

Dr. Itirani Samanta

Creative Writer, Editor - premier monthly magazines of Odisha, 'The Kadambini' & 'The Kunikatha', **Director** - Kadambini Studios, **Managing Trustee** - Kadambini Sahitya Akademi Tust, **Creator** - Shephalee-The Designer House, **Chair Person of Schools** - Kalinga English Medium School & Kalarabank High School at village Kalarabank, **two times National Award-Winning Film Producer, Reputed Television Producer, Popular Interviewer, Social Entrepreneur, awarded Junior and Senior Fellowship** (Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India).



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Dr. Itirani Samanta

A women entrepreneur who is a **Creative Writer, Editor** (premier monthly magazines of Odisha, 'The Kadambini' and 'The Kunikatha'), **Director** (Kadambini Studios), **Managing Trustee** (Kadambini Sahitya Akademi Tust), **Creator** (Shephalee- The Designer House), **Chair Person of Schools** (Kalinga English Medium School & Kalarabank High School at village Kalarabank), two times **National Award-Winning Film Producer, Reputed Television Producer, Popular Interviewer, Social Entrepreneur, awarded Junior and Senior Fellowship** (Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India).

Nationality : Indian

Village : Kalarabank

Dist : Cuttack

State : Odisha

PIN : 754132

Education : • **Diploma in Electronics & Telecommunication Engineering**
• **Masters Degree in Odia Literature**
• **Masters Degree in Development Journalism & Electronic Communication from Utkal University, Odisha**
• **Ph.D in Literature from Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan**

Dr. Itirani Samanta is a rare confluence of resilience, creativity, and cultural leadership - A truly self-made visionary. She has shaped contemporary Odia literature, media, cinema, and social thought for over two and a half decades through her noble work with all passion, dedication & love. Acclaimed author, researcher, editor of the iconic premier monthly magazine 'The Kadambini', Two-time National Award-winning film producer, social entrepreneur, and cultural custodian. She widely regarded as a powerful voice of conscience and empowerment. Deeply rooted in heritage yet forward looking in vision, she stands as a dynamic intellectual, motivator, and orator, committed to building inclusive and sustainable ecosystems that uplift women, artisans, marginalized communities, and the cultural soul of society. Her life itself stands as a powerful testament to women's empowerment. From childhood marked by the struggle to secure even two meals a day, she has risen to become a multifaceted personality today providing livelihoods so many families and securing their futures through employment across her diverse organizations. She is now a respected household name, known and admired by each and every individual of our state for her tireless and scintillating efforts to rejuvenate Odisha's language, literature, culture, and arts through her conglomerate of foundations. At the heart of all her work lies an unwavering commitment to the dignity of women amplifying their voices, safeguarding their rights, and challenging the arbitrary social practices that so often seek to silence them.

With a strong academic foundation that seamlessly bridges science, humanities, and communication, Dr. Itirani Samanta's educational journey reflects her lifelong pursuit of knowledge and purpose. Trained initially in engineering, she went on to deepen her engagement with language, literature, and mass communication, disciplines that later shaped her voice as a writer, editor, and cultural thinker. Her scholarly path culminated in a PhD from the prestigious Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan, an institution rooted in the humanist vision of Rabindranath Tagore, where intellect and empathy are inseparable. This rare synthesis of technical rigor, literary sensitivity, and social awareness defines her leadership and creative work. A truly self-made woman, Dr. Samanta has

devoted her life to the upliftment of women and the enrichment of language, literature, art, culture, and society at large, leaving behind a legacy driven not by position or privilege, but by purpose, perseverance, and conscience.

Due to family constraints, and because she was a good student, she wanted to support her family by pursuing education in a stable field such as engineering or medicine and taking up a job in the field. At that time, it was absolutely necessary for her to earn a livelihood and support her family financially. However, her inner calling never supported her in continuing that work. That is why she turned towards her long-standing love for writing, which eventually shaped her into the editor of 'The Kadambini' magazine (premier monthly magazine of the state).

Her journey did not begin with privilege. It began with loss, hardship, and courage far beyond her years. Losing her father when she was barely a month old, Dr. Itirani Samanta grew up in a family of seven siblings where scarcity was a constant companion. There were days when food was uncertain and childhood was shaped by responsibility. Even as a young girl, she worked wherever she could to support her family, earning small amounts but holding onto something far greater than money, an unshakeable resolve to change her destiny.

Education became her path forward and determination her lifelong ally. With academic excellence spanning engineering, literature, mass communication, and a doctorate from Visva Bharati Santiniketan, she built herself through knowledge, discipline, and perseverance. What she gained was not just degrees but a deep sensitivity towards society, culture, and human struggle. That sensitivity would later define everything she created.

In the year 2000, when regional magazines were fading and readership was declining, Dr. Itirani Samanta created 'The Kadambini'. A new revolution in the field of regional magazine. Since its inception, 'The Kadambini' has flourished, ushering in a new era in the history of Odia magazines through its regularity, Feature based innovative vision, vibrant illustrations, and reader-centric approach. Much of the journal's success rests on the passion, perception, and unwavering dedication of its celebrated editor, Dr. Itirani Samanta.

At a time when many believed regional language publications had no future, but she saw possibility. With vision, consistency, and a reader first approach, she transformed Kadambini into the largest and most respected premier monthly magazine in the region. Today it reaches millions of readers and stands as a cultural institution in itself. Her creation 'The Kadambini' is not just a magazine today, but a movement, a literary revolution. Her editorials, especially on women, social realities, and reinterpretations of epic characters, have shaped thought and stirred conscience across generations. Through more than thirty-five books, she has enriched Odia literature with writings that are both creative and socially resonant. From the very beginning, epics such as the 'Ramayana' and the 'Mahabharata' have deeply touched Dr. Samanta's heart. She believes that the women characters portrayed in these epics convey positive values and inspiration to society.

Her engagement with mythological characters has always been constructive, never destructive. Over the years, Dr. Itirani Samanta developed a strong expertise in Indian mythology particularly in the field of women empowerment. She is fascinated by how these timeless stories can be reimagined for modern audiences. She has not simply followed Indian mythology from a really young age but also extensively researched on its nuances and covered them in her editorials of the magazine Kadambini.

She truly believes reinterpretation of mythology is a quiet yet powerful form of social resistance. Our epics like the Ramayana and the Mahabharata are not frozen texts meant only for ritual reverence. They are living narratives that grow with society. When we revisit them with fresh questions, we are not challenging faith, we are deepening it. Her intent was always to look beyond the familiar surface. Mythology holds a mirror to human behaviour, power structures, gender roles, duty, desire, and moral conflict. Through her work, she tries to reinterpret and reimagine women characters from our epics. She closely studies how they were portrayed in their time, what meanings they carried, and how much agency and voice they truly had. She has always drawn to those women, seeking them out, understanding them, and rediscovering them through her writing, so their stories can be seen with renewed depth, dignity, and relevance today.

In her belief in our epics and mythological texts, women have never been passive figures. From the Ramayana to the Mahabharata, they stood with dignity, conscience, and moral strength, questioning injustice and upholding dharma. Whenever society underestimated them, history responded with transformation. What continues to



inspire her is that then or now, women have always thought beyond themselves for family, society, and humanity. Their choices were guided by ethics, responsibility, and compassion. They were never weak, they were wise, courageous, and deeply farsighted.

In our epics, whichever female characters she has come across, they all were self-respecting. She believes, when we retell these stories through contemporary lenses, we allow silenced voices to speak again, especially women, the marginalised, and the forgotten. That itself becomes resistance, because it questions inherited interpretations without confrontation or noise. For her, reinterpretation is an act of responsibility. It keeps mythology relevant, humane, and inclusive. It allows society to reflect, to unlearn, and to grow quietly but deeply. That silence is not weakness, it is strength. Now, in our society, mythology is being widely discussed. Everything being discussed was relevant at that time and is still relevant now, and it will remain relevant for generations to come.

Her journey as a writer began by closely observing the life of her mother, whose resilience, dignity, and strength deeply influenced

her social view. This lived experience found reflection in her research, her writings, and the women she portrays. Across her body of work, none of her female characters break down in the face of adversity. Instead, they stand with their heads held high, making bold decisions and facing every challenge with courage and inner strength. Through these portrayals, she consistently sends a powerful message to society, one of resilience, ethical action, and constructive transformation, never destruction.

Her love for storytelling naturally expanded into cinema and media. Through Kadambini Media, she produced critically acclaimed films such as 'Kathantara' and 'Krantidhara', and she became recipient of National Awards. She went on to create documentaries, television programmes, and the much-loved talk show 'Itinka Alapa', which celebrates stalwarts of Odia art and culture. In a bold and compassionate move, her media house became the first in the country to produce an extensive series on the transgender community titled 'Bhinna Manisha Bhinna Katha'. The programme did more than tell stories. It changed mindsets. It gave dignity, visibility, and voice to lives often ignored. Spiritual leader Mx. Laxmi Narayan Tripathy described it as history in the making, not just for India but for the world.

Her commitment to empowerment extends far beyond the page and the screen. She dedicated herself into different social works at her native village Kalarabank. Carrying forward her mother Nilimarani's dream, she serves as the Secretary of the Nilimarani Charitable Trust, in the name of her late mother. Again she runs Kalinga English Medium School. Hundreds of people are employed locally, and families no longer need to leave their village for education or livelihood. She united youth, empowered rural women through many groups, and quietly rebuilt an entire ecosystem rooted in dignity and opportunity.

Kadambini Media Pvt. Ltd., expanding its commitment to literature by publishing books of high literary merit by both eminent and emerging writers. To promote art, literature and culture; Dr. Itirani Samanta started 'Kadambini Literary Festival', 'Kadambini Patrika Haata' and 'Nilimarani Sahitya Sammana'. As part of its creative journey, Kadambini Media also ventured into the audio-visual domain, producing acclaimed music albums and video productions. Its cinematic debut, Kathantara (Another Story), set against the backdrop of the 1999 Super Cyclone, earned widespread acclaim winning eight awards at the 18th Odisha State Film Awards (2005) and the Silver Lotus for Best Odia Feature Film at the 53rd National Film Awards, besides recognition at several national and international film festivals.

Media's second feature film 'Krantidhara' (Coup de grace) is based on the story written by Dr. Itirani Samanta

shows struggle of women in grass root politics which has been highly acclaimed by critics and audiences in various national and international film festivals and owned 3 Awards in the Odisha State Film Awards 2014. She has produced short film 'Kahani Nuhen', non-feature/documentary film 'The Sea & Seven Villages' got 71st National Film Awards 2023, 'Kahe Ballav..', 'Mahima Alekha' premiered at 56th International Film festival Of India (IFFI), telefilm 'Tapoi', educational film 'Chithi', 'Kanya Ratna' & many more.

