

READING CORNER

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

Rabindranath Tagore

A poet *par excellence*

Poet, playwright, painter, actor, novelist, short story writer, essayist, philosopher, educationist, music composer, internationalist, cultural relativist, Rabindranath Tagore was a many splendoured genius, the like of which one comes across but rarely in history. A man of amazing creative efflorescence, with so many facets to it that people are often confused to decide which one is the most important. He has left behind him a body of work that is awe-inspiring and almost incredible if it were not there in flesh and blood for everyone to see. He is indeed a miracle of nature, the supreme symbol of Indian Renaissance.

However, it can never be overemphasised that Rabindranath Tagore was essentially a poet—a poet *par excellence*. All other sides of his great personality, however brilliant, become subordinate to his main greatness as a poet. If he was a great patriot, it was his poetic genius that made him so. If he was a great philosopher, it was his poetic instinct that made him a philosopher of life's synthesis and harmony. If he was a great educationist, his wonderful theory and practice of education was the direct outcome of his poetic understanding of life. True poetical geniuses comprehend life directly and in its entirety. That is why Tagore could interpret unerringly the utterances of the sages of the Upanishads and of prophets such as the Buddha and Zarathustra. One of our countrymen, talking to WB Yeats, the Irish poet, interpreted the genius of Tagore in a single sentence: "Rabindranath," he said, "is our only saint who has not refused to live." How could he lead the life of an anchorite

hermit when life and the contemplation of life were so rich, both in imagination and experience? He was not for *vairagya*. He could bluntly say, "*Vairagya sadhane mukti se amar nai.*" It was this capacity of balancing and harmonising the different aspects of life that made Rabindranath the poet and votary of life in its entirety.

Tagore was reclusive in boyhood and youth, while he came nearer to people and society in his advanced age. In his early poetry the cosmic elements predominated owing to a close and unbroken kinship with nature. The mysterious garden and sky outside his childhood

In his early poetry the cosmic elements predominated owing to a close and unbroken kinship with nature

confinement in the family mansion at Jorasanko, Kolkata, provided imageries of companionship, elusive beckonings, and a mythical witness to an abiding reality. In his boyhood, meditations on nature came first, interspersed with humanity but never dominated by human events and passions; the high Himalayas, where his father took him, became the symbol of both remoteness and grandeur touched by ancient legends such as those of Siva and Parvati. The dance of Siva, the story of his snowy locks melting as the stream of the Ganga, appear in Tagore's songs and dramas and are aesthetically rendered in some of his greatest odes and poems. Riverine Bengal filled his *Silaidah* days with the much apostrophised river Padma,

which was not only his daily background when he lived in his houseboat but became his life's companion, his Muse and Beloved. At night the stars, not only the Sandhya-tara (the Pole Star) of his poems but also the Seven Hermits of the sky (*Saptarshi*) looked down upon him across time's distance. They guided and comforted him and shared their secrets and listened to his own. Boatmen and boats, the river and the shore, the crossing and the waters changed their imaging associations and filled his poetry with variations of the theme. Yeats deeply responded to this symbolic imagery of Tagore's poems, which drew from the reservoir of a whole people's consciousness and were yet peculiarly modern and Tagorean.

A proper reassessment of Tagore's poetry is badly needed today. Side-idolatry and cultification, we have had enough, and it has been counter-productive. Could be, it is the blind adoration of the past that has recoiled into present neglect. Moreover, an exercise of radical reassessment does not do any harm or disservice to a poet of Tagore's stature. In spite of what we think are his blind spots, he is great. A poet who charts the direction of his country towards 'where the mind is without fear and the head is held high' or tells his god that 'it is not my prayer that you should protect me in danger; my prayer is that give me courage to face the danger'—such a poet can only be great and stand any scrutiny. Hadn't Tagore himself said, "I am able to love my god, because he gives me freedom to deny him"? 'Love' is the operative word here. It is that turns even denial into a form of acceptance.



Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharjee
Editorial Director, Niyogi Books

The focus of this issue is on Rabindranath Tagore. Here, we commemorate the great poet on his 157th birth anniversary. Niyogi Books has published several of his translated works, each a tribute to the 'Bard of Bengal', the first non-European to win the Nobel Prize in Literature.

Rabindranath Tagore and Travel


HAS LEFT US ACCOUNTS OF HIS TRAVELS IN VARIOUS FORMS OF WRITINGS – LETTERS, DIARIES, POEMS, SONGS AND ESSAYS

Rabindranath Tagore was one of the most widely travelled persons of his age. An itinerant traveller, he had the opportunity to travel with his family members from his childhood days both within India and abroad. He has left us accounts of these in various forms of writings—letters, diaries, poems, songs and essays. In 1872, at the age of 11, he travelled with his father to the upper Himalayas near Dalhousie and stayed there for four months. Though not written as a travelogue, the experiences of this trip are narrated by the poet in his book of reminiscences, entitled *Jibansmriti*. On 20 September 1878, he accompanied his brother Satyendranath and sailed to England for the first time. He was 17 years old then and travelled by train from Italy through Paris to London. We get glimpses of his trip from the letters he wrote home, which were later published under the title *Yurop Probasir Patra* (Letters from a Sojourner in Europe). Tagore was to later travel extensively all over Europe, meeting some of the greatest minds of his times. He went to the United States on four visits, lecturing across the length and breadth of the country. He attended a seminar in Canada in 1929 and, in the winter of 1924, he spent a few months in Argentina. In Asia he travelled to Burma, Malaysia, Java and Siam in 1927 and to Persia and Iraq in 1932. He visited Japan three times and, in 1924, he toured China. He also travelled to Ceylon twice. One must keep in mind that Rabindranath travelled during a period when air travel was not so common. Except for a short trip from London to Paris and the flight to Bushire, he went by train, boat and motor car, which could often be pretty hectic and tiring.

During these travels to all parts of the world he often wrote back letters or kept a travel diary. These writings make pleasant, light reading at

one level and at the same time much information can be gleaned from these pages; he offered rare insights into some of the present problems plaguing the world. Rabindranath's travel literature is a genre apart and is very popular in Bengali. Some of them have already been translated into English for the benefit of a pan-Indian and global readership while there are several others still waiting to be translated. Some of the texts available are *Yurop Yatrir Diary* (second trip to England, 1890); *Pather Sanchoy* (Gleanings of the Road; third trip to England, 1912-13); *Japanyatri* (first trip to Japan, 1916); *Paschim Yatrir Diary* (trip to South America, 1924-25); *Java Jatrir Patra* (trip to Java and Bali, 1927); *Russiar Chithi* (trip to Russia, 1930); and *Parasya-Yatri* (journey to Persia and Iraq, 1932).

Rabindranath's travelogues and travels have to be evaluated in a larger perspective, the internationalist that he was. A person much ahead of his times, he wanted to strengthen the fundamental conditions of world peace through the establishment of free communication of ideas between the East and the West.



Somdatta Mandal
Professor and Head of the Department of English and Other Modern European Languages, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan.

