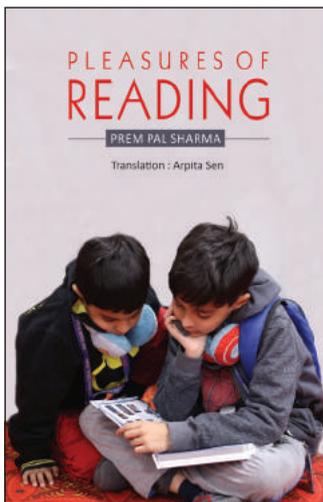


Contents

The Story of India by Young Writers	1-2
Netaji National Reading Promotion Recognition Award	2
Azamgarh Book Fair	2
In Conversation	3
Lifetime Achievement Award to NBT	3
NBT Books on and by Women	4-5
Excerpts	6
Celebrate World Wildlife Day with NBT Books	7

PICK OF THE MONTH



Pleasures of Reading

Prem Pal Sharma

Translation: Arpita Sen

ISBN 978-237-81-9523-2; Rs 175

The Story of India by Young Writers

India is the third largest publisher of books in the world. This despite the fact that only a small number of people adopt writing as a profession in our country. The strength of a country's defence, health, transport and communication, which are seen as symbols of a country's empowerment becomes meaningful, only if its people are able to express their achievements, aspirations and hopes in their own words and languages. How does the reading of a book or an event bring

about a complete change in a person's life? There are many examples in the history of our country where such changes were brought about by words. India will nurture children from their early years and the youth in a way that they will be able to become ambassadors of its literature of a twenty-first century India. For every Indian to be a "world citizen", it is imperative that the voice of the country is heard in their own language on a global stage in a structured manner.



Let our lives be open books



Ministry of Education
Government of India



Mentoring Young Authors Under India@75 Project

HIGHLIGHTS

ELIGIBILITY	Indian Nationals below 30 years
LANGUAGES	All 22 official languages of India and English
SELECTION	Ten authors from each languages through an All India Contest
DURATION	Mentorship will run for 6-9 months
OUTCOME	Writing of a book and publication of the same by NBT, India
SCHOLARSHIP	Scholarship for the selected young authors
BEGINNING	First batch to be launched soon

To enter write to the Director, National Book Trust, India,
Ministry of Education, Govt of India at director@nbtindia.gov.in



राष्ट्रीय पुस्तक न्यास, भारत
शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार
NATIONAL BOOK TRUST, INDIA
Ministry of Education, Government of India



As you may be aware, on 31 January 2021 in his weekly broadcast programme of “Mann Ki Baat”, the Prime Minister said, “In every corner of the land, Bharatbhoomi, great sons and brave daughters were born, who gave up their lives for the nation. Hence, it is very important that we preserve the saga of their struggles for our sake and their memories alive. For this we can write about them for the generations to come.” In his address, he had called upon, “all countrymen, especially the young friends to write about freedom fighters, incidences associated with freedom...the saga of valour during the period of freedom struggle in your area. Now as India will celebrate 75 years of her freedom, your writings will be the best tribute to those heroes of our freedom.” In this direction, the Prime Minister also added that “an initiative has been taken to encourage young writers of all States and of all languages. Writers who write on such subjects, who have studied deeply Indian heritage and culture will come forth in large numbers in country.”

Importantly, this initiative by the

Prime Minister will create a large number of young writers, who will be able to express themselves in their own mother tongue and their writings will be promoted with opportunities to represent India on a global platform.

The Ministry of Education of the Government of India, has entrusted the implementation of this ambitious scheme to the National Book Trust, India, an organisation which has been working for the last 64 years to deliver low cost books to every citizen in their own language. Under this new scheme, young writers selected for this mentorship programme will be trained to hone their skills in creative expressions. As part of the programme, they will visit various publishing houses and participate in various national and international literary festivals. After the training programme, their writings will be evaluated and published. Besides, they will be provided scholarships and put under the guidance of established and senior writers in their respective language.