Alongside filmmaking, Dr. Itirani Samanta proved herself as a good interviewer. She remained deeply engaged with television. Her conversational programme Itinka Alapa has emerged as a widely admired platform, bringing stalwarts of Odia art, culture, and thought closer to the people, and celebrating voices that have enriched the language across decades.

After completing twenty-five successful years in publication and the audio-visual medium, Kadambini marked yet another milestone in 2025 by entering the textile sector through Kadambini Studios and Maison de Loom Pvt. Ltd.

Dr. Itirani Samanta has also remained deeply connected to India's textile heritage. Her understanding of culture extends to what people wear, touch, and inherit. This belief gave birth to 'Shephalee by Iti Samanta', a luxury handloom brand that celebrates Odisha's weaving traditions while giving them contemporary relevance. It's an extension of her 27 years of journey in art, craft, language and literature. Every creation at Shephalee is crafted only with hand woven fabrics, making each piece unique. More than a brand, 'Shephalee' is a movement that honours artisans, preserves generational skills, and allows heritage to live and breathe in modern form.

Throughout her life, her work for women, marginalised communities, and social equity has remained constant. She has written, spoken, produced, and built with one purpose to ensure voices are heard, traditions are preserved, and futures are made more humane. Her work with women, the transgender community, artisans, writers, and rural families reflect not charity, but deep respect. Dr. Itirani Samanta's life is not just a story of personal success. It is a testament to what purpose driven perseverance can achieve. From hunger to honour, from struggle to stewardship, she has spent the last twenty-six years serving the art, culture, literature, language, and cinema of Odisha with integrity and courage. Her journey reminds us that true leadership is not about power, but about responsibility, compassion, and the quiet strength to uplift others while walking forward with grace.

Dr. Itirani Samanta has been holding several important positions in public and private bodies like CBFC, Govt. of India; Postal Dept., Odisha State Film Award committee, Taranga Cine Award committee, Feature Film Jury Member, 54th International Film Festival of India (IFFI), Indian Panorama, Great Grand Jury Panel for Creative Minds of Tomorrow films at IFFI 2025 etc. She was invited as guest to Vivienne westwood's fashion show at gateway of India Mumbai. She was also invited as guest speaker at Jaipur literature festival in 2023, at National conclave on weaving India together, NASC, Delhi, At TEDx and many more.

Dr. Itirani samanta has been awarded with various renowned awards and accolades. Some among them are 71st National Film Awards 2023 (for 'The Sea and Seven Villages'), Indian Women Achievers' Award 2024, IWAA, Inspirational Women of 2024, Global Women Inspiration Award & Conclave 2024, Eminent Writer Award 2024, Bharat Bikash Parishad, East Region, Swayamsidhha Samman 2024, Sambad Digital & Rays Foundation; Sampadana Gourab Samman 2023, Apurba, Bhubaneswar; Srujanara Sandhanee Samman 2023, Saluting Women Achievers of Odisha Award 2024, Times of India; Times Power Women Odisha Award 2023, Times of India , Sanskruti o Sanskruti, Bhubaneswar. National Award for Best Film



production (Rajat Kamal) 2006 (for 'Kathantara'); Mohan Sundara Deb Goswami Award 2005 (Odisha State Film Award for best film 'Kathantara'); Film 'Kathantara' has also participated and highly acclaimed in many international film festivals; like: 5th Asian Film Festival, Mumbai 2006; 12th Kolkata Film Festival, Kolkata 2006; 11th International Film Festival, Kerala 2006; 4th Cine India International Film Festival, Noida, UP 2007; 1st Hyderabad International Film Festival, Hyderabad 2007; Indian Film Festival ('Bollywood and Beyond') in Stuttgart, Germany 2007; South Asian Film Festival, Bangladesh, 2007; Mohan Sundar Deb Goswami Award 2014 (Odisha State Film Award for best feature film 'Krantidhara'); Odisha State Film Award for Best Story Writer 2014 (for 'Krantidhara') and many more...

All these activities reflect her unique personality enriched with simplicity, magnanimity, sincerity and dedication. It seems unbelievable how a person who barely managed to eat ample food a day has become a successful personality with her strong determination to overcome the adverse situations and now has taken responsibility of an overall growth of the ecosystem she is the part of. Above all she is a self-made woman who has dedicated her whole life for upliftment of women, language, literature, art, culture and social Entrepreneur. Dr. Itirani Samanta has proved herself as a successful social entrepreneur in the field of language, literature, education, art, culture and film production. She has received the women entrepreneurship award. A recipient of numerous prestigious awards, Dr. Itirani Samanta is not merely a writer or filmmaker - she is a cultural torchbearer, social reformer, and a visionary devoted to the evolution of Odisha's identity across platforms.

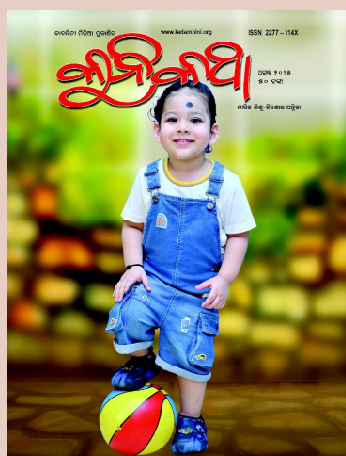
Contribution to Odia Language and Literature



While **Dr. Itirani Samanta** climbed the scholarly career in literature and communication studies, the inner calling of the creative desire, forced her to dedicate herself for promotion of literature, art, culture and heritage of Odisha. The result of this alchemy of creative spirit and literary entrepreneurship led to the establishment of Kadambini Media Pvt. Ltd. which afterward converted to **Kadambini Studios and Maison de Loom** with the sole objective of promoting art, culture, literature, language, cinema and textile in Odisha and India as well.

In 2000 AD most of the leading Odia magazines were struggling to get published regularly. Some of the magazine publishers also closed their publication house which resulted a great loss for propagation of Odia language and literature. Because magazines are the breeding ground of language, literature and culture. At that point of time Dr. Itirani Samanta took a bold step in publishing a colourful family magazine 'The Kadambini' which set a new era in the history of Odia magazines. Her only resources were her passion, determination and hard work to bring the magazine up to the state.

'**The Kadambini**' is the premier monthly family magazine of Odisha with the largest readership. A comprehensive family magazine 'The Kadambini' has captured the mindscape of all sections of people of the state. It has also created it's space in the heart of Odia's residing in the country and abroad. This attractive monthly magazine with its broad content-mix and quality printing, caters to the taste of all cultured Odia's regardless of age, gender and income level. 'The Kadambini' offers something for everyone in the family. Each issue contains cover-feature on topical social and cultural issues, current social problems, lifestyle and fashion trends, movies, television, fiction,



poetry, serial novels, Odia translations classics from other languages, sports, health, beauty, cookery and household tips. The magazine hits the stands with unfailing regularity on the 1st week of every month. Apart from the regular issues 'The Kadambini' brings out four special issues every year. Each issue, be it regular or special is a keepsake- a glossy work of art with multicoloured layouts so beautiful that it catches attention of all section of readers. Needless to say, with so much going for it 'The Kadambini' provides the dream vehicle for all to access the Odia culture psyche.

The journey of Dr. Samanta in setting up one of the premier media conglomerates is highly inspirational. In its odyssey of Twenty six years 'The Kadambini' has been propagating the empowerment of women as it's nuclei along with overall development of the society and a change in certain perspectives. The monthly magazine is a torchbearer of Odia language, literature, art and culture at the global podium. With the highest readership of any Odia magazine; around a million 'The Kadambini's impact is staggering for propelling an equal, liberal, culturally acknowledged and sophisticated society. Apart from helming the editorial part of 'The Kadambini' she also looks after the marketing of the magazine, so that Odia literature gains enormous readership in popular paradigm. She also works on the advertising as sustaining a magazine is a highly tedious job. 'The Kadambini' turned twenty seven years pursuing its service to Odia literature. Through 'The Kadambini', Dr. Samanta has not only thrown light on elegant prose and poetry but also on socially contentious topics which have enlightened the masses about the downtrodden and marginalised sections amply. 'The Kadambini's acceptance amongst lakhs portrays her popularity and the acceptance of her writings.

'The Kunikatha', a monthly family magazine for the children and teenagers marks commitment for future generations. It has got all the elements of information, entertainment and education for children of modern times. It contains stories, poems, jokes, cartoons, quizzes, G.K., topics on science, music, cinema, arts and literature. All its pages are attractive with multi-coloured layouts, beautiful sketches and photographs. 'The Kunikatha' maintains timely publication, better quality and rich content. Now, it reaches almost among all the families of 'The Kadambini' subscribers. Besides, it has caught attention of many young Odia children and teenagers in the State and outside.

KADAMBINI LITERARY FESTIVAL

Dr. Itirani Samanta through 'The Kadambini' has created a possibility of huge gathering and interaction of literary people, writers, editors, poets, publishers, readers, intellectuals, artists, research scholars and students. Every year it organises **Kadambini Literary Festival** inviting veterans from Odisha and outside to share their experience and to discuss on the various issues and trends. This is a unique literary festival to revive memories, meet old friends and to create



new friends. Its single ambition has been to provide immortally rich Odia literature and culture a platform to flaunt its grandiloquent depth. This is a daylong function from 8 AM to 8 PM with a large number of audiences (around 7000). Year after year the participation is increasing and now it has become the **Sahitya Kumbha** of Odisha.

In the second phase of Kadambini Literary Festival, '**Kabi O Kabita**' session is organised. In this session, the renowned poets from all over the spheres gather together and recite their own unpublished poems. The 'Kabi O Kabita' session of this Kadambini Literary Festival provides a scope to all the eminent poets to enlighten the audiences about their own creativity as a poet.

In the third phase, 'The Kunikatha' organises '**Kunakuni Mela**' (Children's Fair) in state level among the school students. Wherein children from all over Odisha and outside the state participate in the dance and song competition to showcase their talent. The main focus and aim of 'Kunakuni Mela' is to encourage literature, song and dance among the young talents and to recognise them.