COMPENDIUM

THE KING OF THE DARK CHAMBER
Rabindranath Tagore

FIREFLIES
Rabindranath Tagore

Fruit Gathering
Rabindranath Tagore

Gitanjali
Rabindranath Tagore

Malini
Rabindranath Tagore

Nationalism
Rabindranath Tagore

Red Oleanders
Rabindranath Tagore

RELIGION OF MAN
RABINDRANATH TAGORE

Sacrifice
Rabindranath Tagore

The Present Moon
Rabindranath Tagore

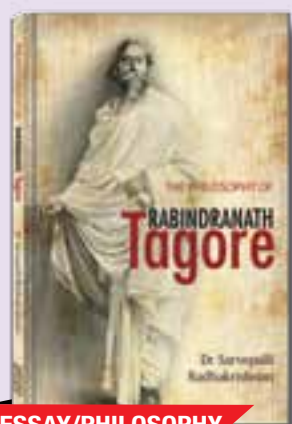
The Crown
Rabindranath Tagore

THE FUGITIVE
RABINDRANATH TAGORE

Rabindranath Tagore Words of the Master

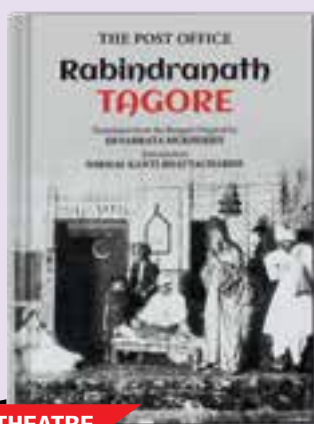
“The greatness of these books remains unchanged even after the lapse of a century and their appeal is as strong as ever” – DNA

A set of 12 books by Rabindranath Tagore, consisting of five plays, five poetry collections and two books of essays, available in a beautiful gift pack. These affordable, slim books reach out to book lovers the world over; their portability helps ensure that Tagore’s works will be read by all ages. This compendium includes the Tagore classic, *Gitanjali*. These books are all the more special as they have been translated by the Master himself.



ESSAY/PHILOSOPHY

This book is an attempt to interpret Tagore’s philosophy in the light of its own fundamental principles. It is written by Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, the second President of India (1962 to 1967).



THEATRE

Translated from the Bengali original by Devabrata Mukherjee, this is a 1912 play by Tagore. It revolves around Amal, a child confined to his adopted uncle’s home by an incurable disease.



AUTOBIOGRAPHY

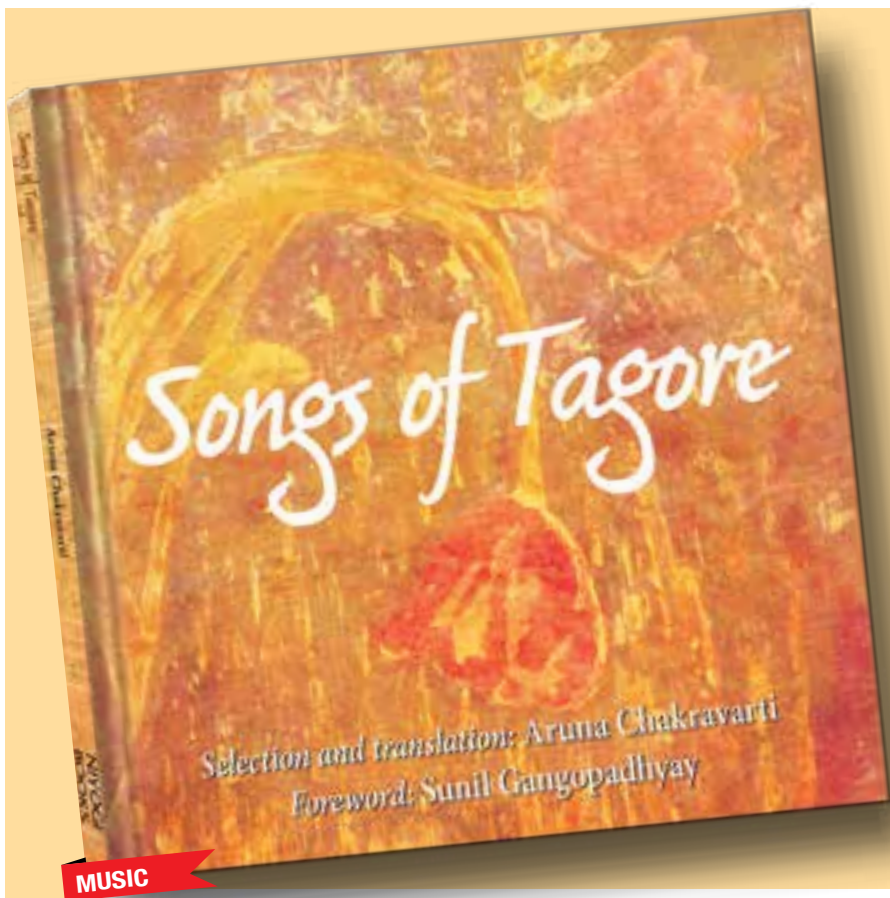
An engaging book that presents the facts of Tagore’s early life in Kolkata. It also reflects on nearly every aspect of human life ranging from education to linguistics, music to poetry and so on.



ESSAY

An insight into Tagore’s perception of the different facets of western life and the diverse philosophical issues that crossed his mind as he journeys from one continent to another.

3 | CELEBRATING TAGORE



MUSIC

This publication of 112 select songs of Tagore is primarily for those who have no access to the original language of the poet, but enjoy listening to his songs and would like to understand them. 'Though famous the world over as a poet, Rabindranath Tagore was no less remarkable as a music maker. Appropriately the Nobel Award was for *Gitanjali* which means an offering of songs and is indeed such. Tagore's poetry is rich with music and his music no less rich with poetry. To appreciate his music, known as Rabindra Sangeet, one must understand the poetry of the words' – Krishna Kripalani



TRANSLATOR

Aruna Chakravarti

Well-known academic, writer and translator and has contributed widely to national and international journals. She is also the recipient of several prestigious awards, including the Vaitalik Award, the Sahitya Akademi Translation Prize and the Sarat Puraskar.

Devotion

I have sung many songs for you
but asked for no return.

If your memory holds them no longer
I will not question why.

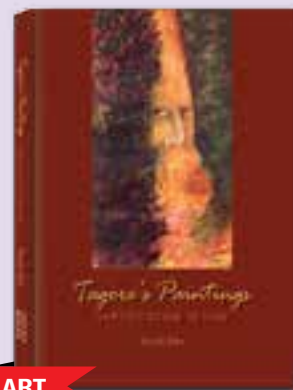
When the star of the evening rises
on the shore of the twilit sea,
when I fade away from your gathering;
when I cease to be ...

then these few strains of melody
the fruits of a life time's care,
I shall offer to you my lord
upon the darkening air.

You have sung many songs for me.
How can you help but remember?
They will come to your mind oh poet!
on rain washed monsoon eves ...

