

The shape and Texture of Political Cartooning in India



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Approval Sheet

The Special project titled '**The shape and Texture of Political Cartooning in India**' by Rakesh Nanda is approved in partial fulfilment of the requirement for M.Des. degree in Animation

Guide

Declaration

I declare that this written submission represents my ideas in my own words and where others' ideas or words have been included, I have adequately cited and referenced the original sources. I also declare that I have adhered to all principles of academic honesty and integrity and have not misrepresented or fabricated or falsified any idea/data/fact/ source in my submission. I understand that any violation of the above will be cause for disciplinary action by the Institute and can also evoke penal action from the sources which have thus not been properly cited or from whom proper permission has not been taken when needed.

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An Abstract

Indian political cartoonists are a rather undocumented lot. While one finds an array of information about them scattered around in the electronic and print media, there is not one comprehensive resource outlining the lives and times of these interesting men and women. When one thinks of Indian cartoonists, very few names other than R.K.Laxman come to mind. True, he has easily been one of the most prolific exponents of the craft, but there are many others who deserve equal mention. Most of these people were literary giants in their own rights, winning various national and international accolades. Many of them have been actively involved in many other disciplines, from film making to doll manufacturing to social service, showcasing the great amount of creative energies abounding inside. All of them were certainly thinkers, commenting in their own unique way on various scenarios in the country and outside, slowly but surely contributing to social change. There is a great deal to learn from the lives of these cartoonists and the work they have done and the interesting takes that they have on social issues and life in general.

The purpose of this paper is to attempt at introducing the reader to the more important names that have shaped the Indian cartooning tradition. It attempts to outline their achievements and works and some of the more interesting aspects of their lives. After going through this, the reader, hopefully, will have a better understanding of the shape and texture of the Indian cartooning scenario, of the people, newspapers, journals and institutes which define it and have shaped it. On a personal note, although it might not be comprehensive, it would be the kind of document I would like to have come across while researching on Indian cartoonists.

A brief Introduction

Pulitzer prize-winning cartoonist Jeff MacNelly once said, if they couldn't draw, most political cartoonists would probably have become hired assassins. That sums up the role of a political cartoonist. Hidden behind the veil of humour, they comment on some of the ugliest truths about politics, politicians, society and ourselves. Through a few strokes and minimal words, they pack an entire editorial into a small rectangular box filled with wit and understanding. No wonder then that cartoonists have often attracted anger from many quarters, be it the protests of Danish Muslims over cartoons of prophet Muhammad, MPs demanding arrest of cartoonist Rajinder Puri over cartoons portraying Nehru as Napoleon or more recently, the Australian premier condemning an Indian cartoon depicting a Victoria policeman as a member of hate group Ku Klux Klan. This shows the power of the baby sized political cartoon and the serious nature of the commentaries behind the humour.

Since before independence, Indian cartoonists have played their role in bringing to light the inadequacies of the governments, both British and Indian and also have often held a mirror to society, giving people a chance to reflect on their own follies. Slowly but surely, they have played their part in shaping public opinions, and hence their importance in the history of Indian journalism.

The last phase of British rule and the early years of independent India are considered by many to be the golden years of Indian cartooning. This period saw the birth of masters like Shankar, Ranga O.V. And Laxman, who used the highly electric political atmosphere of a nation starting to build itself, to their maximum advantage, dishing out deliciously sharp and witty cartoons. Many veterans lament the absence of such firebrand cartoonists in the present generation. However, many attribute it to the lacklustre state of current politics and politicians.

Over the years, Indian cartoonists have formed a large body of work, many of them available in the form of anthologies. Through these works, one gets to see the entire history of a nation through the interesting eyes of these interesting men and women. From pre independence tussles with the British to the circus after independence, the period of Emergency, the phenomenon of Rajiv Gandhi, dances with China, the Indian cartoonist has covered it all in painstaking detail. More importantly, he hasn't diluted the harsh realities of the situations.

Big Names, Affordable Prices

India has produced many fine cartoonists over the last 60 years. While its not possible discuss all of them, I attempt to introduce the reader to some of the brightest stars in this galaxy.

Keshava Shankara Pillai

One of the most familiar names in the cartooning fraternity (probably seconded only by Laxman), he is regarded by all as the father of cartooning in India. Interestingly, he joined law school but quit after a year and became private secretary to shipping magnate Narottam Moarjee.

His array of achievements and the multiple avenues he ventured into and the institutions he established are a testament to the sheer brilliance of the man and the abundance of energy and entrepreneurial skills in him.

- In 1948, he started Shankar's Journal, India's first and only journal of political cartoons. For many years to come (till 1975, to be specific), it became a thriving training ground from where emerged many of India's finer cartoonists like Ranga, Abu and Kutty.

