“One can spend a good quality time while reading books,” said Dr Sachchidanand Joshi, member secretary of Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts, New Delhi at the inauguration of four-week training course in book publishing at NBT Conference Hall, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi on 10 July 2018. However, he added that the importance of books and the habit of reading has declined over the last few years.

Quoting a few stories on books, Dr Joshi said that the printed books have their own charm as readers can relate themselves with the printed pages of the book more closely than ebooks.

Speaking of the training course, he said that this course is significant as it helps in understanding the various stages that a book undergoes before reaching the hands of a reader. He was of the view that book publishing should not be considered as profession only as it has a significant role in disseminating knowledge and bringing in positive changes in the society.

Prof. Baldeo Bhai Sharma, Chairman, NBT said that the Trust has been organizing the programme for last many
years in various parts of the country including remote areas. He also said that such training courses in book publishing have caught attention of all stakeholders in the publishing field creating job opportunities for the trainees. He informed that this year thirty participants from across India have been enrolled for the course.

Dr Rita Chowdhury, Director, NBT said, “When we buy a book, we do not think about the background of the book. However, there is a process behind it.” She further said that the regional language publishers do not have enough training in different aspects of publishing including editing, marketing, sale promotion, designing and printing. She hoped that this course would help participants understand the intricacies involved in publishing and enrich the publishing industry by providing skilled professionals.

Around 30 students across disciplines have enrolled for the course. During the programme, the experts will provide insights into various aspects of book publishing including editing, copyright, production, sales and marketing, etc.

Ms Neera Jain, officiating Chief Editor & Joint Director, NBT proposed vote of thanks.

The programme was coordinated by Shri Narendra Kumar, Production Officer, NBT.

### Haldwani Book Fair

“Books are precious, they are storehouse of knowledge. There are hidden gems in books therefore, we must read books,” said Shri Bhagat Singh Koshiyari, former Chief Minister, Uttarakhand at the inauguration of Haldwani Book Fair, held at Ramlila ground, Haldwani (Uttarakhand). The Fair was organized by National Book Trust, India in collaboration with District Administration, Haldwani from 23 June to 1 July, 2018.

Shri Koshiyari said that in ancient times knowledge was passed on through oral tradition, and later on, this knowledge was compiled in the form of books (shrutis). He urged children and youth to read books, especially biographies of great men.

Appreciating the efforts of the Trust in organizing the book fair, Dr Dhan Singh Rawat, Hon’ble Minister of State for Higher Education said that books are an important medium to disseminate knowledge. He added that libraries will be set up in each and every village for the benefit of the readers.

In his address, Prof. Baldeo Bhai Sharma, Chairman, NBT said that one should try to read more and more books as they not only help in building up career but also develop human values. He further said that the social media has changed the nature of our expression. In a way it is an expansion of book culture. Prof. Baldeo Bhai Sharma also talked about the various activities of the Trust for the promotion of books and reading culture since its foundation in 1957. Shri Vinod Kumar Suman, District Magistrate was also present on the occasion.

During the Fair several literary and cultural events especially for children were organized. Well-known publishers and distributors like Sahitya Akademi, National Library, Kolkata, Sage India Pvt Ltd, Diamond Pocket Books among others participated in the Fair and displayed books of different genres in over 50 stalls.
Kullu Book Fair

National Book Trust, India organized the Kullu Book Fair at Dussehra ground, Kullu, Himachal Pradesh from 9 to 17 June, 2018.

Inaugurating the Fair, Dr Kuldeep Chand Agnihotri, Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Himachal Pradesh emphasized on importance of reading habit and said that the habit of reading paves the way for learning and knowledge.

Dr Ravi Prakash Tekchandani, Director, National Council of Promotion of Sindhi Language said that the book fair is a festival of books. He added that books provide us positive thinking and therefore, we should learn to live with books.

In his address, Prof. Baldeo Bhai Sharma, Chairman, NBT said that knowledge brings in development and books are the basis of knowledge.

During the Fair several literary and cultural events were organised including panel discussions on the topics ‘folk culture and tribes,’ ‘humour in literature,’ ‘culture of reading and Internet,’ ‘role of poetry in society’. Besides, activities like storytelling sessions, workshops on creative writing engaged the children from various schools across the region. Around 50 publishers, distributors and booksellers from across the country participated in the book fair.