KADAMBINI PATRIKAA HAATA

(A unique & only magazine fair of the state)

Apart from the above routine functions, 'The Kadambini' believes that magazines are the conservators of a Nation's literary and cultural heritage. With this in view 'The Kadambini' in the year 2009 launched a unique magazine exhibition 'Kadambini Patrikaa Haata' (unique & only magazine fair of the state) inaugurated by the Hon'ble Ex-Governor of Odisha Shri M.C. Bhandare. The idea was to facilitate the exhibition and sale of all the magazines of the state whether in print or out of print under one roof. For the first time in the state of Odisha almost all magazines of different kinds participated in this function. It has become an annual event of magazine display and sale. 'The Kadambini' made all the arrangements from providing free space and food for the participants free of cost. Pleasantly surprising the Haata became a huge success from the start itself. It has become an annual event of magazine display and sale. 'The Kadambini' hosts the function and provides free space for stalls. A day long exhibition comprising of more than 500 participants goes on with enthusiastic feelings of all participants. It is highly appreciated by the illustrious personalities present on the occasion. Year after year Dr. Itirani Samanta is organising the haata in the month of January coinciding with 'The Kadambini' Literary Festival. It is usually inaugurated by the distinguished guests and the same has been highly appreciated by the illustrious personalities present on the occasion. The success of the haata, where the editors get a chance to interact with their readers directly has tempted the magazine owners of other states to participate in it. Their number is also rising every year.





PRESENTATION OF AWARDS IN DIFFERENT FIELDS

Dr. Itirani Samanta has instituted several awards in different fields as a mark of recognition given in honour of different achievements.

Nilimarani Sahitya Samman

‘The Kadambini’, one of India’s largest regional magazines with a readership of over thirty lakhs has crafted itself into the imagination of both intellectuals and common folks and has also started India’s first Literary festival from 2002. ‘The Kadambini’ Literary Festival since its inception has brought thousands of writers, intellectuals, poets, cultural enthusiasts and famous literary personalities to one platform for interaction and deliberation. It is in this festival that ‘The Kadambini’ developed an indigenous idea of ‘Patrika Haat’- a single day display of all magazines published in Odia that makes it a confluence of the entire spectrum of Odia literature. The only aim was to provide a platform for all magazines to showcase themselves and market themselves. ‘The Kadambini’s single ambition has always been to get the immortally rich Odia literature and culture a platform to flaunt its grandiloquent depths.

In this regard the prestigious ‘**Nilimarani Sahitya Samman**’ has been constituted by Dr. Achyuta Samanta and Dr. Itirani Samanta, in the memory of their great mother Smt. Nilimarani Samanta. Smt. Samanta was an extraordinary woman who persevered severe hardships and poverty to raise seven children single-handedly from abject poverty and offer them the only hope she knew of education. She desired all of her children to get learning in whatever format or whatever circumstances they can. Her life was a reflection of the incessant struggle that numerous women put forward against prevalent societal norms.

The prize proudly boasts of being the pre-eminent literary award in Odisha since it’s inception in 2019 with a prize money of Ten lakh rupees, silver emblem and a citation.

Thus Dr. Itirani Samanta will be remembered for the institutionalised development of Odia literature by creating a monthly magazine that is a torchbearer of Odia literature, art and culture at the global podium.

Other awards in different fields as a mark of recognition given in honour of different achievements:

- **Kadambini Sahitya Samman:** ‘Kadambini Sahitya Samman’ (at state level) is bestowed on a person in recognition of his/her contribution to the field of Odia literature. **The award carries a cash prize of rupees one lakh, emblem, citation and shawl.**
- **Kadambini Sampadak Samman:** This Award is bestowed on a person in recognition of his/her continuous effort in magazine editing. **The award carries a cash prize of rupees ten thousand, emblem, shawl and certificate.**
- **Kadambini Sahitya Sambardhana (Felicitation in the field of literature):** Four veteran writers are felicitated in recognition of their contribution to the field of Odia literature. **The felicitation carries a cash prize of rupees ten thousand, emblem, shawl and certificate to each writers.**



On 2nd of July each year 'The Kadambini' celebrates its birth anniversary function. In this occasion Dr. Itirani Samanta has also instituted several awards in various fields and honour them, these are:

- **Kadambini Samman:** Prestigious 'Kadambini Samman' is bestowed to an individual for his/her eye catching contribution in the field of art, culture, literature, social service, education, industries, media, administration, agriculture and politics. **The award carries a cash prize of rupees fifty thousand, emblem, shawl and certificate.**
- **Kadambini Upanyasa Samman (Kadambini Novel Award):** This award is presented to eminent novelist in recognition of his/her contribution to the Odia literature. **The award carries a cash prize of rupees twenty five thousand, emblem, shawl and certificate.**
- **Kadambini Galpa Samman (Kadambini Story Award):** This award is presented to eminent story writer in recognition of his/her contribution to the Odia literature. **The award carries a cash prize of rupees ten thousand, emblem, shawl and certificate.**
- **Kadambini Kabita Samman (Kadambini Poetry Award):** This award is presented to eminent poet in recognition of his/her contribution to the field of Odia literature. **The award carries a cash prize of Rupees ten thousand, emblem, shawl and certificate.**
- **Kadambini Anubad Samman (Kadambini Translation Award):** This award is presented to eminent translator in recognition of his/her contribution to the field of Translation. **The award carries a cash prize of rupees five thousand, emblem, shawl and certificate.**
- **Kadambini Feature Samman (Kadambini Feature Award):** This award is presented to eminent feature writer in recognition of his/her contribution to the field of feature writing. **The award carries a cash prize of rupees five thousand, emblem, shawl and certificate.**
- **Kadambini Prachhadsilpi Samman (Kadambini Cover Model Award):** This award is presented to best model appeared in the cover page of 'The Kadambini'. **The award carries special gift, shawl and certificate.**
- **Kadambini Ama Roshei Puraskar (Kadambini Cookery Award):** This award is presented to a women for her achievement of excellence in cooking. **The award carries special gift, shawl and certificate.**
- **Kadambini Priya Pathak Puraskar (Kadambini Reader Award):** This award is presented to magazine reader of the year. **The award carries special gift, shawl and certificate.**
- **Kunikatha Priya Lekhak Samman (Popular Children Writer Award):** This award is presented to best writer of the year for his/her writings in 'The Kunikatha'. **The award carries a cash prize of rupees five thousand, shawl and certificate.**
- **Kunikatha Kunipratibha Puraskar (Kunikatha Young Talent Award):** This award is presented to a child for his/her talent towards writing in 'The Kunikatha'. **The award carries a cash prize of rupees five thousand, shawl and certificate.**
- **Kadambini Naba Unmesh Puraskar (Kadambini Emerging Story / Poem Writer Award):** This award is presented upon best 6 young story / poem writers. **The award carries a cash prize of rupees five thousand, shawl and certificate each respectively.**

KADAMBINI SAHITYA AKADEMI TRUST

A vision for uplifting of Language, Literature, Art and Culture

Kadambini Sahitya Akademi Trust was founded in June, 2022 by Dr. Itirani Samanta. She is the first Managing Trustee of Kadambini Sahitya Akademi Trust. The Main aims of Kadambini Sahitya Akademi are to spread, uplift and preserve Odishan art, language, literature and culture. To encourage, honour literary persons and experts through award, reward and honour in various field of Literature. In near future Kadambini Sahitya Akademi will undertake field studies, research and analysis production of monographs and audio visual materials for the benefit of the general public with particular emphasis on Indian art, culture, literature & music. And also Kadambini Sahitya Akademi will work to establish libraries, reading rooms, audiovisual aid centres and reference and index libraries, information software centres for the attainment of the objectives of the Trust.

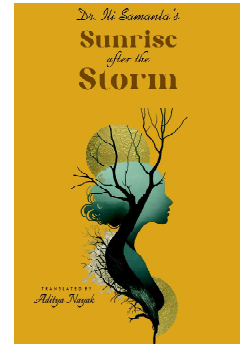
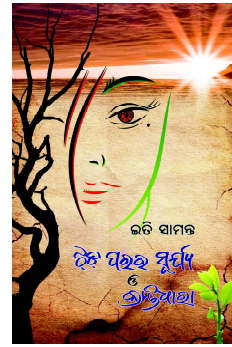
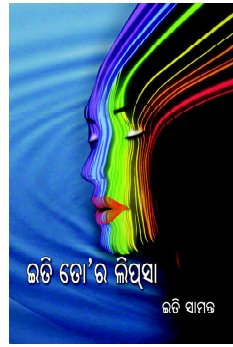


Career in Journalism

Before Joining the Master's programme in journalism, Dr. Itirani Samanta had been practising journalism as the editor of 'The Kadambini' a monthly feature magazine. She used to write features on various social, literary, cultural and socio-political issues. Some of her features also published in different news papers and magazines of the state. She has got the art of interviewing people and bring out different facets of their personalities. Since the beginning of her journalistic career she has covered hundreds of people from different spheres and all walks of life. Apart from the above she conducted many television shows as a Programme producer, content designer, interviewer and moderator.



Creative Writing



Short Story Collections

TATHAAPI

(Short Story)

It is a Collection of short stories written at different times. Very brilliantly told, the stories in the book deal with the torture and trauma of women and their struggle to find their self esteem.

ITI TORA LIPSA

(Short Story)

The central characters of all stories are women. With pain, pleasure, suffering, love, hate, treachery, conflicts and erosion of values in the back ground and glued to the tradition and culture, these stories tell women's struggle for self-liberation.

JHADA PARARA SURYA O KRANTIDHARA

(Short Story & Film Script)

It is a story on woman liberation. It has a strong story line and poetic narratives. A film namely, 'Krantidhara' has been made on the story. Both the story and the screenplay of 'Krantidhara' have been compiled in this book.

SUNRISE AFTER THE STORM

(Translated Story)

'Sunrise after the Storm' is translated from original Odia story 'Jhadaparara Surya o Krantidhara'. This story is about more than simply a girl's journey and ordeals she faced after being elected as the village sarpanch; it is about her sorrows and hardships, and how, as a girl, she overcame them and fought against them with tremendous strength and resilience.

Novels

NIRABA ALAPA

(Novel)

It is the story of a blind girl and her best friend 'Mahanadi'. In spite of her sufferings throughout, she never compromises with the values of life.

SAKUNTALA RA JHIA

(Novel)

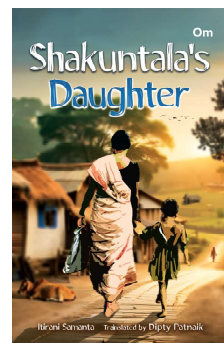
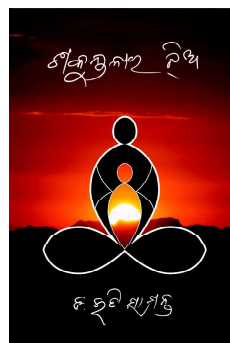
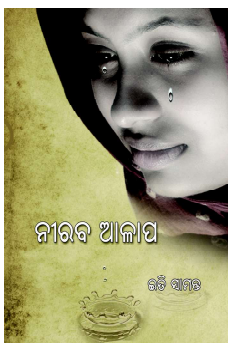
The novel depicts the life & struggle of a single parent (mother) for upbringing and educating her daughter. Sakuntala a strong willed woman boldly denies in putting her daughter's father's name in the school admission register. In her opinion, her child should not be recognised by the name of the person who doesn't want her to come to the world and do not have any contribution towards her upbringing.