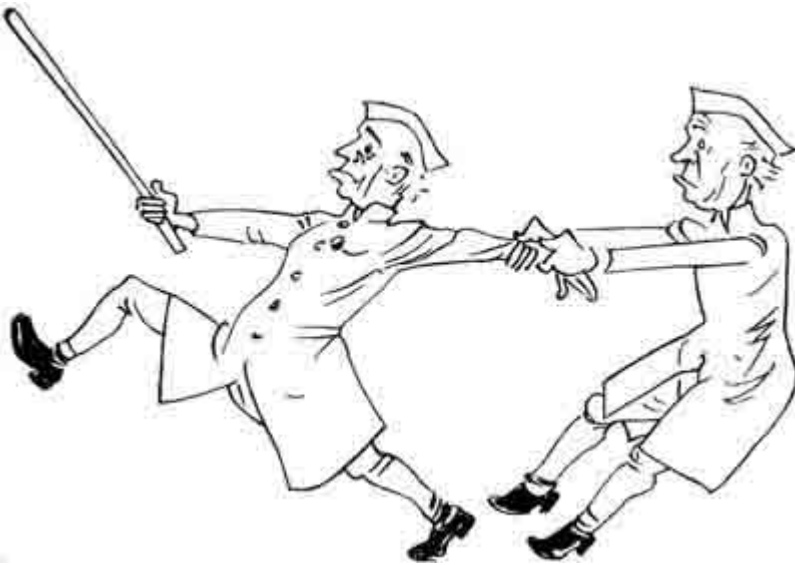
- He started Shankar's international Children's Competition, which attracts participants from more than 350 countries today.

- In 1957, he started the non profit organization, Children's Book Trust, which till date is one of the pioneer publisher's of Children's books in the country.

- In 1965, he founded Shankar's International Dolls Museum, which today houses costume dolls from more than 85 countries.

- In 1968, he started Children's World , an illustrated monthly magazine, unique in that it was by children, for children.

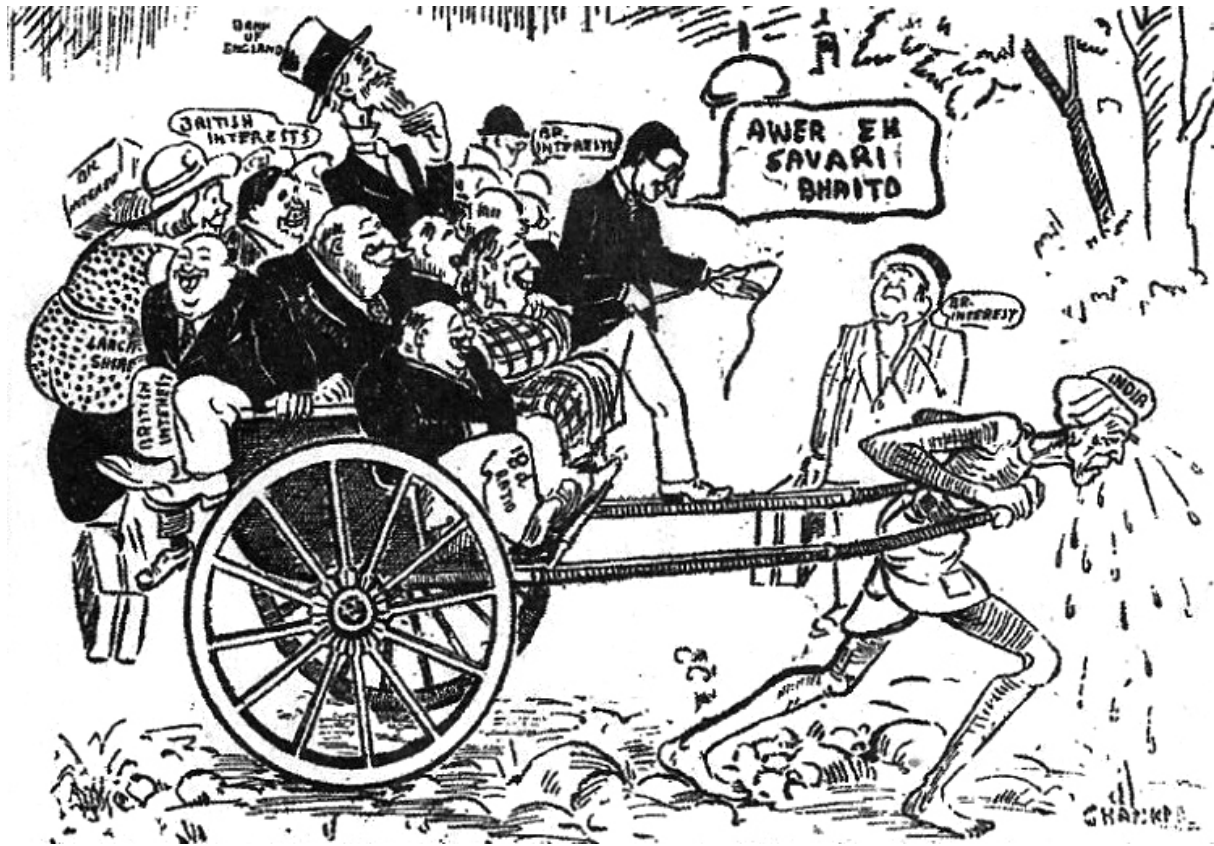
- Among other books, he has penned and illustrated his autobiography " Life with Grandfather "



