

NBT newsletter

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PICK OF THE MONTH



Groundwater Resources of India
Subhajyoti Das
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LITERATURE AND CINEMA



“It would be heartening if we annually organise a function to celebrate films that have been adopted from literature,” said Shri Farooque Sheikh, well-known film personality. Shri Sheikh was speaking at the launch of NBT’s calendar 2012 based on cinema and literature, on 6 January 2012 at India International Centre, New Delhi.

Looking at the unique relationship between cinema and literature, Shri Sheikh said, “the involvement of literature in cinema goes down the ages. Several films have been based on our ancient epics and also on our literary works.” Coming down strongly on the declining content of Indian films and its increasing dependence on gimmicks, he observed that this was due to cinema not turning to good literature. As a result of which “cinema has lost its soul,” he added. In this context the calendar by NBT is a timely one reminding us of an important element in cinema.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri S.M. Khan, Director General, Doordarshan News, expressed concern over the fact that

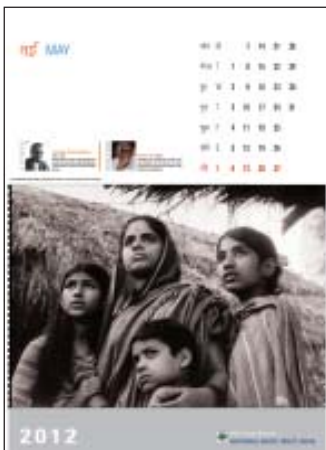
Bollywood was not successful enough in capturing the foreign market. But, according to him, our regional films, particularly those in Malayalam, Tamil, Bengali, Telugu and Marathi are doing well.

Earlier, welcoming the distinguished guests, Shri M.A. Sikandar, Director, NBT, India, said that “the calendar on cinema and literature was conceived keeping in view, ‘Cinema’ as the theme of the 20th New Delhi World Book Fair. We wanted to showcase the relationship of books and cinema which have given us some outstanding films and filmmakers.”



CINEMA & LITERATURE: NBT CALENDAR 2012

Books and cinema have had an enduring relationship. Most often cinema has turned to literature for inspiration, adapting it to a new language and idiom. Such adaptations have given us some of the finest moments in the Indian cinematic tradition. In order to focus on this unique relationship and to commemorate the hundred years of Indian cinema, the National Book Trust, India has chosen 'Cinema' as the theme of the 20th New Delhi World Book Fair 2012. This year, our calendar, on the theme cinema and literature, pays tribute to some well-known films based on literary works, as well as the auteurs whose creative genius realised and translated the literary piece into language of cinema. A collector's edition, the calendar brings to you glimpses of the pervading influence of cinema frozen in the frame of time. This calendar is available for sale at the NBT bookshop, Vasant Kunj for Rs. 50.



VISAKHAPATNAM BOOK FESTIVAL

“Internet, no doubt, makes information available at the click of a button, but it can never be a substitute to books,” said Ms D. Purandeswari, Union Minister of State for Human Resource Development while inaugurating the Visakhapatnam Book Fair at the Golden Jubilee Grounds of the Andhra University. “There is an urgent need to promote reading habit among children lest the onslaught of technology makes them neglect books altogether,” she added.

Organised by the National Book Trust, India the Fair was held from 3 to 11 December 2011 in collaboration with the district administration as well as the Vijayawada Book Festival Society.

Commending NBT’s efforts in



organising the book fair, Ms D. Purandeswari welcomed the Trust’s proposal to set up an NBT Book Promotion Centre in Visakhapatnam. She also suggested making the book fair an annual affair.

Talking about the importance of book-mindedness in the country, Shri Kalipatnam Rama Rao, eminent writer and Sahitya Akademi awardee and Shri K. Srinivas, editor, *Andhra Jyothi* spoke on the need to promote the book reading habit among the youth.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri N. Gopi, Sahitya Akademi awardee, felt there was a dearth of translations from Telugu

to other Indian languages and wanted NBT to address the issue.

The inauguration was presided over by Shri Yarlagadda Lakshmi Prasad, Chairman, AP Hindi Academy and the guest speaker was Shri K. Ramaswamy, President, Vijayawada Book Festival Society.

Earlier, Shri M.A. Sikander, Director, NBT spoke about the various activities of the Trust besides publishing.

Many literary and cultural programmes were held during the Book Fair which was well received by book lovers, students, parents, youth, scholars, litterateurs, and enthusiasts.

The programme was coordinated by Dr Pathipaka Mohan, Telugu editor, NBT.



INDIAN CHILDREN’S LITERATURE TODAY

As part of the series of monthly meetings on children’s literature in Delhi and other places in India, National Centre for Children’s Literature (NCCL), a wing of National Book Trust, India, organised a discussion on Indian Children’s Literature Today at State Resource Centre for Adult Education, Bhubaneswar on 9 January 2012.