Nepal International Book Fair

National Book Trust, India participated in the 22nd Nepal International Book Fair held at Bhrikuti Mandap, Kathmandu, Nepal from 1 to 9 June, 2018.

The Fair was inaugurated by Shri Lal Babu Pandit, Hon’ble Minister for Federal Affairs and General Administration. Dr. Rita Chowdhury, Director, NBT was the special guest on the occasion.

With the slogan ‘Inspire Reading,’ the Fair saw the participation of around 60 national and international exhibitors who displayed books and audio-visual reading materials of diverse genres.

During the Fair various literary activities like book release functions, lively interactions with authors, etc were organised.

Wildlife Conservation Nepal organised special programmes including workshops and storytelling sessions to educate children about waste management, biodiversity, vermi-composting and reusing of waste.

The NBT stall attracted a good number of visitors. They showed keen interest in biographies, books on social science, Mahatma Gandhi, collections of stories and children’s books. Many visitors enquired about availability of the NBT’s publications in Nepal and were happy to find the books of their choice at reasonable rates.

The Fair provided an opportunity to the book lovers to browse and purchase books under one roof.

Shri Ravindra Kumar, Assistant and Shri Padam Singh Bhati, Marketing Executive, represented NBT at the Fair.

Book Received

Ram, Ramayan: Potential Tourism Circuit, Bridging India & Asian Nations
Anant D Dubey
Rs 250; 94 pp
Publisher: Indica Infomedia, WZ 322, Jail Road, Nangal Raya, New Delhi - 110046

The book is an attempt to link mythology and tourism. The book highlights the essence of epic Ramayana in a very precise manner, which will help reader understand the story of Lord Ram, his ultimate purpose of incarnation, his exile and the challenges faced by him during exile. Besides, the tourism aspects based on the places visited by Lord Ram during his exile and the cross-cultural similarities between India and other Asian countries have also been discussed.
Book Review

Book: Mottainai Grandma  
Author: Mariko Shinju (Translated into Hindi by Prem Prakash)  
Publisher: National Book Trust, India  
Pages: 35; Price: Rs 100  
Appropriate for: 4+

The art of minimalism has been a preoccupation with the Japanese even before Marie Kondo made her pathbreaking lessons in tidying up fashionable. Mariko Shinju had a headstart on it with the publication of the first of her Mottainai Grandma books in 2004. Shinju's principal cast is a rather stern elderly lady and her grandson; the old lady's lessons in mindfulness to her grandson forms the gist of her columns. "Mottainai," says Grandma every time she catches him not finishing his meals or wasting more water than necessary. Pencil stubs and mandarin peels, crumpled paper and wanton waste of electricity are all strict no-nos in Grandma's book. She teaches him to give articles an useful afterlife and helps him learn how to match his consumption with his needs — useful lessons in “careful consideration” that children in our consumerist world would benefit from.

Shinju's message of environmental consciousness and the idea of respect for resources as the basis of a more equitable world found resonance in Japan, turning Mottainai Grandma into a cult. Its moment of glory came when 2004 Nobel Peace Prize winner Wangari Maathai endorsed the word that loosely translates to “Do not waste” in the United Nations as a synonym for eco-friendliness. Mottainai Grandma is now available in a bilingual version in India (Hindi and English), adding to the recent trickle of publications on environmental issues for the young. Despite the wryness of tone (lost in translation, perhaps?), Shinju's spare text brims with suggestions for recycling and reusing, making a case for putting more thought into how and how much we use things.

— Paromita Chakrabarti  
Courtesy: Indian Express, 30 June 2018

Book Exhibition at Almora

NATIONAL BOOK TRUST, India organized a 7-day book exhibition at Hotel Bhagwati Palace, Almora (Uttarakhand) from 25 June to 1 July 2018. While inaugurating the book exhibition, Ms Iva Ashish Shrivastava, District Magistrate, said that books are a treasure house of knowledge. They are a man's best friend. Therefore, efforts should be made to inculcate habit of reading amongst children.