This scheme, a social investment towards building a knowledge-based

society rooted in the objectives of the National Education Policy-2020, will promote Indian languages and their literatures among the youth. While preparing them as future writers and thought leaders, the scheme will ensure to bring the rich heritage of accumulated ancient Indian knowledge to the forefront.

As a natural instinct, writing should be developed as a skill from an early age. This will not only promote reading and writing across Indian languages but also could be taken up as a preferred profession along with other job options. Moreover, many languages which are on the verge of extinction will have a new set of writers and readers, thereby giving languages a new lease of life. If the quality of comprehending an event or a place closely and then comprehensively presenting it in their own words, is developed from childhood itself, they will be able to work better on the problems facing the country, find solutions and implement action plans because they have a clear picture of the idea.

- Yuvraj Malik

Netaji National Reading Promotion Recognition Awards

On the occasion of 125th Birth Anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose observed as Parakram Diwas, National Book Trust, India has announced the institution of ‘Annual Netaji National Reading Promotion Recognition Awards’.

These annual Awards, to be presented on 23rd January, will seek to recognise the outstanding contribution of Institutions, Trusts/Foundations, Organisations, NGOs as well as State governments, CSR supported schemes, etc., working with sustained commitment, innovation and inclusive vision to promote a culture of reading and empowerment among the children and youth, in particular, and the other reading communities, in general.

Shri Yuvraj Malik, Director NBT, said that NBT will always be a frontrunner in supporting NGOs/Organisations that work tirelessly towards creating a reading movement in the country.



The National Book Trust, India is in the process of constituting a Jury for the Awards which will formulate and release the parameters and guidelines for the Awards.

This initiative is part of the larger programme of the Trust under its India@75 umbrella initiative.

Azamgarh Book Fair

The 21st Azamgarh Book Fair was organised under the aegis of the National Book Trust, India through the Department of Forest and Environment from 27 January to 2 February 2021. The Fair was organised at the auditorium of Shibli National Inter College, Azamgarh. The Theme of this seven day Fair was ‘Bin Pani Sab Soon.’

National Book Trust, India also exhibited a wide range of its publications across genres at its stall. Many booklovers visited the NBT stall and browsed through its large collection of books.



In Conversation

“Each language has its own culture, tradition and history,” said Prof. Govind Prasad Sharma, Chairman, NBT while discussing the New Education Policy 2020 and its emphasis on the importance of mother tongue as the medium of learning. He added that each language has its own thought process and the children will find it easy to comprehend things when taught in their own mother tongue.

On the impact of virtual classes among students, particularly girls during lockdown, Prof. Sharma observed that virtual classes in a way have helped girls to continue their education, especially those who had to walk long distances to reach their schools, or could not attend classes because of many other reasons.

Talking about the equality in education among youth in rural and urban areas, Prof. Sharma said that this equality can only be brought out if the youth of rural areas are given equal opportunities and access to resources like the youth in urban areas.

Prof. Sharma also talked about the



role of NBT in promoting books, culture of reading and Indian languages through its activities including publishing books in more than 50 languages, organising translation workshops and book fairs.

Dr Karam Singh, Secretary, Himachal Academy of Arts, Culture and Language in his welcome address said that NBT has been doing a remarkable work in

promoting writers and the art and culture of Himachal Pradesh through its various activities.

Organised virtually, the talk was held on the occasion of National Girl Child Day and International Education Day on 24 January 2021 by Himachal Academy of Arts, Culture and Language. The session was moderated by Ms Chandrakanta.

Lifetime Achievement Award to NBT



National Book Trust, India was honoured with Lifetime Achievement Award for promoting culture of reading in the country at the India Reading Olympiad on 23 January 2021. The award was given by Food4Thought Foundation.

Prof. Govind Prasad Sharma, Chairman, NBT and Shri Yuvraj Malik, Director, NBT received the award during the virtual award ceremony.

