

54th Jnanpith Award for 2018 to AMITAV GHOSH Eminent Indian Novelist writing in English

NEWS

New Delhi: 14th December 2018

The Jnanpith Selection Board has announced the recipient of the 54th Jnanpith Award for the year 2018 today in a meeting. It went to **Shri Amitav Ghosh**, eminent Indian novelist writing in **English**.

The decision was taken in a meeting of Jnanpith Selection Board chaired by eminent novelist, scholar and Jnanpith laureate Smt. Pratibha Ray. Other eminent persons of the selection board are Prof. Girishwar Misra, Prof. Shamim Hanfi, Prof. Harish Trivedi, Prof. Suranjan Das, Prof. Purushothama Bilimale, Shri Chandrakant Patil, Dr. S. Mani Valan, Shri C. Radhakrishnan, Prof. Asghar Wajahat and Shri Madhusudan Anand.

Born in 1956 in Kolkata, West Bengal, Amitav Ghosh is a path-breaking novelist. In his novels, Ghosh treads through historical settings to the modern era and weaves a space where the past connects with the present in relevant ways. His fiction is endowed with extraordinary depth and substance through his academic training as a historian and a social anthropologist. His major thematic concerns include migration and interconnections across places, cultures and races, and human distress and suffering caused by historical turbulences, especially at the level of *giritiyas*, coolies and lascars.

Amitav Ghosh has explored Indian protagonists ranging across a wide international field, including Bangladesh, England, Egypt and Burma/Myanmar in both his fictional and discursive writings. Some of his celebrated creations include *The Circle of Reason*, *The Shadow Lines*, *The Calcutta Chromosome*, *The Glass Palace*, *The Hungry Tide* and the *Ibis* trilogy that includes *Sea of Poppies*, *River of Smoke*, and *Flood of Fire*.

He is the recipient of many coveted awards that include Sahitya Akademi Award, Ananda Puraskar, Crossword Book Prize, Prix Médicis Award from France and was short listed for the Man Booker Prize, 2008. His work has been translated into more than twenty-five languages.

Please feel free to contact us if you require any further detail in this regard.

Sincerely yours,



(Madhusudan Anand)

Director



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