

# READING CORNER

HISTORY | LITERATURE | ART | CULTURE | HERITAGE | BIOGRAPHY | TRAVEL | WILDLIFE | RELIGION | SELF-HELP | FICTION | TRANSLATION | CINEMA | FOOD

## The New Year

*Like fruit, shaken free by an impatient wind  
from the veils of its mother flower,  
thou comest, New Year, whirling in a frantic dance  
amid the stampede of the wind-lashed clouds  
and infuriate showers,  
while trampled by thy turbulence  
are scattered away the faded and the frail  
in an eddying agony of death.  
Thou art no dreamer afloat on a languorous breeze,  
lingering among the hesitant whisper and hum  
of an uncertain season.  
Thine is a majestic march, o terrible Stranger,  
thundering forth an ominous incantation,  
driving the days on to the perils of a pathless dark,  
where thou carriest a dumb signal in thy banner,  
a decree of destiny undeciphered.*

Rabindranath Tagore

A new year, a fresh start  
*Have a  
wonderful  
2018!*

## So Many Journeys...



As the legend goes, 5,000 years ago Chinese Empress Xi Ling-Shi discovered silk when a silkworm cocoon fell into her hot cup of tea. On unravelling the threads and wrapping them around her fingers, she realised what an exquisite cloth it would make. Thus, traditionally, silk was derived from silkworms. For centuries, these silkworms ensconced themselves in innumerable spiral threads to give us raw silk, which is then processed and woven into one of world’s most coveted fabrics.

However, what is most astonishing is how this humble insect and its accidental discovery remarkably changed our human history. It throws light on the fact that size really doesn’t matter. The smallest of sparks can cause a forest fire. A tiny insect revolutionised the textile industry. A small step with great intention can make a difference.

With this belief, when Niyogi Books entered the world of publishing with its maiden title, it hoped to make its intent of making ‘fine publishing within reach’ a reality. It was our dream to bring out good quality books, not just in content but also in aesthetics, accessible to every bibliophile. It was this desire, strong, yet delicate, like silk, that propelled us forward. So, after 13 years into the journey, as we launch our 500th title on 12 January 2018, we look back to our humble origin and look forward to the vast ocean in front of us. The journey ahead is long and arduous, but there are miles to go before we sleep.

The grandeur and relevance of well-researched, large format beautifully illustrated books put a glint in our eyes. The beautiful production and re-production of the rare, intrigued and guided us to begin the sojourn of publishing our constellation of such books. The worth of these books exceeded far beyond ‘just books’ for the bibliophiles of today as well as the bibliophiles of the future. Covering a wide range of subjects from history to culture, travel to indigenous literature, art to architecture, we wanted to publish books and tomes, which could be gifted like silk. Something that stays for generations and becomes a part of the family heirloom. We wanted to create books for all generations, which would stand through time and space. This was the dream we set out to fulfill in the year 2005.

This year, as we take another leap ahead and diversify into newer paths, we are reminded of what the poet Rumi said, “As you start walking out on the way, the way appears.” We have recently announced the launch of our three new imprints and are quite sure that the road ahead will keep presenting itself to us. With these imprints, even though we will see a significant shift in size, form and genre, from our original offerings, we have consciously tried to uphold our values and make our books and their

content accessible and available to more people who wish to read.

The first imprint, for our original English titles is Olive Turtle. With this, we intend to catapult the readers to a world where they will live and breathe in the days to come. Haruki Murakami said, “If you only read the books that everyone else is reading, you can only think what everyone else is thinking.” Thus, the joy of discovering new voices and creativity budding around in the Indian subcontinent and the world beyond is a reason to look forward to.

In the last couple of years, we have seen translation gaining critical mass. When we started publishing translations from various languages to English, a couple of years ago, we had foreseen a greater appreciation for such work. Today, as we launch another imprint, Thornbird, we intend to take our translation series a notch above. Through this imprint, we intend to bring into the limelight the incredible plethora of literature in the other Indian as well as foreign languages, which have the ability to bewitch every reader and cast a magic spell.

Last but not the least, Paper Missile is our imprint for non-fiction titles. Perhaps our nomenclature is a bit maverick, but what we want to suggest is that we plan our non-fiction books to be hard-hitting and create a buzz around the speculative thoughts running in the polity of our country.

All three imprints, in addition to our original offerings, is our attempt to reach every home, school, college, library and book store, small or big, so that more and more people can read, learn, discuss and find the books of their liking and interest and enrich themselves. As they say, we lose ourselves in books. We find ourselves there, too.

It is in this moment I think that Rumi’s immortal words resound with our thoughts:

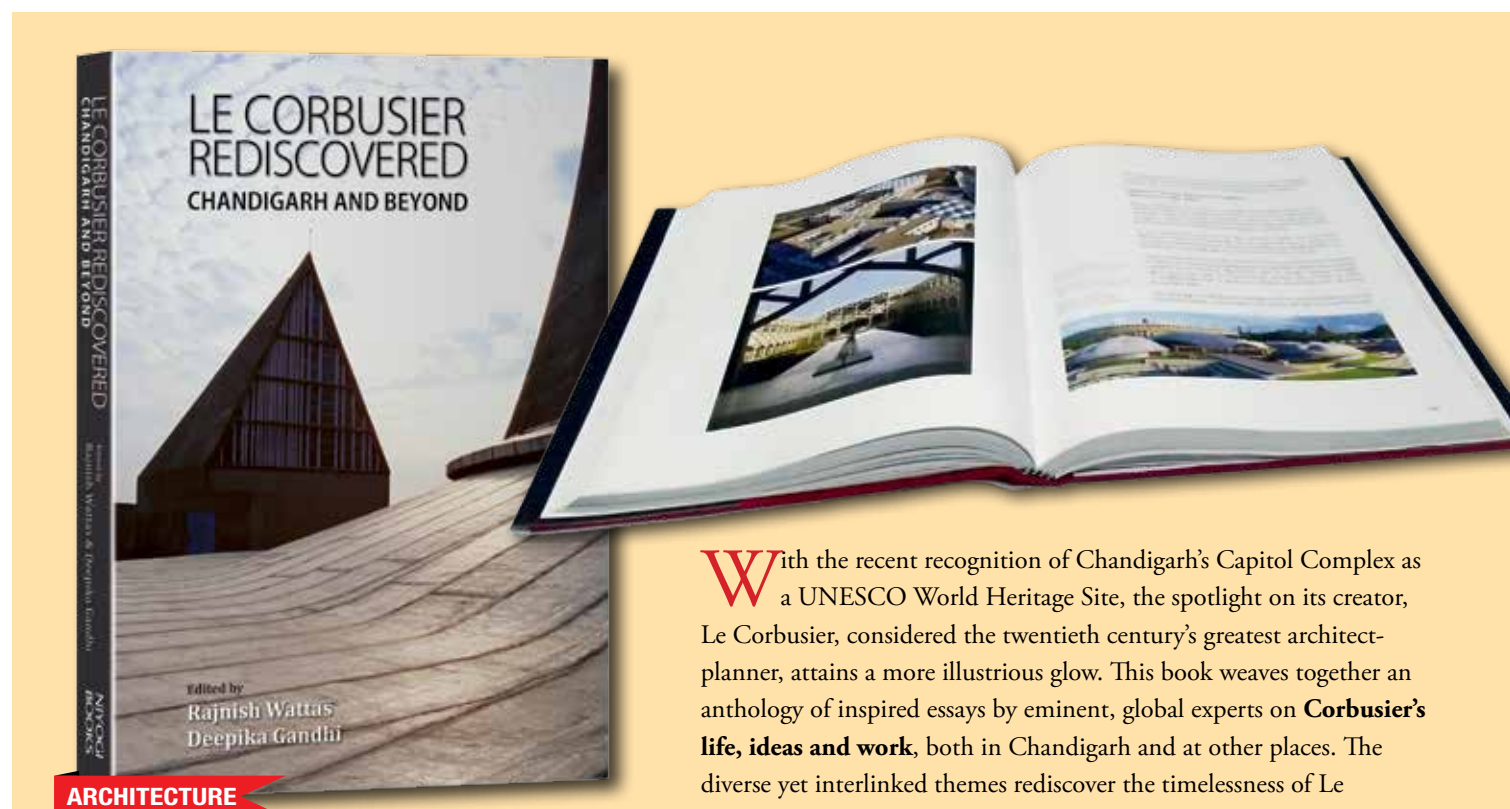
*I stood before a silk worm one day  
And that night my heart said to me,  
“I can do things like that, I can spin skies,  
...  
I can be wings that lift, and I can travel on my thousand feet  
throughout the earth,  
my sacks filled with the sacred”  
And I replied to my heart,  
“Dear, can you really do all those things?”  
And it just nodded “Yes”*



