

sabaqeurdu.com

ISSN-2321-1601

UGC CARE LISTED MONTHLY JOURNAL



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اردو تنقید کی عظیم ترین عہد ساز شخصیت پروفیسر گوپی چند نارنگ سرسید ایوارڈ سے سرفراز

Regd. with the RNI No.: Urdu Monthly
UPURD/2016/67444

SABAQEURDU

Postal Regd.NO. : Vsi(W)- 44/
2019-2021

VOLUME: 6, ISSUE: 8 Infront of Police Chowki
Gopiganj-221303, Bhadohi
NOVEMBER, 2021 sabaqeurdu@gmail.com

M.:9919142411,9696486386
Whatsapp: 9919142411
Price per copy : Rs.100/-

Aligarh, October 3: Illustrious British historian and Professor of History of South Asia at the University of London, Dr Francis Christopher Rowland Robinson will receive the International Sir Syed Excellence Award 2021 and acclaimed Indian theorist, Padma Bhushan and former president of the Sahitya Academy, Prof Gopi Chand Narang will be given the National Sir Syed Excellence Award during the online Sir Syed Day Commemoration ceremony on October 17 of Aligarh Muslim University (AMU).

Vice Chancellor, Prof Tariq Mansoor on the recommendation of a jury comprising Prof Asghar Abbas, Prof Ishtiaq Ahmad Zilli, Prof A R Kidwai, Prof Ali Mohammad Naqvi, Dr Mohammad Shahid, Mr Tariq Hasan and Prof M Shafey Kidwai selected the names of the awardees. The yearly International and National Sir Syed Excellence Awards carrying cash prizes of Rs 200000 and Rs 100000 respectively are given to noted scholars who produced outstanding intellectual seminal works in the areas of Sir Syed Studies, South Asian Studies, Muslim Issues, Literature, Medieval History, Social Reform, Communal Harmony, Journalism and Inter-Faith Dialogue.

Prof Gopi Chand Narang, the National Sir Syed Excellence Awardee is an esteemed literary critic and scholar who writes in Urdu and English with a range of modern theoretical frameworks including stylistics, structuralism, post-structuralism and Eastern poetics.

His recent books on Ghalib (Oxford University Press), Urdu Ghazal (Oxford University Press) and Mir Taqi Mir (Penguin) have got widespread acclaim across the globe.

He was the vice-chairman of the Delhi Urdu Academy (1996–1999) and the National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language – HRD (1998–2004) and vice-president (1998–2002) and president (2003–2007) of the Sahitya Akademi.

He has been bestowed with the Padma Bhushan (2004), Padma Shri (1990), Sahitya Akademi Award (1995), Ghalib Award (1985), Urdu Academy's Bahadur Shah Zafar Award (2010), Bharatiya Bhasha Parishad Award (2010), Madhya Pradesh Iqbal Samman (2011) and the Bharatiya Jananpith Moorti Devi Award (2012). The Sahitya Akademi conferred on Dr Narang its highest honour, the Fellowship, in 2009.

Public Relations Office Aligarh Muslim University.

ADV.