

## Showcasing the Diversity of Languages at NDWBF 2023

Bringing the essence of *Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat* to the forefront, one of the most diverse corners at the New Delhi World Book Fair 2023 is the Hindi and other Indian Language stalls in Hall No.2, exhibiting regional literature, culture and showcasing the rich diversity at the Fair.

The Hall is a hub for readers, literature lovers and language enthusiasts to browse and buy books in various Indian languages. They can also connect with publishers and fellow readers in the same space. Creating a mini India within the four walls - this space also enables bibliophiles to explore books and perspectives in different languages at the same time.

Ravi Prakash Kharakia, management head of the Gita Press at NDWBF 2023, expressed his satisfaction at the sale of books in Hindi and other regional languages including Sanskrit, Gujarati, Marathi and others at his stall. Books on mythology are the ones being most demanded this year, he added.

At Manpreet Prakashan, Publisher Balbeer Singh is happy about the increasing readership of Punjabi books among the youth. Books like short stories, poetry, travelogues and novels are among some of the best-selling books, apart from Punjabi language textbooks read by thousands of students. Mr Singh also stated that his book business was flourishing even in the pandemic times when his publishing house sold 50,000 books online per month.

On the other hand, Ravi Pookom, Public Relations Officer at the Kerala Language Institute book stall talked about changing readership of Malayalam books amongst Delhi readers. The popular books in their stall belong to the Non-fiction category including higher education, biographies and Malayalam translations of some popular books.

The challenges in publishing regional language books have been counteracted by the coming of computers and software, as stated by Aizaz Ameer from Islamic Book Services, as an online portal for Urdu language books has proved to be a boon for the company. Talking about the readership of Urdu books, he said that Urdu is now spoken by many people. At this stall, Children's books

are the major display. Talking about the rural-urban divide in readership, Aizaz Ameer and Ravi Pookam both said that people in urban areas prefer reading books in English books as well as in their mother tongue but in rural areas, the readership is concentrated more in regional language publications. He stated that the Urdu readership in UP and Bihar is increasing but in metro cities, the readership and sales are not up to the mark.

Kamal, from Maithili Books at Maithili Machaan, said that the sale of Maithili Language books has changed in the last few years. When asked about their biggest market, he stated that the sale of Maithili books is much higher in Bihar, especially in areas like Darbhanga, as compared to Delhi.

Large-scale book fairs like the New Delhi World Book Fair 2023 become an integral platform for many language publishers to promote their books and create awareness about their regional literature. The National Council for the promotion of Sindhi Language (NCPSL) conceded to the fact that the accessibility and availability of language books is far reaching through this book fair. Divya Kotwani, DEO at NCPSL, stated that book fairs organized by NBT-India are major platforms for them to promote their books and culture.

The visitors to the Hindi and Indian Language Hall come with a lot of hope, excitement and expectations. These stalls provide them solace from the dominating English book market and enable them to reconnect with their roots and culture. This is also the spot for academicians and researchers to look at the plethora of books in our ancient languages and scripts. Chaitali Saluja, Assistant professor and a researcher of Diaspora Literature and was extremely impressed by the collection of books that she found at the Book Fair. A resident of Chattisgarh, she came to Delhi only to explore the extensive collection of Hindi and other Indian Books at NDWBF 2023. When asked about her experience, she said that she would love to visit the fair again next year.



## Dr. BR Ambedkar and Nationalism

A discussion on the topic: “Dr. B.R Ambedkar and Nationalism” was organised by Dr. Ambedkar International Centre (DAIC) and Dr. Ambedkar Foundation (DAF) at the Theme Pavilion. The Chief Guests at the event were academic author and editor, Dr. Amit P Jyotikar and Prof Balwan Gautam, University of Delhi. Other guests in the panel included Shri Vikas Trivedi, Director, DAIC & DAF; Shri A.K Raina, Financial Advisor, DAIC & DAF; Dr. Sanjeev Sharma, Associate Professor, DAIC and Dr. Shiv Poojan Pathak, Associate Professor, DAIC.

Talking about Dr. Ambedkar’s thesis, ‘Pakistan or the Partition of India’, Dr Jyotikar spoke about Dr Ambedkar’s thoughts and vision which highly resembles Shri Chhatrapati Shivaji’s and Veer Savarkar’s vision. He also spoke about the first lecture that Dr Ambedkar delivered in the assembly and how that is known as one of the best lectures ever given by him.

