

## **Report on the twentieth year celebration program held on 02 April 2022**

The programme started at about 4.30 pm at Dr Triguna Sen Memorial Hall in the JU campus with the opening song sung by the parents, before a brief welcome address by Anup Dewanji, the Secretary of Atmaja. This followed by a brief introduction by Swapan Naskar, Chairperson of Atmaja, after which the distinguished guests were ushered in the stage by the emcee of the evening, Prasun Gangopadhyay. The guests included Dr Sashi Panja, Minister of Women and Child Development and Social Welfare, Ananya Chakraborty Chatterjee, Chairperson, WB Commission for Protection of Child Rights, Prof Madhabendra Nath Mitra, President, National Council of Education, Bengal, and Satya Gopal Dey, Head, Child Protection, Advocacy & HR, Vikramshila Education Resource Society. These guests were greeted with a plant and a copy of the special issue of Atmakatha, after which they delivered short speeches. Then, the special issue of Atmakatha was released by the guests.

Following this, the stage was set for the panel discussion on “Rights of Adoptee”. The panelists included Dr Bipasha Roy, Child Rights Activist, Ex- Member of Juvenile Justice Board, Saumeta Medhora, Secretary and Chief Functionary of Indian Society for Sponsorship and Adoption, Kolkata, Nilanjana Dasgupta, Director, Child Trafficking, West Bengal, and Prof Nilanjana Gupta, Founding Chairperson, Atmaja. They were first presented with a plant and a copy of the special issue of Atmakatha. Thereafter, each speaker spoke about the different concerns related to the rights of adoptee. The discussion was aptly moderated by Nilanjana Gupta.

This followed the in-house programme, including sweet performances from our young kids, a popular song by Anjan Basu Chowdhury with gifts for the kids, and a sensational dance drama by Subha, Anhiti and Ritayan. This entire in-house programme was anchored by Ahana Basu. This brought in the tea break to prepare for the play Jola O Saat Bhoot by Uhinee, Kolkata. It was a superb play enjoyed by all. After the play was over, the entire audience applauded profusely about the theme of the play and the acting by the entire cast. The show of appreciation was pretty spontaneous. The evening ended at about 8:15 pm.

Many took photographs of the event (See our website) and there was also arrangement for videography. A vcd of the whole programme is under preparation which may be available soon.

The entire programme was made possible by untiring efforts and generous contributions from our members and some sponsors. This report ends with acknowledging all this with thanks and gratitude.