Trisha De Niyogi



# 2 | ILLUSTRATED BOOKS



ARCHITECTURE

With the recent recognition of Chandigarh's Capitol Complex as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the spotlight on its creator, Le Corbusier, considered the twentieth century's greatest architect-planner, attains a more illustrious glow. This book weaves together an anthology of inspired essays by eminent, global experts on **Corbusier's life, ideas and work**, both in Chandigarh and at other places. The diverse yet interlinked themes rediscover the timelessness of Le Corbusier's architecture and his impact in India and the world over.



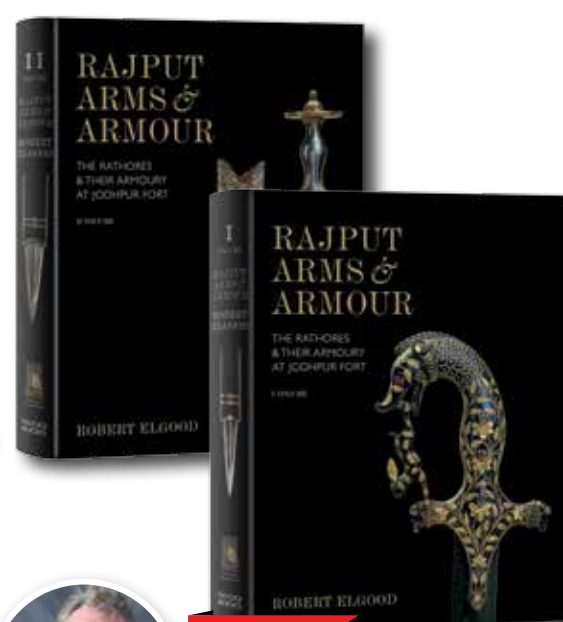
**Rajnish Wattas**

Former principal of the Chandigarh College of Architecture and a noted architectural critic and modern heritage expert, he has published a huge compendium of professional writings in reputed journals and is the co-author of two books.



**Deepika Gandhi**

Faculty member of the Chandigarh College of Architecture since 2002, she is presently Director, Le Corbusier Centre and Chandigarh Architecture Museum.



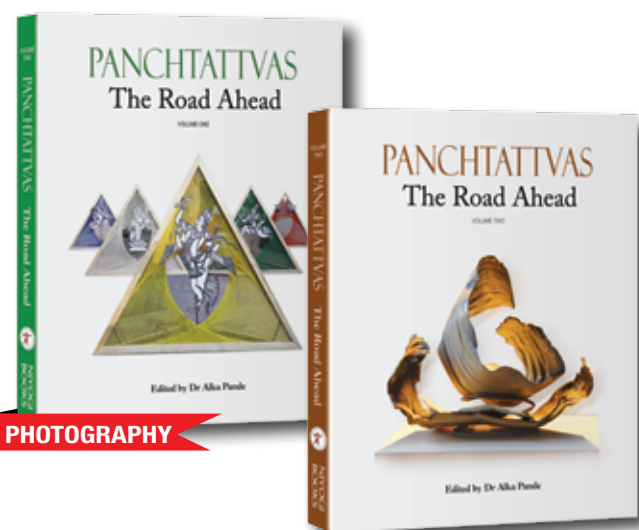
HISTORY



**Robert Elgood**

He has studied Islamic History at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), and has a doctorate in Indian Anthropology from Oxford University.

This radical book **challenges arms and armour orthodoxy** and is essential reading for scholars, collectors and dealers interested in India and its wider culture. It reclaims the Hindu contribution to the military culture of the Mughal period.



PHOTOGRAPHY



**Alka Pande**

Curator and Art Consultant and Artistic Director, Photosphere, she is currently the Consultant Arts Advisor and Curator at the Visual Arts Gallery, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.

This book, a two-volume set, contains **thought-provoking essays on sustainable development** as well as award-winning photographs from Photosphere 2016, which culminated in an outdoor exhibition titled 'Panchtattvas: The Road Ahead'. The exhibition aimed to create not only a new language of photography but to sensitise the public on stories about sustainability through photo-installations that were freed from the white cube of the gallery space.



HERITAGE



**Vipul B. Varshney**

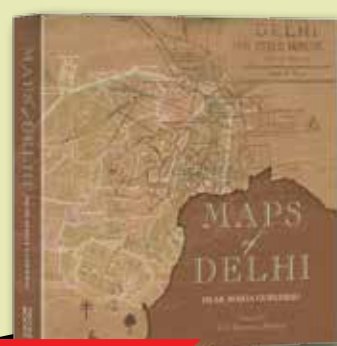
A multi-talented architect, whose portfolio covers a wide range of projects in India as well as Mauritius.



**Ajaish Jaiswal**

Born and brought up in Lucknow, he is a hotelier by profession and a photographer by passion.

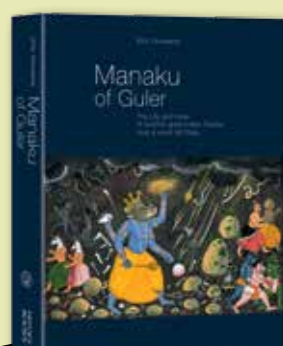
Lucknow is known as a city of dreams and, 160 years after the elegant court of Nawab Wajid Ali Shah, there are almost as many different ways of interpreting it, as there were dreamers. Splendid buildings in brick that have witnessed centuries of history, the chime of temple bells, the call of the muezzin, the magical strains of *thumri*, the soulful lyrics of ghazals, the expressive grace of Kathak, the exquisite crafts, the delicate flavours of cuisine—all these are part of the **fascinating city of Lucknow**.



CARTOGRAPHY

"Mapping the growing Capital" *Millennium Post*

This groundbreaking publication presents an exquisite study of the maps of Delhi, from the onset of the nineteenth century till the master plan of 2021. It is the first organised collection of the maps of the city.



ART

"A Mountain of Light" *The Indian Express*

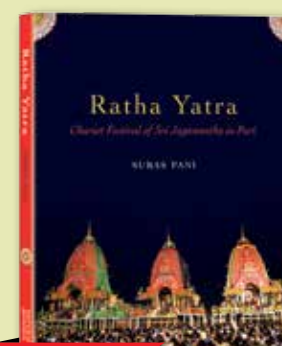
Manaku of Guler, older brother of Nainsukh, was an exceptional painter. The author takes a look here at the entire body of work of a great Indian artist from the past, through eyes filled with curiosity and warmth.



CRAFT

"Wonderful reference" *Laila Tyabji, The Pioneer*

This beautifully illustrated book showcases unknown gems from personal and public collections, and brings to life the history of this unique craft tradition. It describes the origins of Chikankari and its inspirations.