Recognizing the efforts taken by

various individuals and other institutions that were nominated for the awards in promoting books and reading habits at the community level, Shri Yuvraj Malik announced a donation of NBT books worth Rs 5,000 as reward to each nominee.

Based in Hyderabad, Food4Thought Foundation works extensively towards encouraging the habit of reading. The Foundation has opened several libraries and conducts various programmes including the annual India Reading Olympiad.

Buy NBT Books Online

Save 10%

Join NBT Book Club

Save 20%

Need help in buying eBooks / books?

Contact us at whatsapp

8826610174

between 9 am - 5 pm.

NBT Books on and by Women

International Women's Day is celebrated every year on 8 March. On the occasion, we bring you some of our popular books on and by women.

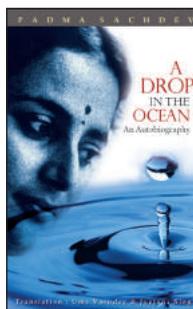
A Drop in the Ocean: An Autobiography

Padma Sachdev

Rs 205 348 pp

This autobiography is a bitter journey of a Dogra girl of Jammu who fought with the orthodox and men-oriented society. Born in Jammu, in 1940, Padma Sachdev is one of the eminent poets of Dogri and Hindi languages. She has written a number of poetry, anthologies, novels, short stories, travelogues and done more than half a dozen translations.

ISBN 978-81-237-6177-0



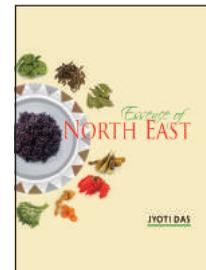
Essence of North-East

Jyoti Das

Rs 640 276 pp

One of the least explored aspects of north eastern part of India is its cuisine. This book, one of the very few of its kind, is an eclectic work of documentation that brings together some of the traditional recipes of the region.

ISBN 978-81-237-8860-9



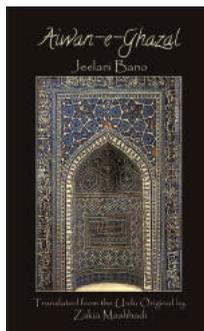
Aiwan-E-Ghazal

Jeelani Bano

Rs 260 360 pp

Aiwan-e-Ghazal is the saga of the decadent society of feudal landlords of Hyderabad. The book empathises with the oppressed women, feels the apathy of a certain section of society towards the tumultuous events of the time and realises the growing materialistic approach to life.

ISBN 978-81-237-7847-1



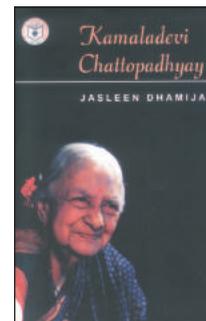
Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay

Jasleen Dhamija

Rs 50 126 pp

This concise biography of one of the most important woman leaders of the twentieth century India who contributed both during the pre-independence and post-independence periods, brings to light the life and times of Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay.

ISBN 978-81-237-4881-7



Kanaklata Barua

Shiela Bora

Rs 155 100pp

The story of Kanaklata Barua is one of the most inspiring episodes in the history of India's freedom struggle. Kanaklata was only seventeen when she fell to the bullets of brutal police firing while trying to hoist the tricolour at the Gohpur Police Station, a symbol of British power.

ISBN 978-81-237-7819-8



Aruna Asaf Ali

G N S Raghavan

Rs 120 184 pp

Aruna Asaf Ali is always remembered for her daring act of hoisting the tricolor at Gowalia Tank Maidan, Mumbai on 9 August 1942. A fiery political revolutionary during the struggle for independence, Aruna Asaf Ali became a constructive and compassionate social evolutionary after independence campaigning for the removal of poverty and illiteracy.