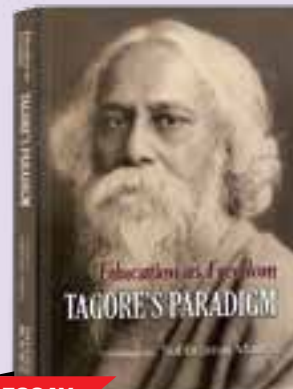
and the sweet breezes of springtime.
Yet my wounded spirit murmurs ...
Can you forget the one whose soul
you've lured away with song?

25



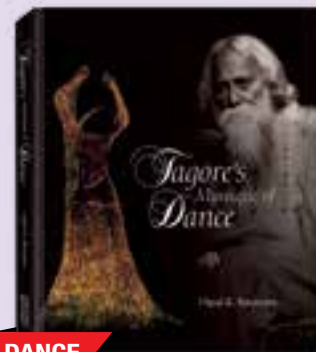
ART

This book outlines the creative process behind Tagore's experiments with ink and colour, paving the way towards modernism.



ESSAY

This comprehensive anthology presents memorable essays and speeches, which chart the complicated growth and development of Tagore's vision.



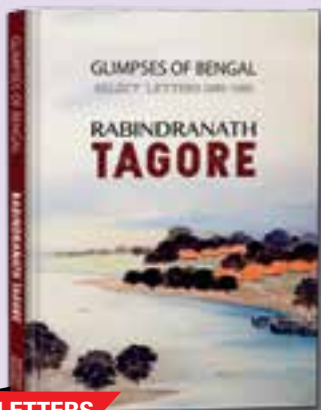
DANCE

This fascinating book documents the legacy of Tagore's dance. It also looks back at the treasure-trove of his music and the panoply of his paintings.



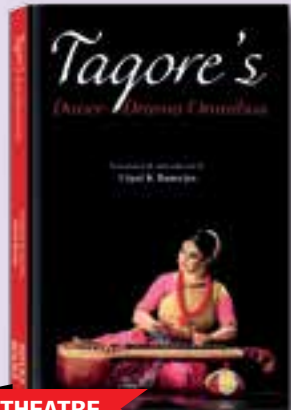
BIOGRAPHY

A chronicle of the poet's contributions in the context of the period to which he belonged, bringing into light those incidents, anecdotes and issues which have often been overlooked.



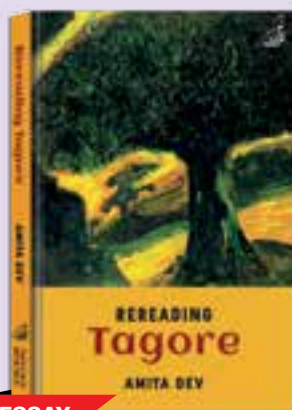
LETTERS

A collection of letters written during 1885-95 by Tagore, who felt that the writing of letters other than business ones was a delightful necessity.



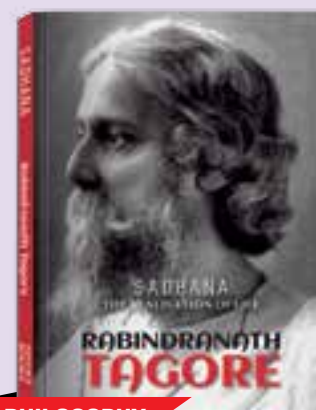
THEATRE

The six dance-dramas translated in this book cover a culmination of Tagore's dance-interest in the latter's most effulgent manifestation.



ESSAY

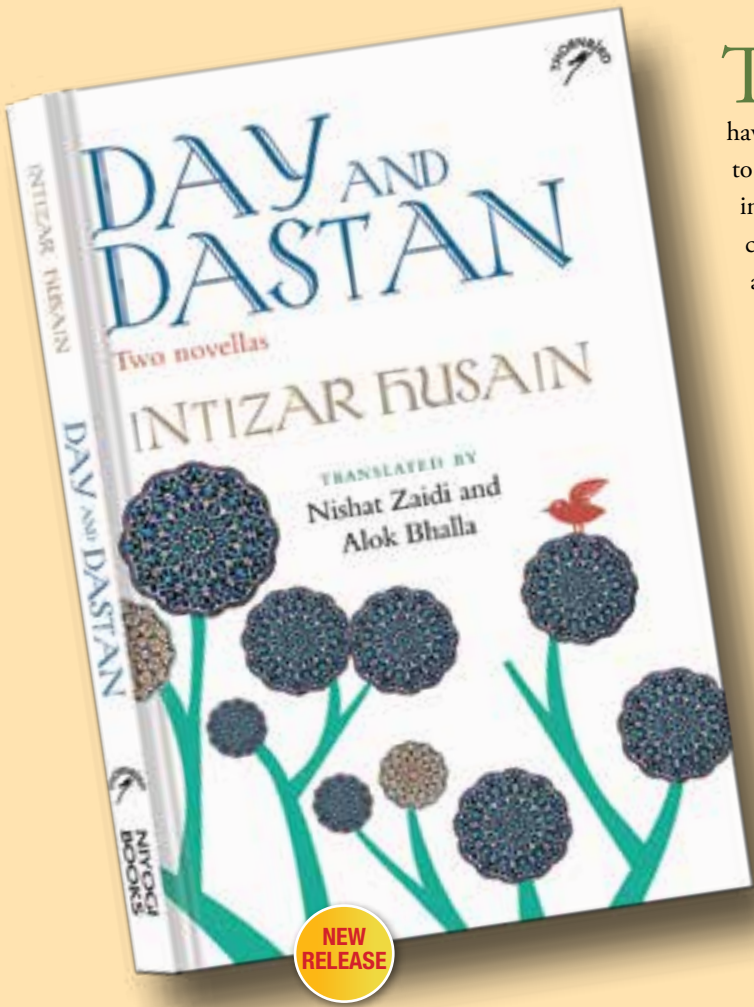
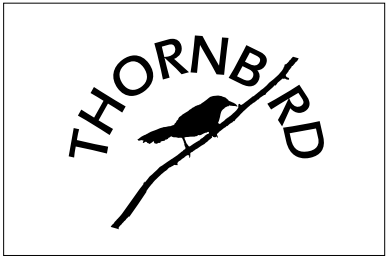
A look at Tagore through his texts. It reads his novels as a crucible of our time and his plays are taken up briefly but succinctly. That he is above all a poet is amply illustrated by his songs as well.



PHILOSOPHY

A collection of spiritual discourses given by Tagore to the boys in his school, in Bolpur, West Bengal. It is a book that needs to be read slowly, as it contains an immense amount of wisdom.

“It is normally supposed that something always gets lost in translation; I cling, obstinately to the notion that something can also be gained,” wrote Salman Rushdie in ‘Imaginary Homelands: Essays and Criticism 1981-1991’, a viewpoint that we at Niyogi Books endorse completely.



