



Dear Friends,

It is a matter of great pleasure for us all that a felicitation function is being arranged in honour of our Guru Shri M. V. alias Bapusahib Athavale, founder Principal, Nagpur School of Art, Nagpur. You very well know how selflessly he has devoted his entire life for the School and the art.

Bapusahib was born on 4th Aug. 1904 at Khadaki Ghorapadi near Pune. He had his High School education at Jalgaon from where he went to J. J. School of Arts, Bombay. He passed D. T. C. and A. M. with distinction. As he is Master portrait Artist, according to him, he gives its credit to his accomplished Masters like Shri Agaskar, Taskar, Trinidad, Durandhar etc. The successful beginning in Portrait painting was done in Amalner where he did an excellent portrait of the great Millmagnet Pratapseth's Guru Late Shri Sawlaram Master.

He came to Nagpur in 1929 and the same year proved very fortunate for him as he was awarded a Gold Medal in the exhibition held in Chatterton Hall. In 1930 he was commissioned for three Portraits in Nagpur Municipality for which he was again awarded a Gold Medal.

In 1931 along with Shri T. A. Chorghade he started Nagpur School of Art. The same year the portrait of then Vice Chancellor Sir Bipin Krishna Bose was done by him and it followed the line of portraits of successive V Cs. Bapusahib very rightly claims his dignified representation through the portraits of the big personalities in almost every aristocratic family of Nagpur and its surrounding.

Along with painting, Bapusahib has mastery in Music-especially in harmonium. During the period 1919 to 1930 he has that honour to play harmonium with almost all the top singers of All India Fame including Master KrishnaRao and the Great Bal-Gandharva.

In August 78 Shri Athavale will be 74. He has passed about fifty long years for the service of the institution and art of Painting with the hope to see the institution at the top of its progress but unfortunately it proved to be otherwise, and with body and mind fast deteriorating. He is being hopeless day by day. Under these circumstances, his students scattered all over have some responsibility and the service towards him. Let us do something for this Grand Old Master our Guru Bapusahib Athavale.

Expecting your share and cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Address :

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