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Rajaji

Tributes Paid to Rajaji as Writer

MADRAS, Jan. 13. Rich tributes were paid to the late Mr C. Rajagopalachari in a resolution passed at a meeting of the Southern Regional Committee of the Sahitya Akademi yesterday.

Rajaji's association with the Akademi since its inception was referred to in the resolution, which said Rajaji was the recipient of the Akademi award for Tamil in 1958, and that as a writer in English and Tamil, Rajaji used his uncanny power of instruction, persuasion and purposive action.

Mr K. Chandrasekaran presided a number of speakers paid tributes to Rajaji. The President said as a writer Rajaji was a bridge between the past and the present. Dr V. Raghavan read a "Kavitanjali" (a poem) in Sanskrit and recalled that it was Rajaji, as the Union Education minister laid the foundation for establishing the Akademi, and as regards his writings, their instructional aspect was the most striking.

Mr Justice S. Maharajan, of the Madras High Court said that more than even his political friends, Rajaji's literary friends were fortunate to be closer to him.

Messrs P. Padmaraju, E. K. Purushothaman, D. Anjaneyalu, D. Jayakanthan T. Neelakantan, Vidwan Viswam were among those who spoke on their personal association with the departed leader and his great qualities and attainments.

A Kavitanjali in Tamil was read by Mr M. P. Somasundaram. Mr C. R. Sarma, Secretary, welcomed the gathering earlier.

The meeting observed a minute's silence as a mark of respect to the memory of Rajaji.