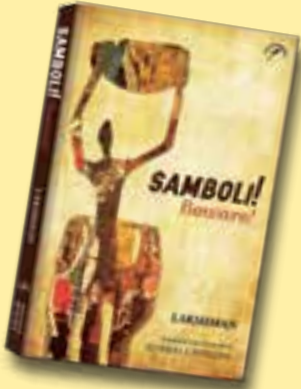
Two novellas, *Day and Dastan*, bring out the versatility of the author. *Day*, a realistic story, is a meditation on the cruellest of events to have scarred our times—migrations. When people are forced to move to new geographies, they only recall a mix of uncanny facts, streets lost in sad nostalgias, fantasies of lovers and parables of simple things. In contrast, *Dastan* is a traditional tale of wonder. Its language is lyrical and exaggerated; its narrative, obsessed with action, weaves dreams and adventure, heroism and mercy. It is located in a time when mysterious forces cause havoc in nature.

TRANSLATORS
Nishat Zaidi is Professor, Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. A scholar, critic and translator, she has a number of published works to her credit.
Alok Bhalla has published extensively on literature, translation and politics. He was recently a Fellow at Mahatma Gandhi's Sabarmati Ashram and at the Institute for Advanced Study at Nantes, France.



Intizar Husain
Was given the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Lahore Literary Festival in 2012 and was conferred the French Officer de L'ordre des Arts et des Letters in 2014.

FORTHCOMING



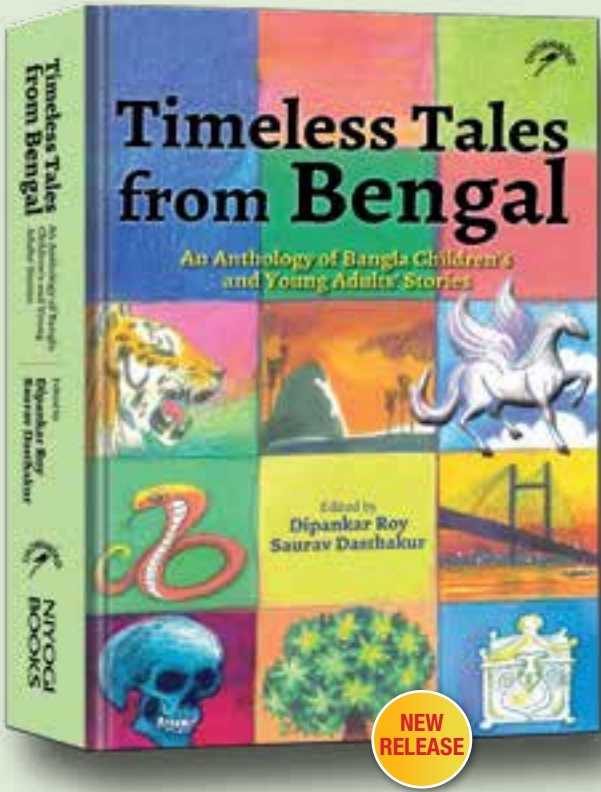
Manu, the ancient lawgiver, decreed that people belonging to the untouchable castes had to hold a pole with bells tied to one end and pound it on the ground at every step. They had to call out, 'Samboli! Samboli!'



Set against a rural backdrop of 20th-century Bengal, a conflict of cultures is at play in this novel—ancient Hindu versus the modern—influenced by western ideas.



A story within a story, this book is about two women whose lives run in parallel, though they do not know each other. They dream of a world without walls, but invisible barriers surround them.



This unique anthology of 34 translated stories invites the reader to a feast that offers most of the sub-genres in the realm—fantasy, folk tales, animal stories, comic tales, detective fiction, adventure and suspense stories, 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. Between its covers, the volume presents an enjoyable and fairly comprehensive picture of Bangla children's and young adults' short fiction to the non-Bengali readership for the very first time in the history of publishing.



Dipankar Roy
Teaches at the Department of English, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan and has translated Bengali poetry into English and vice versa.



Saurav Dasthakur
Assistant Professor of English at Visva-Bharati, his areas of research include modernist literature, children's literature, culture studies and translation.



This is a love story of Shekharnath and Lalita, set in early twentieth-century Bengal. Lalita, a 13-year-old orphan lives with the family of her uncle Gurucharan who is forced to borrow money from his neighbour Nabin Roy. The story takes an unexpected turn when Lalita visits her old house.



TRANSLATOR
Subhansu Maitra, Superintendent, Publication, Netaji Subhas Open University, Kolkata, is a distinguished translator who translates modern Bengali literature into English.



This novel revolutionised Bengali prose writing and many consider it to be the first modern novel in an Indian language. Set during the reign of Emperor Akbar, the story is about the romance between a young Rajput commander of the Mughal army and the daughter of a minor ruler. Prevailing social norms barred love across caste and religion.

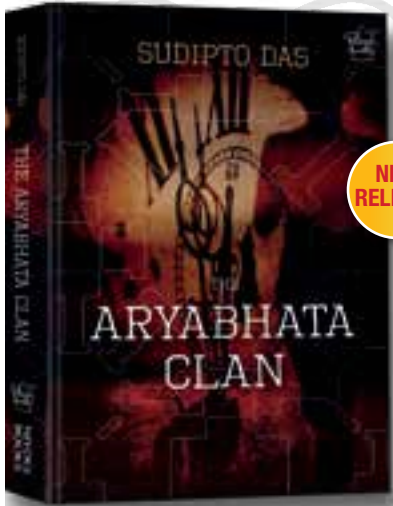
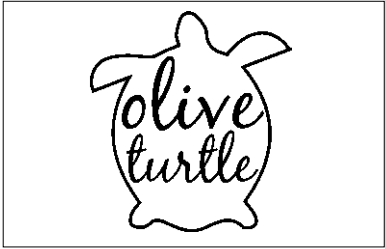
TRANSLATOR
Sunanda Krishnamurty is interested in art and art history and is an active member of the Geneva Writers' Group and has published several short stories in its literary publication, *Offshoots*.



TRANSLATOR
Amrita Nilanjana is a theatre critic and short story writer; she is fascinated by artisan communities and has launched a silent campaign to return to these artisans their rightful place in society.

5 | OUR IMPRINT: OLIVE TURTLE

"I have always held the old-fashioned opinion that the primary object of work of fiction should be to tell a story," stated Wilkie Collins. A story well told, with characters that come alive through the pages, is what we at Niyogi Books present in our amazing titles.

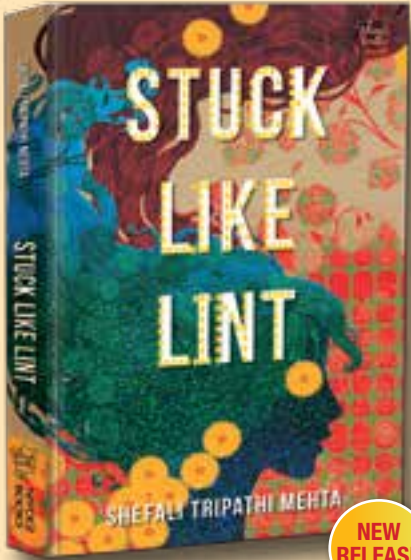


NEW RELEASE



Sudipto Das
A successful entrepreneur, who co-founded two startups, he is also an author, musician, columnist and a speaker at TED events.