Wow!! And this is what I have been able to come across, meaning that this is a list of the initiatives he took that turned out to be hugely successful. Obviously, we are not seeing the hundred others that failed or were not equally successful. Clearly, here is a visionary that was no less than the likes of Disney and Dhirubhai. Many of the institutions he created (as mentioned above) were a first in the country. The importance of this can be seen in the fact that there hasn't been a single political cartoon journal of mention in the country since Shankar's Weekly, and obviously, there were none before it.

He has been awarded among many others, the Padma Sri, Padma Bhushan, Padma Vibhushan, the Order of Smile, an honour from a committee of Polish Children and the Order de Saint Fortunat from Germany for his dedication to children.

Obviously, his diaspora of work is incomplete without a mention of his cartooning career. Till he started Shanksr's Weekly, he worked in Hindustan Times, Free Press Journal and Bombay Chronicle. His cartoons were impactful enough to attract the attention of the then viceroys. In 1991, the government of India released two postal stamps depicting his cartoons. One of his more famous pieces is a cartoon on Nehru titled "Don't spare me Shankar".



N. K. Ranganathan(Ranga)



Although few of the current generation know Ranga the cartoonist, his two line caricature of Gandhi is instantly recognizable to many. Ranga had a strong individualistic style that make his cartoons stand out even today. He is famous for drawings cartoons at a lightning pace, as observed by peers, resulting in simple, lucid and instantly identifiable cartoons.

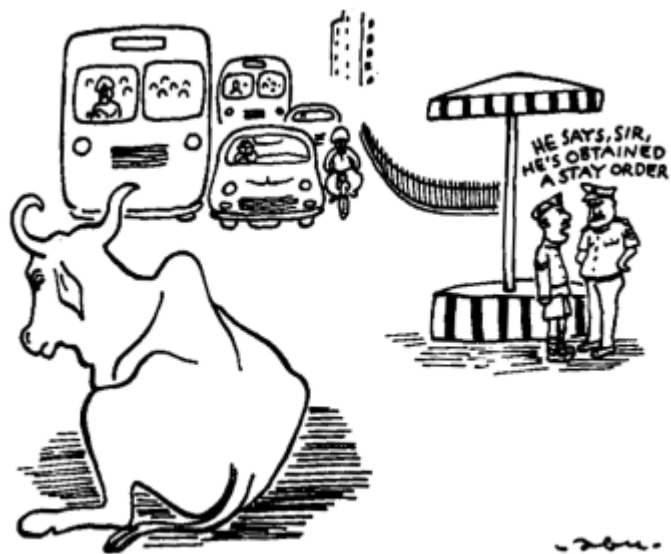
What separated Ranga from other cartoonists was that he was equally adept at the profession of news reporting as he was at drawing cartoons. As the reporter for the All India Radio Newsreel, he was a "one man institution" responsible for everything from inviting the guests to selecting the topics. Here, his work as a reporter is remembered to be as sharp as that as a cartoonist. He started his cartooning stint by drawing two quick sketches for the dignitaries while interviewing them, one for them and one autographed piece for himself. Trivia: Ranga is in the Limca Book of Records for having the highest collection (of some 2,000 autographed cartoons/sketches) of national and international celebrities ranging from Margaret Thatcher to former Pak Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

Ranga worked as a cartoonist for nearly four decades for , among others, The Statesman, The Indian Express and The Tribune.



