

## **Dr. B. K. Barua College Award, 2017**

### **Dr. B.K.B. College, Puranigudam**

Dr. Birinchi Kumar Barua College Award instituted in 2016 has been a part of our institutional best practice and the highest academic honour offered by the college. Though it was intended to be a continuous annual practice a decision was adopted in 2018 with procedural amendment to make the conferring of the award a biennial activity together with the biennial Dr. B. K. Barua memorial lecture. The rationale behind this award giving practice is to shoulder a social responsibility towards promotion of creative inspiration for those working in the field of socio-cultural and historical studies, inculcation of values through fine arts and folk culture.. Initially the central focus of the award was on the unsung heroes, authors and artists who have not been recognized by the academics in an attempt to evaluate and honour their contributions. A good number of such unrecognized creative minds have been engaged in such literary cultural and historical practices that deserve attention. In the year 2021 the selection committee decided to shift the focus from the conventional areas to the issues of environmental crises and conservation of nature.

The College award merits its importance not for its content but for its keeping alive the memory of Dr. B. K. Barua and the objectives set for promotion of arts and craft far beyond the canon. The award carries a cash of 20,000, a citation, pieces of traditional attire and a collection of books.

#### **The Recipient of the second Dr. B. K. Barua College award in 2017:**

Dr. B. K. Barua College award was offered to Mr. Murulidhar Das for the second time in recognition and honour of his commitment and dedication to the primary field of folk life and culture. Mr Ajit Bhuyan, the renowned journalist and social activist presented the award to him. An agriculturist turned folklorist with no formal academic degree Mr. Das's passion for folk life and agricultural occupation helped him to focus on the cultural and literary practices of the Karbi and Tiwa communities of Assam. Truly a man of the soil Mr. Das lives a very simple life with agriculture as his only means of livelihood and devotes his creative power and organizational capacity to the studies of folklore and social activities. His contribution in the establishment of Dimaria College, other socio- cultural organizations has been well appreciated by the people of the locality and the academics for which he has been honoured with awards and literary pension.

*Bhoiam Karbir loka parampora aru geet-pad and Tiwa aru Karbi – Lokasanskritir Lecheri Butali are the major works of Mr. Murulidhar das.*