A thriller on the Islamic State that has spread its tentacles in India, penetrating stealthily into media, politics and the academia. The mastermind in this story is Shamsur Ali, a physicist from Bangladesh.

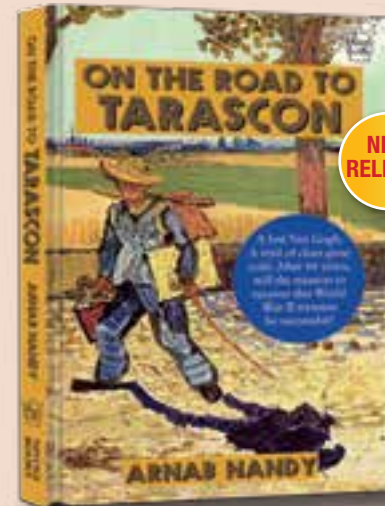


NEW RELEASE



Shefali Tripathi Mehta
Editorial consultant for e-learning courseware and writes on social issues, travel, parenting and disability awareness in newspapers and journals, she volunteers with the charity, Arushi, and curates Gond art to support tribal artists.

When Trisha disappears suddenly, complaining of a writer's block, Debika, her editor for years, is left distressed—their was not just a writer-editor association but a bond of friendship and trust. Soon afterwards, the surprising news of her award-winning collection hits the headlines. As Debika braces herself to read the stories, she knows she must let go of her resentment. What she is not prepared for, however, is the shocking revelation that awaits her—a dark secret that will unravel itself in the most mysterious ways. **A nuanced novella with a twist in the tale;** this is 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 her heart's desire in the most unexpected ways.

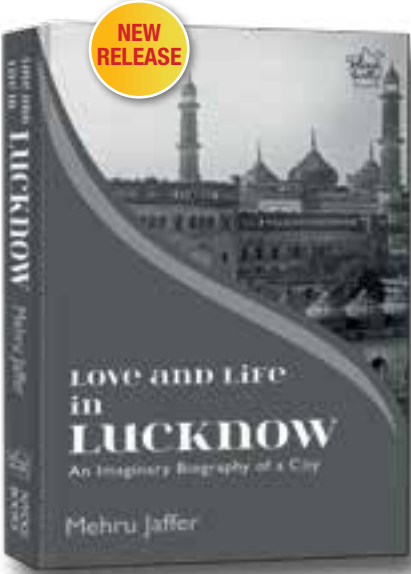


NEW RELEASE



Arnab Nandy
A journalist with *The Telegraph*, he primarily edits news stories and sometimes writes on travel.

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**. A suspense story that will keep you on the edge of your seat.

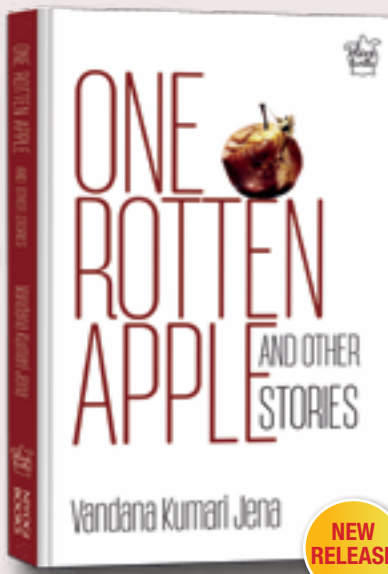


NEW RELEASE



Mehru Jaffer
A Lucknow-based journalist, she has taught Islam in South Asia and Gender and Religion in India.

A tribute to the colourful citizens of the city. **The soul of this volume of stories from Lucknow is the voice of ordinary people.** A poetry-spouting vegetable vendor is the protagonist in one chapter. In another chapter, Naresh, the rickshaw man, struggles to follow his dream of playing Laila on stage. There is a midnight journey into the abode of the 'Baba of the Bottles', after which Bano Bua takes to the road on a citywide search for the elusive Tamboli Begum. Bano Bua is free-spirited and lives on her own terms. And because she is indomitable, she is able to hold together all the other characters in this enchanting collection full of history and imagination.

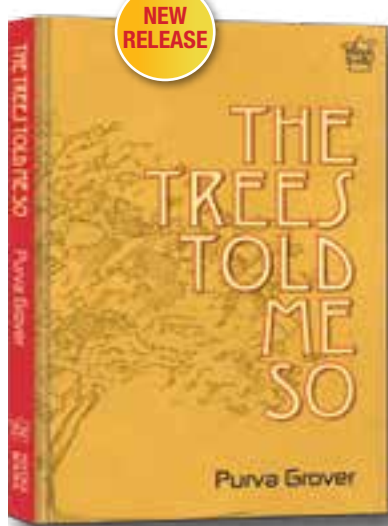


NEW RELEASE



Vandana Kumari Jena
A retired officer of the Indian Administrative Service, she writes novels, short stories and poems.

This collection of short stories draws upon the vulnerabilities of women as well as their strengths, and **celebrates women's various shades of grey**. "Frailty, thy name is woman," said Hamlet, and indeed, women, stereotyped as being simple, kind and compassionate, lead multilayered lives. The stories, which often end with a twist, will resonate with people of all genders.



NEW RELEASE



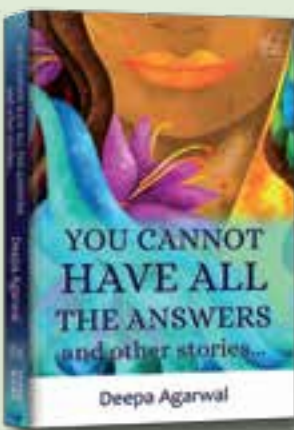
Purva Grover
A journalist, poet, playwright and stage director, she is the founder-editor of *The Indian Trumpet*, a quarterly digital magazine for Indian expats.

A collection of short stories that draws **a poignant picture of love, life and loss**, with an honest voice. The common thread running through the stories is that nature (read: a tree) stands witness like an old soul—full of wisdom and compassion.

FORTHCOMING



Claudia is a young Goan village girl who is clever, charming and ambitious. With two older sisters, unmarried because their reputation is spoiled by insensible premarital affairs, **Claudia is the family's only hope**. Her arranged marriage could restore honour within their conservative community.

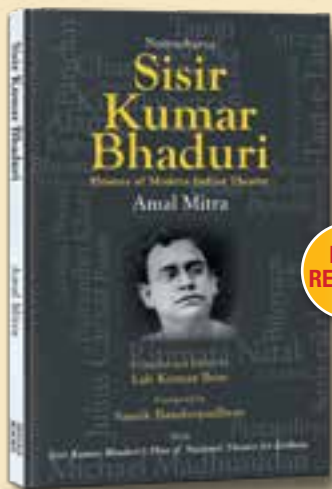


A collection of **15 short stories** that offers a glimpse into the conflicting emotions that define the human condition and portrays characters who attempt to seek answers to a variety of existential questions. The narratives deal with issues such as trauma, sexuality, prejudice and family relations.



Set in Kolkata and Delhi, the stories in this collection deal with **love and betrayal, dogma and superstition**, sexuality and thwarted desires. The characters belong to the world of urban, aspirational India where snobbery goes hand-in-hand with class and religious conflicts.