Recalling her childhood days, Ms Shrivastava further said that she used to visit book exhibitions which helped her develop the habit of reading. She hoped that books on different topics like science and technology, biographies, story books, etc. available in the exhibition would attract a good number of readers especially young readers. On this occasion, she also requested the district administration to buy NBT books for various school libraries, Nari Niketan etc.

The exhibition was coordinated by Shri Karun Kumar, Assistant Director(NRO).
Excerpts

NBT India has recently published Women Scientists in India: Lives, Struggles, Achievements authored by Anjana Chattopadhyay. Herein we reproduce excerpts on two women—Dr. Sushila Nayar and Captain Laxmi Sahgal who besides being medical practitioners also took part in the freedom struggle.

Dr. Sushila Nayar was a renowned Physician, committed freedom fighter, an active political leader and a great philanthropist. She was born to an educated family of Shri Brindaban Nayar and Tara Devi on 26th December 1914 at Kunjartu, Gujarat.

She qualified MBBS from Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi. She visited USA for higher studies and completed her MD from John Hopkins University, USA.

She started her medical service as the Chief Medical Officer, Baddshah Khan Hospital, Faridabad, 1950-52. She served as Secretary, Advisory Medical Board, Kasturba Gandhi National Trust, 1945-52; Director, Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences, Wardha. She was Health Minister of Delhi, 1952-55; Speaker, Delhi Vidhan Sabha, 1955-56; Member, Lok Sabha, 1957-71; India’s Representative on Social Commission of United Nations, 1955-58; Union Health Minister, 1962-67; President, Indian Council of Medical Research, 1962-67; President, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, 1964-67; and Chairman, Indian Red Cross Society, 1964-67. ...

Dr. Sushila Nayar remained unmarried and devoted her life for public service. She was a devoted health service provider and distinguished freedom fighter. She was an active member of Mahatma Gandhi and Kasturba Gandhi’s ideologies. She was imprisoned along with prominent Gandhians in 1942-44 in the Aga Khan Palace Jail.

After independence, she dedicated her service for the improvement of public health, especially for poor women and children. In 1950, she set up a tuberculosis sanatorium in Faridabad. She contributed many innovative plans and health policies during her tenure as the Minister of Health in Delhi Government from 1952-55 and the Union Minister of Health from 1962-67. She also made valuable contributions through popular articles, books, pamphlets and radio talks on public health and family planning. Her love for Mahatma Gandhi and Kasturba Gandhi resulted into the publication of three books namely Kaarvaas Ki Kahani, Hamari Ba Kasturba, Wife of Gandhi.

Dr. Sushila Nayar was the younger sister of Gandhiji’s secretary, Shri Pyare Lal Nayar. She received President’s Award for her book entitled Kaarvaas Ki Kahani in 1952. She passed away on 3rd January, 2000.

Dr. Laxmi Sahgal was an outstanding revolutionary, committed Physician, benevolent Social Reformer, courageous freedom fighter and commander of World’s First Military Women Regiment, the Rani Jhansi Regiment.

She was born into an illustrious family on 24th October 1914 in Madras, Tamil Nadu. Her father S Swaminathan was a renowned criminal lawyer of Madras High Court and her mother, Ammu Swaminathan, was a noted social worker and freedom fighter. ...

She attended Madras Queen Mary College and subsequently did her MBBS degree from Madras Medical College in 1938 and obtained DGO (Diploma in Gynaecology and Obstetrics).

Dr. Laxmi joined the Government Kasturba Gandhi Hospital in Madras. She married Pilot P KN Rao, but the marriage could not survive for long and then she left for Singapore in 1940. There she opened her clinic and dispensaries for poor and needy, mostly migrant labourers from India. During her stay, she got influenced by the work of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. She started playing an active role in the Netaji’s Indian National Army and the Indian Independence League. ... On 2nd July 1943, Netaji visited Singapore and in his public meeting, he expressed his desire to constitute women’s regiment in the Indian National Army (INA) (Azad Hind Fauj). Dr. Laxmi came forward to take the initiative and brought together enthusiastic women to constitute the brigade, which in due course of time developed into the Rani Jhansi Regiment. Dr. Laxmi Swaminathan became the leader and the Captain of the regiment. She was given the designation of ‘Colonel’. However, she is commonly referred to as ‘Captain Laxmi Sahgal’.