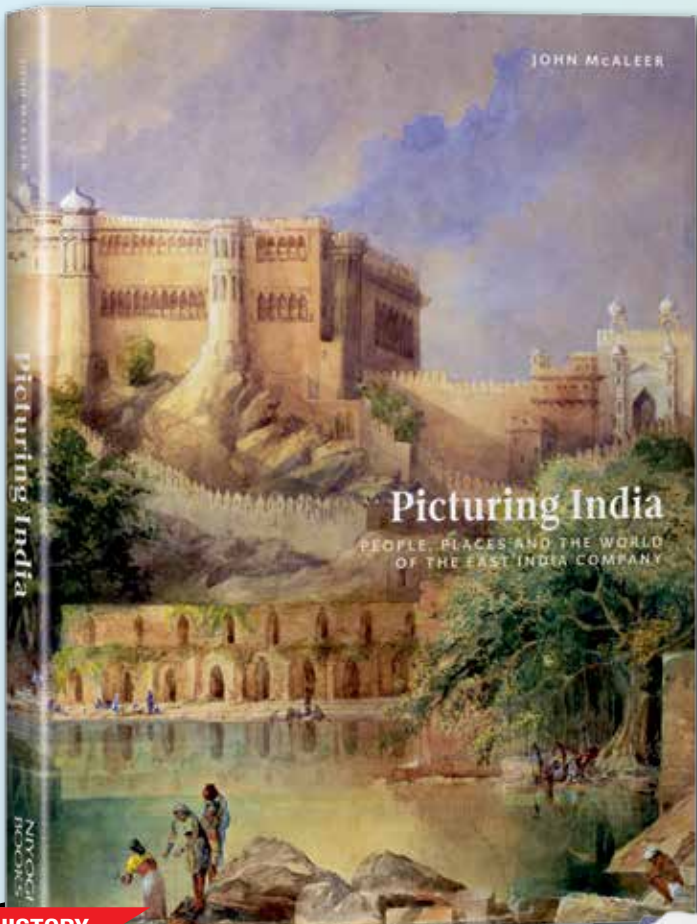


RELIGION

"Portrays the different phases of the festival" *Harmony*

A comprehensive account of Ratha Yatra, the great socio-cultural and religious event, a phenomenon that is unique in the entire world. It provides the background on the syncretic faith represented by Jagannatha.





HISTORY

#### John McAleer

John McAleer is Lecturer in History at the University of Southampton. His research focuses on the British encounter and engagement with the wider world in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, situating the history of the empire in its global and maritime contexts. He was previously Curator of Imperial and Maritime History at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich. He is the author of *Britain's Maritime Empire: Southern Africa, the South Atlantic and the Indian Ocean, 1763–1820*.

The British engagement with India was an intensely visual one. Images of the subcontinent, produced by artists and travellers in the eighteenth and nineteenth century, the heyday of the **East India Company**, reflect the increasingly important role played by the Company in Indian life. This book draws on the unrivalled riches of the British Library—both visual and textual—to tell that history. It weaves together the story of individual images, their creators and the people and events they depict. And, in doing so, it presents a detailed picture of the Company and its complex relationship with India, its people and cultures.



## FORTHCOMING



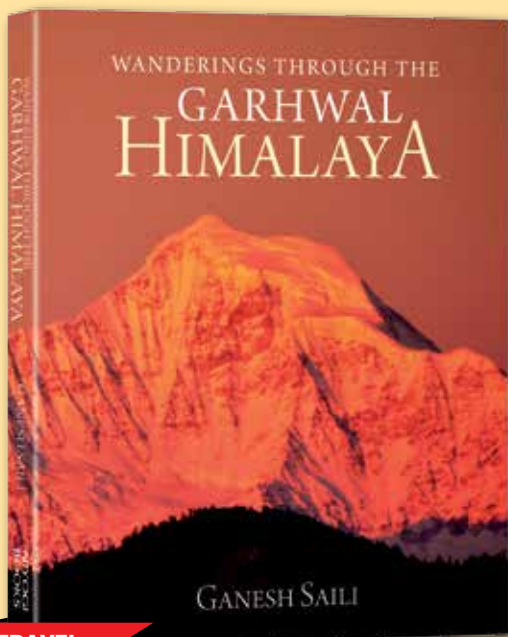
This book is a pictorial account of PC Sorcar's metamorphosis into the Maharaja of Magic from very humble beginnings. Rare posters, newspaper articles, cartoons, family photos, private papers, facsimiles of honours and awards add to the richness of the work.



An outstanding collection of black-and-white photographs, depicting a wide swathe of the city and its various neighbourhoods. This collection presents glimpses of political life before and after the partition of a Calcutta that was once the Second City of the Empire. The photographs go back to the glory days of Bombay Photo Stores when it was a prominent landmark of Park Street.



A dramatic encounter with a belligerent tiger; a near-death experience; hunting for missing tigers; a mystifying leopard who attacks humans at will with no fear; tracking and monitoring tigers and the fascinating story of an aggressive male tiger. These and other true-life tales form part of this enthralling book. The author also pays tribute to the unsung heroes of Ranthambhore who gave up their lives for the protection of others.



TRAVEL

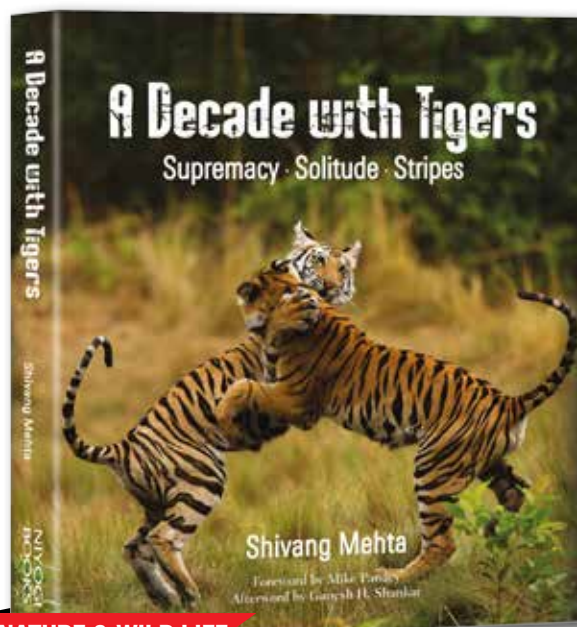


#### Ganesh Salli

When not teaching photography, he treks the mountains, capturing, in words and images, the magic of the Himalaya. He has authored four more titles with Niyogi Books namely *Ruskin Bond*, *Gupp & Gossip*, *Mussoorie Medley* and *Letters of a Mussoorie Merchant*.

A delightful collection of introspective essays on the Garhwal Himalaya and life around it. The author draws from his memories of being brought up in the mountains, pictures that linger like a waft of sweet perfume on a breezy afternoon. He writes of his many journeys through these valleys wrapped in the mist, travelogues that **evoke details of natural history interwoven into the delicate social fabric of mountain life**. This book is a gripping study of an incredible part of the Himalaya. It is a living tribute to the large-hearted sons of the soil, who, down the ages, have yoked the hills together, through thick and thin, good times and bad times, have laughed at the thunder and mocked the skies, have left for the plains only to return, again and again, to the call of the mountains.

A photographer's take on the dramatic rise in the popularity of tigers in the past decade, this is a unique tribute to the tigers who have played a vital role as 'brand ambassadors' of Indian wildlife. The volume chronicles legendary tiger mothers and male tigers of the past decade, as well as their tales of survival, complemented by exquisite images by the author, who has spent thousands of hours on the field. Also showcased is the singular diversity of Indian wildlife through spectacular images of the myriad species that share their home with tigers, photographed in terrains ranging from montane forests to the plains of Central India. The book delves into the changing landscape of tiger photography in India, and contains expert opinions by leading nature photographers on the need for creativity and innovation in the photography and portrayal of India's magnificent national animal.