“You cannot open a book without learning something,” observed the wise Confucius. This imprint of Niyogi Books engages readers, taking them on a journey that unfolds a fascinating world of wonder and beauty, where there is so much to marvel at.



NEW RELEASE

Amal Mitra

An eminent literary personality who was well acquainted with the renowned writers and actors of the Bengali stage and possessed an amazing knowledge of 19th-century Bengali theatre.

Sisir Kumar Bhaduri was **not only an actor and theatre director, but also excelled as an eminent playwright.**

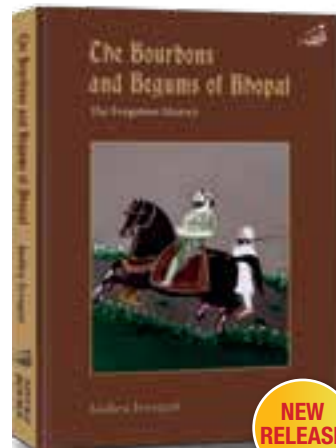
He was a keen student of English and ancient Greek literature and later became a popular professor of English at Metropolitan College (presently Vidyasagar College), Kolkata. His merit and calibre in theatre could be foreseen from his keen amateurish interest in Bengali theatre in his early career. In 1959 he was awarded the Padma Bhushan, India's third-highest civilian honour, by the Government of India.

In this **historical account with a personal flavour**, Indira Iyengar, the daughter of Magdaline Bourbon, records her mother's memories, traces the fascinating history of the Bourbons of Bhopal and reminds us of life in a romantic and swashbuckling time. The Bourbons' bravery and administrative acumen helped in the development of Bhopal, where their deeds are remembered even today.



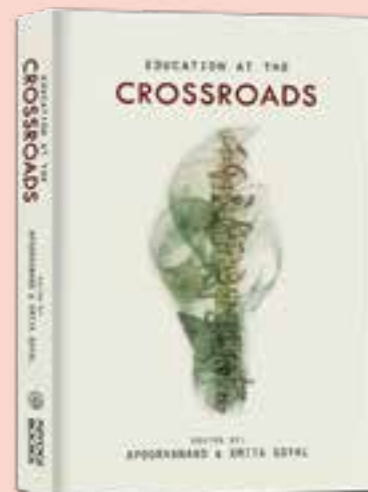
Indira Iyengar

A social activist and founder of Mahashakti Seva Kendra, an organisation formed to help underprivileged women become economically independent.

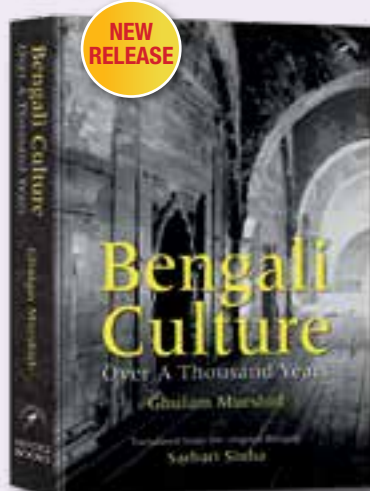


NEW RELEASE

FORTHCOMING



This volume asks a fundamental question: What is education? While there can be no one answer, the contributors provide a clear understanding of the current state of education in India, which stands at a crossroads. **A common theme running through the book is the recognition that education has to teach us to think and question.** If this is the imperative, education must take cognisance of disparities in incomes and social status, the heterogeneity of culture, religion, language and lived reality.



NEW RELEASE

TRANSLATED FROM BENGALI

This book is **the first non-partisan and holistic discussion of Bengali culture.**

Written for the general reader, 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.



Ghulam Murshid

A former professor of Bengali, he has written on subjects ranging from Bengali literature to women's studies.



TRANSLATOR

Sarbari Sinha has worked with the print media and has published translations of Bengali short stories in various magazines.



NEW RELEASE



Subhashis Das

An explorer and independent researcher dealing with megaliths and India's hitherto unknown tribal past and is recognised for the discovery of applied astronomy in several megaliths in Jharkhand.

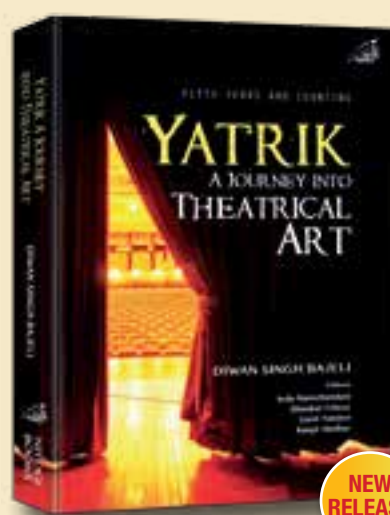
Lavishly illustrated and cogently written, this book **elucidates megaliths and contends that their presence across the country is a testimony to India's tribal prehistory.** It showcases the archaeoastronomical megalithic temples of Jharkhand, indicating that the tribes were cognisant of mathematics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

A group of travellers, yatris with a passion for theatre, registered themselves as Yatrik in 1964 as a bilingual repertory company. Having staged almost 300 plays both in India and abroad, held dramatic readings and conducted several theatre workshops, **Yatrik has established its unique presence in the history of theatre as one of the longest-existing theatre groups.** Hundreds of performers have walked the stage under the Yatrik banner, and shall continue to do so. This is the story of the journey in the words of the yatris.



Diwan Singh Bajeli

A trade union and cultural activist, he has been writing on theatre for four decades. His reviews and interviews of eminent theatre and film personalities have appeared in almost all the leading national newspapers.



NEW RELEASE

TRANSLATED FROM BENGALI

Illustrated with old photographs, **this memoir is a valuable historical record**, narrated in a flowing literary style. It is Krishna's story of her childhood, adolescence and young adulthood. It vividly describes Bengal and India in the 1930s and 1940s. The East Bengal heritage and the life of the Calcutta intelligentsia at its prime also feature prominently in this book.



TRANSLATOR

Sumantra Bose is Professor of International and Comparative Politics at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE).

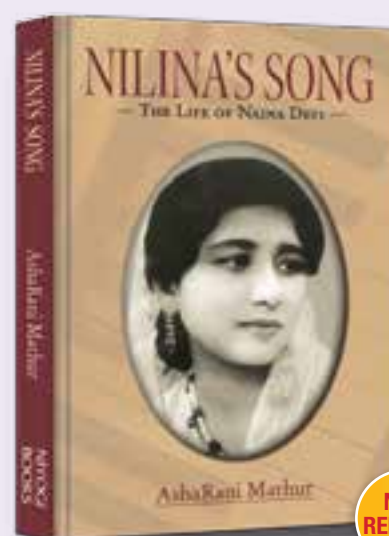


NEW RELEASE



Krishna Bose

Was elected Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) three times from the Jadavpur constituency in Greater Calcutta. From 1999 to 2004 she chaired the parliamentary standing committee on external affairs. Krishna has published many books in Bengali and a memoir of her political life in English.