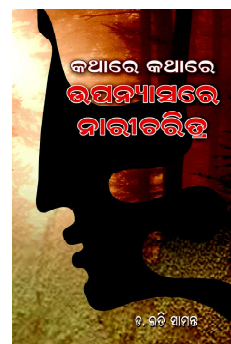
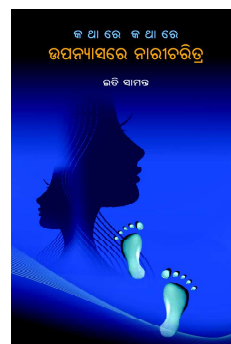
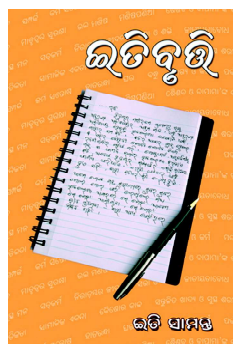
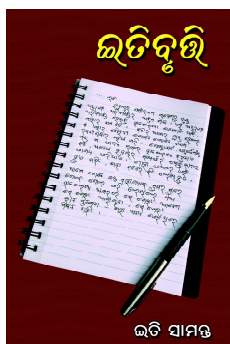
SHAKUNTALA KI BETI

SHAKUNTALA'S DAUGHTER

(Translated Novel)

'Shakuntala Ki Beti' & 'Shakuntala's Daughter' is translated from original Odia novel 'Sakuntala ra Jhia'. Dr. Itirani Samanta's this novel carries an important and novel message. Women are the perfect symbol of love, affection, sacrifice, tolerance and sympathy. But a woman's self-esteem always comes first. Her self-esteem means more than anything else to a woman. And Shakuntala's daughter is its perfect example. This emotional novel carries a new message which will be popular among the readers because of its newness and story value.





TEJYAA NUHEN TEJASWATEE

(A Compilation of Three Novels)

It is a collection of three unique novellas, all centered around women's perspectives, thoughts, and consciousness. The narratives integrate life philosophy, morality, and ethics while emphasizing the inner strength of women.

Editorial Collections

ITIBRUTI

(Editorial Collection, Part-I)

This is a compilation of the editorial pieces of the most popular Odia monthly, 'The Kadambini'. Spanning for a period from July 2000 to June 2005 these articles authoritatively comment on various social and cultural aspects.

ITIBRUTI

(Editorial Collection, Part-2)

This is a book of editorials of the largest circulated Odia monthly 'The Kadambini' from July 2005 to June 2010. These articles speak on various social, cultural and contemporary topics.

Literary Criticism

MUDRITA NAYIKA

(The Thesis)

'Mudrita Nayika' (Imprinted Heroines) is a remarkable research thesis on the topic women characters in Odia novels. The aesthetical analysis of multifarious women characters depicted in Odia novels in height of modern critical theory with microscopic vision made the work more effective and attractive. In different chapters significant aspects like theory of

characterisation, the nature and features of women characters, the celebrated women characters of world famous novels and vivid description of women characters in hundred years of Odia novels with appropriate examples and references.

KATHAARE KATHAARE UPANYAASA RE NAARICHARITRA

(A collection of research oriented interviews, Part-I)

This is a research based interview book by the authoress. In the book, the interviewer, Dr. Itirani Samanta has tried to capture the mood and psyche of twenty two novelists and has put before the readers their views and writings on women. A unique book in itself, this gives a lot of information about the authors, their characters in the book, their views and opinions on women, men, society, and life etc.

KATHAARE KATHAARE UPANYAASA RE NAARICHARITRA

(A collection of research oriented interviews, Part-II)

This is the second part of 'Kathare Kathare Upanyasa re Naricharitra' Containing interviews of twenty two authors. They include celebrated novelists like Mohapatra Nilamani Sahu, Shantanu Kumar Acharya, Srinibas Udgata, Kanakalata Mohanty, Padmaja Pal and others. Here, in the book authors have spoken up their mind on women and the society.

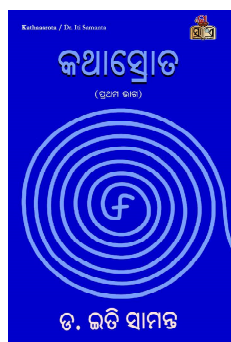
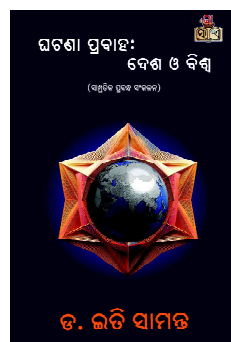
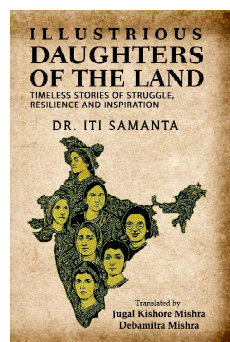
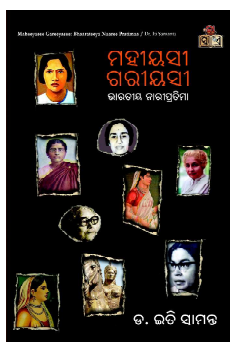
Essays

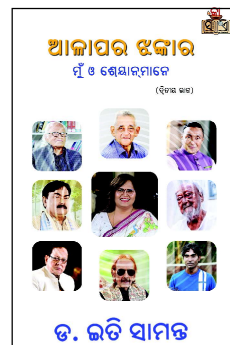
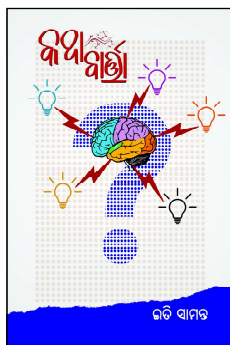
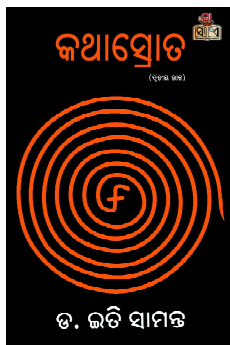
MAHEEYASEE GAREEYASEE:

BHAARATEEYA NAAREEPRATIMAA

(A Collection of Creative Essays Based on Indian History)

A unique essay book 'Maheeyasee Gareeyasee:





Bhaarateeya NaareePratimaa' contains sociological and psychological analysis of status, movement, nature and tradition of 52 memorable and uncriticised women of Indian history. Rich in information and trending explanations, this book written by Dr. Itirani Samanta is definitely accessible, readable and collectible for everyone, especially for student-researchers.

ILLUSTRIOUS DAUGHTERS OF THE LAND (Translated Collection of Creative Essays Based on Indian History)

'Illustrious Daughters of the Land' is the English translation of Dr. Itirani Samanta's acclaimed collection of reflective essays 'Maheeyasee, Gareeyasee: Bharatiya Naripratima.' The book presents the inspiring life stories of fifty-two memorable women from Indian history. Some of them are well-known, some lesser-known, and some almost forgotten. Through these portraits, the author offers a profound socio-psychological analysis of womanhood exploring their existence, evolution, essence, and emotional harmony. It is a luminous celebration of the indomitable spirit, resilience, and grace of Indian women who shaped the nation's cultural and moral fabric.

BAAMAA PRASANGA O ANYAANYA (A Collection of Essays)

It is a unique essay book on women's character, thought, respect freedom and many other literary topics in Odia literature. Each topic included in the book expresses the writer's thoughts and feelings and is a beautiful representation of literature, time and society. Written in simple and elegant language is very useful for readers and researchers.



GHATANAPRABAHA: DESH O BISHWA (A Collection of Recent Essays)

'Ghatanaprabaha: Desh O Bishwa' is a well-researched essay collection focusing on various contemporary events and topics happening across the country and the world. This compiled book on recent events provides an excellent opportunity to learn about various issues. It serves as a valuable resource for readers, researchers, and critics alike.

Soft Anecdotes

KATHAASROTA (Compilation of Soft Anecdotes, Part-I)

'Kathaasrota' (Part I) is a beautiful collection of essays on various topics written by Dr. Itirani Samanta on her Facebook page: ItiraniSamantaOfficial. With different themes, these books is definitely a collectible.

KATHASROTA (Compilation of Soft Anecdotes, Part-II)

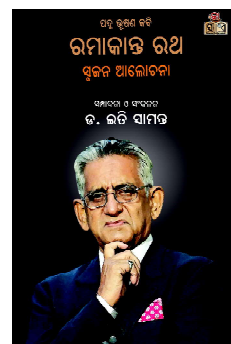
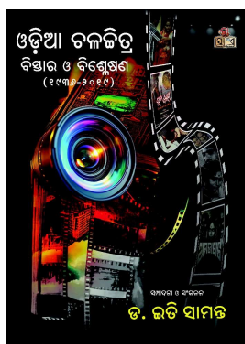
'Kathasrota' (Part II) is a simple, beautiful, and engaging short story collection based on everyday incidents happening in our society. Just like the first volume, which compiled various topics she had written about on her Facebook page over time, this second volume is also a must-have collection.

Feature and Interview Collections

PRASANGA GUCHHA (A collection of Features)

It's a beautiful collection of features on various topics by Dr. Itirani Samanta published in 'The Kadambini', the premier monthly family magazine of the state.





KATHABARTA

(A Collection of Interviews)

'The Kadambini', consistently associates itself with people from all walks of life. Be it writers, intellectuals, politicians, bureaucrats or common people. It shares their opinion and views on various aspects of life, society, literature, culture, environment etc. through interviews. This is a compilation of those interviews done by Dr. Itirani Samanta and is a unique one to be referred by research scholars and many others.

ALAPARA JHANKARA:

MU O SHREYASIMANE

(A Collection of Interviews, Part-I)

It is a unique collection of conversations and discussions conducted by Dr. Iti Samant with distinguished personalities from various fields. The Shreyasimane in this book refers to renowned and accomplished women from different domains of our society. This insightful book is undoubtedly a valuable and collectible work.