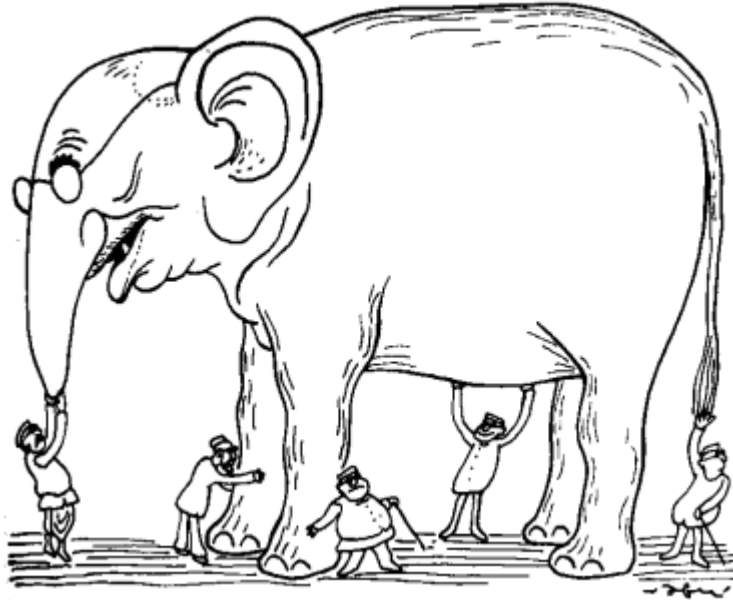
Attupurathu Matthew Abraham (Abu)

He is probably the only Indian cartoonist who worked with a British paper for more than 16 years. For 10 years, he worked as a political cartoonist in none other than The Observer, one of the oldest newspapers in Britain. Interestingly, he was actually bought off from his initial job of political cartoonist at the Tribune by the then legendary editor of Observer, David Astor. This, coupled with the fact that at that point of time The Observer was at its height of influence in Britain and moreover, never had a history of a regular political cartoon, is proof enough of the talents of Abu. In a long career, he has worked for various journals and newspapers like The Bombay Chronicle, Blitz Weekly, Shankar's Weekly, Bharat, The Guardian and The Indian Express. Abu is fondly remembered and admired by colleagues and readers in both India and Britain. Even today, his cartoons appear among



collections of Top Political Vintage Cartoons alongside other cartooning greats by The Guardian and others.

His cartoons are often remembered to be direct and unsparing in criticism, taking very courageous stances even during suppressed periods like The Emergency. Especially his cartoons of the Emergency period have a heroic status in the history of Indian journalism for their brave and honest



portrayal of truth during a period of extreme suppression and censorship. He has vehemently voiced his opinions through cartoons and writings on various issues like Emergency, introduction of compulsory Sanskrit by the BJP, Watergate Scandal, Caste Driven Elections in UP, etc. Abu's cartoons came to be referred to as "single-line editorials". For 12 years, his pocket cartoons titled 'Private View' presented to the reader the true face of Indian politics and politicians.

Like his predecessor Shankar, his abundance of creative energy can be seen in the numerous undertakings he successfully took upon himself.

- Abu made an animated film No Arks, which won a British Film Institute special award in 1970.
- He has published three books, Abu on Bangladesh (1972), The Games of Emergency (1977) and Arrivals and Departures (1983).
- He was a Rajya Sabha Member from 1972 to 1978
- Apart from his job as a cartoonist, he also worked as a reporter for the Bombay Chronicle
- During 1968 he edited Verdicts on Vietnam, a collection of cartoons about the Vietnam war.

As a side note, an often mentioned anecdote in response to Abu's life is how he got the pen name Abu, or rather, how he was rechristened Abu by David Astor on joining The Observer. Astor, realizing the hint of Jewishness in his name, requested him to adopt a pen name to avoid readers from reading unintended bias on sensitive cartoons on Israel and such. And thus was born his pen name that he used for the rest of his life.

Mario Joao Carlos do Rosario de Britto Miranda (Mario Miranda)

Another rather shiny jewel in the Indian cartooning fraternity, Mario Miranda is famous for his extremely unique, stylish and excellent draftsmanship, often depicting crowded slices of life from Goa. He is also famous for his ancestral home, at Loutolim, Goa. Unlike other cartoonists, his cartoons stay away from politics most of the time. He is one of the more easily recognizable names owing to his style and undoubtedly, his international success.

- He has held solo exhibitions in over 22 countries, including USA, Japan, Brazil, Australia, Singapore, France, Yugoslavia, and Portugal.
- He was awarded the Fundacao Calouste Gulbenkian Scholarship which enabled him to travel to and stay a year in Portugal
- In 1974, he was invited by United States Information Services to travel to the USA which enabled

him to promote his art and interact with other cartoonists in U.S.A.

-He has worked alongside greats like Charles M.Schulz (Peanuts), Herblock and Laxman.

-His cartoons have appeared in Mad, Punch and Liliput.

- He has been awarded the Padma Shree and Padma Bhushan.

Again his energies can be seen expressed in other avenues

- His refreshing murals can be found on the walls of various buildings in Goa and Mumbai and other cities in India.