The INA marched to Burma (Myanmar) with Japanese Army in December 1944. Captain Laxmi was arrested by the British Army in May 1945 and she remained in Burma jail until March 1946, when she was sent back to India.

Dr. Laxmi married Colonel Prem Kumar Sahgal in March 1947 at Lahore, who was a leading member of INA and worked in close association with Subhas Chandra Bose. After their marriage they settled in Kanpur, where she continued with her medical practice and provided clinical service to refugees, who arrived in large numbers following partition of India. ...

She was also nominated as the First Woman Presidential candidate of India in 2002 by four leftist parties (the Communist Party of India, The Communist Party of India (Marxist), the Revolutionary Socialist Party and the All India Forward Block), in which Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam became victorious. She was a very good singer, who loved singing in family and social gatherings. She was awarded the highest civil award, the Padma vibhushan in 1998. She published many articles in popular magazines. She wrote her autobiography A Revolutionary Life: Memoirs of a Political Activist. She continued to provide medical service to poor and destitute at her clinic in Kanpur till 19th July 2012, when she suffered cardiac arrest and passed away on 23rd July 2012 at the age of 97.
Books on Freedom Movement & Independence

The nation celebrates Independence Day on 15 August 2017. National Book Trust, India has been publishing several books on freedom struggle marking important moments in the history of India’s freedom struggle.

**Story of I.N.A.**
S A Ayer
This book, by a loyal colleague of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, presents a concise account of Netaji’s role in India’s struggle for freedom with the constitution of the Indian National Army. Besides highlighting Netaji’s serious nature, his high regard for Swami Vivekananda and his inclination towards social service, the book describes the events that led to his being caught in the vortex of politics and subsequent exile and disappearance.
978-81-237-2122-4; Rs 60.00

**The Contribution of The Revolutionists in India’s Freedom Struggle**
Hiren Gohain
The book traces the role and contribution of the heroic part played by the revolutionary leaders in India’s national movement.
978-81-237-5793-2; Rs 80.00

**Bhagat Singh: Select Speeches & Writings**
D N Gupta (Ed.)
Foreword by Bipan Chandra
A voracious reader right from his boyhood, Bhagat Singh brought upon his thinking and writings the tremendous influence of his varied reading. His several statements before courts, his passionate letters to his father and other comrades, his insights on revolution and communalism and his atheistic faith, all reveal a mind that is at once original and mature in understanding.
978-81-237-4940-2; Rs 90.00

**Freedom Movement and Indian Muslims**
Santimoy Ray
The book challenges the many prejudices that generate bias and hatred against the Indian Muslims, particularly their contentious role in Indian freedom movement and the rise of the Indian Muslim League.
978-81-237-6139-8; Rs 85.00

**Ghadar Movement: A Short History**
Harish K Puri
The Ghadar Movement was in many ways a novel struggle for the freedom of India. This book is a short history of the genesis and rise of the movement, its transnational dimensions, romance of patriotism, limitations and illusions, tremendous sacrifices and its legacy that inspired Bhagat Singh and other revolutionaries.
978-81-237-6282-1; Rs 90.00

**Freedom Struggle**
Bipan Chandra and others
A lucidly written account of India’s freedom struggle, its history, development and the diverse forces which contributed to it.
81-237-0249-X; Rs 105.00

**History of Khadi**
Geetanjali Parikh
The book attempts to take the readers on a historical journey of Khadi, from being a livery of freedom to green fabric or designer wear. It aims to provide an insight on the pivotal role Khadi played in the Indian economic planning, giving a roadmap of Khadi from local village to world market.
978-81-237-6042-1; Rs 80.00

**Rebellion 1857**
P C Joshi (Ed.)
Foreword by Irfan Habib
Popularly known as the first Indian war of Independence, the Rebellion of 1857 was a significant moment in the political history of modern India. Despite the broad consensus of opinion about the national character of the movement, yet this uprising still remains mired in controversies. Through extensive references to first hand accounts and other historical documents, the essays in this volume while bringing together varied scholarship, analyse the nature, causes, its impact on the national literature of India as well as the interest it generated abroad.
978-81-237-4935-8; Rs 100.00