ALAPARA JHANKARA:

MU O SHREYANMANE

(A Collection of Interviews, Part-II)

It is a unique collection of conversations and discussions conducted by Dr. Iti Samant with distinguished personalities from various fields. The Shreyanmane in this book refers to renowned and accomplished men from different domains of our society. This insightful book is undoubtedly a valuable and collectible work.

Children Literature

KUNAKUNINKU CHITHI

(Collection of Letters, Vol- 1, 2, 3, 4)

These books are a collection of letters written by Dr. Itirani Samanta to the small & young children which are regularly published in the 'The Kunikatha', a premier monthly magazine for children & youth in which each letter gives an informative, enlightening and advisory message to the growing youth. These books are published in four parts.

Edited and Compilations

ODIA CINEMA: EXPANSION & ANALYSIS

(1936-2019)

(Discussion & Interview Collection)

'Odia Cinema: Expansion & Analysis (1936-2019)' is an essential and collectible compilation on the history of Odia cinema. Covering the period from 1936 to 2019, this book provides a comprehensive analysis of Odia films, along with insights into different decades of filmmaking. It also presents firsthand accounts through conversations and discussions with filmmakers, directors, actors, technicians, lyricists, playback singers, music directors, and distributors who have been a part of the industry. This invaluable and unique book is a must-have for Odia cinema enthusiasts and film researchers.

KALAJAYEE KATHA

(Memorable Odia Shortstory)

An interesting discussion of the selected chronicles of the best storytellers of Odia literature with the delightful discussions of the wise commentators and the well-edited book of the editor's foreword 'Kalajayee Katha'.

MANISHI MANOJ

(Intellectual discussion on the literary creations of Manoj Das)

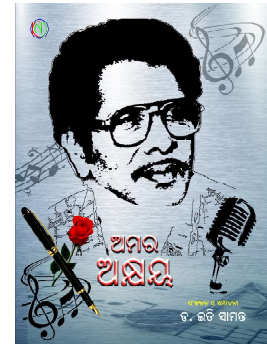
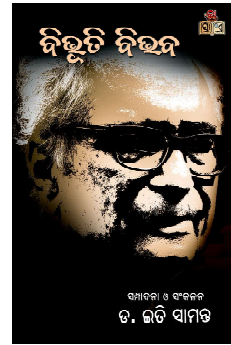
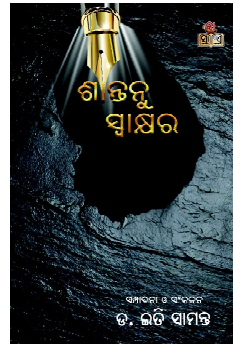
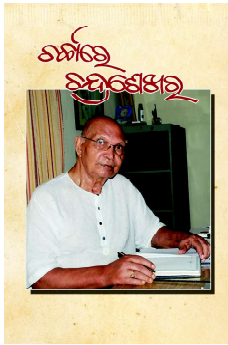
Manoj Das, the pride and glory of the Odia nation, has a literary influence that extends from Indian literature to world literature. He possessed deep scholarship in poetry, short stories, novels, columns, children's literature, essays, travelogues, memoirs, biographies, and spiritual literature. His creative empire is vast and diverse. 'Manishi Manoj' book is a reflective re-examination of this great literary figure of the Odia literary world.

PADMA BHUSHAN KABI RAMAKANT

RATH: SRUJAN ALOCHANA

(Compilations of Literary Creations)

Ramakanta Rath, a Padma Bhushan awardee and recipient of the Saraswati Samman, is a highly respected personality in the world of poetry across



India. His poetic journey has continued for more than six decades. This book presents an intimate evaluation of the highly refined and scholarly personality of the great poet Ramakanta Rath. It includes interviews with him, opinions of his relatives and fellow writers who have observed him closely, and discussions of some of his poems and stories. 'Padma Bhushan Kabi Ramakant Rath: Srujan Alochana' book is a compiled work that reflects on his personality and critically examines his literary creations.

CHARCHAARE CHANDRASEKHAR (Book of Essays)

This is a book of discussion on the great story teller, orator, educationist and intellectual of Odisha, Chandra Sekhar Rath. Established writers and intellectuals have contributed their scholarly pieces of writing for this book discussing various aspects of his writing and persona.

SHANTANU SWAKSHARA (Creative anthology of literary figure Shantanu Kumar Acharya)

Shantanu Kumar Acharya is a masterful wordsmith in Odia short stories, novels, and children's literature. Shantanu Swakshara is a compilation that offers deep insights into his intellectual reflections, emotionally rich autobiographical experiences, and thoughtful evaluations of his creative works. The book includes some of his short stories and poems, along with intimate conversations that reveal his literary spirit. This invaluable publication not only enriches the treasure trove of Odia literature but also serves as a meaningful resource for writers, readers, and researchers alike.

BIBHUTI BIBHABA (A creative anthology of literary genius Bibhuti Pattnaik)

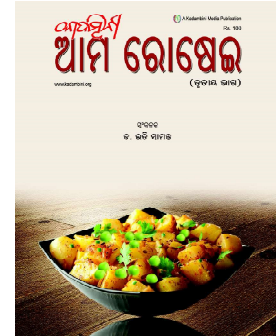
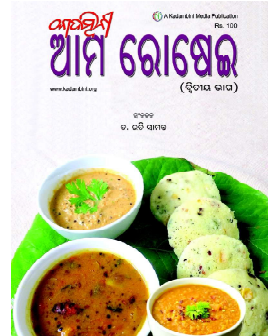
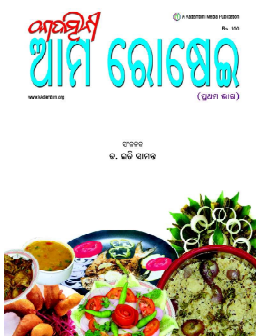
Bibhuti Pattnaik stands as a dazzling figure in modern Odia literature. As a writer of immense depth and wonder. Known far and wide for his distinctive voice and literary brilliance, he remains one of the most prolific creators of Odia literature. 'Bibhuti Bibhaba' is a collection that brings together intimate conversations with this timeless author, critical reflections on his works, perspectives of other writers about him, and selected stories and poems born from his own pen.

AMARA AKSHAYA (Compilations of different aspects on Legendary Akshaya Mohanty and his Literary Creations)

It is a unique collection about legendary Akshaya Mohanty's creation, music and memory book. Rich in the works of many critics, this book is also a collection of selected stories, novel, beautiful gazals of him. This beautiful collection is very valuable and useful for readers, legendary Akshaya Mohanty fan and lovers.

KADAMBINI AAMA ROSEI (Collection of recipes, Vol- 1, 2, 3)

A very popular section in the most popular monthly of Odisha, 'The Kadambini' is its recipe section. The range is vast. From khichdi to biriyani, cake to piza and from idli to chowmin, it has published almost all the dishes that are seen in Indian homes. All these recipes are edited and compiled in 3 volumes of 'Kadambini Ama Rosei'.



Filmography



Dr. Itrani Samanta is a multifaceted personality, her creativity & entrepreneurship is not limited to literature, social work & education only. She ventures into cinema through her debut production '**Kathantara**' (another story), a feature film in Odia which received national award as the best Odia feature film in the year 2005. Her journey continued with another feature film '**Krantidhara**' based on her own story 'Jhada Parara Surya'. Both of her films are milestones in the history of Odia cinema and own awards in several categories including best feature film in the state. Apart from these award winning short films like '**Kahani Nuhen**', '**Tapoi**' & documentary '**Kahe Ballava**', education film; '**Chithi**', '**Kanyaratna**' received rave reviews, citations and awards at various festivals. Her unique television production on transgenders titled '**Bhinna Manisha Bhinna Katha**' is regarded as a popular television programme ever made in the history.

The on-going TV programme '**Itinka Alapa**' is accepted as the most viewed television interview of legendary personalities in different spheres by Dr. Samanta.

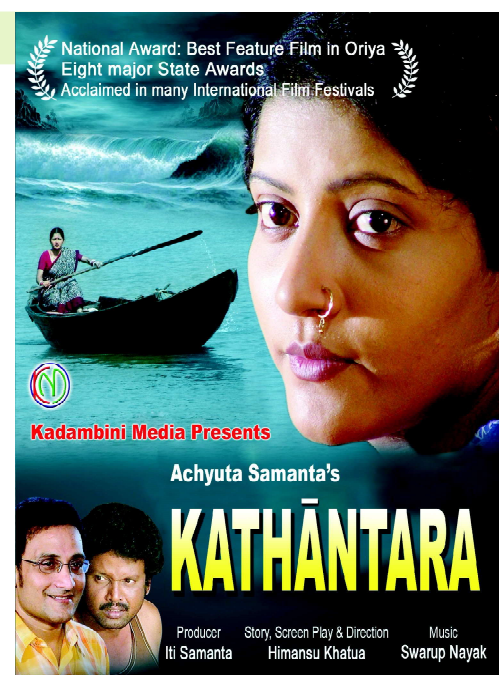
Feature Films

KATHANTARA

(Another Story, 2005)

Producer: **Dr. Itrani Samanta**

Kadambini Media stepped into films with its debut production '**Kathantara**' (Another Story) Directed by Himansu Khatua based on the aftermath tragedy of Super-cyclone. The Protagonist of the film, Kalpana a second generation refugee from East Bengal struggles after losing her husband and family in the 1999 Super-Cyclone. Deepankar a TV reporter from Bangladesh offers to marry the young widow. But Kalpana turns down the offer which needs moving out to the land of their forefathers. She stays back in her adopted homeland despite serious adversities including deportation threat. Kalpana fights back for her birthright.





On receiving National Film Award for 'Kathantara' from Hon'ble Dr. Pratibha Patil, 12th President of India (2007-12)





On receiving Odisha State Film Award for 'Kathantara' from Hon'ble Rameshwar Thakur, 22nd Governor of Odisha (2004-06)

Awards:

- Silver lotus for Best Odia Feature Film in 53rd National Film Award 2005
- 8 nos. Odisha State Film Awards 2005 :
 1. Mohan Sundar Dev Goswami Award for Best Feature Film
 2. Best Director
 3. Best Story
 4. Best Supporting Actor
 5. Best Supporting Actress
 6. Best Music
 7. Best Cinematography
 8. Best Audiography
- Best Actress Award – Cine India International Film Festival

Festivals Participation:

- 5th Asian Film Festival, Mumbai on October (12-19) 2006.
- 12th Kolkata Film Festival, Kolkata on 17th November 2006.
- 11th International Film Festival, Kerala on 13th December 2006.
- 4th Cine India International Film Festival, Noida, UP on 28th FEB 2007.
- 1st Hyderabad International Film Festival, Hyderabad on 27th March 2007.
- Indian Film Festival ('Bollywood and beyond') in Stuttgart, Germany on 15th July, 2007.
- South Asian Film Festival, Bangladesh, 2007.