ISBN 978-81-237-2762-2

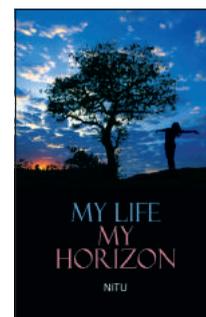
My Life My Horizon

Nitu

Rs 110 102 pp

Stories from the hinterlands of the country where each woman is fighting a battle against all odds faced with negativity and criticism and yet has now managed to change the ride in her favour.

ISBN 978-81-237-7998-0



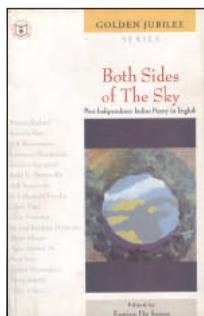
Both Sides of the Sky

Eunice De Souza (Ed.)

Rs 90 284 pp

This anthology fulfils the long felt need to have an authentic and comprehensive anthology of Indian poetry in English written in the post-Independence era. It also seeks to become a repository of the creative aspirations and dilemmas of the different generations of poets since independence who have chosen to express themselves in a language that now seems to be fully integrated with the socio-political and cultural realities of India.

ISBN 978-81-237-5331-7

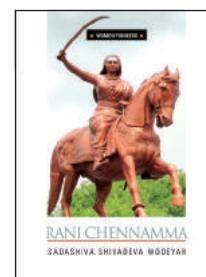


Rani Chennamma

Sadashiva Wodeyar

Rs 210 130 pp

Kittur, in Karnataka was the capital a small princely state for nearly 164 years. Rani Chennamma was the very first head of a princely state in India to rise against the mighty British Empire. Her life is an



inspiring story which will thrill freedom lovers in any country, at all times.

ISBN 978-81-237-2751-8

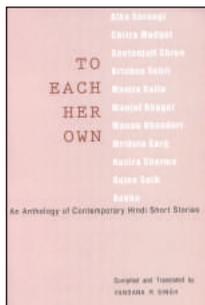
To Each Her Own

Vandana R Singh

Rs 95 216 pp

This fascinating collection of short stories focuses on women writers whose stories emerge largely from a contemporary, urban experience. With representative stories from popular names like Alka Saraogi, Chitra Mudgal, Krishna Sobti, Mamta Kalia and Mannu Bhandari among others, this collection, appearing for the first time in English translation, brings together some of the finest pieces of women's writings in contemporary Hindi literature.

ISBN 978-81-237-4637-1



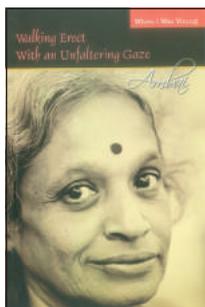
Walking Erect with an Unflinching Gaze

Ambai

Rs 50 76 pp

It is a memoir of the young days of the eminent Tamil writer and feminist C.S. Lakshmi (Ambai), wherein she recounts her experiences of growing up in Mumbai in a Tamil family and her early struggles to become a writer during 1960s.

ISBN 978-87-237-7006-2



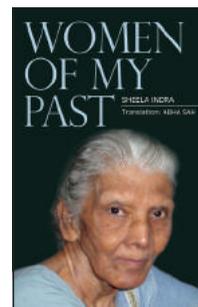
Women of My Past

Sheela Indra

Rs 295 326 pp

The book traces the lives and tribulations of three generations of women, born between the years 1860 to 1930. Written as a memoir, it recreates the socio-economic conditions and the often suppressive environment of those days, and paints vibrantly the gradual change that preceded today's woman.

ISBN: 978-81-237-7407-7



Women in Indian Society

Neera Desai & Usha Thakkar

Rs 80 221 pp

Confined to women and women related issues, the book makes a concerted effort to present the status of Indian women against the ever-changing social, economic, political and academic backgrounds.

