

CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bangalore  
KANNADA SANGHA  
Report of Kavidina 2025

General Information

Type of Activity	Commemoration of the 129th birth anniversary of Kannada Poet Dr. D.R Bendre
Title of the Activity	KAVIDINA 2025
Date/s	31 January 2025
Time	4.30-6.30pm
Venue	802, Syndicate Room, Central Campus, Bangalore
Collaboration/Sponsor (if any)	Nil

Speaker Details

Name	<b><i>Dr. Narahalli Balasubramanya</i></b>
Title/Position	A leading and well known Critic and Writer in Kannada language.
Organization	Former Principal of the Sheshadripuram College Bangalore.
Title of Presentation	Chief Guest Speaker
Name	<b><i>Dr. Dominic</i></b>
Title/Position	Director, Center for Kannada Studies, Jnanabharathi, Bangalore University
Organization	Bangalore University
Title of Presentation	Book Reviewing

(Add/repeat above rows if there is more than one Speaker)

Participant's profile:

Type of Participants	Academicians, Faculty, Students, Invitees & General Public
No. of Participants	120

Synopsis of the Activity (Description)

Highlights of the Activity	<p>Kannada Sangha was founded in the year 1972. It has encouraged and provided an opportunity to write for hundreds of writers. It has created and spread a sense of cultural sensitivity across the Karnataka state. Kannada Sangha arranged and conducted Kavidina programme to commemorate the 129th birth anniversary of Kannada Poet Dr. D.R Bendre. 3 books were released on that day. <b><i>Nenedavara Manadalli</i></b> a book on Pen pictures written by Shri. S R Vijayashankar, <b><i>Netta Marada Neralu</i></b> a prize-winning poem, <b><i>Dr. A.Na. Kru. Katha Spardhe- 14</i></b> by various College students across Karnataka were released.</p>
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Key Takeaways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Bendre contributed to Kannada literary field.</li> <li>• His linguistic talent was unique.</li> <li>• Bendre developed the taste of reading poetry</li> <li>• Inspiring and motivating young minds to propagate Karnataka culture, Kannada language and art form</li> </ul>
Summary of the Activity	<p>It was a two- hour programme and started with invocation. Dr. Narahalli Balasubramanya released the above mentioned 3 books. The book – <i>Nenedavara Manadalli</i> a book on Pen pictures written by Shri. S R Vijayashankar Dr. Dominic the guest speaker for the day reviewed the book. Rev. Fr. Dr. Varghese K J, Chief Finance Officer of Christ Deemed to be University gave the presidential address. The programme concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Mukund Naragund,</p> <p>Dr. Shivananda Tavali was the master of Ceremony and Dr. Prashanth A S presented the welcome address. Dr. Rathi M T Coordinator, Kannada Sangha initiated and organized the programme.</p>

#### Rapporteur

Name of the Rapporteur	Dr. Rathi M T, Coordinator, Kannada Sangha.
Email and Contact No	<a href="mailto:rathi.mt@christuniversity.in">rathi.mt@christuniversity.in</a> 9880495712

#### Descriptive Report

Christ University celebrated **Kavidina** on January 31<sup>st</sup> in honour of the renowned Kannada poet Da. Ra. Bendre's birth anniversary. Organized by the Kannada Sangha the event paid tribute to Kannada literature and its rich legacy.

The program began with a prayer song by Vinup Ram a student of final year B.Sc., setting a reverent tone for the occasion. The event was graced by notable literary figures, including Nadahalli Balasubramanya, a distinguished critic and writer, Dr. Domenic, the Director of Kannada Studies at Bangalore University, and S. R. Vijayashankar, the author of the book *Nenedavara Manadalli*, which was released during the event. Rev. Fr. Dr. Varghese K J presided over the function.

Nadahalli Balasubramanya officially released three books mentioned above and Dr. Domenick elaborated on its significance. He explained that the book contains 27 articles about various luminaries of Kannada literature, such as G. P. Rajaratnam, D. V. Gundappa (DVG), L. S. Sheshagiri Rao and Chennaveera Kanavi. He emphasized the interconnectedness of social aspects and individuality and recounted how Siddalingaiah's mother was a major inspiration in his life. Quoting K. B. Siddhiah, he

stated, “*Letters did not touch me, I did. We both got freed,*” underscoring the power of literature in personal transformation.

Following this, Fr. Varghese addressed the gathering, encouraging students to immerse themselves in reading and prayer whenever they feel disoriented or unproductive. He metaphorically described the book *Nenedavara Manadalli* as a child gifted to Kannada literature by its author, S. R. Vijayashankar.

In his speech, Vijayashankar reminisced about his earlier book, *Nijaguna*, which was also released by the Kannada Sangha and later won the Sahitya Akademi Award. He spoke about the two primary forms of biographical writing—one that portrays a person through direct writing and another that captures a person’s essence through incidents.

The event also featured a prize distribution ceremony for the prize winners in the competition of poems and short stories, which were submitted by students from various Colleges and Universities across Karnataka. The overwhelming number of entries demonstrated the continued passion for Kannada literature among young writers.

Towards the conclusion of the event, Nadahalli Balasubramanya expressed his concerns about the present generation’s declining patience and focus. He stressed the need for cultural journeys, akin to spiritual pilgrimages, to rediscover and engage with Kannada heritage. He also discussed the enduring relevance of Da. Ra. Bendre’s literary works, acknowledging their profound impact even today. Expressing his deep admiration for Bendre, he thanked Kannada Sangha for inviting him to speak about the poet on this special occasion and revealed his aspiration to write a book on him in the future.

The event was a resounding success, celebrating Kannada literature and fostering a sense of literary enthusiasm among students and faculty alike. The Kannada Sangha’s dedication to preserving and promoting the literary legacy of great poets like Da. Ra. Bendre was evident throughout the program, making *Kavidina* a memorable and inspiring event.

### **Speaker profile**

1. Narahalli Balasubramanya was born on September 1, 1953. in Narahalli in Mandya district. Initial School Read Narahalli, he persued his Kannada B.A. honors degree with first rank in Bangalore University. He was awarded the Rajaratnam gold medal as well as the State Award for the Best Student and the Talent Scholarship of the Government of India. He retired as a professor, head of the department and Principal Seshadripuram College, Bangalore. He written many books in the literary form of essays, translations. He did his prominent work on the Kannada great poets Kuvempu and PU.TI.NA. He has received many awards like V.M Inamdar award, G.S.S award, Aryabhata award for his work on the criticism
2. Dr. Dominic A Brief Note: Prof. Dominic presently works as the Director of Centre for Kannada Studies, Bangalore University. He is also a member Coordinator for NAAC Peer Team Visit, UGC, Govt., of India.

Worked as the Registrar of Evaluation & Administration at Bengaluru North University, Director, Kolar, Bangalore University Post-Graduate Centre and later facilitated the smooth handing over the Centre to the newly established Bengaluru North University and has guided seven PhD students. He has completed research projects in the following themes: a. Caste Out of Development, sponsored by London University b. Dalit Christians' Socio-Economic and cultural situation in 9 districts of Karnataka. As a writer both in Kannada and English he has published ten books & edited eight books and more than 500 articles. His area of interests are translation and Philosophy.



