Anthology of Dalit writing*. His poetry was used for two dance performances, *Vamshi* and *Rithu*, by famed dance exponent Indira Kadambi. He scripted films on the Buddha for the visitors' centre at the Ajanta caves.

He has been a columnist for *The Times of India*, *Indian Express*, *The Hindu MetroPlus*, *Deccan Herald*, *Fiji Times*, etc.

He is the grandson of the last ruling Maharani of Travancore, Sethu Lakshmi Bayi, and great-great grandson of the artist Raja Ravi Varma. He is married to Geeta Varma, and has two sons, Vinayak and Karthik, and a daughter-in-law, Yamini.

PROFILE



Capt D P Ramachandran (Retd)

Founder & Chairman

Colours of Glory Foundation

Captain D P Ramachandran is a war veteran and military historian, who has authored three books and numerous articles on military history, with a fourth book under publication. He is the founder of Colours of Glory Foundation, dedicated to promoting awareness of India's rich military heritage. His first book, "Legion of the Brave" (East West Books, Madras, 2000), offers a firsthand account of his experiences as a tank commander during the 1971 Bangladesh War. The next, "Empire's First Soldiers" (Lancer Publishers, New Delhi, 2008) showcases his research on South Indian Soldiery, originating from his essay in "Madras - Chennai - A 400-year Record of the First City of Modern India" a prestigious compendium on the history of Madras. In his third work, "Indian Army Through Battles Over the Centuries" (Palaniappa Brothers, Chennai, 2019), he presents a coffee table book depicting the Indian Army's history through centuries of conflicts. His latest work, "Unconquered Horizons", which is under publication by Lancer Publishers, New Delhi, is a chronicle of the saga of Southern Indian icons, who resisted colonialism, often at the cost of their lives. Transitioning from a decade-long army tenure to a thirty-six-year corporate career, Captain Ramachandran remains deeply engaged in military history. Based in Chennai, he maintains an active presence through his blogs on www.coloursofglory.org, also hosting diverse indoor and outdoor events through Colours of Glory Foundation. These events, spanning eight years, include exhibitions, battle re-enactments, marathons, quizzes, screenings, talks, and seminars, aimed at fostering appreciation for India's military legacy. Captain Ramachandran can be contacted at captdp@gmail.com

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MADRAS MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION



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Colours of  Glory