

VE#N#UGO#PA#LARA#VU, PEMMARA#JU. Pemmaraju Venugopala Rao papers, circa 1950-2012

Emory University
Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library
Atlanta, GA 30322
404-727-6887
rose.library@emory.edu



Collection Stored Off-Site

All or portions of this collection are housed off-site. Materials can still be requested but researchers should expect a delay of up to two business days for retrieval.

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Ve#n#ugo#pa#lara#vu, Pemmara#ju.
Title: Pemmaraju Venugopala Rao papers, circa 1950-2012
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 1530
Extent: 14.75 linear feet (14 boxes)
Abstract: The papers of Indian American scholar, poet, and community activist Pemmaraju Venugopala Rao consisting of audiovisual material, correspondence, personal and professional papers, and printed material, from circa 1950-2012.
Language: Materials entirely in Telugu and English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access

Special restrictions apply: Collection stored off-site. Researchers must contact the Rose Library in advance to access this collection.

Special restrictions apply: Use copies have not been made for audiovisual material in this collection. Researchers must contact the Rose Library at least two weeks in advance for access to these items. Collection restrictions, copyright limitations, or technical complications may hinder the Rose Library's ability to provide access to audiovisual material.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

Source

Gift of Lakshmi Rao, Saleena Dakin, and Nalini Koch, 2021

Emory Libraries provides copies of its finding aids for use only in research and private study. Copies supplied may not be copied for others or otherwise distributed without prior consent of the holding repository.

Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Pemmaraju Venugopala Rao papers, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Appraisal Note

Acquired by Emory Libraries' South Asian Studies Librarian, Gautham Reddy, with Curator of Political, Cultural, and Social Movements, Randy Gue, as part of the Rose Library's holdings in the history and culture of communities in Atlanta.

Processing

Arranged and described at the collection level by Anicka Austin, Katherine Fisher, and Becky Sherman, February 2023.

This finding aid may include language that is offensive or harmful. Please refer to the Rose Library's [harmful language statement](#) for more information about why such language may appear and ongoing efforts to remediate racist, ableist, sexist, homophobic, euphemistic and other oppressive language. If you are concerned about language used in this finding aid, please contact us at rose.library@emory.edu.

Collection Description**Biographical Note**

Dr. Pemmaraju Venugopala Rao (1931-2012) grew up in the coastal south Indian town of Eluru, Andhra Pradesh. In 1964, he received a Ph.D. from the University of Oregon. He joined Emory's physics faculty in 1967 as a specialist in nuclear physics. He served as Associate Professor at Emory until his retirement in 2012 and was an important contributor to the Emory-Tibet Science Initiative. With his wife, Lakshmi Rao, he was a leader of the South Asian American community in the Atlanta area. In 1975, he was elected as the first president of the India American Cultural Association (IACA, Atlanta, Georgia) and played an important role in the establishment of numerous South Asian community organizations not only in Atlanta but throughout the United States. A noted Telugu poet, he served as editor for the Houston-based Vanguri Foundation's *Anthology of North American Telugu Short Story* series. Pemmaraju Rao produced and directed performing art works including *Ramayana Ballet* (1975), *Kanya Sulkamu* (1982), and *Girija Kalyanam* (1985), in addition to working as a painter, sculptor, and photographer. He and his family hosted numerous Telugu and Indian literary figures and celebrities during their visits to Atlanta. Rao was also considered a reputed religious scholar and spiritual leader by the Atlanta Hindu community.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of materials related to the cultural life of South Asian Americans in the Atlanta area from circa 1950-2012. Materials produced by South Asian American community organizations between 1970-2010 make up the bulk of these materials, including calendars, conference materials, correspondence, directories, flyers, newsletters, newspaper clippings, photographs, posters, and audiovisual materials. These organizations include the Telugu Association of North America (TANA), American Telugu Association (ATA), Telugu

Association of Metro Atlanta (TAMA), Hindu Temple of Atlanta (HTA), India American Cultural Association (IACA), and the Festival of India - Atlanta.

Arrangement Note

Arranged alphabetically by record type.

Container List

Box	Folder	Content
AV2		Audiovisual materials, circa 1980s-2004
AV2		Audiovisual materials, Telugu Association of North America, circa 1991
AV2		Audiovisual materials, India Cultural and Religious Center, circa 1980s
AV1		Audiovisual materials, India Cultural and Religious Center, undated
AV1		Audiovisual materials, Telugu Association of North America, circa 1991
AV2		Audiovisual materials, <i>Ramayana Ballet</i> , undated
7		Calendars and posters, circa 1975-1991
4		Correspondence, circa 1970s
10		Correspondence, "Poetry 1993," 1993
6		Organizational records, India American Cultural Association, circa 1975
4		Personal and professional papers, circa 1970s
11		Personal and professional papers, circa 1976-2012
5		Personal and professional papers, circa 1998-2010
11		Personal and professional papers, "The Stars of India," circa 1991
11		Photographs, circa 2006-2008
AV2		Photographs, "Hindu Sky Planetarium Show" slides, circa 1990
9		Printed materials, 1970s-1990s
4		Printed materials, 1970s-2010s
3		Printed materials, 1980s-1990s
9		Printed materials, American Telugu Association, circa 1990s-2000s
3		Printed materials, American Telugu Association conference, circa 1990s
9		Printed materials, arts programs, conference programs, and magazines, circa 1979-1987
8		Printed materials, conference programs, circa 1977-2008
10		Printed materials, conference programs, circa 1981-2001
12		Printed materials, conference programs, circa 2003-2012
12		Printed materials, event programs, circa 1995-2001
1		Printed materials, Festival of India, circa 1990s
3		Printed materials, Hindu Temple of Atlanta, circa 2000s
9		Printed materials, Hindu Temple of Atlanta, 2004
3		Printed materials, magazines, circa 1970s-2005
3		Printed materials, Telugu Association of North America, circa 1980s-1990s
1		Printed materials, Telugu Association of North America, 1985
12		Printed materials, Telugu Association of Metro Atlanta, circa 2000s
10		Printed materials, Telugu Association of Metro Atlanta, 2006
9		Printed materials, Telugu Association of North America, circa 1990s-2007

- 1 Printed materials, *Telugu Jyothi* literary magazine, circa 1990-1999
- 10 Printed materials, *Telugu Jyothi* literary magazine, circa 1990-2002
- 8 Printed materials, Telugu Literary Symposium of America, circa 1999-2000
- 1 Printed materials, *Triveni*, circa 1990s-2004
- 1 Printed material, Vanguri Foundation of America conference programs, circa 2000s
- 6 Printed material, *Voice of India*, circa 1982-1999
- 3 Printed material, World Telugu Conference, circa 1993
- 6 Production material, *Ramayana Ballet* Group, circa 1975
- 2 Research material, photocopied books, circa 1950s-1980s
- 1 Teaching files, Asian Studies Program, "Poetry from South Asia," undated
-