Prof Gautam shed light on the role that Dr. Ambedkar played for the Unification of Hyderabad. He talked about how Dr. Ambedkar worked towards the unification of states with the central government. He also quoted Dr. Ambedkar’s saying, "India that is Bharat is a union of states" where the chief craftsman of the Indian Constitution emphasised that the word federation should be omitted and union should be used in its stead.



## Session on Educational CSR Initiatives

A session on ‘Educational CSR Initiatives’ was organized by Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) at the NEP Pavilion with Mr Soumik Roy, Executive Engineer Secretariat and Mr Shamim Ahmad, Manager, CSR, DSTP Andar as speakers. The session highlighted the achievements and works of Damodar Valley Corporation.



Mr Shamim Ahmad made a presentation on the 75 years journey of DVC and its involvement in controlling floods of Damodar River and eventually their work expanded to flood control, afforestation, public health, agriculture, industrial, economic, and general well-being of the people in Damodar valley.

Mr Soumik Roy shared details on the initiatives taken up by DVC under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), where in the last five Years, 629 villages in Jharkhand & West Bengal had been covered. Initiatives taken - sanitary napkin machines installed, education & skill development provided, facilities in public health given, drinking water & rural infrastructure provided. DVC is the only organisation which has obtained three licenses in Electricity generation, Distribution & Transmission. The main goal of the DVC is to include ‘Right to Education’ in addition to ‘Welfare Education’.

## Kargil War Hero at Theme Pavilion

The book Grenadier Yogendra Singh Yadav, authored by Shri Rishi Raj, Joint General Manager/ Operations DMRC and published by Prabhat Publication was released at the Theme Pavilion. The book highlights the significant role that Subedar Major Yogendra Yadav, Param Vir Chakra recipient, played during the Kargil.



Shri Piyush Kumar, Shri Prabhat Kumar, Shri Rishi Raj and Shri Yuvraj Malik, Director, NBT were also present on the occasion.

The release was followed by an interactive session with Subedar Major Yogendra Yadav, in which he talked about his childhood and his life as a soldier.

When he was a student, Subedar Major Yogendra Yadav said that he began to imagine himself as an Army officer and read books about Shaheed Bhagat Singh and Chandrashekhar Azad whom he idolised. He said that he joined the army at a very young age of 16 Years and 5 months and got his formal training under extreme conditions at the Army training centre.

While talking about his role in The Kargil War in 1999, Subedar Major Yadav said that he was a member of the Ghatak Platoon which was given the task to capture the Tiger Hill. He said that a strong physical and mental strength is important when in the army. Highlighting the struggles he faced, Subedar Major Yadav said that a soldier needs to be physically and mentally strong to overcome difficulties successfully.

Recalling his initial days in the army, Subedar Major Yadav said that he was given the work of providing ration and ammunition to the soldiers in the beginning, but he did duty with sincerity and later got selected into the Ghatak Platoon. He remarked that his philosophy to never give up, changed his life.

More than 100 signed copies of the book were distributed among school children and NCC Cadets.



## Storytelling Session by Suman Bajpai

Filled with laughter and cheer, a lively storytelling session by author, journalist and storyteller, Ms Suman Bajpai was organised at the Children's Pavilion. She narrated the story 'Rajkumari Muskan ki Jalebi



Muskan' about three brothers Gulla, Bulla and Dulla, who lived an unhappy life and had become pessimistic towards life. The story went on to discuss the importance of smiling and being happy in life and how it can make one cheerful. The attendees thoroughly enjoyed the session.

## Journey to the Moon

An interactive session with Prof Gopalan Srinivasan was organised at the Children's Pavilion. The session explored curiosity in children about the moon. He initiated the session by explaining the importance of National Science Day which is observed on 28



February every year to honour the legacy of Sir CV Raman. A story was narrated for children called 'Halim Chala Chaand Par' in order to tell children more about the moon and the interesting facts related to it.

He also talked about Chandrayaan-1 and presented the pictures of different craters that can be found on the moon. This was followed by another story called 'Chaand ki Sharaarat' which depicts different phases of the moon. It was a fascinating and informative session for the attendees.