ISBN 978-81-237-3677-8

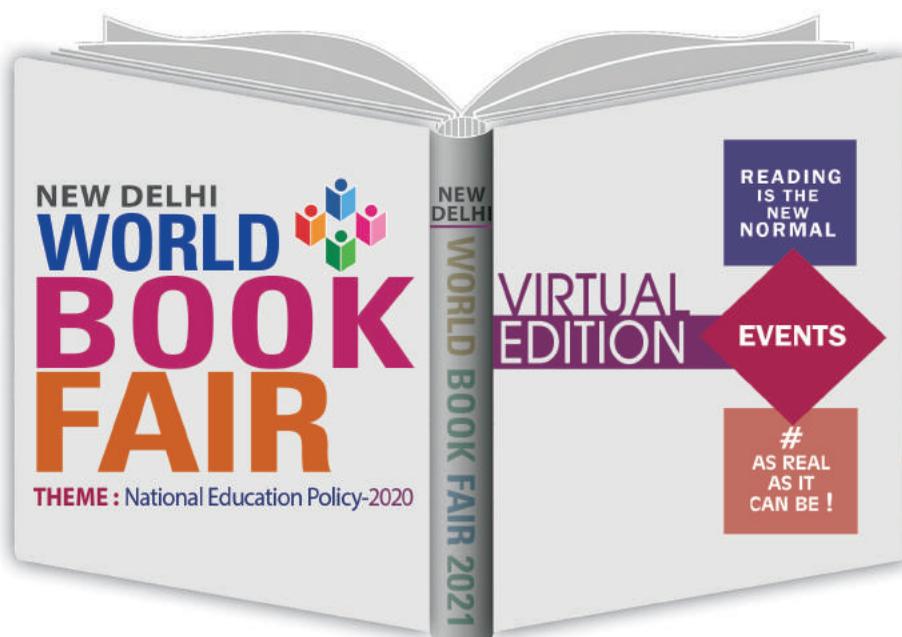
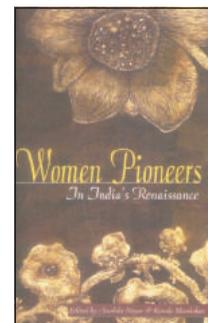
Women Farmers of India

Maithreyi Krishnaraj & Aruna Kanchi

Rs 105 161 pp

The book is a significant study that brings to light the ever increasing role that women are playing in the agricultural and allied sectors in India. The book is likely to trigger a debate about 'the invisibility of women farmers' in India and the resultant social, economic, political and cultural complexities.

ISBN 978-81-237-5319-5



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
Government of India

Organized by:



NATIONAL BOOK TRUST, INDIA
Ministry of Education, Government of India

Contact:
For Participation &
other details
nbtexhibition1@gmail.com

Excerpts

NBT is bringing out a book titled *Famous Algebraists of the World*, written by Mahesh Dube and translated into English by K.K. Sharma. Herein we reproduce an excerpt from the book.

Aryabhata

Aryabhata was a revolutionary mathematician and astronomer. He organised traditional knowledge by modifying it and also obtained some new and original results:

(1) Aryabhata divided Satyug, Tretayug, Dwaparyug and Kaliyug in equal time periods with equal number of years. Earlier, the time period of these eras were considered in the ratio of 4:3:2:1 years. He proposed a simple and coherent mathematical form of time division, according to which:

$$1 \text{ Kalpa} = 14 \text{ Manu}$$

$$1 \text{ Manu} = 72 \text{ Mahayuga}$$

$$1 \text{ Mahayuga} = 43,20,000 \text{ years}$$

He divided *Mahayuga* in four equal parts of 10,80,000 years.

(2) He discovered a code system to write very large numbers with the help of vowels and consonants.

(3) He determined the value of π , which was more appropriate and correct as compared to his predecessors:

चतुरधिकं शतमष्टगुणं द्वषष्टिस्तथा सहस्राणाम् ।
अयुतद्वय विषकम्भस्यासन्नो वृत्त परिणाहः ॥

According to which,

$$\pi = \frac{62,832}{20,000} = 3.1416$$

Aryabhata is the first Indian mathematician, who determined this value correctly up to four decimal places. He even considered this value as approximate.