NATURE & WILD LIFE

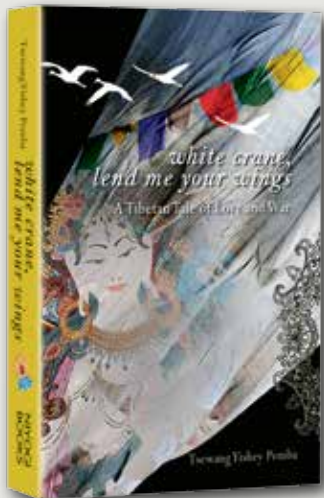
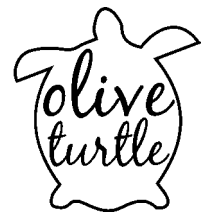
#### Shivang Mehta

An avid traveller and nature photographer, he has conducted more than 200 field wildlife photography workshops and is currently an official trainer for Canon India.





**Olive turtles** get their name from their colour. They swim long distances across waters to lay their eggs—an age-old instinct to nurture their legacy, surpassing both, space and time. Under this banner, Niyogi Books brings forth works that have stood the test of time.



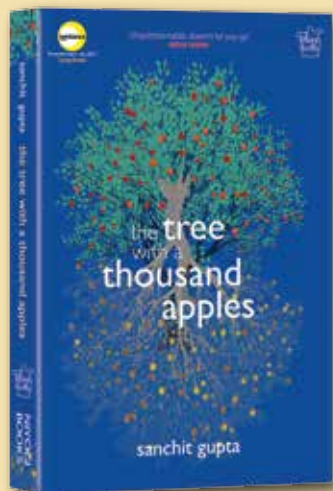
“Fiction in an epic scale” *Hindustan Times*



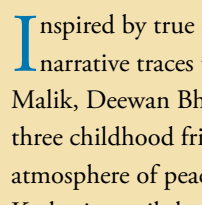
**Tsewang Yishey Pemba**

He is the founding father of Tibetan literature in English and the first Tibetan to become a doctor in Western medical science.

A historical fiction set in the breathtakingly beautiful Nyarong Valley of the Kham province of Eastern Tibet in the first half of the twentieth century. The author skillfully weaves a dazzling tapestry of individual lives and sweeping events, creating an epic vision of a country and people **during a time of tremendous upheaval**. The novel delves into themes such as tradition versus modernity and individual choices.



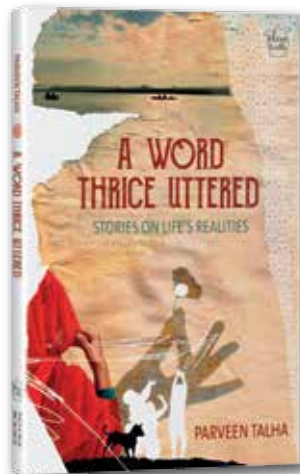
“Unforgettable” *DNA*



**Sanchit Gupta**

A brand management professional with a wide range of brand building and communication development experience. His second book *Second Wind* will be published in 2018.

Inspired by true events, this riveting narrative traces the lives of Safeena Malik, Deewan Bhat and Bilal Ahanagar, three childhood friends who grow up in an atmosphere of peace and amity in Srinagar, Kashmir, until the night of 20 January 1990 changes it all. While Deewan is forced to flee from his home, Safeena's mother becomes 'collateral damage' and Bilal has to embrace a wretched life of poverty and fear. The place they called **paradise becomes a battleground**.



“Stories of hope” *Uday India*  
“Intricate and beautiful” *Scroll*



**Parveen Talha**

She is involved with social service, which includes working for animal rights. In 2014, she was honoured with the Padma Shri. Her first book *Fida-e-Lucknow* was also published by Niyogi Books.

A collection of short stories that portrays the diverse realities of life through the protagonists—**children, women, men, animals, even some supernatural beings**. In the sensitive narration of these stories, readers meet fascinating women confronted with irresponsible men and downright evil ones too. But nothing stops these women from taking the first step to a leap into liberation and self-empowerment.

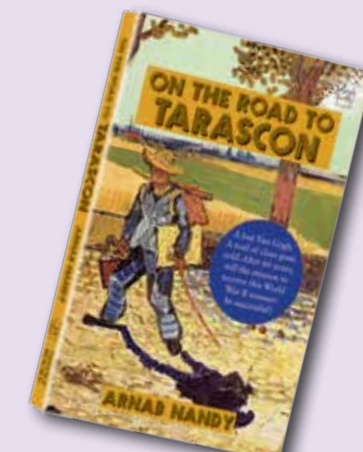
## FORTHCOMING



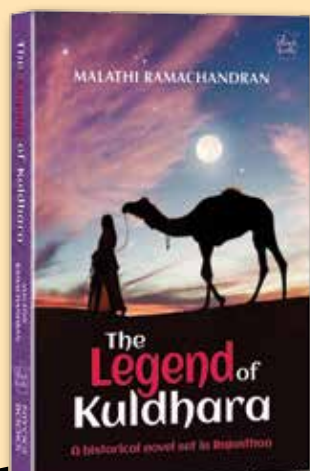
A thriller on the Islamic State that has spread its tentacles in India, penetrating stealthily into media, politics and the academia. The mastermind is Shamsur Ali, a physicist from Bangladesh. **To destabilise India**, he wants to create a sort of apocalypse, which the 21-year-old Kubha must prevent at any cost, come what may.



A nuanced novella with a twist in the tale; a story about stories of women, who live **complex lives within commonplace existences**; each devising her own escape from the realities and challenges of love, marriage and motherhood, to follow their heart's desire.



A lover's note among a senile woman's possessions sets off a chain of events that could lead to the **discovery of a Van Gogh masterpiece**—one of the most important paintings to have been lost in World War II. A suspense story that will keep you on the edge of your seat till the last page.



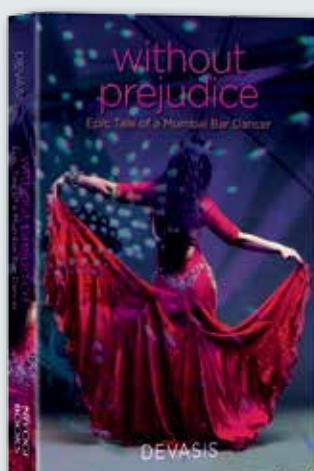
NEW RELEASE



**Malathi Ramachandran**

An avid reader, amateur artist and an ardent itinerant, she has travelled widely and loves observing people of different cultures. Two of her short stories have won prizes in British Council short fiction contests.

Kuldhara, a village in the Rajasthan desert, is perched at the edge of time. It dreams of its vibrant past when the streets echoed with laughter and the fields swayed with green and gold. Then something happened in a day and overnight that drove its inhabitants from their homes, **never to return**. Did they flee to preserve their honour, when the covetous gaze of a local lord fell on Pari? Where did they go? How did they survive?



“Meticulously researched” *DNA*



**Devasis**

Communicator, corporate reputation advisor and brand strategist, he chose his career in advertising and later took up Public Relations as his calling.

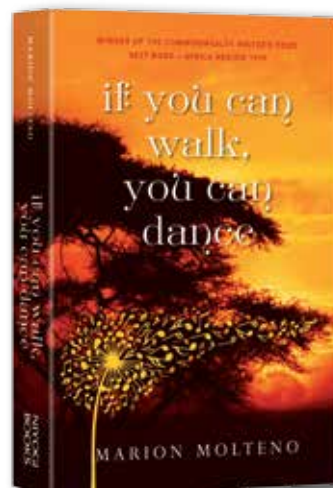
Is a woman's body her own? How far does her freedom extend? What can she do when social traditions, laws of the land and, above all, prejudices of individuals, bind her down? These and other questions rise in the mind of the reader who navigates the pages of the novel and follows the life of Pallavi, through her eyes and the eyes of the two men who play pivotal roles in her odyssey. These characters have been lovingly sketched by the author who takes the reader through a journey in time.

An idealistic and politically engaged student suddenly has to flee her native South Africa with a boyfriend whom she no longer loves—only to be stranded as an exile in neighbouring Swaziland. Fending for herself in a **new culture, she discovers new ways of living and a kind of music that moves her deeply**.