Feature Films



Krantidhara

(Coup de Grace, 2014)

Based on the story

'Jhadaparara Surya'

by Dr. Itirani Samanta

She is the proverbial daughter-in-law that anyone could aspire for. In a family of half a dozen individuals, the entire home-front is taken care of by her with diligence and compassion. Apart from the elderly parents-in-law and two primary school-going children; a boy and a girl, Pratignya, in her early thirties has the onerous task to reform her unscrupulous husband, Abhay, the local Sarpanch. A typical male chauvinist, he is inclined to heckle, hector and even manhandle his wife. Pratignya tends to take everything in her stride.

'Krantidhara' (Coup de Grace, 2014) deals with the travails of a much-harried yet considerate housewife, but through realistic presentation as opposed to the hackneyed, stereotyped portrayals.

Awards:

- 3 nos. Odisha State Film Awards 2014:
 1. Mohan Sundar Dev Goswami Award for Best Feature Film
 2. Best Story Award to Iti Samanta
 3. Best Actress
- Asian Excellent Film Award 2019 (International Federation of Film Industry Dev., Seoul, Korea)

'Krantidhara' has also participated and highly acclaimed in many international film festivals: 7th Bengaluru International Film Festival-2014 (competitive section), Bengaluru; 12th Chennai International Film Festival-2014 (Indian Panorama Section), Chennai; 13th Third Eye Asian Film Festival-2015, Mumbai; Indian Film Festival of Los Angeles; Melbourne International Film Festival; Berlin International Film Festival; Cineport International Film Festival and many more.



On receiving Odisha State Film Award for Best Feature Film for 'Krantidhara'



On receiving Odisha State Film Award for Best Story for 'Krantidhara'

Non Feature / Documentary



*On receiving National Film Award for
'The Sea and Seven Villages'
from Hon'ble Smt. Droupadi Murmu,
15th President of India (2022-)*



The Sea & Seven Villages

The film depicts story of the displaced coastal communities of Satabhaya village. Sea level rise along the Bay of Bengal, coastal erosion, frequent cyclones and mismanagement of coastal land have resulted in destruction of homes, agricultural lands and the entire settlement of Seven villages of Kendrapara district of Odisha and people suffered from forced migration.

Festivals Participation:

'The Sea and Seven Villages' got 71st National Film Awards 2023 and has been screened in 34 cities including International Documentary and Short Film Festival of Kerala 2023, Jagaran Film Festival 2023, 25th Madurai International Documentary and Short Film Festival 2023, Lane Doc Film Festival 2023, 10th Siliguri Short and Documentary

Film Festival 2023, International Panaroma film festival of Bangalore 2024, 12th CMS VATAVARAN-Environment and Wildlife Film Festival and Forum 2024, 18th Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) 2024, 7th South Asian Short Film Festival (SASFF) 2024. The film has brought glory to the world of cinema by being selected in the 54th International Film Festival of India (IFFI), Indian Panorama 2023.



Mahima Alekha

'Mahima Alekha' follows the journey of Mahima sadhus and disciples to Mahima Gadi, Joranda, Odisha, where they gather each year during Magha Sukla Chaturdashi and Purnima. The film immerses viewers in ascetic practices, rituals, and chants, enriched by the metaphysical verses of Bhima Bhoi, the blind mystic-poet whose words echo as the philosophical soul of the sect. The film translates formless divinity through elemental imagery - skies, fire, chants, and silences - turning the unseen into a contemplative experience. More than a chronicle, it becomes a cinematic exploration of faith and transformation - where silence and song, tradition and change, absence and presence converge.

The film has brought glory to the world of cinema by being selected in the 56th International Film Festival of India (IFFI), Indian Panorama 2025.

Kahe Ballava (Ballava Speaks...)

'Kahe Ballava' is a research-based documentary on mughal tamsa written by the poet Bansi Ballav Goswami. Mughal Tamsa is a unique folk theater of Odisha, which depicts the socio-cultural history of Odisha during 2nd half of 18th century. The multi lingual play using dialogues in five languages (Odia, Bengali, Hindi, Persian and Urdu). The loose administration of Mughal Empire, Social & Political situation of costal Odisha during that time period. At last, the play was intended to create communal harmony among different groups co-existing in Bhadrak District.

The documentary film received Special Jury Award 2019 from Govt. of Odisha and participated in many national and international festivals.



Tele Film



Kahani Nuhen (Not a fiction)

Based on a true story 'Kahani Nuhen' written by Dr. Itirani Samanta and produced by her received Best Telefilm Award and Best Child Actor Award in 2013 from the Culture Department, Govt. of Odisha.

The film depicts the story of a boy who could escape from maoist camp and got into studies.



On receiving Odisha State Film Award for Best Tele Film for 'Kahani Nuhen'

Tapoi

Khudurukuni is a traditional Osha (Occasion) of Odisha. On the Sunday of the month of Bhadra (August & September), this Khudurukuni Osha is celebrated. 'Tapoi' the story based on this celebration story. 'Tapoi' was directed and produced by Dr. Itirani Samanta received a state award in acting category and appreciated by audience and critics.



Educational Film

Chithhi & Kanyaratna

Dr. Itirani Samanta has also produced and directed two educational films titled 'Chithhi' & 'Kanyaratna'.

Theatre

Kaanta-Kaantaa

'Kaanta-Kaantaa' is a theatrical adoption of the original short story written by Dr. Itirani Samanta. The stage production of this play was appreciated by audience and critics.

CDs and Audio-Video Documentary

Making of many music CDs and Audio-Video Documentaries for Govt. of Odisha.

Television Programme

- **Itinka Alap**
Dr. Itirani Samanta proved herself has a very good interviewer. Her interview programme 'Itinka Alpa' with eminent personalities of the country became the most popular television interview programme.
Youtube link: itirani_samanta
- **Bhinna Manisha Bhinna Katha**
An unique television series on lives of Transgenders, conceptualised and produced by Dr. Itirani Samanta.
- **Kadambini Ama Patrika**
A weekly literary television magazine, conceptualised and produced by Dr. Itirani Samanta.
- **Kunakuni Kathaa**
A weekly children literary television magazine, conceptualised and produced by Dr. Itirani Samanta.
- **Kahani Gita Pachha ra**
The untold story behind popular Odia songs, conceptualised and produced by Dr. Itirani Samanta.
- **Katha Apanka Pasanda ra**
A television show to know celebrities of various fields through their favourable choices, conceptualised and produced by Dr. Itirani Samanta.
- **Glamour Lane**
A television show on the glamour world of cinema and television, conceptualised and produced by Dr. Itirani Samanta.
- **Chit Chat**
An intimate gossip between two celebrity actors, conceptualised and produced by Dr. Itirani Samanta.

Dr. Itirani Samanta has also produced several Documentary, Promotional Films and many Audio and Video programmes and Music CDs.



Cultivating Excellence at the Grassroots

Contribution in Social and Education Sector



The Visionary Leadership of Dr. Itirani Samanta

Dr. Itirani Samanta actively involved benefit in reforming her native village Kalarabank, the smart village established by her borther the legendary philanthropist **Prof. Dr. Achyuta Samanta**.

True transformation begins at the roots, and the profound evolution of **Kalarabank High School** stands as a definitive tribute to the visionary leadership of **Dr. Itirani Samanta**. Serving as the Chairperson of this premier vernacular institution in Odisha's first smart village, **Dr. Itirani Samanta** has masterfully actualized a model of inclusive, high-quality rural education. This school is founded by the legendary philanthropist **Dr. Achyuta Samanta**. **Dr. Itirani Samanta** has spearheaded administrative and structural reforms that bridge the gap between village-based talent and modern academic standards. Under her direct guidance, the high school has achieved an extraordinary legacy, consistently securing a 100% success rate in the Board of Secondary Education (BSE), Odisha examinations year after year. Her emphasis on classroom discipline, student mentorship, and holistic development has enabled hundreds of first-generation learners to clear their board exams with top distinctions and secure bright futures. Beyond academic statistics, **Dr. Itirani Samanta's** leadership is defined by social empathy. She has been a stellar force in driving student enrollment - particularly advocating for girl-child education by counseling families within rural communities. By building a safe, resourceful environment, she has turned **Kalarabank High School** into a pillar of social mobility.



True leadership lies in creating opportunities where they are needed most. Under the visionary stewardship of its Managing Committee Secretary and Chairperson, **Dr. Itirani Samanta**, **Kalinga English Medium School (KEMS)** in **Kalarabank, Kataka, Odisha**, has transitioned from a grassroots dream into a shining beacon of rural educational excellence. Founded alongside her brother, the renowned philanthropist **Dr. Achyuta Samanta**, KEMS has completely redefined what rural schooling can achieve through relentless dedication and structured management.

Flipping the Urban-Centric Narrative

While urban centers are often viewed as the exclusive hubs of elite schooling, Dr. Itirani Samanta has flipped the narrative entirely. Acting as the management anchor, she has scaled KEMS from a localized dream into a robust educational ecosystem that caters to over 1,000 rural students.

Her primary achievement has been breaking down the traditional barriers of geography and economic privilege.





By bringing a premium, **CBSE-affiliated Senior Secondary English-medium education** directly to Kalarabank—India's first '**smart village**'—she ensured that rural children no longer had to migrate to urban centers to access world-class schooling. Today, the institution boasts a multi-story modern campus featuring:

- State-of-the-art computer and science laboratories
- Digital interactive with Air conditioner classrooms
- Safe, inclusive hostel facilities
- A dedicated faculty of over 80 skilled educators

Holistic Student Development

At KEMS, education goes far beyond textbook learning. Dr. Itirani Samanta has pioneered a 360-degree approach to student development; ensuring rural youth can confidently stand on global platforms.

Academic Rigor: An emphasis on classroom mentorship and self-study has yielded a flawless, legacy of a 100% pass rate in CBSE Class X and XII board examinations with excellent result.

Competitive Edge: Specialized training has enabled rural students to excel in state rankings and clear highly competitive national entrance exams for engineering and medicine.

Life Skills and Leadership: Students are trained in critical thinking, public speaking, and digital literacy, transforming first-generation school-goers into confident global citizens.

A Catalyst for Women Empowerment

Dr. Itirani Samanta's impact stretches deep into social reform, making KEMS a powerful engine for gender equality and women empowerment. Recognizing that educating a girl transforms an entire community, she has introduced targeted initiatives to uplift young women.

Parental Counseling: She has spent year's personally counseling rural families, directly challenging deep-seated biases against the girl child.