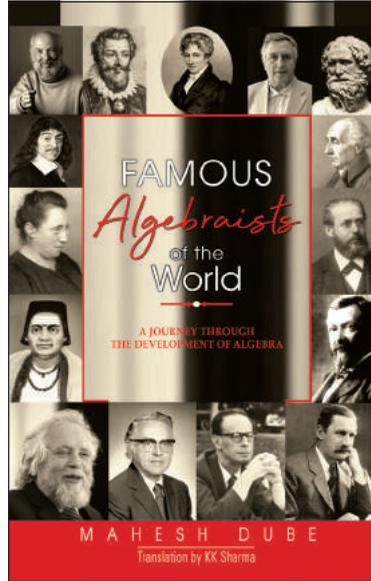
(4) He developed sine-tables at difference of $3^\circ 45'$.

(5) He postulated that Earth rotates on its axis in east to west direction.

(6) Denying the prevalent beliefs of *Rahu-Ketu* for the eclipse, he presented correct mathematical explanations of solar eclipse and lunar eclipse:

छादयति शशी सूर्यं शशिनं महती च भूच्छाया ।

At the time of solar eclipse, Moon covers the Sun and at the time of lunar



eclipse a big shadow of Earth covers the Moon.

The successors of Aryabhata, especially Brahmagupta, criticized him for many of his revolutionary and original findings. Brahmagupta wrote:

आर्यभटो जानाति ग्रहाष्टगतिं यदुक्तवांस्तदसत

(i.e. Aryabhata's knowledge on the movement of eight planets is not correct.)

Aryabhata's explanation on eclipse was also rejected by later astronomers. Govindaswami called his theory of rotation of Earth as 'false knowledge' and Varahamihira also rejected it. Not only this, noted grammarian Appaya Dixit (1530-1600), said:

'आर्यभटघभिम्त भूभ्रमणादिवादानां श्रुति न्याय विरोधेन हेयत्वात्'

That is, Aryabhata's theory related to the rotation of Earth is against Shastras and is therefore, blameworthy.

In India, when scholars like Appaya Dixit were renouncing the principles of Aryabhata, there in the west, a new scientific era was beginning due to renaissance.

Brahmagupta

Brahmagupta gave the formulae for the area of a cyclic quadrilateral and its diagonals.

'भुजयोगार्धचतुष्टय भुजोनघातात् पदं सूक्ष्मम्'

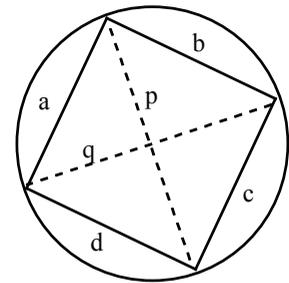
If $a + b + c + d = 2s$, then the area of a cyclic quadrilateral will be:

$[(s-a)(s-b)(s-c)(s-d)]$.

He gave the following formulae for diagonals –

$$p = \left[\frac{(ab + cd)(ac + bd)}{ad + bc} \right]^{1/2}$$

$$q = \left[\frac{(ab + bc)(ac + bd)}{ad + cd} \right]^{1/2}$$



In the west, W. Snell obtained these formulae in 1619. Howard Eves in his book *An Introduction to the History of Mathematics*, published in 1969, remarked that the formulae of Brahmagupta were unique and remarkable.

Brahmagupta's equation, $x^2 - Ny^2 = +1$ is considered one of his best achievements. This equation is known as Pell Equation. Euler named it as Pell Equation, though John Pell (1611-1685) had nothing to do with the equation.

According to B. L. van der Waerden (*Geometry and Algebra in Ancient Civilizations*, 1983) Brahmagupta's interest in linear Diophantine equations was due to astronomical problems. But he gives the credit of Brahmagupta's interest in Pell Equation to the post traditions that evolved from the Greek sources, which according to him, Brahmagupta was following. But such a conclusion would be an injustice to the brilliance and originality of Brahmagupta. George Gheverghese Joseph has rightly stated in his book *The Crest of the Peacock* that, "Brahmagupta was probably the first mathematician to give solutions to both equations in rational integers. His approach is ingenious and general."