## Children Travel to the City of Saint Petersburg

A fun bilingual session for children was organised by Ms Anastasia Strokina, noted Russian children's author, poet and translator. The author was assisted by Shri Sonu Saini, Assistant



Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, who translated the session into Hindi for children. During the session, Ms Strokina talked about her book *The Ninth Life of Nelson the Cat*, which is a story about Nelson, the cat, who takes the reader across a visual journey to the City of Saint Petersburg. Concluding the session, Ms Anastasia said that our surroundings help us to observe and expand the horizon of our imagination and creativity.

## Workshop on Ancient Japanese Art Amuses Children

An Origami workshop was conducted by Ms Vinita Jha at the Children's Pavilion to help children learn the basics of the art of paper folding. The fun and educational workshop became a huge success as the children were guided through various techniques and patterns



to create beautiful paper sculptures. The workshop provided a relaxed and creative environment to learn and enjoy the ancient Japanese art of Origami. A large number of children from Rasta NGO and various schools participated in the workshop.

## Quiz, Spell Bee & Book Cover Designing Competitions

An open Quiz competition, Spell Bee competition followed by book cover designing competition for children of different age-groups were organised by National Book Trust, India at the Children's Pavilion.



At the Quiz competition, children were asked questions from three different categories: Science & Technology, Authors and Literature, and Freedom Movement and Freedom Fighters. Students had an opportunity to enhance their vocabulary in a fun way by participating in the Spell Bee competition.

During the book cover designing competition children showcased their artistic and imaginative side by designing book covers based on the given prompts- 'Nina Bakes a Cake', 'The Cat who Likes Coffee', and 'The Magical Forest'. Gifts and certificates were presented to all the participants who took part in the competitions. Students from various schools across Delhi and Rasta NGO among others, energetically participated in these competitions.

## Understanding the Children with Special Needs

The book *Mindscales: A Canvas of Emotions in a Special World*, authored by Dr Neena Rao was released at the Author's Corner. The session was organised by Margika: For Child



Mental Health Care and Development (NGO). During the session, the author talked about how the coffee table book focuses on advocating neurodiversity by celebrating artistic expressions, extraordinary talents, thought-provoking insights, and heartfelt tales of young people with special needs.

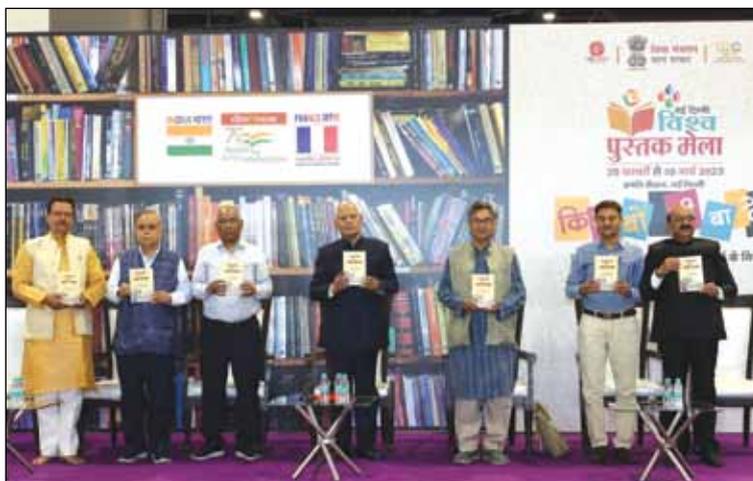
Dr Rao also shared her experiences as the mother of a special child with Asperger's syndrome and talked about the Rights of people with special needs. During the COVID-19 Pandemic, Margika organised a virtual talent show that recorded participation from all over the country as well as the United States (of America), the compilation of which is now available as the book, *Mindscales*. The book is an anthology of essays, poetry and paintings by the kids as well as members of their families. As the session drew to the end, Dr. Rao called this book a "labour of love" and a small step in a big journey ahead.

## Book Release at Lekhak Manch

The book *Ramghat Mein Corona*, authored by Shri Deergh Narayan was released at the Lekhak Manch. The programme was organized by Kitabghar Prakashan.

The other distinguished speakers present on the occasion were: Shri Sakham, former Judge; Shri Virendra Yadav, critic; Shri Shivmurti, author; Shri Hari Narayan; Shri Mangal Prasad; Shri Hariyash Rai, novelist; and Shri Mahesh Katari, novelist. The session was coordinated by Shri Rajendra.

*Ramghat Mein Corona* is a novel which highlights the various changes that have taken place in the social structure, emotional relationships and economy during the three-year corona epidemic.



