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New Delhi

Press Release

New Delhi World Book Fair Bringing Visitors Closer to the Books

Booklovers at the New Delhi World Book Fair were seen busy glancing through books along with a cup of tea and coffee. It seems that the booklovers are enjoying winter at New Delhi World Book Fair and they do not wish to miss any opportunity to travel through the world of books.

This year, Sharjah is the Guest of Honour at New Delhi World Book Fair. The beautifully designed Pavilion is attracting a large number of visitors at the Fair. A corner with glass walls has been built specifically for the media persons. In addition, there is an events corner for organising seminars, discussions and other literary activities. One of the major highlights of the Guest of Honour presentation is the exhibition of books. The booklovers are happy to note that a large number of Hindi translations of Arabic books are also available.

Sharjah Pavilion

A discussion on '1001 Titles' initiative and its role in enriching UAE Library was organised by Sharjah Book Authority (SBA) at Sharjah Pavilion. The speakers on the occasion were Majd Al Shehhi, Talal Salem and Ali Al Shaali. The session was moderated by Mariam Al Abeidly. The speakers discussed about different aspects of the initiative titled '1001 Titles'. This initiative would help writers to connect with different publishers across the world. The speakers also shared their experiences of being successful publishers and how the process of publishing is not only difficult, but requires strenuous hard work.

International Events Corner

A discussion on 'A Library for Each House: Experience from Sharjah and its Impact on the Publishing Sector' was held at the International Events Corner. The Programme was organised by Sharjah Book Authority. The panelists on the occasion included Noura Ibn Hedeya, Muhammad bin Dekhin and Saleha Ghabesh. The session was moderated by Rashid Alkous. The speakers discussed about an initiative

namely, 'Knowledge Without Border'. It is a first of its kind initiative in the world through which 42,366 home libraries have been distributed successfully.

New Delhi Rights Table

New Delhi Rights Table is being organised at the book fair on 7 and 8 January 2019. The two-day event provides a platform to publishers, literary agents, translators, authors and editors from India and abroad for business opportunities. During the event, the publishers interact with each other, share their interests, negotiate and discuss about selling/buying copyrights. It is a unique platform that helps participants present their products and ideas to each other, and transfer rights of books available in English, Hindi, and other Indian and foreign languages. This year, more than 60 publishers from India and abroad including China, Egypt, France, Iran, Japan, Kenya, Singapore, Sri Lanka, UAE and USA.

Children's Pavilion

At Children's Pavilion a workshop on career guidance for special children was organised by Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India. Dr. Jayender Kumar (Psychologist) and Mr Nasir were special guests on the occasion. The speakers were of the view that skills and education can go hand-in-hand to make a good future for one self. They enlightened about the various opportunities that the Government of India is providing to children/persons with special needs to move forward in life. Over 150 children from Aga Khan Foundation and Prerna Niketan Sangh (NGOs) attended the event. The workshop was followed by a storytelling session by NBT in which Ms Jayanti Ozha, narrated stories about Ganga river, moral values, etc. to the children.

Theme Pavilion

Artists of Pabitra Rabha and Group, Assam presented a play on 'Jokhola.' The play poignantly highlights the challenges faced by the persons with special needs.

A conversation with Shri Atul Satya Kaushik, a well-known figure from the world of theatre was held at Theme Pavilion. The programme was organised by National Book Trust, India in association with Aalami Urdu Trust. The session was moderated by Shri Abdul Rehman. During the programme, Shri Atul talked about his journey as a theatre artist. He said that he has respect for the people who enact in theatre as they

live several lives by playing different characters. He added that theatre provides a lively presentation to the audience and make them feel that they are part of the scene.

Literary Activities

A discussion on the works of Swami Shri Haridas including *Kelimal*, *Kelimal Mimansa* and *Rasdes* was organised by Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts at Lekhak Manch, Hall 12. The speakers on the occasion were Dr Rajendra Ranjan Chaturvedi, litterateur of Braj language, Haryana; Prof. Shailendra Swami, Department of Music, Delhi University and Dr Sachidanand Joshi, Member Secretary, IGNCA.

Noted author Chitra Mudgal interacted with the readers at Lekhak Manch (Hall. 12). She talked about her book, Nala Sopara. The session was organised by Samayik Prakashan.