



THE NATIONAL AND THE INTERNATIONAL LITERARY AWARDS "PENYO PENEV" WERE GIVEN THIS EVENING AT A SPECIAL CEREMONY

Wednesday, 4 May 2022

Today were presented the National and the International Literary Awards for Poetry "Penyo Penev" 2022 in Dimitrovgrad. The two laureates - Prof. Plamen Doinov and Mr Hari Hamdan received their awards for contribution to the development of national and world literature, by the mayor of Dimitrovgrad Ivo Dimov and the chairman of the Municipal Council Mrs. Gergana Krasteva.

The Days of Poetry "Penyo Penev" are not only a poetic



holiday, but also an opportunity for all of us to touch the people who with their expression enrich the national and world literary wealth and make the world a more sensitive and good idea. Dimitrovgrad is the only Bulgarian city, and perhaps a European one, that has a square called "Poetry". Creativity and talent are very special here and have their own pedestal, said at his presentation the mayor Mrn Dimov . He especially thanked the selection committee chaired by Prof. Amelia Licheva and said that he was proud that the name of Plamen Doinov as an author is associated with the prestigious award.

Prof. Plamen Doinov thanked for the award and defined Penyo Penev as a worthy example, who gave up everything in the name of purity of poetry.

The Bulgarian fiction writer and playwright and member of the selection committee Mr Zahari Karabashliev spoke about the laureate. His poetry remembers Botev, Yavorov, Dalchev and the more modern ones, but he is not just a researcher of Penyo Penev's work, explained Mr Karabashliev to the audience.

The Chairperson of the Municipal Council Mrs. Gergana Krasteva, at the presentation of the international award to Mr Hari Hamdan shared the decision of the local municipal councilors and thanked for his excellent work as writer and translator.



Mr Hamdan thanked for the prize with his characteristic honest.

After the warm words by the officials, the audience enjoyed the poetry of the two laureates.

Plamen Doinov was born in Razgrad. Graduated in history and culturology at Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski.

He has been rector of the New Bulgarian University /NBU/ since 01.07.2020. Teaches history and theory of literature, academic and creative writing at NBU. Prof. Doinov is one of the founders of the Department of New Bulgarian Studies and its head for two terms (2012-2020). Author of the conceptual design and director of the scientific program "Literature of the People's Republic of Bulgaria (1946-1990)".

Winner of national poetry awards, including "Yavorov" (1995), "Ivan Nikolov" (2004). He is the winner of the National Award "Hristo G. Danov" of the Ministry of Culture and the Municipality of Plovdiv (2012). In 2013 was awarded the Hungarian Golden Cross in the field of culture - one of the highest Hungarian awards given to foreigners. Eleventh winner of the National Award for Literary Criticism "Ivan Radoslavov and Ivan Meshekov" (2015). Winner of the National Literary Award "Ivan Dinkov" as a critic (2016). Plamen Doinov's latest book with political poetry "Falling in Love with the Dictator"



received the National Poetry Award "Hristo Fotev" for 2022 in Bourgas.

Hayri Hamdan was born in Palestine. In 1967 he emigrated with his family to Jordan, where he completed his secondary education. Due to the complicated situation there, in 1981, they emigrated to Bulgaria, where he completed his higher education. He started working in the editorial board of the newspaper of the Technical University. He published his works in Bulgarian in the newspaper "Pulse", "Literary Front", the almanac "Sea" and others. He also works as a translator and correspondent for various Arab news agencies. He has published several poetic books in Bulgarian. He published an Anthology of Contemporary Bulgarian Poetry and an Anthology of Contemporary Bulgarian Prose in Arabic. He also translates many editions from Arabic into Bulgarian. Hayri Hamdan translates poems by Penyo Penev into Arabic.

He has won international literary awards in Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Palestine. Winner of award of the Union of Translators in Bulgaria for overall contribution (2021), award of the Peroto Club for translation of the prose anthology "In the beginning was the epilogue" (2019) and for the collection of poems "Water Lilies of Memory" (2020).





