

# INDIAN WRITER

## at Toji Residency, in Korea

**Poet, translator and novelist, Mr Sukumaran, will be in residence at the Toji Foundation, Korea from 1-30 September 2017.**

I wish to begin and complete two things while at the residency.

Ryszard Kapuscinski's *Shah of Shahs* is a brilliant chronicle of the Last Shah of Iran. As a reader I felt it was a good read. The history of conspiracy, factionism, repression and revolution would make any reader thrilled and stunned. Some of the events may reflect the situation in India also.

I intend to translate this classic for my Tamil readers which I hope will make them introspect, reflect.

The second work I would like to work on is my third novel. The theme is taken from a real life story. Ismail, one of my schoolmates in Coimbatore, survived death during the religious clash took place during 1998. The story is about the plight of the minority Muslims who lived in a particular area of the city. This riot was the one which turned a wonderful city up side down and cursed people to see the other as enemy.

**- Sukumaran, poet, novelist, translator.**

**The Toji Cultural Foundation** was established to support work created by Korean writers, scholars and artists. It started with the firm belief that writers, scholars and artists should be liberated from their busy daily lives

to dedicate their time entirely to creating their works. The numerous creative works generated by domestic cultural artists and scholars in Korea has made the Toji Cultural Centre a major place for creative activities in Korea. Based on the success of its domestic programme, The Toji Cultural Foundation in cooperation with the city of Wonju launched a new initiative in 2005, the Programme for Supporting Creative Works and Cultural Exchanges by Foreign Writers, Artists and Scholars.

**Sangam House** is an international writers' residency program located in India which brings together writers from across the world to live and work among their peers in a safe, supportive and nurturing space. Assembling writers from various cultural backgrounds broadens the scope of each individual's work. Exposure to regional and national trends in literature, to multiple political and economic obstacles and varied social and cultural milieus enhances each writer's understanding of his/her work, as well as his/her own notions of identity and home. We recognize the dearth of such opportunities in South Asia and strive to encourage the work of those writing in all languages, regional and dominant. Such a unique environment enriches the work of its participants and the texture of international literature.

The literature residency programme at Toji Foundation in Korea and at Sangam House in India, is supported by InKo Centre and Arts Council Korea (ARKO).

### Arts Council Korea (ARKO)



한국문화예술위원회  
Arts Council Korea

Arts Council Korea was established to promote creativity and enjoyment of the art by supporting diverse arts and cultural activities in Korea. The Council consists of eleven dedicated professionals of the cultural and art sector in Korea. The Art Council also places emphasis on the establishment of arts infrastructure. It facilitates the rise of practice-oriented policy implementation in line with the increasingly sophisticated cultural environment of Korea.