**The Partition of India**
Anita Inder Singh
The Partition of India was one of the most cataclysmic events in world history. This book places it in an international perspective to show how reasons of state, and religious, ethnic or cultural division have been inextricably intertwined in creating the situations that have led to partition in different parts of the world.
81-237-4696-2; Rs 50.00

**Komagata Maru: Not Just a Voyage**
Malwinderjit Singh Waraich & Gurdev Singh Sidhu
The present book gives details of the journey of Komagata Maru, a Japanese steamship from Hong Kong to Canada with 376 passengers on board in the backdrop of Ghadar movement.
978-81-237-6997-0; Rs 150.00
**Books for Children on Freedom Movement**

The Trust has published a number of books on our freedom struggle in a simple language with illustrations, in English, Hindi and many Indian languages to tell the young minds about the sacrifices our forefathers.

**Bapu (Part I)**
Author-Illustrator: F C Freitas  
The story of Gandhi from his birth till the Dandi March in pictures and words.  
Also published in Asamiya, Bangla, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Odia, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu.  
ISBN 978-81-237-1026-6; Rs 40

**Bapu (Part II)**
Author-Illustrator: F C Freitas  
This book in continuation to Part I talks about Gandhi’s arrest following the Salt Satyagraha and ends with his assassination.  
Also published in Asamiya, Bangla, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Odia, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu.  
ISBN 978-81-237-1025-9; Rs 30

**Hanged for their Patriotism**
R K Tandon  
Illustrator: Arup Kumar Gupta  
This book is about the famous young revolutionaries of India who went to the gallows, laughing and singing.  
Also published in Hindi, Malayalam, Odia and Punjabi.  
ISBN 978-81-237-5550-2; Rs 120

**How India Won Her Freedom**
Krishna Chaitanya  
Illustrator: Jyotish Dutta Gupta  
Come 15 August and the whole of India is immersed in different kinds of activities. It was on this day in 1947 that India became independent. Here is the saga of Indians who fought for a free India, a story of young martyrs and great leaders who brought an end to foreign rule.  
Also published in Asamiya, Bangla, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Odia, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu.  
ISBN 978-81-237-1105-8; Rs 40

**Jallianwala Bagh**
Bhisham Sahni  
Illustrator: Prasant Mukherjee  
On 13 April 1919, an armed contingent of British soldiers massacred Indians who had gathered in the garden ground of Jallianwala Bagh in Amritsar. The ghastly murder has gone down in the memory of Indians as the most heinous act of British rule. Bhisham Sahni has told the story of an atrocious general and the suffering of thousands of Indians.  
Also published in Asamiya, Bangla, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Odia, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu.  
ISBN 978-81-237-0901-2; Rs 30

**Jawaharlal Nehru**
Tara Ali Baig  
Replete with anecdotes and profusely illustrated with photographs, this book brings alive Nehru the child, adolescent, young man and committed Prime Minister. Carefully selected, the large number of photographs not only embellish but also complement the text.  
Also published in Asamiya, Bangla, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Odia, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu.  
ISBN 978-81-237-0160-8; Rs 40

**Stories from Bapu’s Life**
Uma Shankar Joshi  
Illustrator: Mickey Patel  
In this book the noted Gujarati writer relates some interesting episodes from Bapu’s life. Written in a simple and heart-warming style, the stories will appeal to children.  
Also published in Asamiya, Bangla, Bhili, Bhojpuri, Garo, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Khasi, Konkani, Lusai, Magahi, Maithili, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Mizo, Nepali, Odia, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu.  
ISBN 978-81-237-0508-8; Rs 35

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Sumangal Prakash  
Illustrator: P Khemraj  
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  - March/April 2019

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**New Delhi Rights Table**

As part of the New Delhi World Book Fair, the NBT is organizing the 7th New Delhi Rights Table (NDRT) on 7 and 8 January 2019. The two day event brings together publishers, Rights’ agents, translators and editors from India and abroad to network and explore business opportunities together.

The NDRT offers you B2B sessions in a refreshingly new business ambience. The unique format will enable participants to book their own table, meet each other and present their products and ideas.

For online Registration at the NDRT 2019, and for other details, kindly visit our website: www.newdelhiworldbookfair.gov.in.

We look forward to your participation at the NDRT 2019.

For further details please write to: newdelhirightstable1@gmail.com

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