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SAROS COWASJEE

2008

Biographical sketch:

Name: Full name: Saros Dara Cowasjee. His parents were Dara (father) and Meher (mother) Cowasjee. He has one sister, Sabar, and one brother, Shyam.

Place of residence: Saros Cowasjee was born July 12, 1931 in Secundrabad, India. He lived in India until he went to England in 1957 to work on his PhD. He remained in England for three years, until 1960, then traveled to Bombay to be Assistant Editor with the Times of India Press, where he stayed until 1963. In 1963 he came to Regina, Saskatchewan, to assume the post of Instructor of English at what was then the University of Saskatchewan, Regina Campus, the forerunner of the University of Regina.

Education: He was educated at St. John's College, Agra, India, where he completed a Bachelors of Arts in 1951. He received his Masters of Arts degree in 1955 from Agra College, India then completed a Ph.D. in 1960 from the University of Leeds in England on Sean O'Casey, under the supervision of the renowned Shakespearean scholar, G. Wilson Knight.

Occupation, life and activities: After a stint with the Times of India Press from 1960 to 1963, Cowasjee was appointed Instructor of English at the University of Saskatchewan, Regina Campus. He attained the title of full professor in 1971. He retired and was appointed Professor Emeritus in 1995. Cowasjee was also Research Associate, University of California, Berkeley in 1970-71, Visiting Commonwealth Professor, University of Aarhus, Denmark, from January to June 1975, and has been a guest lecturer at universities in Europe, Australia, North America, India, Fiji, and Singapore. In addition to his teaching, Cowasjee has been a prolific writer. He is the author of five works of criticism: Sean O'Casey: The Man Behind the Plays (1963), O'Casey (1966), Coolie: An Assessment (1976), So Many Freedoms: A Study of the Major Fiction of Mulk Raj Anand (1977), and Studies in Indian and Anglo-Indian Fiction (1993). He has written three novels: Goodbye to Elsa (1974), Suffer Little Children (1982), and The Assistant Professor (1996); two books of short stories, Stories and Sketches (1970), and Nude Therapy (1978); and a screenplay, The Last of the Maharajas (1980). He has edited and written introductions for numerous works, among them being five anthologies on writers from the Raj period of India (the first three of these were published as a series by Harper Collins): Stories from the Raj (1982), More Stories from the Raj and After (1986), and Women Writers of the Raj: Short Fiction (1990). The other two Raj fiction anthologies were done for Oxford University Press, The Oxford Anthology of Raj Stories (1998) and A Raj Collection (2005). His more notable publications include his critical introductions to Christine Weston's Indigo (1993) and Sir George Otto Trevelyan's The Competition Wallah (1992). There is also The Best Short Stories of Flora Annie Steel (1995), selected and edited by him, with his introduction dealing with the author's life and works. Equally important is Cowasjee's work as General Editor of Arnold Heinemann's "Literature of the Raj" series, beginning in 1984. In the nine out-of-print fiction works published under Cowasjee's editorship, he wrote introductions to the reprints of Durbar (1987), Indigo (1987), Siri-Ram-Revolutionist (1988), and Hindoo Holiday (first published through Cowasjee's efforts in India in 1979, but later was included in this series). In addition, Cowasjee has edited and/or written introductions to other works, has contributed to various publications, and written numerous articles.

Scope and content: This accession contains correspondence with publishers, editors, and University Administrator, it also contains biographical material.

Notes: See also Accession nos. 90-101, 91-23, 91-93, 94-62, 97-37, 99-48, 2000-8, and 2004-2, 2004-4, 2006-43.

Custodial history: The records comprising this accession of the Saros Cowasjee Fonds were collected and held by Saros Cowasjee until their donation to the University of Regina Archives.

Arrangement: Files and file titles created, collected and arranged by Saros Cowasjee.

Restrictions: There are no restrictions on this material.

