
**Bucheon City of Literature Residency
program**

**For authors, translators, cartoonists and
graphic novel artists**

APPLICATION FORM

*** Personal Information**

First Name	OTTUPARA
Last Name	SURESH
Date of Birth	10 th January 1972
Gender	male
Nationality	Indian
Home Address	Satori,Nellikode Post,Kozhikode
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*** Introduction of your work. Provide a clear and informative summary of your work (Max 450 words).**

O.P. Suresh stands as a significant figure in contemporary Malayalam literature, a versatile poet, author, and journalist whose career spans several decades. At 53, his contributions to the literary landscape are marked by a deep engagement with language and a consistent recognition from prestigious literary bodies. His work, which predominantly explores themes of existence, memory, and the human condition, has resonated not only with Malayalam readers but also with a wider audience through translations into English, Hindi, and Tamil. Suresh's literary output is centered on poetry, a medium he has mastered with profound skill. His major works are a testament to his evolving artistic vision. His poetry collection, *Taj Mahal*, published in 2018, is a landmark achievement, garnering the highly coveted Kerala Sahitya Academy Award for Poetry in 2020. This work was also honored with the

Cherukad Award for Literature and the Dr. Rajan Memorial Award, underscoring its critical acclaim. The success of Taj Mahal built upon his earlier achievements, such as Pala Kaalanganil Oru Poovu ('A Flower for All Seasons'), which received the Atlas Kairali Award for Poetry in 2008, showcasing his talent from a young age.

His more recent works continue this trajectory of excellence. The 2023 poetry collection, Pachilayude Jeevacharithram ('The Life History of a Green Leaf'), was recognized with the Manimallika Award for Literature in 2024, further solidifying his position as a leading poet. Beyond poetry, Suresh has also ventured into other literary forms, as seen in Ekakikalude Aalkkoottam ('Crowd of Loners'), a collection of anecdotes that offers a glimpse into his broader reflections on life and society.

O.P. Suresh's influence extends beyond his published books. His career as a journalist at leading newspapers like Mathrubhumi and Deshabhimani, and his role as a lecturer, demonstrate a lifelong commitment to language and communication. His current position as the head of the Kozhikode Unit of Deshabhimani Publications places him at the heart of Kerala's media landscape. Moreover, his active participation in major literary events, from his involvement with the Kerala Literature Festival and UNESCO City of Literature initiatives to serving on the jury for the International Film Festival of Kerala, highlights his significant role as a cultural organizer and thought leader. Through his multifaceted career, O.P. Suresh continues to enrich Malayalam literature and culture, serving as a vital bridge between tradition and contemporary expression.

*** Educational experience (degrees, field of studies) :**

EDUCATION :

MBA, Marketing, Sri Vinayaka Mission University, 2008-2010.

BEd., Malayalam Literature, Calicut University, 1994.

MA, Malayalam Literature, Calicut University, 1992-1994.

BA, Malayalam Literature, Calicut University, 1989-1992.

*** To which UNESCO Creative Cities of Literature do you have a close connection?**

Explain briefly your connection to that city :

Kozhikode UNESCO City of Literature.

Kozhikode is my hometown and I studied and working in the city. I am a permanent resident of the city and involving in almost all important cultural activities of the city. I am associated with the city municipal corporation as the steering committee member of the Kozhikode City of Literature office.

*** Brief description of the project that you plan to work on in Bucheon; Be as specific and realistic as possible :**

This project is a poetic and reflective travelogue, capturing Bucheon through the eyes of a writer from Kerala. Instead of a traditional plot, the work is structured as a series of interconnected essays

and poetic reflections. It chronicles my personal journey of discovery, weaving together observations of the city with its cultural history and heritage.

The narrative begins with my arrival, capturing the initial sensory overload of a modern, bustling metropolis. The prose, however, quickly shifts from the superficial to a deeper exploration, as I seek out the soul of the city. Each chapter or section focuses on a specific element that defines Bucheon:

* **Literary Footprints:** I delve into the city's rich literary past, not through a dry historical account, but by visiting places connected to its famous writers and poets. I reflect on their lives and works, imagining the city through their eyes and finding their legacy in the quiet corners of libraries and parks.

* **Art and Folklore:** The travelogue explores Bucheon's vibrant artistic scene, from ancient folk traditions to contemporary art. I visit local artists, museums, and street art installations, using vivid, poetic language to describe the works and the stories behind them. I also unearth local legends and myths, showing how they still resonate in the city's creative output.

* **Echoes of History:** Rather than a chronological history, I present Bucheon's past through "echoes"—the stories embedded in its old markets, historic neighborhoods, and architecture. I reflect on the city's resilience and evolution, allowing the history to emerge naturally from the landscape itself.

* **Faces of Bucheon:** The work is grounded by the people I meet—the bookseller who is a custodian of local history, the street vendor who tells a story with every sale, and the young artist who is carrying the city's creative torch forward. These personal encounters form the emotional core of the travelogue, highlighting the human element of Bucheon's culture.

The conclusion of the work is a final reflection on the universal thread that connects Bucheon and my home in Kerala—the shared human need to create, preserve, and celebrate culture. The journey is not just about discovering a new city, but also about understanding how our stories, regardless of where we come from, are all part of a larger human tapestry.

Themes and Significance:

This project stands out for its unique blend of non-fiction and poetic prose. It is not just a report on a city but an artistic interpretation of it. The key themes are cultural exchange and discovery, the continuity of heritage, and the power of human connection.

The significance of this work lies in its ability to introduce Bucheon to an Indian audience in a deeply personal and evocative way. The original Malayalam, rich with lyrical imagery and emotional depth, will offer a sensory experience of the city. The English translation will then allow a wider global readership to connect with the heart and soul of Bucheon, moving beyond its modern facade to appreciate its profound cultural legacy.

* Submit your application by the 31st of August 2025 by email to: hanna0709@korea.kr