**Marion Moltano**

She has had a long association with India and Pakistan through her work with South Asian communities in the UK, and with Save the Children, with whom she travelled extensively in Asia and Africa.



“Liberating” *Shillong Times*



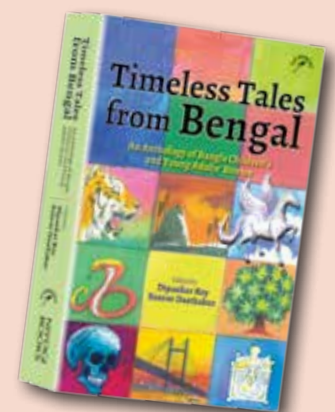
**Thornbirds, they say, sing more sweetly than any other bird, but they sing just once in their lives. And, when they do, even God in heaven smiles. This imprint of Niyogi Books' translations offers unique writings of literature from many lands, cultures and languages.**



## FORTHCOMING



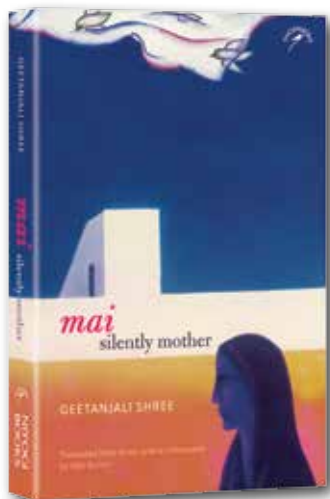
A traditional tale of wonder, **its language is lyrical and exaggerated**; its narrative, obsessed with action, weaves dreams and adventure, heroism and mercy, beauty and love, magic and grace. It is located in another time of turmoil and uncertainty when mysterious forces cause havoc in nature, and societies rise suddenly to avenge old wrongs.



This unique anthology of 34 translated stories invites the reader to a feast that offers most of the sub-genres in the realm—from **fantasy, folk tales and animal stories** through comic tales, detective fiction and adventure and suspense stories to ghost stories, historical narratives, sports narratives and tales of social consciousness. Enriched with beautiful illustrations, bio-notes of the authors, a glossary and an informed Introduction, it will be useful to enthusiastic researchers.



This travelogue provides an insight into **Rabindranath Tagore's perception of the different facets of western life and the diverse philosophical issues that cross his mind** as he journeys from one continent to another. Translated from Bengali for the first time, this book would be of interest to all those who enjoy exploring unknown territories, geographically and psychologically.



**"Like a Shadow" *The Telegraph***

### Geetanjali Shree

She writes novels and short stories in Hindi and her writings have been translated into multiple European and Indian languages.

#### TRANSLATOR

### Nita Kumar

She is engaged in innovative education in Varanasi, through both service and advocacy.

Three generations of women and their men live different strategies of adjustment and achievement to accommodate or challenge patriarchy. This novel reveals the subtle machinations behind the apparent stereotypes in a tale told in deceptively simple terms. At the centre is *mai*, the mother, seemingly weak and silent, but it is she who holds together the subtle patterns of relationships.



**NEW RELEASE**

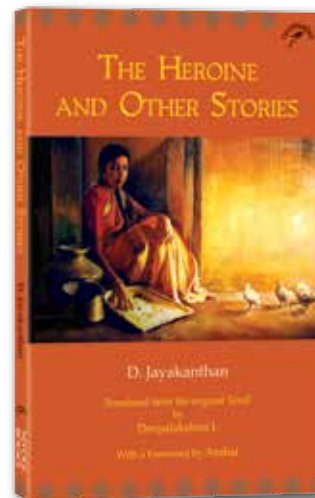


#### TRANSLATOR

### KN Rao

Along with academics, he has pursued his hobby of creative writing and regularly contributes stories and articles to Telugu magazines and journals.

An anthology of **modern Telugu short stories** by writers of Telugu fiction who have carved a niche for themselves in the annals of Indian literature. The stories range from the serious to the satirical; from light-hearted humour to gravely discursive. Critical issues are dealt with in a simple but effective style and the significance of seemingly trivial matters is highlighted with style and poise.



These short stories depict the lives of common people in Tamil Nadu in the middle of the 20th century. Each story delves into the **depths of the human psyche**, revealing the hidden strengths that ordinary people find within themselves when faced with extraordinary circumstances.



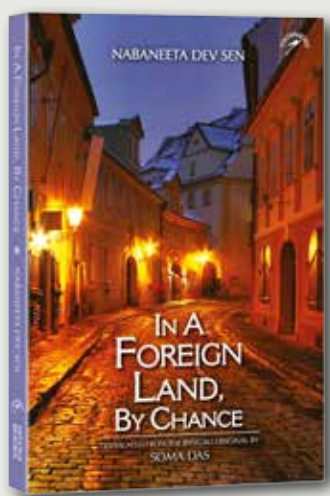
### D Jayakanthan

He was considered one of the most progressive writers of his time and has written short stories, novels and autobiographies.

#### TRANSLATOR

### Deepalakshmi J

A business writer with many years of experience. This is her first published book of translations.



**"Closure in a strange soil" *The Tribune***

### Nabaneeta Dev Sen

One of the prominent Bengali litterateurs of our times with more than 80 books to her name. She has received several awards, including the Padma Shri.



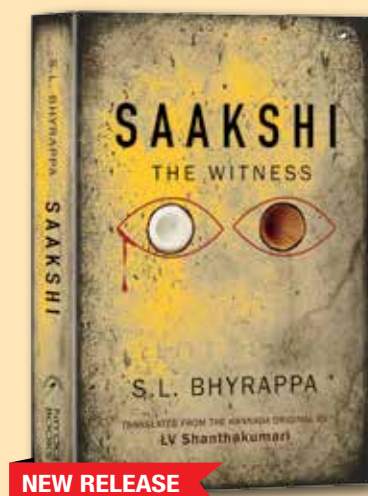
#### TRANSLATOR

### Soma Das

A freelance editor who translates Bengali fiction and non-fiction literary works into English.



Bipasha Choudhury is in Czechoslovakia, as part of a writer's group—a visit that is set to change her in more ways than one. This is a time when Czechoslovakia is still a socialist state under Soviet dominion, poised for a major upheaval. Looking for answers outside, Bipasha is about to **discover a valuable part of herself to pave a new destiny.**



**NEW RELEASE**

### SL Bhyrappa

The Kannada novelist is one of India's foremost writers. His novels have been translated into almost all Indian languages. He retired as a Professor of Philosophy from Mysore University.



#### TRANSLATOR

### LV Shanthakumari

Her poems, articles and critical essays have been published in Kannada and English magazines and journals. She has translated award-winning books to and from Kannada including Bhyrappa's *Mandra* (published by Niyogi Books).



This book uses the Puranas and Vedanta as well as Gandhian concepts to discuss the **meaning of truth and its distortions through greed, sexuality and desire**. Overcome by guilt at having committed perjury in court, in a murder trial, Parameshwarayya, a village elder, commits suicide. Yama affords him the privilege of presenting his case himself. A powerful novel that questions what it means to be a witness.

A fascinating tale of the glory and decline of a major port, a hub of maritime trade in Kerala, South India, which had mysteriously disappeared from the face of the earth during the fourteenth century. Historians, archaeologists and academics, from the world over, had been searching for it ever since. The result is a gripping mix of history, myth, legend, fiction and magic reality.



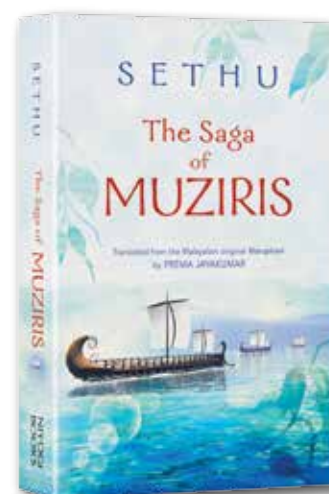
### A Sethumadhavan

A banker by profession, Sethu was also the Chairman of the National Book Trust, Delhi, for three years.