Box 1	File 1	Correspondence with Pearson-Longman editors Urmila Das Gupta, Jai Prasad and Nandini Bhayttacharya re. inclusion of my essay "The Epic of Misery" in theft edition of Anand's Untouchable (2008).
	File 2	Correspondence continued. Revision, Proofs, etc. of "The Epic of Misery."
	File 3	Correspondence with Vibha Sharma re. my "Foreword" to <i>The Lasting Legacies of Mulk Raj Anand</i> (2008), and the articles comprising the anthology (June 2006 to Dee. 2007).
	File 4	File 4: Correspondence with Vibha Sharma continued. Editor Rizwan Khan takes over correspondence. Notes on my "Foreword"; Text; Proofs, etc.
	Files 5 – 7	Correspondence with VK Karthika, Chief Editor & Publisher of HarperCollins, and Editor Sunaina Narang, re. "Introduction", "Post Scripts" Jacket Design, Prelim pages, etc. of <i>Private Life</i> .
	File 8 – 9	Mss. of my Introduction (drafts & final copy), Post Script including "Life at a Glance", "About the Author" & "About the Book" (drafts & final copy). Also prelim pages, Book Jacket Text and Page proofs. <i>Private Life</i> published in Harper Perennial Modern Classics (2008).
	File 10	Correspondence with Shyamala Narayan pertaining largely to her reviews of Anand's fiction and my <i>Strange Meetings</i> (2006).
	File 11	Reviews of Anand's <i>Private Life of an Indian Prince</i> and my <i>Strange Meetings and Other Stories</i> .
	File 12	Correspondence with Shubha Misra re. Mulk Raj Anand, and an Interview with me on my fiction.
	File 13	Correspondence with Penguin Books editors David Davidar, Biji Samuel, Diya Kar Hazra for reprinting titles. Also with Avanija Sundaramurti and Gary Buckland of the Naval & Military Press (UK) for an Indian edition of Frank Richards' <i>Old Soldier Sahib</i> (1936).
Box 2	File 14 – 15	Correspondence with Kewal Anand (2007-2008) who runs the Mulk Raj Anand Centre, Lokayata, in Delhi. Letters on various matters related to Anand' s Writings, Reprints, Memorial Lectures, Functions, etc.
	File 16 – 17	Correspondence with Professor A.S. Dasan regarding Mulk Raj Anand and related matters. Letters also deal with on-going research, publications, conferences, book reviews, etc. Also in previous fonds.
	File 18	Correspondence with Jeroo Chavda, Katie Sahair and Zarir Karanjia re. Mulk Raj Anand. Also, three letters of permission from Mulk Raj Anand.
	File 19	Correspondence with Chief Editor Jeff Hunter of Contemporary Literary Criticism, re. three articles published with small revisions in <i>CLC</i> No. 237 (copy in Library Special Collection). Also copies of 4 articles published in <i>CLC</i> 93.
	File 20	Correspondence with Publishers Margaret Cadwaladr, Katilyn

- Crowley and Mary Ann of Macmillan (Madras).
- File 21 Correspondence with Publisher of UBSPD (Delhi), co-editor Kartar Singh Duggal (re. *Orphans of the Storm*), and editor Bhaskar Roy Barman for inclusion of my "Memsahib at the Writing Table" in *El-Dorado: An Anthology of World Literature* (2006).
- File 22 Correspondence with publisher Kapil Malhotra (re. my books) and Sudhir Malhotra (re. editing, and reprints of Anand's fiction).
- File 23 Correspondence with Andrew Whitehead (BBC), Keki Daruwalla, Natwar Singh, William Blair, Ketan Gedia and Shilendra Singh.
- File 24 Correspondence with colleagues (past and present): Les Crossman, William Howard, Robert Cosbey, Heather Hodgson, Herbert Korte, Gail Bowen and Betty Bennett. Also with Gillian Murad and ex. student Jim Rugg.
- File 25 – 26 Correspondence with University Administrators (Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Deans, Heads of Departments): David Barnard, Dianne Common, Robert McCullough, Robert Hawkins, Jim Tomkins, Kathy Heinrich, Murray Knuttila, Tom Chase, Robin Fisher, Ken Wilson. Mostly on academic matters.
- File 27 Correspondence with Joan Givner during 2007- 2008. Earlier correspondence in previous fonds.
- File 28 Controversy with Book Rag over copyright infringement
Correspondence with David Lieberman, Jeff Hunter, Mari Masalin, David Aronson and Dale Gallea
- File 29 Personal, Biographical. Listings in Dictionaries, Press releases, Book Displays, etc.