## Changing Face of Executive Education

Dr Kunal Ganguly, Professor of Operations Management, IIM Kashipur, gave a presentation on 'Changing Face of Executive Education' at NEP Pavilion, and stated that in recent years, executive education programmes have shifted from traditional classroom based learning to more flexible and personalised online learning modules. With the implementation of National Education Policy 2020 – focusing more on skill-based credits – the government has made it mandatory to issue a unique ID for Academic Bank of Credit (ABC) to students who are undertaking short-term executive educational courses. Dr Kunal added that as India continues to grow as a major player in the global economy, the demand for high-quality executive education will continue to rise. Therefore, the changing face of executive education in India reflects the need for innovative approaches to learning and development that can support the growth and competitiveness of the country's business and industries.

## I Never Write for an Audience, I Write for Myself: Linda Kreiss

The Austrian Cultural Forum, New Delhi organised a talk with Austrian scholar Linda Kreiss on her book, *Ulto Sulto: Travelogue from Nepal and India and the Art of Rangoli* at the International Events Corner. The panelists included Michael Pal, Kumar Sanjay Jha, Himanshu Talwar, Munish Bahl, and Anil Kumar.

A prolific writer, photographer and visual artist, Linda said that she has been travelling across India and Nepal since the last 40 years. She added that travelling to remote areas in India and Nepal with her husband, who is an anthropologist, inspired her. She also commented on women empowerment and how important it is to support women in India and Nepal, given the circumstances they are in.

Talking about the significance of the title of her book, she said, "*Ulto Sulto* means there's never only one way to look at things. Like there are two sides of a coin, it's the two sides which make the whole thing perfect."

Drawing the conversation towards Rangoli art and textiles, Linda discussed the cultural significance of *Rangoli* in India and Nepal with reference to drawing Goddess Lakshmi into the house.

Speaking of the writing process, Linda remarked that writing is a 'lonely work'. She concluded by saying, "You must have something to say. I never write for an audience, I write for myself."



## Role of Literature in Nation-building

A seminar on 'Rashtra Nirman Mein Sahitya ki Bhumika' (Role of literature in nation building) was organised by Indraprasth Sahitya Bharti at the Seminar Hall. Shri Anil Sharma Joshi, Vice Chairman, Kendriya Hindi Shikshan Mandal was the chief guest on the occasion. The other speakers included Prof. Neelam Rathi, Akhil Bhartiya Sahitya Parishad; and Shri Tilak Chandna, Indraprasth Sahitya Bharti; Shri Praveen Arya, Ms Saroj Diksha, among others. The seminar was chaired by Shri Vinod Babbar. The



seminar focused on how literature helps society in developing ideas of liberty, and equality. According to Prof. Neelam Rathi literature helps in carrying forward the ethos of India to the next generation and therefore, we need to promote the literature that unites India. Shri Anil Sharma talked about the importance

of literature in the development of the country. Shri Tilak Chandna said that literature helps in developing personality and character of individuals. The speakers also talked about the role of women and how society is changing.

## Panel Discussion on 'Young Voices in Contemporary Assamese Languages'

A panel discussion on 'Young Voices in Contemporary Assamese Languages' was organised by the Publication Board, Assam and All Assam Publishers & Book Sellers Association at the Author's corner. The session focused on the young Assamese writers, their popularity among the readers and the style of writing. The panelists at the discussion included distinguished scholars and authors including Dr. Ratnottama Das Bikram, Shri Utpal Barpujari, Ms Deepamoni Saikia, Ms Madhurima Gharphalia, Dr. Bipul Kumar Barua, Dr. Rituparna Patgiri, Shri Pankaj Jyoti Bordoloi, Dr. Manjit Barua and Shri Pramod Kalita.

## Book Release at Authors' Corner

Originally written in Hindi, the book *Equanimity: Philosophy and Practice*, authored by Acharya Shri Nanalal ji was released at the Author's Corner. The event was organised by Aagam Ahimsa Samta Evam Prakrit Sansthan. The speakers at the event included Dr. J. P. Verma, translator of the book, Dr. Amit Rai Jain, Shri P. Y. Rajendra Kumar, and Ms Pushpa Chelani.

Highlighting the importance of the book, Ms Pushpa Chelani said that the philosophy and ideas in the book can be applied in our day to day lives to overcome our national, international as well as personal problems. She informed that the book was first released in Hindi in 1930 and many of its copies have been sold till now. Dr. J. P. Verma talked about his journey of translating the book. He also talked about the life of Acharya Shree Nanalal Ji, who according to him was a yogi, saint, writer, philosopher and revolutionary social reformer. Shri Kumar gave an insight into the philosophy of the book.