Uninterrupted Education: By eliminating economic and logistical barriers, she has ensured that young girls receive continuous, high-quality schooling without dropping out.

Empowering Female Faculty: With a significant representation of women among the 80+ skilled educators, she has created a professional ecosystem where local women lead, mentor, and serve as visible role models of independence.

A Blueprint for Rural India

Recognized frequently among the top institutions in regional and state-wide surveys, KEMS stands as a living testament to Dr. Itirani Samanta's administrative brilliance and compassionate heart. She has beautifully bridged the gap between rural talent and global opportunity, proving that village-based institutions can outshine their urban



counterparts when met with structured care and high standards. Through KEMS Kalarabank, Dr. Itirani Samanta has ignited a sustainable educational revolution that serves as a blueprint for high-impact rural education across India. Under her dynamic leadership, the school expanded from modest beginnings into a state-of-the-art residential campus serving over thousand students. But **Dr. Itirani Samanta** knew that concrete buildings alone do not build minds. True empowerment required an educational ecosystem that was alive, creative, and fiercely ambitious. Her first major masterstroke to ignite this creative fire was the introduction of the '**Kritika Utsav**'—a grand literature and cultural festival. For a few days every year, the rural campus transforms into a buzzing hub of intellectual energy. Village children don theatrical costumes, debate complex linguistic nuances, set up intricate mathematics exhibitions, and showcase brilliant art. **Kritika Utsav** has become a legendary annual awakening, proving to the world that artistic genius and intellectual depth do not require a metropolitan zip code. But **Dr. Itirani Samanta's** vision went beyond art; she wanted to nurture future leaders. Enter the **KEMS Mock Parliament**, a signature initiative introduced under her direct guidance. In these simulated sessions, classroom desks are rearranged into a democratic floor. Teenage students step up to microphones, wearing sashes, to passionately debate national policies, economic budgets, and social reforms with razor-sharp logic. By introducing these village children to the mechanics of governance, Dr. Samanta is intentionally building a generation of fearless, articulate citizens ready to lead the nation. Remarkably, her grandest victories lie in the quiet, day-to-day affairs of the school. In a residential setup, character is just as important as report cards. **Dr. Itirani Samanta** deeply embedded systematic morality development into the daily routines. Through morning reflections, ethical storytelling, and civic awareness programs, students absorb lessons in integrity, empathy, and deep respect for their cultural roots. Furthermore, she completely re imagined the traditional Parent-Teacher Meeting (PTM). In rural areas, many parents feel intimidated by formal English-medium schools. **Dr. Itirani Samanta** broke these barriers, transforming PTMs into warm, inclusive community gatherings. She personally ensured that rural mothers and fathers felt like respected, equal partners in their children's growth, aligning home values with the school's residential environment. Under Dr. Itirani Samanta's leadership nearly 3 to 400 locals of village Kalarabank and nearly need not to go to outside for their bread and butter and thousands parents need not to go outside for good education for their children.

Today, KEMS stands as a beacon of staggering success, consistently achieving a 100% success rate in CBSE board exams without relying on expensive urban coaching centers. By blending global standards with grassroots grit, Chairperson Dr. Itirani Samanta has achieved the impossible. She has proven that with an unyielding will, the youth of rural India can not only match their urban peers but confidently lead them into the future.

Contribution to Gender Equality



Along with her great social responsibility, she is continuously working for the growth, promotion and enhancement of the transgender community. She also worked for encouraging them and to change the mind set of society towards the community of transgender. In this respect she published an exceptional coverage regarding all aspects of transgender in her 'The Kadambini' magazine containing 150 pages. Subsequently to bring the actual story and struggle behind a transgender life, she also launched a special programme 'Bhinna Manisha Bhinna Katha' through her media house. **Acharya Mahamandaleswar Mx. Laxmi Narayan Tripathy** Said- **"The programme 'Bhinna Manisha Bhinna Katha' is not only in India but in whole world this is one kind of a series. It is history in making."**



Dr. Itirani Samanta has done research on lives of many transgenders, conceptualised and produced an unique TV show '**Bhinna Manisha Bhinna Katha**' which is successfully running on Kalinga TV since 2nd July 2018. This programme is well appreciated by all section of viewers and it has got maximum reach through Kalinga TV YouTube.

Dr. Itirani Samanta consistently works on Women related issues and down trodden people who are really needy.





DR. ITIRANI SAMANTA
Creator & Designer
SHEPHALEE

Why Name SHEPHALEE ?

Dr. Itirani Samanta, the visionary behind 'The Kadambini' (largest regional premier monthly magazine), transformed a regional magazine into a powerful social movement that champions cultural pride, equality, and Odia heritage. Dr. Samanta rose from a life of extreme poverty from a remote village Kalarabanka at Cuttack district, excelling academically to support her family and ultimately following her passion for literature. She earned advanced degrees, including a Ph.D. in Literature, and was awarded Junior and Senior Fellowships by India's Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India. Dr. Samanta has dedicated herself to promoting Odia literature and community upliftment, embodying a deep commitment to cultural heritage and social impact. Building on this legacy, she founded Shephalee, a brand committed to reviving India's handloom tradition by empowering artisans.

Career as Social Entrepreneur

Shephalee was the cherished nickname of Dr. Itirani Samanta's beloved mother, a woman whose beauty and grace were a constant source of inspiration and who was the most beautiful person in her life. Her mother had a deep love for Odisha handloom and dreamed of owning a handcrafted saree, yet their family circumstances made this an unreachable wish. As Dr. Samanta began her journey into the world of handloom, driven by a passion for social impact, memories of her mother's unfulfilled desire for a saree lingered in her heart. In tribute to her mother's spirit and love for traditional artistry, Dr. Samanta named her brand 'Shephalee', honoring both her mother's memory and her cultural legacy.

Where Heritage Meets Luxury: The Vision of Dr. Itirani Samanta

Dr. Itirani Samanta, the visionary creator and designer behind Shephalee, brings over 25 years of dedication to art, culture, and luxury fashion. Her passion for preserving Odia heritage shines through Shephalee's premium handloom creations. Each piece reflects her commitment to quality, artistry, and tradition, crafted in pure indigenous fabrics and meticulously handwoven by master artisans from Odisha. Dr. Samanta's expertise has elevated Shephalee to a distinguished designer house, where luxury meets timeless craftsmanship. Her collections





celebrate elegance, blending traditional techniques with contemporary design to offer an exclusive experience for those who value heritage and refined style.

Journey of A Timeless Blend of Heritage and Modern Elegance

Shephalee, founded by visionary designer Dr. Itirani Samanta, was born from a mission to redefine elegance by blending India's rich heritage with modern fashion. During the quiet pause of the COVID pandemic, as the world slowed down, Dr. Samanta found an opportunity to reflect and craft the vision that would become Shephalee. Each piece embodies her passion for tradition, artistry, and sophistication, creating a timeless expression of cultural pride. With the decline of slow, sustainable fashion and the rise of fast fashion, many people risked losing their livelihoods. Recognizing that clothing is an essential part of the cultural identity, Dr. Samanta set out to bring her vision to life, establishing Shephalee as a brand dedicated to sustaining the rich handloom heritage and supporting the craftsmen behind each piece. Journey of A Timeless Blend of Heritage and Modern Elegance Inspired by her brother, Prof. Achyuta Samanta, a great visionary, philanthropist, and educationalist, Dr. Itirani Samanta developed a profound appreciation for heritage crafts. This reflection led her on a path to revitalize traditional crafts, particularly weaving, a legacy skill passed down through generations. With Shephalee, she celebrates and preserves this invaluable cultural heritage, bringing it into modern fashion while honouring the artisans behind each piece

Shephalee: A Legacy Woven with Culture and Modernity

For the past 26 years, Dr. Itirani Samanta has dedicated herself to the world of art, culture, language, and literature, always keenly aware of the importance of handmade attire as an expression of culture. This commitment led her to create Shephalee a brand that celebrates the heritage of handloom and the legacy of weaving, a skill passed down from one generation to the next.

Dr. Samanta recognized that Odisha's handloom heritage, like other time-honoured traditions, was in need of revival, just as she once recognized the declining demand for regional magazines. When she launched 'The Kadambini' magazine, regional publications were struggling. And now with her



passion, dedication and hard work, The Kadambini' has turned to be the largest regional premier monthly magazine, boasting a gigantic reader base of 4-5 million. Today, Shephalee carries forward this spirit of renewal, blending traditional handloom with modern fashion so that the legacy of craftsmanship not only survives but thrives with a new generation.

With every design, 'Shephalee' aims to transform handloom into a sought-after fashion choice, ensuring that this rich heritage is cherished by today's youth and that it becomes one of the biggest brands in the country, redefining our cultural heritage for the future. Dr. Samanta believes that just as each generation carries forward the craft of their forefathers, her brand must continue these legacies in new and inspiring ways.

Reviving Tradition, Empowering Lives

Driven by a passion to preserve the cultural heritage of Odisha, Dr. Itirani Samanta founded Shephalee to address a growing concern i.e. traditional weavers, rich in skill but limited in resources, were being forced to abandon their craft due to financial constraints. This shift meant that treasured handloom traditions were gradually fading, leaving behind a legacy at risk.

With Shephalee, Dr. Samanta has created a platform of opportunities, a lifeline for artisans to continue practicing their art with dignity. By providing sustainable livelihoods, Shephalee enables these talented individuals to live proudly, crafting beautiful textiles that are cherished worldwide. Artisans can now focus on their skills without worrying about their next pay check, living a lifestyle of grace and pride while earning the respect they so deserve.

Rising Above : Journey of Resilience, Heritage, and Empowerment

From a childhood marked by hardship, Dr. Itirani Samanta's journey has been one of remarkable resilience and unwavering determination. Losing her father at only a month old, she was raised in a family of seven siblings with scarce resources, often going days without food. Even as a young child, she had to work here and there to support her family, earning whatever she could. Despite these challenges, Dr. Samanta forged ahead with a steadfast spirit, determined to transform her circumstances and create a future filled with purpose and pride.

Through relentless work and an indomitable spirit, she rose to establish herself in the world of Odia



literature, achieving recognition both nationally and internationally. For over 25 years, Dr. Samanta has dedicated herself to preserving and celebrating India's cultural heritage, especially Odisha's art and traditions. She has continuously worked to empower countless women, breaking stereotypes and opening doors, irrespective of their social or economic backgrounds. At Shephalee, Dr. Itirani Samanta's unwavering commitment to cultural heritage and artistry shines through in every creation. By creating shephalee brand, she crafted a movement that celebrates timeless craftsmanship, uplifts the weaving community, and preserves the cultural legacy with grace.

