# FIFTH RABINDRANATH TAGORE MEMORIAL LECTURE

By

**Professor Ganesh Devy** 

## Aphasia, the Future of Memory





Netaji Subhash Open University

# Aphasia, the Future of Memory

G. N. Devy Bhasah Research Centre, Baroda, India



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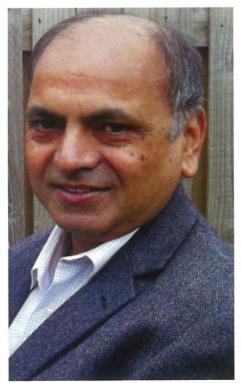
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G. N. Devy

Formerly Professor of English at the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda and Dhirubhai Ambani Institute of Information Technology, Devy writes in English, Marathi and Gujarati. He is founder of the Bhasha Research Centre, Baroda, and Adivasi Academy, Tejgadh, and has worked extensively with the Adivasis and Nomadic communities in India. He led the People's Linguistic Survey of India (PLSI), a comprehensive documentation of all living Indian languages, forming a 50 volume PLSI Series (OrientBlackSwan). He has received several awards for his writing as well as for his community work including Padma Shri, Prince Claus Award and Linguapax Award. Among his better known works are After Amnesia (1992), Of Many Heroes (1997), Painted Words (2003) and Nomad Called Thief (2003) (in English), Vanaprastha (in Marathi), and Adivasi JaaneChhe(in Gujarati). He has co-edited a series of six volumes on indigenous cultures and knowledge. As an activist, he played a leading role in the movement for the rights of Denotified and Nomadic Tribes, and more recently has initiated the Dakshinayan Movement of writers and artists.



Professor Subha Sankar Sarkar, Vice Chancellor

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### **FOREWORD**

It is our pleasure to publish the Fifth Rabindranath Tagore Memorial Lecture delivered by Professor Ganesh Devy on 12th March 2012, at Netaji Subhas Open University. After the completion of sesquicentennial birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore, we feel proud to extend our homage to the great humanist by publishing this series of lectures.

Professor Ganesh Devy is one of the most revered and serious literary critics of our time in this country. His works have been appreciated at the highest levels of Indian academia and in international arena as well. Professor Devy's thoughts and insights on Indian Literary Historiography have created a separate canon among the contemporary readership of India. His passionate and praxis oriented activity among the denotified nomadic tribes is known to all of us. He is the founder of Bhasa Research Centre, Baroda and Adivasi Academy, Tejgadh, which are examples of his vision towards life the lives of the marginalised. He has received 'Padma Shri' from Govt. of India and was awarded 'Prince Clause' for his writings and community work.

To hear from such learned person was really a good experience. Now, it is my pleasure to publish his lecture on behalf of an Open University which strives to reach the 'unreached' in all its best possible endeavours.

I am thankful to Dr. Manan Kumar Mandal, Associate Professor & Officer-in-charge of School of Humanities and his colleagues for organizing the lecture and for its publication.

Development Grant received from the UGC-Distance Education Bureau, New Delhi has been utilised to cover-up the cost of this publication.

Professor Subha Sankar Sarkar

Vice-Chancellor