## Books in Marathi Released

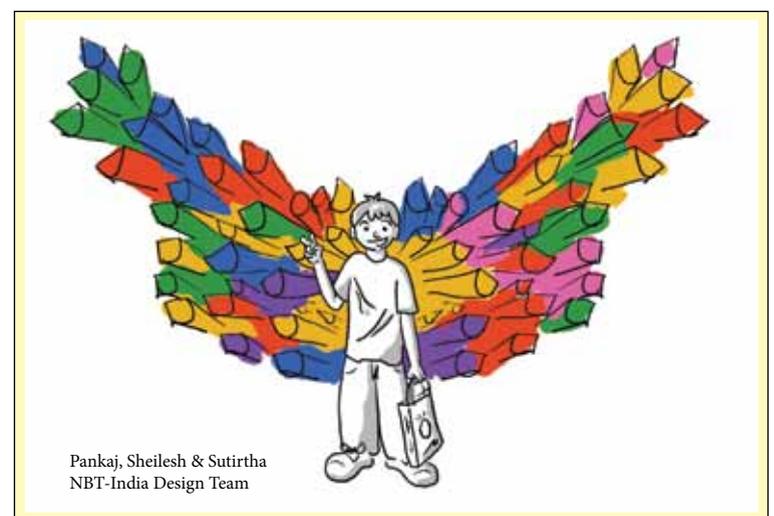
Three books in Marathi titled Vasudev Balwant Phadke, authored by Dr Madhavi Vaidy; Anant Laxman Kanhere, authored by Ms Vineeta Telang; and Ganesh Vasudev Mavalankar, authored by Veebhavari Bidave were released at the Theme Pavilion in an event organised by National Book Trust, India. The books have been published under NBT-India's new series, India@75, which focuses on bringing the unsung and forgotten heroes of India's freedom movement to the fore.



Talking about her book, Dr Vaidy said that she primarily focused on the hardships faced by Vasudev Balwant Phadke throughout his life, and has given an insight into his vision and morals to the readers.

Ms Telang said that she believes that young generation could learn a lot from the freedom fighters who fought for their country at such a young age.

Speaking about the role of freedom fighters post-independence, Ms Bidave said that freedom fighters also played a key role in restoring law and order after India became independent.



# EVENTS TODAY

International Events/Foreign Pavilion		Hall No. 4
Time	Event	Organiser
02:00 pm to 03:00 pm	Roerich's Secrets and History of India's Independence: Lecture by Oleg Shishkin, Writer, Researcher, TV Presenter	Russia
03:00 pm to 04:00 pm	Workshop of Spanish Language and Culture	Spain
04:00 pm to 05:00 pm	Panel Discussion on 'The Economic Contribution of Collective Management to the Indian Economy'	WIPO
05:00 to 06:00 pm	KBK GloCal/Kodansha	
06:00 to 07:00 pm	Programme by Austrian Cultural Centre	Austria
Theme Pavilion		Hall No. 5
Time	Event	Organiser
11:30 am to 01:30 pm	A Short Drama Focusing on Freedom Fighter "Chandrashekhar Azad" by AICB (Staging by Students with disabilities)	NBT-India
02:30 pm to 04:30 pm	Prime Time Talk with Advaita Kala	NBT-India
04:30 pm to 06:00 pm	"Hindi Poet's Meet" Co-ordination: Shri Anup Tiwari Participants: Maheshwar Tiwari, Buddhinath Mishra, Gyan Prakash Vivek, Mahesh Garg	Sahitya Akademi
6.30 pm to 8.00 pm	-	NBT-India
NEP Pavilion		Hall No. 4 FF
Time	Event	Organiser
02:00 pm to 03:00 pm	Book Launch of "Abhisaar" by poet Mrs Sarika Dhupar, moderated by Dr Hemant Verma	Dr Hemant Verma
03:00 pm to 04:00 pm	Multilingualism and Education through Medium of Indian Languages	BBS
04:00 pm to 05:00 pm	A Comparative Analysis of the National Education Policy 2020 with the Integral Education Framework	Delhi Ashram
Children's Pavilion		Hall No. 3
Time	Event	Organiser
11:00 am to 11:45 am	Storytelling Session	Parag Initiative of Tata Trusts
11:50 am to 12:30 pm	Inter-School Quiz Competition	NCCL, NBT
12:45 pm to 01:30 pm	Creative Writing Workshop	The Palace School
01:45 pm to 02:30 pm	Meet the Author-Illustrator	NCCL, NBT
02:45 pm to 03:30 pm	Story and Drawing Competition on Indian Monuments	Live to Give Organisation
03:45 pm to 04:30 pm	Culture and art activity (Madhubani Painting)	Apnaa Konaa Creative Foundation
04:45 pm to 05:30 pm	Panel Discussion on "Importance of Parents Reading with Children"	Worldreader
Seminars & Discussions		Hall No. 4
Time	Event	Organiser
11:30 am to 1:00 pm	Discussion on "Data Analytics"	Gullybaba
02:00 pm to 3:30 pm	Discussion on "Anger Hurts the Sender Most"	Sawan Kirpal Ruhani Mission
04:00 pm to 05:30 pm	Book Launch: "Up Against Darkness"	Sakal Media Pvt.Ltd.
06:00 pm to 07:30 pm	Discussion on the novel "Bhanwar: Ek Prem Kahani"	Winsar Publishing Co.
Cultural Events		Amphitheatre
Time	Event	Organiser
04:00 pm to 05:00 pm	Cultural Performance	Kirorimal college (Music and Dance Society)