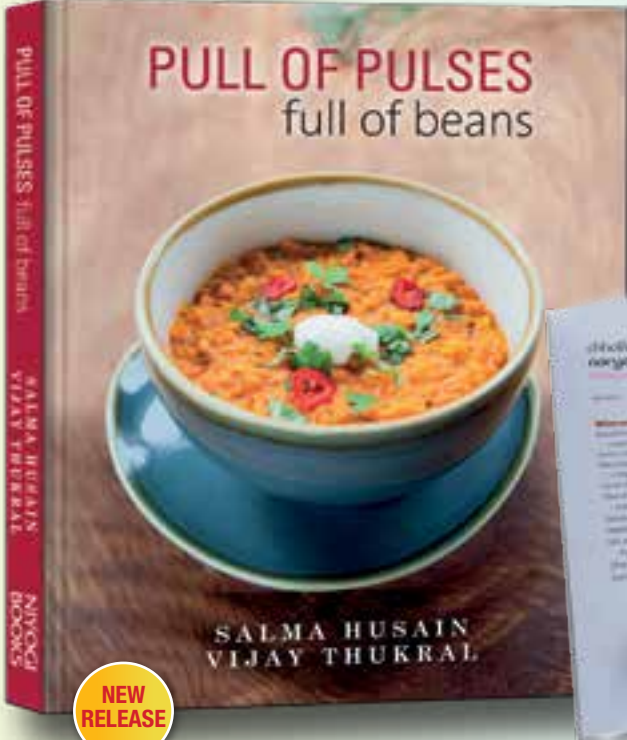
NEW RELEASE

This is an engaging biography of the musician, Naina Devi, whose extraordinary life took her through fundamental changes of environment and fortune. Each new turning point reflected significant shifts in history as well as geography. 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.

AshaRani Mathur

is a freelance writer and editor who made the switch from marketing to writing when she was associated with, and wrote for, the former inflight magazines, *Swagat* and *Namaskar*, and later edited publications for the Festival of India.







PULL OF PULSES
full of beans


SALMA HUSAIN
VIJAY THUKRAL

NEW RELEASE


This book is a **tribute to the rich and awesome diversity of Indian gastronomic traditions**. The recipes include not only daal curries but also daal-based snacks, savouries and sweets from the various regions and communities of India. There are also several international lentil recipes. A deep knowledge of world cuisine and fine understanding of flavours have helped in raising the bar of one of the simplest fares of the world.

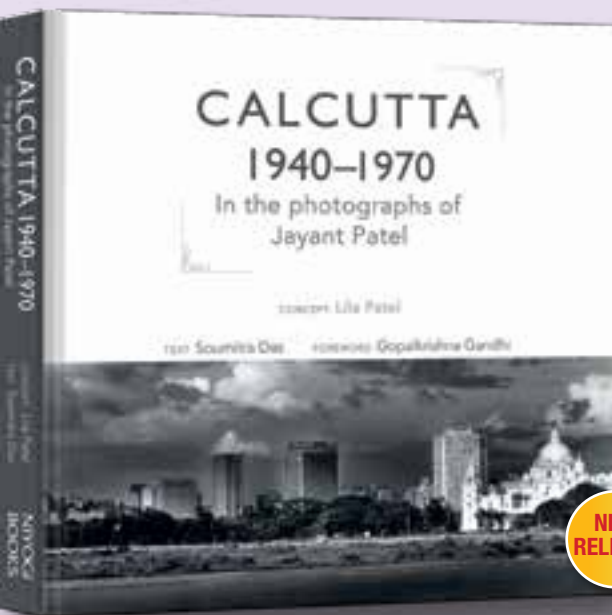



Salma Husain
A passionate cook, food historian and a Persian scholar who has worked with the Celebrity Chef, Gary Rhodes, for a British television serial.



Vijay Kumar Thukral
Executive Chef, India International Centre, Delhi, has been serving the global hospitality industry for more than 35 years and the IIC since 1988.






CALCUTTA
1940-1970
In the photographs of Jayant Patel


NEW RELEASE

This book **presents glimpses of political life before and after the partition of a Calcutta that was once the Second City of the Empire**. It offers an outstanding collection of black-and-white photographs, depicting a wide swathe of the city and its various neighbourhoods. The photographs go back to the glory days of Bombay Photo Stores when it was a prominent landmark of Park Street. As the official photographer of Government House, today's Raj Bhavan, the author documented history in the making.

Lila Patel
Founded Flora Enterprise, which supplied plants and flower arrangements to the corporate world in Calcutta till about 2007.



Soumitra Das
A journalist involved with the visual arts and heritage issues, he has written a history of the Indian Museum and a walking guide to the streets of Calcutta.





PC Sorcar
The Maharaja of MAGIC

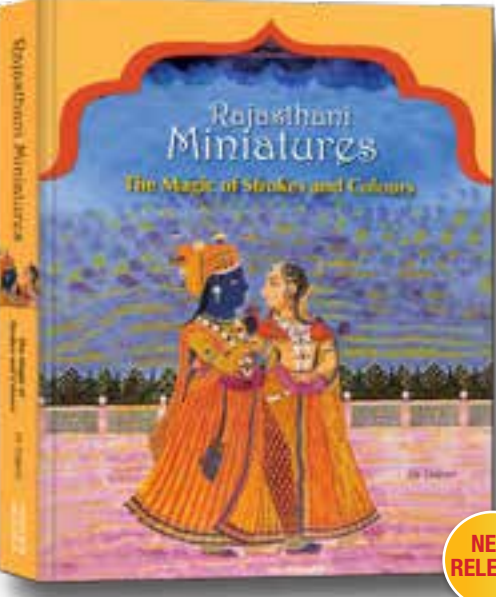
PC Sorcar (Jr.)

NEW RELEASE

PC Sorcar is **one of the greatest magicians of the twentieth century**. He single-handedly revived a languishing Indian art and brought it to the world stage. This book is a pictorial account of his metamorphosis into the Maharaja of Magic from very humble beginnings. Written by his son, who was once his apprentice and now carrying on the proud tradition, this is a **deeply personal view of the life and times of a towering figure**. Photographs culled from various sources throw light on the magician as well as the man behind the scene. **Rare posters, newspaper articles, cartoons, family photos, private papers, facsimiles of honours and awards add to the richness of the work**, thereby providing the reader a closer look at Sorcar, whom the greats in his fraternity rated as the 'Greatest Ever'.

PC Sorkar (Jr.)
Stage name given to Prodig Chandra Sorcar by his father, he is the second son of PC Sorcar, the Father of Modern Indian Magic. He started assisting his father on stage while still in his teens. An author of close to 20 books on magic, he holds an MSc degree in Applied Psychology and has completed his Phd from Calcutta University.