- He has worked for an independent British animation film.

- He has published several books, including "Laugh it Off", "Goa with Love", and "Germany in Wintertime".

- Besides his own books, he has illustrated books of Dom Moraes ("A Journey to Goa"), Manohar Malgaonkar ("Inside Goa") and Mario Cabral e Sa's ("Legends of Goa").



Over the years, Miranda has worked as a cartoonist for The Times of India, The Economic Times and The Illustrated Weekly of India. Clearly, he is one of our more gifted artists and a respected ambassador of the country.



Irfan Hussain

Very few know about him, but Indian Cartoons remain undescribed without the mention of this genius who wasn't allowed to flourish. Irfan was the resident cartoonist of India's leading political weekly "Outlook", besides working for "The Pioneer". His pocket cartoons titled "In a Line" were ferocious in the way they brought out the true faces of Indian politics and politicians. At the same time, they were not below the belt. On the contrary, his cartoons were probably the wittiest in the country at that time and his draftsmanship one of the finest. However, sadly, at the age of 33, he was kidnapped and murdered, allegedly by Hindu extremists, unhappy with his cartoons. His body was found a week after the kidnapping in a decomposed state, hands and feet tied, with 28 wounds which included a slit on the throat. India lost one of its most promising cartoonists.



Rasipuram Krishnaswamy Iyer Laxman(R.K.Laxman)

Wikipedia describes him as India's greatest ever cartoonist. While that is debatable, he is certainly India's most recognizable cartoonist and his Common Man is certainly known to every Indian household which reads a newspaper. Having worked as a political cartoonist for the Times of India for over 50 years he has, by means of his chosen medium, covered perhaps every major political event in India over the last 50 years.

Besides the Times of India Laxman has also worked for various other publications like Swarjya, Blitz, Swatantra, Koravanji and the Free Press Journal. He has also illustrated various books, most notably the hugely popular “Malgudi Days” by brother R.K.Narayan (incidentally one of India's greatest novelists). Besides, he has penned few novels and anthologies (Servants of India, The Messenger)including his autobiography “ Tunnel of Time” . Add to this the various cartoon anthologies published majorly by Penguin (The Best of Laxman series, The Eloquent Brush, Brushing up the years,etc.) and you have a huge body of work easily making him one of India's literary giants.



...and we expect to make still more brilliant progress in these in the coming years...!



Interesting trivia: Laxman had initially applied to the prestigious Sir J.J.School of Arts in Bombay but had been rejected on the grounds that his skills were not upto the level of those required to be a student.

Interesting quote from Laxman summing up his flirtations with politicians : “A politician is one who talks, walks and behaves as though he is perpetually modelling for the cartoonist,”

Padma Bhushan, Padma Vibhushan, Ramon Magsaysay Award are some of the awards conferred on this giant who is undeniably the face of Indian cartoons for the world at large.

Rajinder Puri

Another stalwart in the cartooning sphere, he again exemplifies the multidimensional aspect and the intellectual giants that these individuals are. Apart from being a veteran cartoonist and columnist, he has also been a very prominent political activist. He was the founding General Secretary of the Janata Party in 1977 and was in charge of campaign publicity in the 1977 general election that brought the Janata Party to power. Later he was founder General Secretary of Lok Dal, then Member National Executive and Labor Cell-in-Charge of BJP.

As a cartoonist, he has worked for almost all leading dailies and weeklies of India, the likes of Hindustan Times, The Statesman and Outlook. Like Abu, he worked for a brief period in London, drawing cartoons for The Guardian, and later The Glasgow Herald. He has also authored five books on Indian politics.

