



राष्ट्रीय पुस्तक न्यास, भारत
शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार
NATIONAL BOOK TRUST, INDIA
Ministry of Education, Government of India

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Press Release

Chinar Book Festival to Conclude on August 25 with Grand Celebrations

The nine-day Chinar Book Festival, at SKICC on the banks of Dal Lake, will come to a grand conclusion on August 25. The Book festival in Srinagar, will end with a vibrant cultural program from 3:00 PM to 6:30 PM. The closing ceremony will feature a Mushaira (poetry session), followed by folk dances and a performance by the renowned musical band, Kabir Cafe.

On the eighth day of the festival, a large number of book enthusiasts gathered early in the morning. Readers were seen browsing and purchasing books at various stalls, while children and young adults enjoyed taking selfies and interacting with authors. Between 11:00 AM and 12:30 PM, schoolchildren were entertained by storyteller Shivani Kanodia, learned Vedic mathematics from mathematician Vivek Kumar, and participated in a Mandala Art workshop.

The afternoon featured a musical concert, where attendees remained immersed in the world of books until late in the evening. At 4:00 PM, popular young singer Sunil Kumar Gurjar, also known as Rahagir, captivated the audience with his music. His performance added a fresh vibrancy to the event. The evening continued with memorable performances by renowned filmmaker and singer Vishal Bhardwaj, along with singer Rekha Bhardwaj, making it a special experience for all present.

Kashmir from Every Perspective

During Saturday's Chinar Talk, a discussion was held with Kashmir's well-known radio jockey Nasir, photographer Rupali Talan, and podcaster Anjum Sharma. The session was moderated by RJ Rafiq. Rupali Talan expressed her pride in being part of the festival, sharing her unique experiences of capturing the beauty of Kashmir through her lens. Anjum Sharma emphasized the importance of understanding Kashmir's history, culture, and traditions through reading, noting that while social media has its place, books remain essential for truly grasping the essence of the region.

Shad Ramzan, a respected professor of Kashmiri literature, also attended the festival on Saturday. He spoke about the history of Kashmiri poetry and the evolution it has undergone over time. Dr. S. N. Pandit discussed the importance of discerning truth in what we read, stressing the need to connect with Kashmir's deeper history.

Dr. Amit Wanchoo, a key member of the festival's organising committee, praised the event, stating, "This festival is much more than a literary gathering. It reflects the spirit of learning and cultural pride in Kashmir. In a world that often feels lonely, this book festival unites us all, inspiring writers, readers, and thinkers from across the country to engage in meaningful dialogue. By fostering a love for books and ideas, we are preserving our rich literary heritage and sowing seeds of hope and understanding for future generations."



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Special Events for the Youth on the Last Day:

The final day of the Chinar Book Festival promises to be a memorable one, especially for the youth. Retired Brigadier L. C. Patnaik will be conducting a career counseling session on careers in the Civil Services, followed by a discussion on opportunities and challenges for the youth in the government sector. There will also be an interactive session with Surat Singh on the poetry compilation "Mountain Musings". Visitors will also have the opportunity to interact with Cyber expert Mr. AmitDubey on the topic of Cyber Security and Artificial Intelligence.

The Literary stage Chinar Talks will feature Sunanda Sharma, Krishna Langu, and Pandit Abhay Rustam Sapori, who will discuss the rich heritage of Jammu and Kashmir in performing arts. Children will also have a chance to showcase their talents through an Open Mic event, Quiz Competition, and everyone's favorite storytelling session. The cultural stage will feature a performance by the popular band, Kabir Café.

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