05:00 pm to 06:00 pm	Folk Dance & Music	Rajasthan Education Department
06:00 pm to 07:00 pm	Cultural Evening	Central Bureau of Communication, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India
07:00 pm to 08:00 pm	Folk Performance	Sahitya kala Parishad

**Authors' Corner****Hall No. 5**

Time	Event	Organiser
11:30 to 12:30 pm	LiFi Author's Speak Speakers: Dayaneswar Mulay, Shah Alam Khan, Nitu and Deepak Sain	LiFi Publications Pvt Ltd
12:30 to 01:30 pm	Book reading by Kabir Bedi Book title: Stories I Must Tell: The Emotional Life of an Author	NBT-India
01:30 to 02:30 pm	Discussion on the topic: Mass Motivation Speakers: Anil Bhasin, Bhuvan Arora, Peyush Bhatia	Gullybaba Publishing House
03:00 to 04:00 pm	Book release of "The Girl from Kathua: A Sacrificial Victim of Mission Ghazwa-e-Hind" Speaker: Madhu Kishwar	Garuda Prakashan
04:30 to 05:30 pm	Book Discussion and Book release on: "Love, Lust and Avarice" Speaker: Major Sanjay Yadav	Major Sanjay Yadav
06:00 to 07:00 pm	NBT-India Programme	NBT-India

**यशक एप****gky u- 2**

Time	Event	Organiser
11:30 से 12:30 बजे	कथा सप्तक कथा सप्तक विधानमण्डल पद्धति एवं प्रक्रिया विमोचन वक्ता: पद्मश्री उषा किरण खान, मनीषा कुलश्रेष्ठ, पद्मश्री डॉ. ज्ञान चतुर्वेदी, अवधेश प्रताप सिंह	शिवना प्रकाशन
01:00 से 02:00 बजे	प्रवासी हिंदी साहित्य की वस्तुस्थिति एवं चुनौतियाँ वक्ता: डॉ. सुरेश रितुपर्ण, श्री नारायण कुमार, डॉ. सत्यकेतु व अन्य	प्रवासी संसार
04:00 से 05:00 बजे	मानसिक स्वास्थ्य और चुनौतियाँ पर चर्चा वक्ता: अरविन्द ओझा	साइकोलॉजीस
05:30 से 06:30 बजे	बातों बातों में लघुकथा संग्रह का लोकार्पण एवं परिचर्चा वक्ता: बलराम अग्रवाल, सुभाष नीरव, अंजू शर्मा	वनिका पब्लिकेशंस
07:00 से 08:00 बजे	अखियों के झरोखों से वक्ता: श्रीमती चित्रा मुदगल, डॉ. चंद्रकला त्रिपाठी, श्री महेश दर्पण, अनामिका शिव	सुधा स्मृति ट्रस्ट

**NBT-India Stalls**

Hall No : 2, Stall No. : 48-67 | Hall No : 3, Stall No. : 13-42 | Hall No : 4(FF), Stall No. : 04-05 | Hall No : 5, Stall No. : 34-63

Sincere Thanks



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