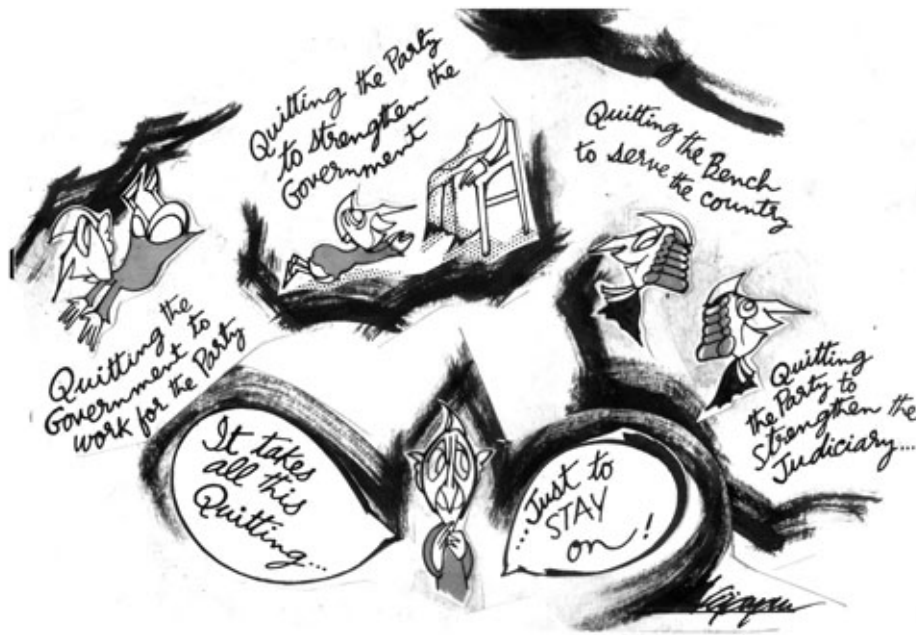


P.K. Sankaran Kutty Nair(Cartoonist Kutty)

Another stalwart from the period of the last few days of colonial rule in the country, Kutty was one of the many gems to emerge from the tutelage of Shankar and openly admits him to being his master. From Kerala, which many consider to be the Mecca of Indian cartooning (owing to the large number of talented cartoonists emerging from the state), he spent the better part of his career drawing cartoons for Bengali publications. The fact that he did not know the Bengali language and that his cartoons had to be translated from English bears a testament to the visual nature of his cartoons. He has worked as a political cartoonist, among others, for National Herald (Jawahar Lal Nehru's newspaper, where Kutty started his career) , Free Press Journal, Shankar's Weekly, Hindustan Standard, Ananda Bazar Patrika, Hindustan Times, Indian Express and Aaj Kal. He has also penned an autobiography titled "Years of Laughter".



Ootupulackal Velukkuty Vijayan(O.V.Vijayan)



Another master from the golden period of newly independent India, O.V.(as he is popularly known) was much much more than just a cartoonist. As a cartoonist and journalist, he worked for, among others, The Hindu, Statesman, Shankar's Weekly and The Patriot. His cartoons, more than laughter, generate a state of sadness in the reader, owing to their adherence to the painful truths of Indian politics, especially that of the Emergency period. Among his cartoon anthologies are *Memoirs: A Cartoonist Remembers* (Autobiography), *Tragic Idiom: O.V. Vijayan's Cartoons & Notes on India* and *Ithiri Neramboke* (Malayalam)

O.V. Is also one of India's prominent novelists and short story writers, so much so that he is credited to have revolutionized Malayalam literature, fostering it into a post-modernist era. While he is most famous for his –

existential

masterpiece,

Khasakkinte Itihasam
(Legends of Khasak),

he also penned four other novels and what is considered to be a historical masterpiece, *Itihasathinte Itihasam* (The Story of the Saga). He has also

written many volumes of short stories and translated most of his works to English.

Awarded the Padma Shree and Padma Bhushan, he was listed by Outlook among

Sixty Great Indians in 60 years of our Republic.



Sudhir Dar

One of the prominent and more experienced names in the later years of Indian cartooning, Sudhir Dar's cartoons, like Miranda's were more inclined towards social comment and humour rather than political comment. And like Miranda, he displayed brilliant draftmanship skills. He has created cartoons for the Statesman, Hindustan Times, Pioneer and Delhi Times (a supplement of The Times of India). His cartoons have also appeared in the New York Times, Washington Post and Saturday Review. Interestingly, in his first seven years as cartoonist at The Statesman, he created a wordless series titled "Out of my mind", pretty unique in the Indian context.



Maya Kamath

Maya Kamath stands out being one of the rare women cartoonists in this male dominated arena. She worked for various publications including The Evening Herald, The Indian Express, The Times of India, The Free Press Journal, MidDay, Newsday and The Independent and The Asian Age. Interestingly, she is one of the few Indian cartoonists who drew a cartoon strip for a national daily (Titled 'Gita'). Apart from cartooning, she was also an illustrator with Macmillan's and drawing teacher at a school.



MARCH 1, 1981
R. Venkataraman's
budget raised call rates.
By Sudhir Dar



Ajit Ninan, E.P.Unni, Ravi Shankar, Sudhir Tailang

These names form the cream of the current crop of political cartoonists in India.

E. P. Unni has worked with [The Hindu](#), [Sundaymail](#), [The Economic Times](#) and is now the Chief Political Cartoonist with The Indian Express Group. Besides, he has drawn and written graphic novels in [Malayalam](#).