Celebrate World Wildlife Day with NBT Books

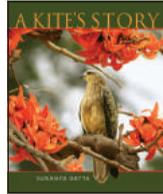
A Kite's Story

Sukanya Datta

Rs 155 106 pp

This book introduces children to the many species of birds and trees in and around our neighbourhood. Told by a pair of kites, Mr and Mrs Cheel, the book with beautiful photographs, encourages children to explore the boundaries of their local environment, the parks and playgrounds.

ISBN 978-81-237-8710-7



about the wildlife and discover Jujurna, a magnificent bird species found only in the mountains of northern India.

ISBN 978-81-237-8169-3

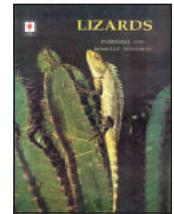
Lizards

Indraneil Das & Romulus Whitaker

Rs 25 32 pp

An informative, authoritative book about the locale, habits, breeding, etc. of different kinds of lizards. Pencil sketches and photographs complement the lucid text.

ISBN 978-81-237-2145-3



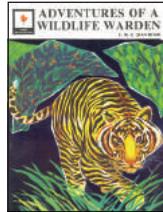
Adventures of a Wildlife Warden

E R C Davidar

Rs 45 64 pp

The author, a wildlife expert, relates his exciting encounters with a killer tusker and animal poachers.

ISBN 978-81-237-2269-6



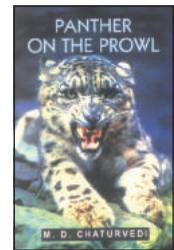
Panther on the Prowl

M D Chaturvedi

Rs. 80 88 pp

The panther has been living virtually in the shadow of its bigger cousins, the lion and the tiger. This book unmasks the colourful glory and graceful gait of this secretive animal which has remained hidden from public gaze by its studied reserve and sworn seclusion.

ISBN 978-81-237-1948-1



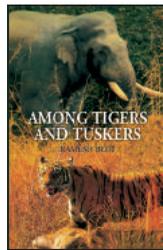
Among Tigers and Tuskers

Ramesh Bedi

Rs 95 106 pp

In 1973 preservationists launched the Project Tiger and in 1991-92 the Project Elephant to protect these two crowning glories of our forests. This book describes the habits and habitats of these animals and their relations with each other as also with human beings.

ISBN 81-237-3107-8



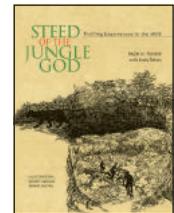
Steed of the Jungle God

Raza H Tehsin with Arefa Tehsin

Rs. 575 142 pp

A fine compilation of real-life encounters, it offers a peep into the times when man and animal were trying to co-exist, with perhaps man becoming more resourceful even though remaining in the awe of the mesmerizing vast thick greens inhabited by tigers, panthers and others of their kith and kin. Also provides a glimpse into the psychology of why many hunters ended up being distinguished conservationists.

ISBN 978-81-237-8145-7



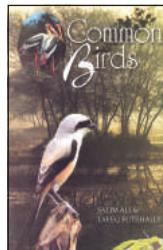
Common Birds

Salim Ali & Laeq Futehally

Rs. 100 126 pp

Based on a study of Indian bird-life extending over four decades, this book conveys all that one would like to know about birds.

ISBN 978-81-237-1032-7



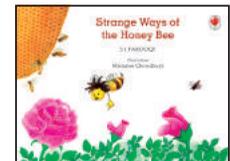
Strange Ways of the Honey Bee

S I Farooqi

Rs 50 24 pp

As the title indicates, this book explains in a scientific manner the life pattern of bees and how they make honey. Originally written in Hindi, the book has beautiful illustrations.

