

Rajen Rabha's year-long birth centenary celebration ends



(Left) Sabha President Dr Kuladhar Saikia and other guests being ceremonially escorted to the dais and (right) Dr Chandan Kumar Sarma, sociologist-scholar and the chief guest of the function delivering his speech.

The year-long birth centenary celebration of Sabha's former vice president and noted scholar of tribal folklore, language and culture Late Rajen Rabha concluded in a colourful function held at Ambuk village near Dhupdhora town in Goalpara district on October 18, 2021. The programme was organised by Dakkhin Bikali Sakha Sahitya Sabha under the auspices of Goalpara Zila Sahitya Sabha. The day-long programme began with hoisting of the Sabha flag by Goalpara Zila Sahitya Sabha president Prakash Chandra Rabha at 8-45 A.M. It was followed by garlanding the portrait of Late Rabha by Rupjyoti Sakha Sahitya Sabha acting president Dr M Gopal Singh and lighting of the lamp by Dakkhin Bikali Sakha Sahitya Sabha president Putul Chandra Rabha.

The proceedings of the main function which was held with president Dr Saikia in the chair began with presentation of the Sabha's opening song '*Chira Chenehi Mor Bhasha Janani...*'. Noted academician and folk culture scholar Dr Malina Devi Rabha inaugurated the function and it was followed by welcome speech Putul Chandra Rabha and the Sabha general secretary Jadab Chandra Sharma. Dr Saikia, in his opening speech, praised in high words the superior academic pursuits of Late Rajen Rabha defying tremendous financial obstacles. Today's young generation should procure inspiration from the life and works of Late Rajen Rabha, the undisputed, high-level folk culture scholar who was the vice president of Asam Sahitya Sabha for two terms, Dr Saikia remarked.

Addressing the gathering, Sabha's vice president Smti Mrinalini Devi stressed on proper preservation of Rajen Rabha's literary works. Thaneshwar Malakar, member, Sabha's Karnadhar Samity member Thaneshwar Malakar released the official souvenir published on the occasion. Other guests present there include Rabha Hasong Autonomous Council president Tankeshwar Rabha, local MLA of Dudhnoi constituency Jadab Swargiyary, sociologist-scholar Dr Chandan Kumar Sarma of Tezpur University and the chief guest of the function, noted actor-theatre director-columnist Nayan Prasad and all of them spoke on the occasion. Shri Tankeshwar Rabha announced to install a bronze bust of Rajen Rabha at Dudhnoi from Rabha Hasong Autonomous Council and MLA Shri Swargiyary declared a financial grant of Rs 8.00 lakh from his area development fund for construction of the office of Dakkhin Bikali Sakha Sahitya Sabha.