Another gem from the state of Kerala, Abu Abraham's nephew Ajit Ninan is a well known Indian political cartoonist, best known for drawing the Centrestage series of cartoons in India Today and Ninan's world in Times of India. Besides he has worked for Target, Outlook and Indian Express. He has co authored and illustrated a book ' Just Like That' with journalist Jug Suraiya and is the creator of a popular comic strip 'Detective Moochhwala'.



Another famous nephew, that of O.V.Vijayan, and again, from Kerala, Ravi Shankar, besides being cartoonist for Indian Express and India Today, the deputy Editor of the later. Besides, he has penned the novel 'The Tiger by the River'.



Sudhir Tailang, over the years has worked as cartoonist for the Illustrated Weekly of India, Navbharat Times, Hindustan Times, Indian Express and Times of India. Currently he works for The Asian Age. He has authored four books, prominent among them a book titled 'No Prime Minister', a set of cartoons on Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. Tailang has been awarded with the Padma Shri.



Important centres for furthering the cause of cartoons and cartoonists in the country

Kerela-Home of Indian Cartoons

Call it coincidence or tradition, Kerela has produced some of India's finest cartoonists throughout history and it has upheld a rich tradition of cartooning. Not surprisingly, many consider it the Mecca of Indian cartooning. Shankar, Abu, Yesudasan, Unny, Sukumar, Ravi Shankar, Kutty, Gokul, Abu, Thomson, Thomas, O.V. Vijayan are but few of the names that illuminate the star studded cartooning history of the state.

Some attribute this phenomenon to Kerala's high literacy, some to Shankar's influence and some to the unusual social politics of the state. But everyone agrees that it has contributed heavily to the cartooning history of India and takes pride in its cartooning tradition. This pride can be witnessed in the state government's recognition of cartooning as a fine art, in the highly active Kerala Cartoon Academy, the only cartoonist's organisation in the country and of course, the large number of excellent cartoonists emerging from the state.

Kerela Cartoon Academy

The Kerela Cartoon Academy is the first, and till recently, the only active organization of cartoonists in the country. It includes, as its members, more than 100 free lancer cartoonists recognized by the state of Kerala State Government. Founded in 1982 by cartoonist Yesudasan, it reflects the rich tradition of cartooning in Kerela. For the past 30 years, the Academy, in association with the likes of the British Council and the Union Information and Broadcasting Ministry, has been constantly promoting and encouraging the art of cartooning through various workshops, exhibitions, seminars, study tours, festivals and competitions. Its annual awards are highly respected in the country and are proudly flaunted by the recipient cartoonists.

The Academy also has a strong web presence. It maintains a regularly updated blog www.cartoonacademy.blogspot.com. Besides, it has many other portals on its members, on international cartoon news and on its many baby projects, like its cartoon anthologies on Manmohan Singh and Elephants of the world.

Indian Institute of Cartoonists

Established in 2001, the Indian Institute of Cartoonists (IIC) is now the only National Body promoting and representing the art of cartooning. Luckily for the cartoonists and the art form itself, the support of the state information department and most leading cartoonists in the country, making it a place buzzing with activity and promise. It has been established in Bangalore, which boasts of prestigious institutions like IISC, IIM and IIS.

Since its inception, the Institute has done much to promote the art of cartooning and foster an organizational sense in the cartooning community. It houses a state of the art cartoon gallery, a 75 seater conference room and a cartoon library. The library houses various resources on cartoons, including books, CDs and original award winning artworks, thus preserving them and exposing them to the public. The institute has done a great deal in promoting and patronizing budding talent by conducting regular cartooning contests both at national and international levels, awarding the winners profusely with much pomp and ceremony and publicising their works through exhibitions. Besides, it also gives eminent cartoonists their due honour by felicitating them with Lifetime Achievement Awards, conferred by Governors and Chief Ministers. Last but not the least, the institute has constantly been promoting awareness about the art by conducting regular workshops, seminars and exhibitions by noted cartoonists.

Besides, the institute has a well organized website, www.cartoonistsindia.com, which, to some extent, gives one a clear picture of the Indian Cartooning Tradition, something that this paper aims to achieve. It has a database of prominent cartoonists and their works and contact details. Over the years, the institute has felicitated many of the biggest names in the Indian cartooning sphere, like Laxman, Miranda and Pran. Its annual competitions attract worldwide participations and have produced some amazing cartoons and caricatures.

The Institute is a promising platform in a country where such an establishment has been long overdue. With its plans to expand to other major Indian cities like Mumbai and Delhi, the prospects look even better. In a time when the art of cartooning is sliding towards a gradual death, one heartily applauds such efforts and wishes it even greater success.



On a Parting Note

In this paper, I have tried to talk about the important people, the important events , the institutions and other important data which, in my opinion, would give an overarching sense of the history and current state of the world of Indian political cartoons. By no means, its a comprehensive paper, but it aims to give the reader a peek into the world of Indian cartoons, prodding him to explore further, giving him an idea of what is in store.