#### TRANSLATOR

### Prema Jayakumar

A columnist and a translator, she enjoys being the link between two important languages, Malayalam and English.



**"Tracing back the forgotten roots"**

*Indian Express*

**"A master storyteller....crunches time in an unusual superstructure of a novel within a novel" *OPEN***



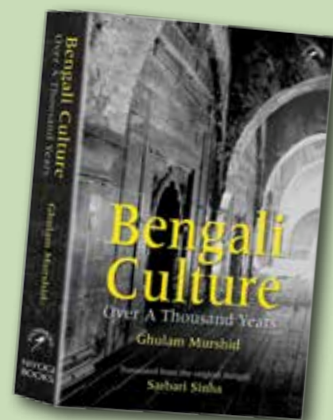
**A paper missile, if made well, can go really far. With this imprint, Niyogi Books reaches the heart of book lovers, young and old, engaging them and taking them on a journey that unfolds a fascinating world of wonder and beauty.**



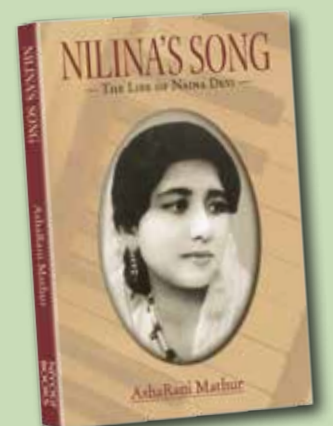
## FORTHCOMING



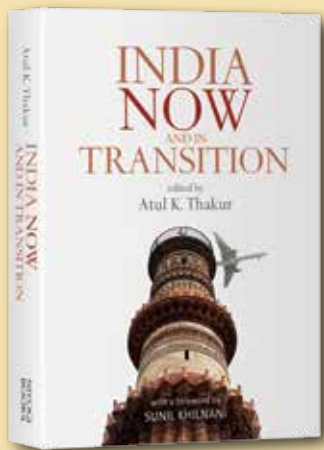
Lavishly illustrated and cogently written, this book elucidates megaliths and contends that their presence across the country, from Kashmir to Kerala and Manipur to Gujarat, is a testimony to India's tribal prehistory. It showcases the archaeological megalithic temples of Jharkhand, indicating that such tribes were cognisant of mathematics and horizon astronomy.



Written for the general reader, this is the first non-partisan and holistic discussion of Bengali culture. The language is simple and the style lucid. It shows how the individual ingredients of Bengali culture have evolved and found expression, in the context of political developments, and how certain individuals have moulded culture. Above all, the book presents the identity and special qualities of Bengali culture.



This is an engaging biography of the musician, Naina Devi, whose extraordinary life took her through fundamental changes of environment and fortune. The author traces the saga of a woman who re-invented herself and her persona, from the young Nilina to Rani Nina Ripjit Singh to Naina Devi, a seeker of music.



"An enquiry into possible futures" *Uday India*



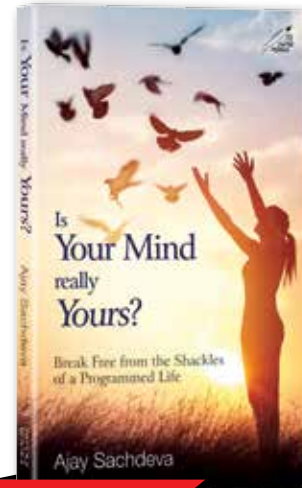
**Atul K Thakur**  
He is a public policy professional, management consultant, journalist and writer who specialises in the interface of politics and economics.

This book is an enquiry into possible futures, based on current happenings. Featuring contributions from leading thinkers and scholars, each essay **analyses a major theme of India's present to propose the likely way ahead for our emergent nation.** Covering politics and governance, economics and development, security and foreign policy, society and culture, and language and literature, the book shows that India isn't waiting for its moment, it is making its moment happen.

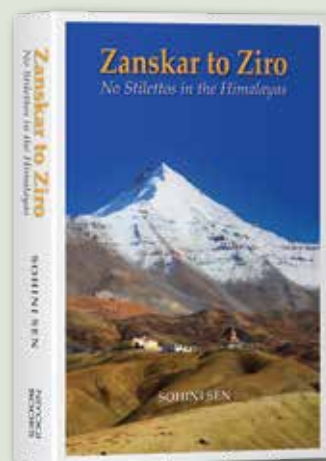
The cornerstone of this lively and highly readable book is the idea of operating from the 'free spirit' as opposed to the programmed mind. In doing so, one can truly experience freedom, growth, and contentment. These, in turn, influence one's relationship with one's 'external' world, including families, friends, society and the workplace. The book raises several important questions for the readers to reflect on. It invites them to examine life from another perspective: the setting free of conditioned ideas, belief systems and stereotypes—all of which never belonged to the individuals in the first place.



**Ajay Sachdeva**  
He has over 37 years experience of working with several leading Indian and multinational corporations and many of his articles have been published.



NEW RELEASE

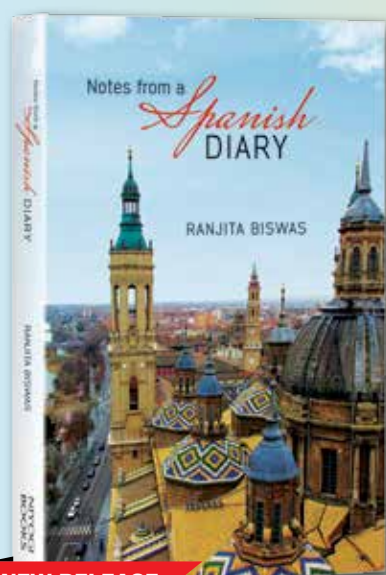


"Best read with a mug of hot tea by one's side" *Outlook Traveller*

This book is an infusion of luxuriant landscapes and rich history, a successful evocation of a sense of place. It is further enriched by echoes and allusions from all that the author and her co-traveller have read, as well as high-quality visuals. The acceptance that comes from having lived half of one's life has allowed the travellers to **wade across difficulties with a sense of humour**—often self-deprecating—that twinkles through the book.

**Sohini Sen**

She is a full-time travel writer and photographer. Her previous book *Ladakh: A Photo Travelogue* was also published by Niyogi Books.



NEW RELEASE



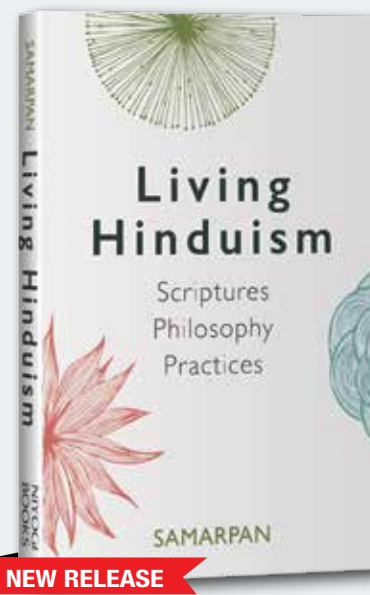
**Ranjita Biswas**  
An independent journalist, fiction and travel writer and translator. She contributes to national and international publications on gender issues, development, health, film, travel, and art and culture.

This is a personal account about **discovering the aura and flavour of Spain.** Munching on the local cuisine and rambling along the lanes of Spanish history and culture, the author has unfolded her indomitable experiences of travelling beyond her comfort zone, making this book an excellent choice for a tourist as well as an armchair traveller.