With Shephalee, Dr. Samanta offers a platform for skilled weavers, ensuring they can sustain their craft with dignity and pride. By providing stable livelihoods, Shephalee not only preserves these artisans' invaluable heritage but also celebrates handloom as a symbol of national property and national pride. Through this endeavour, Dr. Samanta

continues her lifelong mission to protect and promote the cultural richness of Odisha while uplifting embody it.

New dimension in Social Change and Handcrafted Elegance

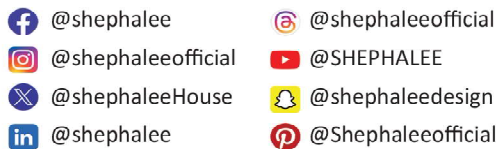
Dr. Samanta has a distinct taste in apparel and is an avid connoisseur of hand-crafted Sarees. She has been designing her own Sarees for a long time and her wide depth of understanding about the diverse and great weaving tradition of Odisha has led to the establishment of Shephalee. She has exclusively designed all the creations out of handwoven fabrics with each being a unique piece. Shephalee is intertwined with her elegance and aesthetic sense.

At Shephalee, each piece of handloom is not just a garment but a testament to a craftsman's legacy, woven with honour and passed down with pride. Dr. Samanta's mission is clear, to empower artisans to continue their craft, confident that their skills will be cherished and celebrated for generations to come.



 www.shephalee.com

Visit our social media page to explore more of exclusive collections:



Other Remarkable Assignments



Dr. Itirani Samanta has been holding many important and responsible positions in the government, public and private bodies such as:

- Feature Film Jury Member, 54th International Film Festival of India (IFFI), Indian Panorama 2023
- President, Santanu Kumar Acharya Foundation, Bhubaneswar, 2023 -
- Vice President, Utkal Cine Chamber of Commerce, 2024 -
- Member, FICCI Flo Bhubaneswar, 2024 -
- Member, The Utkal Chamber of Commerce and Industry Limited, 2023 -
- Member, Utkal Sahitya Samaja
- Ex-Member, Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC), Ministry of I & B, Govt. of India
- Jury member, Odisha State Film Award Committee - 2007
- Jury member, Tarang Cine Award Committee - 2010, 2012
- Member, General Council, Odisha Sahitya Academy, Bhubaneswar, 2011-2013
- Ex-Member, Post Forum, Postal Dept., Odisha

Participated in many National and International Festivals:

- Attended and participated in 'International Literature Festival' held at Shimla 16-18th June 2022 organised by Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India and Kendra Sahitya Akademi as a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.
 - Attended and participated in National level 'Annual Festivals of Letters' held at New Delhi on 11-16th March 2023 organised by Kendra Sahitya Akademi.
 - Attended and participated in International Literature Festival 'UNMESHA' held at Bhopal on 3-6th August 2023 organised by Kendra Sahitya Akademi and Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India.
 - Attended and participated in 'Jaipur Literature Festival 2024' held at Jaipur, Rajasthan on 1-5th February 2024.
 - Attended and participated in National level 'Annual Festivals of Letters' held at New Delhi on 11-16th March 2024 organised by Kendra Sahitya Akademi.
- She has participated in many television shows, broadcast programmes as an expert and presenter on Literature, gender related issues.



Awards and Achievements

LITERATURE & EDITING:



- Biswakabi Rabindranath Thakur Samman 2026, Gitanjali, Bhubaneswar
- Indian Women Achievers' Award 2024, IWAA
- Inspirational Women of 2024, Global Women Inspiration Award & Conclave 2024
- Eminent Writer Award 2024, Bharat Bikash Parishad, East Region
- Swayamsidhha Samman 2024, Sambad Digital & Rays Foundation
- Sampadana Gourab Samman 2023, Apurba, Bhubaneswar
- Srujanara Sandhanee Samman 2023, Sanskruti o Sanskruti, Bhubaneswar
- Kahani Gapa Puraskar 2022, Bhubaneswar
- Writer of the Year 2021, National Youth Awardees Federation of India, New Delhi.
- Utkal Bharati Kuntala Kumari Saraswat Samman 2020, Utkal Bharati Kuntala Kumari Sabat Foundation, Cuttack
- Bagmi Biswanath Kar Sampadana Samman 2019, Utkal Sahitya Samaja
- Rajadhani Pustak Mela Puraskar 2019 (for novel 'Shakuntalara Jhia')
- Shrestha Saraswata Sadhaka Samman 2019 (Kathakalika Writer's Meet)
- Asimaloka Samman 2019
- Kabi Chakrabarti Brajanath Badajena Saraswata Samman 2018
- Bhanja Bharati Jayadev Sarangi Memorial Award 2017
- Ama Bhubaneswar Samman 2017
- Amari Bhasa Pathe Samman 2016, The Intellectuals, New Delhi
- Duradarshi Samman 2016
- Roopnagar Mayanagaree Award 2016 (Best Family Magazine of Odisha)
- Best Editor Samman 2016, Nimapada Sahitya Sansad
- Padmavati Award 2016
- Utkal Prativa Samman 2016
- State Level Prativa Samman 2016
- Utkalamani Prativa Samman 2016
- Odia Sahitya Samman 2016
- Akshaya Mohanty Sahitya Samman 2013
- Dhanaphula Sahitya Samman 2013
- Rajadhani Pustak Mela Puraskar 2013 (for story collection 'Iti Tora Lipsa')
- Manthan Juba Sampadika Samman 2010
- Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhabana Award 2007, 2008 (Best Editor)
- Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhabana Award 2007 (Best Editor)
- Pranathatha Samman 2006 (Best Editor)
- Special Felicitation 2006 for Editing (Lions Club, Bhubaneswar Lotus)



- Best Editor Award 2004, State Social Welfare Advisory Board, Bhubaneswar
- Kathaa Journal Award 2004, New Delhi
- Rajiv Gandhi Award 2002 (Best Woman Editor)
- Chinta & Chetana Rastriya Award 2002
- Smrutilipi Best Editor Samman 2002
- Avinandanika Award 2001 (Magazine Editing)
- Aashraya Award 2001 (Best Editor)
- Badadanda Best Editor Samman 2001
- Best Editor Award 2001, Lions Club, Bhubaneswar

CINEMA & THEATRE:

- 71st National Film Awards 2023 (for 'The Sea and Seven Villages')
- National Film Award for Best Film production (Rajat Kamal) 2005 (for 'Kathantara')
- Mohan Sundar Deb Goswami Award 2005 (Odisha State Film Award for Best Film 'Kathantara')
- Mohan Sundar Deb Goswami Award 2014 (Odisha State Film Award for Best Feature Film 'Krantidhara')
- Odisha State Film Award for Best Story Writer 2014 (for 'Krantidhara')
- Odisha State Special Jury Film Award 2018 (for Documentary Film 'Kahe Ballav')
- Odisha State Tele Film Award for Best Tele Film 2013 (for 'Kahani Nuhen')
- Asian Excellent Film Award 2019 from International Federation of Film Industry Dev., Seoul, Korea (for 'Krantidhara')
- Best Story Writer Award 2016 (for 'Krantidhara'), Chalachitra Jagat
- Best Story Writer Award 2016 (for 'Krantidhara'), Cinema Sansar
- Manana Samman 2016, Manana Natya Santha
- Best Story Writer Award 2016 (for 'Krantidhara'), Odia Film Fair Award
- Best Creative Title Award 2016 (for 'Krantidhara'), Odia Film Fair Award
- National Cine Ratna Award 2016 & 2017
- Roopnagar Mayanagaree Award 2016 (Best Film of Year 2015)
- Chinta O Chetana Award 2007 for Best Film Production (for 'Krantidhara')
- Chalachitra Jagat Pratibha Samman 2007 for award-winning film 'Kathaantara'
- Chitrapuri Award 2006
- Big Screen Big Star Entertainment Award 2016 (for 'Krantidhara')
- For producing award-winning Odia movies she has been felicitated in many places such as at Bangalore, Chennai

SOCIAL & CULTURAL:

- Women Achievers of Odisha Award 2024, Times of India



- Times Power Women Odisha Award 2023, Times of India
- Kumar Utsav Samman 2023, Bhanja Cultural Trust, Rourkela
- Inspiring Women Icon of the Year 2022, Global Triumph Foundation, Bengaluru
- Swara Sadhika Binapani Mohanty Smruti Samman 2022, Binapani Mohanty Foundation, Cuttack
- Best Social Worker of the Year, I Can Foundation, Gurugram, Haryana
- Shreeksheetra Gourab Upadhi 2022, Shreeksheetra Hanuman Jayanti Committee, Puri
- Bishuba Prativa Samman 2022, Agami Odisha
- Bright Star Samman 2022, Shree Ganesh Mahotsab, Badagada, Bhubaneswar
- Most Inspirational Business Award 2021 for Best Media Publisher, Interview Times Media Network, Bhubaneswar
- Abhiruchi Abadan Samman 2021, Satyanagar Ladies Forum, Bhubaneswar
- Jagatjita Naari of the Year 2020, All Woman Advocates Forum in collaboration with Akhil Bahatiya Sanyukta Adhivakta Parishad, New Delhi
- Heavenly Horse Cultural Award from Mongolian Academy of Culture 2019 (Cultural Award for Outstanding Contribution to World Arts and Culture)
- Bhavan's Samman Odisha 2019 from Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan
- Dr. Lipi Hembram Smaraki Samman 2019, Dr. Lipi Hembram Smruti Parishad and PG Department of Odia, Utkal University, Bhubaneswar
- Balighara Saraswata Prativa Samman 2019
- Agami Odisha Sambardhita Prativa 2019
- Support Samman 2018
- Nilachakra Samman 2016, Chinta O Chetana, Bhubaneswar
- Odisha Youth Inspiration Award 2015
- SCART Nabaratna Award 2015
- Punyaprabha Geeti Gourab Samman 2015
- Best Women Entrepreneur 2014 by 92.7 BIG FM
- Sakala Samman 2014
- Shrestha Odiani Samman 2009
- Tundabaida Samman 2008
- Manjubala Smruti Samman 2006
- Professional Excellency Award 2004, All India Small and Medium Newspaper Editors, Odisha Branch
- Rajib Sena Award 2004
- Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhawana Award 2003 (Best family feature magazine 'The Kadambini')
- Dhvani Pratidhwani Samman 2003
- Best Women Samman 2003
- and many more...



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Scan for Website

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Facebook Page: ItiraniSamantaOfficial

Instagram: dr.itiranisamanta

Twitter: iti_samanta

LinkedIn: itirani-samanta

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