Suggested further reading

- <http://www.friendsoftibet.org/cartoons/> (An exhibition by Indian cartoonists expressing support for the cause of Tibet against Chinese atrocities)
- http://www.indianink.org/ovvijayan_art.shtml (Excellent writeup on Vijayan accompanied by some of his cartoons)
- http://www.penguinbooksindia.com/category/Humour/Brushing_Up_the_Years_A_Cartoonist_and_39s_History_of_India_1947_to_the_Present_9780143103660.aspx (writeup on Laxman's Book "Brushing up the Years")
- <http://www.goa-world.com/goa/cartoons/mariomiranda/index.htm> (Nice bio on Miranda)
- <http://www.cartoonistsindia.com/htm/homage.htm> (Indian Institute of Cartoonists)
- <http://www.hinduonnet.com/fline/fl1926/stories/20030103003110100.htm> (Excellent writeup on Abu)
- <http://cartoononnews.blogspot.com/> (Blog by the Kerela Cartoon Academy)
- http://books.google.co.in/books?id=bGeQ_jh6D-YC&pg=PA29&lpg=PA29&dq=shankar+Life+with+my+Grandfather&source=bl&ots=PYEgqDx8WR&sig=8MaQBOgNJKvWtpvR-7SBQwkRazU&hl=en&ei=xBlxS9niO5Hc7APEvvWICQ&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=5&ved=0CBoQ6AEwBA#v=onepage&q=&f=false (Excerpt from Shankar's autobiography)
- <http://www.thehindu.com/thehindu/mp/2002/08/05/stories/2002080500840200.htm> (Excellent article on Ranga)
- <http://www.indiancaricature.com/modules/cartoons/public-categories.php?id=1> (Large database of Indian cartoonists)
- <http://photo.outlookindia.com/default.aspx?pt=8&ptv=103> (Gallery of Irfan Hussain's cartoons)
- <http://www.outlookindia.com/article.aspx?204333> (Interesting article)
- <http://www.hindu.com/2007/06/26/stories/2007062652350200.htm> (Rajinder Puri on the current generation of cartoonists)
- http://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&q=cache:QN7WX2wXteYJ:www.kerala.gov.in/keralacallingoct/shanker.pdf+cartoonist+kutty&hl=en&gl=in&pid=bl&srcid=ADGEEShDkhsREwSvNCXxzjQSdu1RQklYKqDZB37vk59Jb_663wRUTr7qOlGOB7Sq7dn53329DCEdRzI5Wx-M4Uc6f7_e5ja8GlXCuTC7WEEdGajqFzApbEwbuyhhBqCWIO9jp8pCag9&sig=AHIEtbR-EkxTfFX0yXGfUWrjCPxbGprYlg (Excellent article on Shankar)
- http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/south_asia/4394419.stm (Vijayan obituary)
- <http://8ate.blogspot.com/2009/09/some-old-cartoons-and-cartoonist.html> (Some rare and old cartoons)
- <http://bhashaindia.com/Patrons/SuccessStories/pages/SudhirDar.aspx> (Interview with Sudhir Dar)
- <http://www.outlookindia.com/article.aspx?211030> (Interesting article on Sudhir Dar)
- <http://www.outlookindia.com/article.aspx?207197> (Rajinder Puri remembers Irfan Hussain)
- <http://abhijitbhaduri.com/2009/09/meet-cartoonist-ajit-ninan/> (Interview with Ajit Ninan)
- <http://www.hindu.com/thehindu/mp/2007/07/16/stories/2007071650740100.htm> (Article on Kerela's patronage of cartoons)
- <http://ibnlive.in.com/news/ku-klux-klan-cartoon-in-indian-paper-angers-australia/108425-2.html> (Report of Australian outrage at Indian cartoon)
- <http://yesudasan.info/index.html> (Nice website on Yesudasan)
- <http://www.questfeatures.org/articles/alanmoir.html> (An Australian's view on Indian cartoons)
- <http://indulekha.com/colours/2007/03/tragic-idiom-by-ov-vijayan.html> (Excerpts from 'Tragic Idiom' by Vijayan)
- <http://www.hinduonnet.com/thehindu/mp/2003/08/21/stories/2003082101290400.htm> (Interesting comparison between the approaches of Shankar and Vijayan)

- <http://www.hindu.com/yw/2008/09/16/stories/2008091650430600.htm> (Cartoon workshop conducted by Kerela Cartoon Academy)
- <http://bhashaindia.com/Patrons/SuccessStories/pages/SudhirDar.aspx> (Interview with Abu)