

Website dedicated to Gujarati litterateur Umashankar Joshi

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Gujarat Global News Network, Ahmedabad In the centenary year of noted Gujarati Litterateur Umashankar Joshi, his works are being put on the internet through a website dedicated to him. The website <http://umashankarjoshi.in/> has been formally launched, but it is still in the development process of uploading works of Umashankar Joshi who has become synonym of Gujarati language and literature.

The website describes Umashankar Joshi in these words: During his life Umashankar Joshi wrote several books of poetry, short stories, plays, essays, travelogues, criticisms, as well as on education, politics and contemporary issues and events. He edited 'Sanskriti', a journal for nearly four decades (1947-1984). Moreover he published several books of translations from Indian and foreign languages under the aegis of Gangotri Trust founded by him. As a writer Umashankar Joshi was deeply concerned with the social economic and political issues of his times. He played a significant role in the public life of Gujarat and the country for over five decades. He served in various categories such as professor of Gujarati and later vice chancellor at Gujarat University, chancellor of Visva Bharti University founded by Tagore. Member of Rajya Sabha, President of Sahitya Akademi and member of several educational, cultural and literary institutions of the country. Umashankar Joshi preferred to introduce himself as 'an Indian writer writing in Gujarati' rather than a Gujarati writer. This not only suggests that he had imbibed in himself the multifarious Indian culture but also more importantly, his insistence on freeing Indian literature in different languages from narrow regionalism and seeing it in its varied totality. The website has many hand written documents of the great author who penned more than 70 books. To mark Umashankar Joshi centenary, a committee has been formed. He was born in north Gujarat in 1911. The website has photographs of the doyen of Gujarati literature besides copies of issues of two years of Sanskriti. For news in Hindi see our Hindi daily Chaupal Chronicle