Fukuoka Prize 2021
Grand Prize

PALAGUMMI Sainath
India
Journalist
People's Archive of Rural India Founder Editor
Born May 13, 1957  (Age 64)

Biography

1957  Born in Chennai (formerly known as Madras), India
1977  B.A. History, Loyola College, Madras
1979  M.A. History, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
1980-82  Sub Editor, United News of India
1982-93  Deputy Chief Editor, and Foreign Editor, Blitz group of Publications
1982-86  Foreign Editor at The Daily, Mumbai (till 1986, a part of the Blitz group)
1993-2004  Full-time rural reporter, freelance
2000-  Adjunct Faculty, Asian College of Journalism, Chennai
2004-14  Rural Affairs Editor, The Hindu
2011  Doctor of Letters (D.Litt.) honoris causa, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada
2012  the McGraw Professor of Writing, Princeton University, U.S.A.
2014  Founded People's Archive of Rural India
2014-  Founder Editor, People's Archive of Rural India
2015  Visiting Professor South Asian Studies Program Princeton University
2017  Doctorate (honoris causa) a D.Litt., the University of St. Francis Xavier, Nova Scotia, Canada

Mr. Palagummi Sainath has also taught at the University of California, Berkeley (U.S.A.), the University of Iowa, Curtin University (Australia), The University of Western Ontario (Canada). He still teaches regular courses at the Sophia Polytechnic and the Asian College of Journalism in India.

Major Awards

1993  The Sri Raja-Lakshmi Award for Journalism
1994  The Statesman Prize for Rural Reporting
1995  European Commission's Lorenzo Natali Prize for journalism
1995  People's Union of Civil Liberties (PUCL ) Journalism for Human Rights Award
2000  The inaugural Amnesty International Global Human Rights Journalism Prize
2000  BD Goenka Prize for Excellence in Journalism
2001  The United Nation's Food & Agriculture Organisation's Boerma Prize
2002  Global Visions Inspiration Award
2004  Prem Bhatia Memorial Prize
2006  The Harry Chapin Media Award
2007  Ramon Magsaysay Award for Journalism, Literature and Creative Communication Arts
2009   Journalist of the Year, Ramnath Goenka Prize for Excellence in Journalism
2014   The inaugural World Media Summit Global Award for Excellence

Major Publications

- Everybody loves a good drought: stories from India's poorest districts, Penguin India, 1996.
- Writing of a Nation. An Anthology of Indian Journalism (chapter author), Rupa, 2007.
- Bridging the gap (co-author), SAGE, 2011.
- Notes from the Hinterland: Stories and Essays (co-author), Rupa, 2019.

Documentary films based on the laureate

- A Tribe of His Own: The Journalism of P. Sainath, (2002), Directed and written by Joe Moulins
- Nero’s Guest (2009), Directed by Deepa Bhatia