Rajasthani Miniatures
The Magic of Strokes and Colours

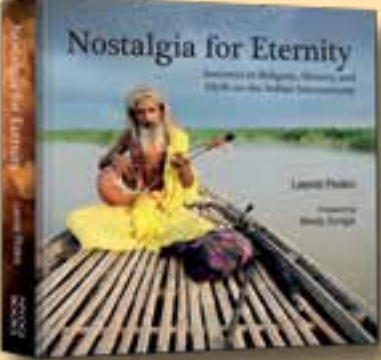
NEW RELEASE

This book reflects the uniqueness of Rajasthani art, where shades and strokes come together in what almost appears as a divine interplay to create magic. The **detailed narrative and exquisite photographs** offer a glimpse into this art that has spanned several millenia.

Dr Daljeet
Art historian and archaeologist, former curator and head of the Department of Painting in the National Museum, New Delhi, she is now Consultant, Sports Authority of India (SAI), New Delhi, engaged in its museum project.




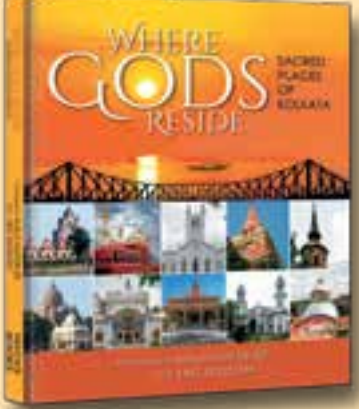
FORTHCOMING



Nostalgia for Eternity
Journey in Religion, History, and Myth in the Indian Subcontinent

Jayant Patel
Illustrated by Manoj Singh

The culmination of five years' travel with Indian pilgrims, this book is a **stunning visual poem about the timeless human search for transcendence and ultimate truth**.

WHERE GODS RESIDE
SACRED PLACES OF INDIA

In this book, **Kolkata's unique spiritual heritage is presented through splendid photographs** of its diverse places of worship, which are symbols of the city's composite culture.



Dance Theatre of India
Creating New Aesthetics and Culture

Katia Légeret-Manochaya

NEW RELEASE

TRANSLATED FROM FRENCH

A book in which the author explores the various rasas of Bharatanatyam and other dance forms. Browsing through the pages, **the reader is transported to a world of dance and drama through the various expressions of the artists in colourful costumes, narrating stories from all over the world**. Like the art forms it discusses, the book is a transcultural piece of work in its very essence.

Katia Légeret-Manochaya
Professor of Performing Arts and Aesthetics in the Department of Theatre at University Paris 8 and Director of the Research Laboratory EA 1573, part of the doctoral school EDESTA: Aesthetics, Sciences and Technologies of the Arts.



BOOK LAUNCHES

Rajput Arms & Armour



L-R: Bikash D Niyogi, Kami Singh Jasol, William Dalrymple and Robert Elgood at the book launch held at **Bikaner House, New Delhi.**

Celebrating a Landmark



Tultul De Niyogi lighting the lamp for the 13-year commemorative event with HS Shivaprakash, Harish Trivedi, Rajeew Chandran, Geeta Chandran, Rakshanda Jalil and Bikash D Niyogi.

The Aryabhata Clan



L-R: Bikash D Niyogi, Sudipto Das, Anubha Kakroo and Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharjee at the book launch held at the **World Book Fair 2018, New Delhi.**

Forms of Devotion



Martin Gurvich presenting the two-volume set to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, flanked by Sushma Bahl (extreme right) and Archana Sapra.

Ritwik Ghatak: Five Plays

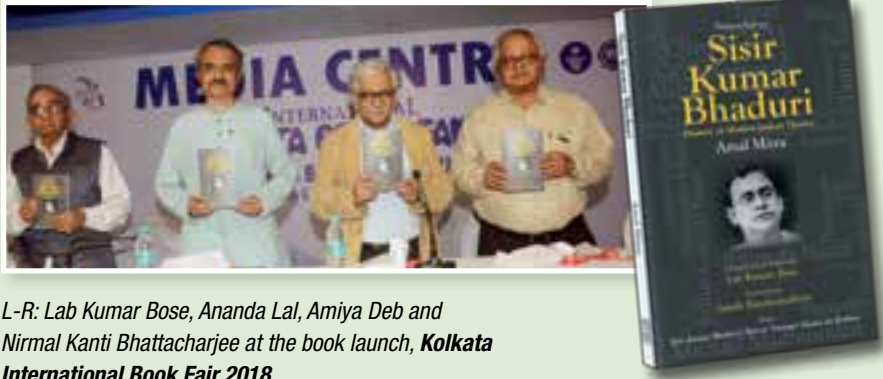


L-R: Samik Bandopadhyay, Ratnottama Sengupta, Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharjee and Sucharita Ghosh at the book launch during the **Kolkata International Book Fair 2018.**

PC Sorcar (Jr) signing his book at the Niyogi Books' Stall during the **Kolkata International Book Fair, 2018.** Looking on are Bikash D Niyogi and Ms Jayashree Sorcar.



Natyacharya Sisir Kumar Bhaduri



L-R: Lab Kumar Bose, Ananda Lal, Amiya Deb and Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharjee at the book launch, **Kolkata International Book Fair 2018.**



Balkrishna Doshi has won the Pritzker Architecture Prize, **the first Indian to receive this award.** His article, 'The Indian Incarnation', published in *Le Corbusier Rediscovered: Chandigarh and Beyond*, gives an insight into him and his guru, *Le Corbusier*.

Calcutta 1940–1970



L-R: Lila Patel, Victor Banerjee, Nandita Pal Choudhury, Soumitra Das and Kishore Bhimani at the book launch, **Kolkata Literary Festival 2018.**

Applauding the Winners

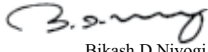


Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharjee presenting the awards to the **Muse India Translation Award winners** during the **Hyderabad Literary Fest 2018.**

Find the facts

- 1. What is the name of Tagore's first complete geetinatya?
- 2. Who was his first Hindustani classical music teacher?
- 3. Most of Tagore's short stories were written during his stay and travels in erstwhile East Bengal of undivided India. Name the region where Tagore spent his days writing them.
- 4. Tagore was particularly close to one of his brothers' wives. She later committed suicide. Who was she?

FORM IV

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| 1. Place of publication | : New Delhi |
| 2. Periodicity of publication | : Quarterly |
| 3. Printer's name | : Bikash D Niyogi |
| Nationality | : Indian |
| Address | : D-78, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase I, New Delhi 110 020 |
| 4. Publisher's name | : Bikash D Niyogi |
| Nationality | : Indian |
| Address | : D-78, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase I, New Delhi 110 020 |
| 5. Editor's name | : Trisha De Niyogi |
| Nationality | : Indian |
| Address | : Block D, Building No 77, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase I, New Delhi 110 020 |
| 6. Names and addresses of individuals who own the newspaper and partners or shareholders holding more than one per cent of the total capital | : Bikash D Niyogi D-78, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase I, New Delhi 110 020 Email: niyogibooks@gmail.com |
| Shareholders holding more than one per cent of the total capital of the owner company: | |
| 1. Bikash D Niyogi | |
| 2. Mrs Tultul D Niyogi | |
| I, Bikash D Niyogi, hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief. | |
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| Bikash D Niyogi Signature of publisher | |
| Dt: 31.03.2018 | |

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