

Literary arena mourns death of Makbula Manzoor

Cultural Correspondent | Published: 23:06, Jul 04,2020

Bangla Academy award winning writer Makbula Manzoor passed away on Friday at her younger sister's residence in the capital's Uttara. She was 82.

She is survived by her two daughters and two sons.

'My mother had been suffering from various health problems and age-associated diseases. She breathed her last at around 6:15 pm on Friday at my aunt's house,' Linda Rahman, daughter of Makbula Manzoor, told New Age.

Her namaz-e-janaza was held in Uttara after isha prayer and she was buried at Uttara Sector 14 Graveyard.

Peers and admirers have expressed deep shock at the death of Makbula Manzoor.

Independence Award winning writer Selina Hossain said, 'She was senior to me but I had a friendly relation with her. We used to enjoy long discussions about literature at Bangla Academy. She made huge contribution to Bangla literature. She will live on through her outstanding creations.'

President of Bangladesh Lekhika Sangha Dilara Mesbah pointed out, 'I and Makbula Apa worked together at Bangladesh Lekhika Sangha for a long time. She had held various posts at our organisation and later served as an advisor. Though she was unwell in her final days, she always came from Uttara to attend our programmes. I cannot believe that I won't be able to hear her voice ever again.' 'Her autobiography "Kaler Mandira" gives the viewers a glimpse into the plight of women during war of independence in 1971 along with her life journey. Her works will continue to inspire the upcoming women writers in the coming days,' added Dilara Mesbah.

Writer Anwara Syed Haq mentioned, 'Makbula Manzoor was a powerful writer of Bengali literature. Her books portray the plight of women, nature, environment and other issues.' 'Her passing away has left a huge void in the country's literary scene. It is a matter of great grief that we are gradually losing our talented writers and poets. She will be remembered through her creations,' added Anwara Syed Haq.

Makbula Manzoor was born in September 14, 1938 at Kamarkhand upazila in Sirajganj district. She completed matriculation from Bindubasini Girls' High School in Tangail and intermediate from Rajshahi College. After completing BA from Eden Mohila College, she completed MA in Bangla from Dhaka University. She started her career as a banker at the then East Pakistan Muslim Commercial Bank, now Pubali Bank. Later, she joined as a teacher at Holy Cross Girls' High School. She also worked at University Women's Federation College and Southeast University. She served as the feature editor of the influential weekly Begum for 25 years.

She received Ananya Literary Award, Lekhika Sangha Award, National Archives and Library Best Book along with other prizes during her lifetime. She received the Bangla Academy Literary Award in 2005.

Among her significant books are 'Ar Ek Jiban', 'Abasanna Gan', 'Baishakhe Shirna Nadi', 'Jal Rang Chhabi', 'Atmaja O Amra', 'Patita Prithibi', 'Prem Ek Sonali Nadi', 'Shiyare Niyata Surja', 'Achena Nakshatra', 'Kane Dekha Alo', 'Nirbacita Premer Upanyas', 'Nadite Andhakar', 'LilaKamal' and 'Kaler Mandira'.



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