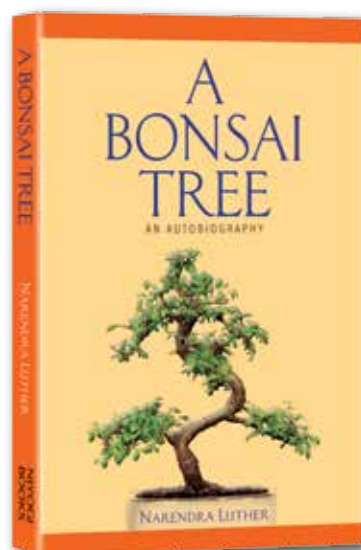
This book encapsulates the **essence of Hinduism** in a language that can be understood and appreciated by all, especially the younger generation. It helps the reader to understand what it means to be a Hindu in an age of strident opinions and changing values. Hinduism is neither an organised religion nor a proselytising one. It is often described as a way of life, which gently nudges its followers—through its scriptures, mythologies, rituals and practices—to question deeply, live fully and grow wholesomely in compassion and universal acceptance.

**Samarpan**

A monk, teacher and writer with several well-known publications to his name. His transcribed talks cover the entire range of Indian spiritual traditions.



NEW RELEASE



"A lifting account of official peccadilloes" *The Hindu*

This is not a memoir; it is an autobiography. It is the story of one of the millions of **families whose lives were shattered by Partition**—also called Independence of India—in 1947. It continues as a narrative of India through the prism of one life. Post-Partition, hardship and singular effort launches the author on a coveted career. Hilarious snippets of a young bumbling couple keep you glued to the book. The scenario then changes to an epic private battle with the 'bottled devil'. Looking back, the author finds a pattern emerging out of a chequered life, bringing him to questions of destiny.

**Narendra Luther**

He is a former civil servant and, currently, President of the Society to Save Rocks and Chairman of Yuvvir Foundation. His previous book *Legendotes of Hyderabad* was a bestseller.

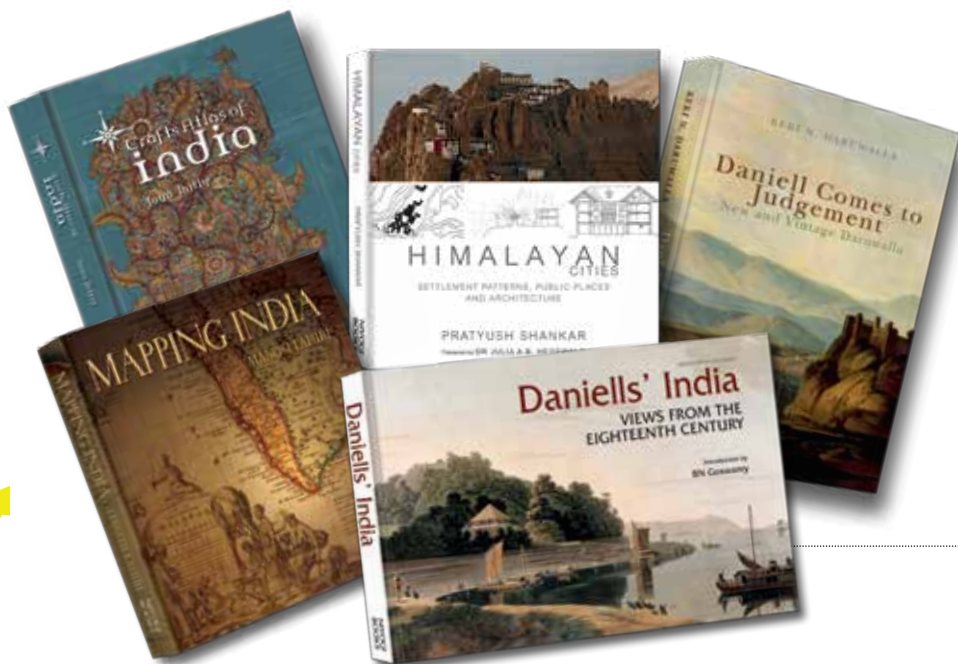






## Why do we need to gift a book?

As the recent statement, which reverberates loud and clear with the media, 'Gift Books not Bouquets' reaches out to our ears, we must question ourselves, why do we need to gift a book at all? Historically, one of the earliest purposes of gifting books was propaganda, religious or political. But, as books evolved, they promised newer usages and advantages. As a result, they metamorphosed into something greater than just a commodity. Books became gifts worthy of presenting to not just our loved ones but also strangers. Thus, as a part of our new year edition, we would like to revisit some of the thought-provoking reasons why books make great gifts:

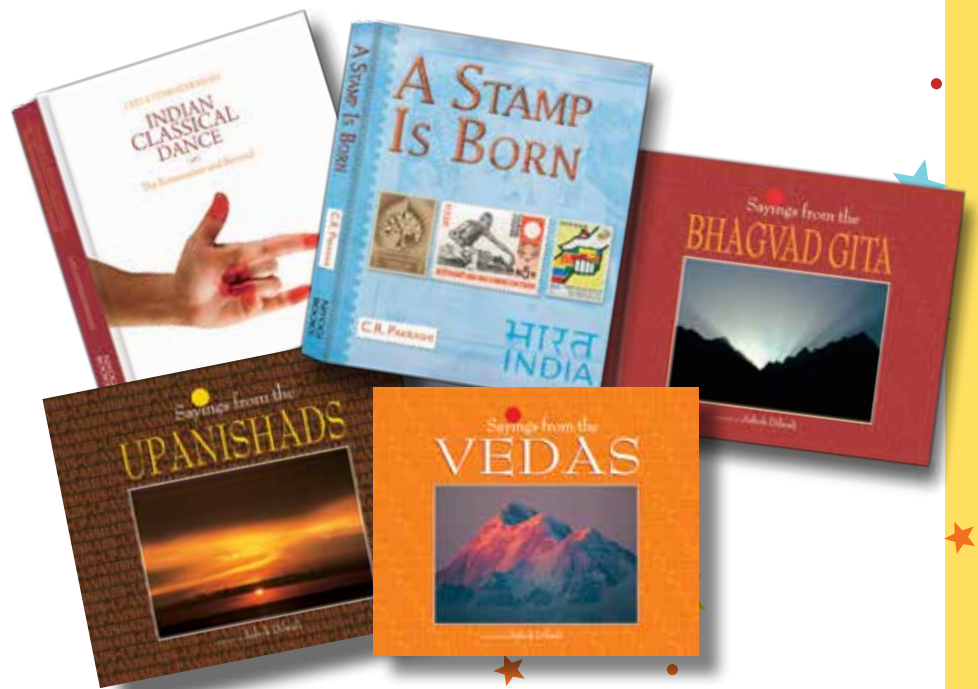


### They bring back Memories

The human brain loves to recollect, reminisce and re-live precious moments. So, when you pick up a book and unexpectedly come across the warm and personal note sent by a friend for your birthday, doesn't it bring tears to your eyes, especially if the person is thousands of miles away? When you get a book you wanted to read for a very long time, but had been banned from doing so, aren't you excited? When your colleague gifts you his copy of the book you needed desperately for your research, how do you feel? Books build forts of memories, which endure years of wear and tear and still remain fresh enough to bring a tear to your eyes; they help you to reconnect with your friends, family as well as yourself.

### They become apart of our Legacy

Words are always special and a book that has been cherished by generations is certainly worth going back to. The smell of the faded copy, the crunch of the chip-like yellow pages, the breaking spine pulled up straight, tells us stories of our families and the values being upheld, as we go into a reverie. Books make precious gifts indeed. Father-daughter tradition or grandfather's library full of leather bound artifacts, or brother-sister collectibles, all form part of a legacy or a family heirloom, worth cherishing for generations.