ISBN 978-81-237-6603-4



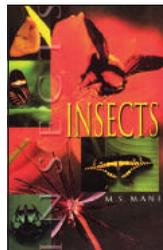
Insects

M S Mani

Rs. 120 162 pp

The book looks at the exciting world of insects with special reference to India. The author considers insects to be man's fellow-beings and explores their interdependence, mutual adjustments and tolerance.

ISBN 978-81-237-1091-4



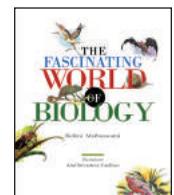
The Fascinating World of Biology

Rohini Muthuswami

Rs 85 60 pp

Nature is endowed with creativity, so are the wonderful phenomena, which we see around us. The book explores the fascinating world of animas, birds and insects and explains in lucid manner the principles of science and mathematics behind various phenomena.

ISBN 978-81-237-9074-9

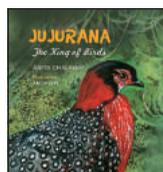


Jujurna: The King of Birds

Anita Chauhan

Rs 90 36 pp

Vikran and his sister Kavita are visiting the Kufri Nature Park near Shimla with their parents on a weekend. The Nature Park is home to many species of birds and mammals. Follow the siblings as they learn



Promotion of Tamil Language

Shri Yuvraj Malik, Director NBT-India, met Prof. Gurmeet Singh, Vice Chancellor of Pondicherry University. During the meeting, they discussed about the collaboration between NBT and the Pondicherry University on promotion of translations and original works in Tamil language.



Exhibition on Indo-French Cultural Heritage

Shri Yuvraj Malik, Director, NBT, visited the French Institute of Puducherry. He met Ms Cecile Hoorelbeke, General Secretary and Mr. Huego David, HoD Indology. During the meeting, Shri Malik discussed about the 'Exhibition of Indo-French Cultural Heritage' at the 2022 Edition of New Delhi World Book Fair (where France is the Guest of Honour Country as per the Indo-French Joint Statement of 2018), as well as an exhibition at Puducherry on the sidelines of the event. Shri Malik also discussed NBT's publishing few research works of the Institute's Indology Department.



RNI-39456/82
Postal Regd. No. DL-SW-01/4076/21-23
Licenced to post without prepayment.
L.No. U(SW)-21/2021-23
Mailing date: 5/6 Same Month
Date of Publication: 01/03/2021

NBT Celebrates 72nd Republic Day

National Book Trust, India celebrated 72nd Republic Day at its Headquarters in Vasant Kunj, New Delhi on 26 January 2021. On this occasion, Shri Yuvraj Malik, Director, NBT, hoisted the National Flag. In his address, Shri Malik, spoke about the importance of upholding the constitutional, democratic and republic ideals of our nation. The event was attended by the officials of the Trust.



NBT Newsletter is the house magazine of the National Book Trust, India — an autonomous organisation of the Ministry of Education, Department of Higher Education, Government of India.

The views expressed in the signed articles do not necessarily reflect the official views of the Trust.

Editor: Binny Kurian

Editorial Associate: Surekha Sachdeva

Production Officer: Narender Kumar



NATIONAL BOOK TRUST, INDIA

Nehru Bhawan, 5 Institutional Area,
Vasant Kunj, Phase-II New Delhi-110 070
E-mail: office.nbt@nic.in

Website: www.nbtindia.gov.in

Readers are requested to write to the editor expressing their views about the NEWSLETTER.

Printed and published by Anuj Kumar Bharti on behalf of National Book Trust, India and printed at Aravali Printers and Publishers Pvt. Ltd., W-30 Phase-II, Okhla Industrial Area, New Delhi-110020, and published at National Book Trust, India, Nehru Bhawan, 5 Institutional Area, Phase-II, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070. Editor: Binny Kurian.

Typeset and designed at Capital Creations, Subhram Complex, Munirka, New Delhi-110 067.

If undelivered please return to:

National Book Trust, India, Nehru Bhawan, 5 Institutional Area, Phase-II, New Delhi - 110 070

On India Government Service