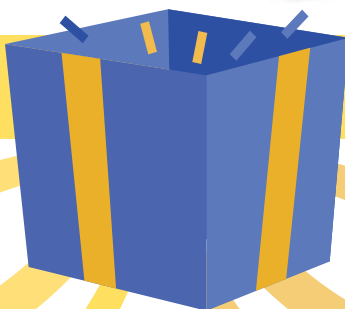


### They become our Best Friends

They say that books are your best friends. Not only do you get a chance to make new friends, but you also get to revisit and converse with your old ones. Books make you laugh and cry; they also make you curious. So, on a long flight, stuck in traffic, waiting at the mall or simply between meetings ... time tends to fly when you get lost in the world of words.

### They increase the grey matter

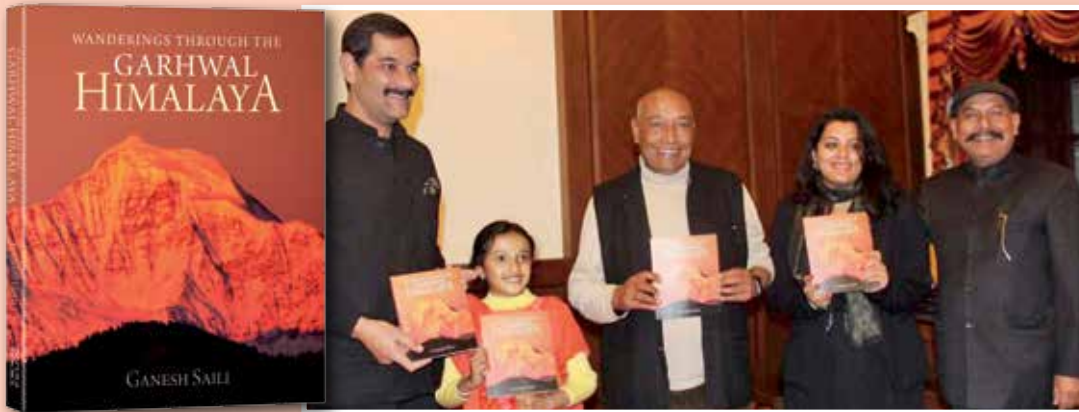
Every book has a story to tell, each brings its own message. It could belong to any genre, but there is always plenty to learn between the pages of a book—from immovable objects to performing arts, from traditions and rituals to the super and supra natural. It is in books that we can certainly satiate our hunger for knowledge.





## BOOK LAUNCHES

### Wanderings through the Garhwal Himalaya



L-R: Jitendra Singh, Niharika Bakshi, Ganesh Saini (author), Trisha De Niyogi and Bikash D Niyogi at the book launch held at **Welcomhotel The Savoy, Mussoorie**.

### A Word Thrice Uttered: Stories on Life's Realities



L-R: Parveen Talha (author), Saif Mahmood, Muzaffar Ali, David Syiemlieh, Nalini Jain and Sadiya Dehlvi at the book launch held at **IIC Delhi**.

### Zanskar to Ziro and Notes from a Spanish Diary



L-R: Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharjee, Sohni Sen (author), Sanjukta Dasgupta, Jawhar Sircar, Gautam Ghose and Ranjita Biswas (author) at the twin book launch held at **Rotary Sadan, Kolkata**.

### A Decade With Tigers: Supremacy. Solitude. Stripes



L-R: Shivang Mehta (author), Ravi Singh, Valmik Thapar, Mike Pandey, Rajesh Bedi and Bikash D Niyogi at the book launch held at **WWF Delhi**.

### Le Corbusier Rediscovered: Chandigarh and Beyond



L-R: Jitender Yadav, Director Tourism, Anurag Agarwal, Home Secretary, Kiran Kher, MP Chandigarh, VP Singh Badnore, Governor Punjab and Administrator, UT Chandigarh, Raj Rewal with authors Rajnish Wattas and Deepika Gandhi at the launch of the book at the **Government Museum and Art Gallery, Chandigarh**.

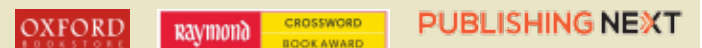
## AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS



*The Saga of Muziris* by Sethu Mahadevan and translated by Prema Jayakumar to Malayalam has made it to the Raymond Crossword Book Awards (RCBA) Jury-Translation Short List as well as to the 3rd Edition of the Oxford Bookstore Book Cover Prize 2017-18.

*White Crane, Lend Me Your Wings: A Tibetan Tale of Love and War* by Tsewang Yishey Pemba has been nominated for the Long List of the 3rd Edition of the Oxford Bookstore Book Cover Prize 2017-18.

*Great Houses of Calcutta* by Joanne Taylor (Illustrator Book of the Year) has made it to the Short List of the Publishing Next Industry Awards, 2017.



## Save the Dates!

As always, Niyogi Books brings you new events to look forward to in the months of January and February, 2018.

**6-14 January**

New Delhi  
World Book Fair  
at Pragati Maidan  
Stall No. 530-533  
Hall 11

**11-15 January**

Apeejay Kolkata  
Literary Festival  
at St Paul's Cathedral  
Lawns

**12 January**

Niyogi Books'  
Imprint launch & Book  
release of **PC Sorcar:**  
*The Maharaja of  
Magic* in Delhi

**31 January  
to 11 February**

Kolkata  
International Book  
Fair at Salt Lake  
Central Park

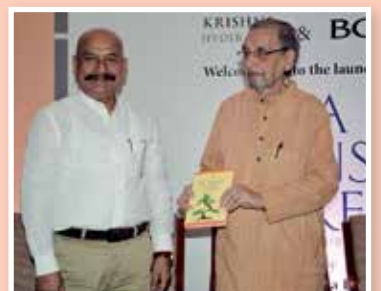
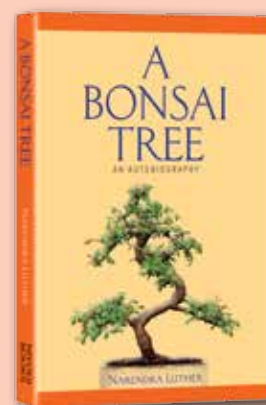
**15 January**

Launch of  
*Rajput Arms  
and Armour* by  
Niyogi Books at  
Bikaner House  
Delhi

**25-29 January**

Jaipur Literary  
Festival & JBM at  
Diggi Palace

### A Bonsai Tree



Author Narendra Luther with Bikash D Niyogi at the book launch held at **Taj Krishna, Hyderabad**.

To subscribe, send an email to [niyogibooks@gmail.com](mailto:niyogibooks@gmail.com)

## OUR OVERSEAS PARTNERS

USA and  
Canada



6 West 18th St., Suite 4B,  
NYC, NY 10011,  
Tel: 212 645 1111,  
Email: [sales@accdistribution.com](mailto:sales@accdistribution.com)

UK, Ireland,  
Continental Europe  
and Africa



Shalimar Books Ltd.  
38 Kennington Lane, London SE11 4LS, UK  
Tel: +44 20 7735 2101  
[www.indianbooksuk.com](http://www.indianbooksuk.com) / [shalimarbooks@gmail.com](mailto:shalimarbooks@gmail.com)

Bangladesh



Pathak Shamabesh Ltd.  
Building 4, 1st Floor, Bangladesh National Museum,  
Shahbag, Dhaka 1000, Bangladesh | Tel: +88 0171 303 4440  
[www.pathakshamabesh.com](http://www.pathakshamabesh.com) / [info@pathakshamabesh.com](mailto:info@pathakshamabesh.com)

Printed & published by Bikash D Niyogi on behalf of Niyogi Books Pvt. Ltd., Block D, Building No. 77, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase I, New Delhi 110 020 and printed at Niyogi Offset Pvt. Ltd., D-78, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase I, New Delhi 110 020, India. Editor: Trisha De Niyogi. Ph: +(91)-(11)-26816301, 26818960, Fax: +(91)-(11)-26813830, Email: [niyogibooks@gmail.com](mailto:niyogibooks@gmail.com), Website: [www.niyogibooksindia.com](http://www.niyogibooksindia.com) | Design© Write Media, [writemed@gmail.com](mailto:writemed@gmail.com)