Speaking on the occasion Shri Atanu Roy, eminent illustrator, observed that the illustrations in children’s books should please children’s mind. Contradicting the usual allegation that children today do not read books and engage their time in seeing TV or playing computer games, he

emphasised that books with good illustrations do attract the child-reader. He felt that illustrations should be considered at par with the literary content for children.

Prominent speakers on the occasion included Smt. Deepa Agarwal, popular children’s writer; Smt Manisha Choudhry,



Head, Content Development, Pratham Books; Shri Dash Benhur, eminent children’s author from Odisha, Shri Manas Ranjan Samal, Media Coordinator, OPEPA and Editor, *Jhumuka*; and Dr. Harihar Kanungo, Director, Odia Bhasha Pratisthan. The speakers expressed concern over non-availability of adequate reading material for children keeping their changing reading needs in mind. Shri Satyabrata Barik, Director, SRC for Adult Education, Odisha presided over the discussion. The programme was coordinated by Shri Manas Ranjan Mahapatra, Editor, NCCL (NBT).

In pursuance of its literary activities being organized in the North East region of the country to promote books and book reading habit, the National Book Trust, India in collaboration with State Central Library, Imphal and Department of Art & Culture, Government of Manipur, organized the Imphal Book Fair at Hapta Kangjeibung Hockey Ground, Imphal in Manipur from 24 December 2011 to 1 January 2012.



The Fair was inaugurated by Shri Ph. Parijat Singh, Minister of Agriculture, CADA & Labour, Manipur on 24 December 2011. Shri R.K. Jhalajit Singh, noted Manipuri author graced the inaugural function. Besides, Dr. R.K. Nimai Singh, Commissioner (Art & Culture), Govt. of Manipur; Dr. K. Sobita, Director, Art & Culture, Govt. of Manipur; and Smt. S. Tampakleima Devi, Chief Librarian, State Central Library, Imphal were also present on the occasion.

In his inaugural speech, Shri Ph. Parijat Singh emphasised on the role of books. He said that book can be regarded as a house of knowledge that can be rewarded only by its value. He said that books help in gaining new insight and perspectives on issues that matter to the readers and helps them to have a new understanding of the world around. He

also appreciated the efforts made by National Book Trust in making available knowledge to the people of Manipur at their doorsteps by organizing the Imphal Book Fair.

During all the days of the book fair, various literary programmes were organized by the Directorate of Art & Culture, Govt. of Manipur, in which literary personalities as well as school children, theatre and art personalities from Manipur and adjoining States took part. These programmes included a North-East Poets Meet, State Level Symposium on Reading Habit, Meet the Singer, Meet the Film Artists, Narration of Manipur Short Stories, State Level Quiz on Art & Culture of Manipur as well as Drawing Competition for children. The children who won the competitions were given certificates.

The closing ceremony of the Imphal

Book Fair was held on 1 January 2012 in which Shri R.K. Nimai Singh, Commissioner, Art & Culture, Manipur was the Chief Guest and Dr. Abdul Malik, Dy. Registrar, Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi; Dr Naorem Giridhari, Librarian, JNIMS and Dr. K. Sobita Devi, Director, Art & Culture, Govt. of Manipur were distinguished guests.

Despite the prevailing disturbed situation in the Manipur State, about 50 publishers and booksellers from various parts of India participated in the book fair. Besides a large number of publishers and booksellers from Imphal, participants from Delhi, Kolkata, Guwahati and Silchar were spread over 110 stalls in the Fair.

The book fair witnessed a large number visitors every day. This was the first time that National Book Trust, India had organized a book fair in Manipur State and the response was overwhelming. All the local participants as well as the visitors greatly appreciated the book fair because according to them this was the largest book fair they had seen in Imphal although the local authorities had been organizing book fairs in Imphal regularly. The Fair was coordinated by Dr. Deepankar Gupta, NBT, India.



ABHAYAPURI BOOK FAIR

“Asamiya literature is scaling newer heights. Several world class literary works have been penned by Asamiya writers. That is why I can say with conviction that Asamiya would certainly be one of the few remaining languages even after the death of thousands of languages around the world.” On this positive note, Shri Kanaksen Deka, eminent literature and former President of Asam Sahitya Sabha inaugurated the Abhayapuri Book Fair on 26 November 2011. The Fair was organised by the National Book Trust, India in association with North Salmara Sub-divisional Administration and All Assam Publishers and Booksellers Association at Gandhi Maidan, Abhayapuri from 26 November to 3 December 2011.



that resentment, we must incorporate the socio-cultural mores of every ethnic group of the state in Asamiya literature. Every ethnic group should be able to see their reflection in the mirror of Asamiya literature.” Shri Hussain also released the souvenir entitled “Sanchipaat” brought out on the occasion.

Exhorting people to read more and more books, Shri Chandan Kumar Sarkar, Hon’ble MLA and Guest of Honour at the function said, “Contrary to the popular belief, politicians of all hues read a lot of books to keep themselves abreast with the laws of the land.” Shri J.V.N. Subramaniam, SDO (Civil), North Salmara Abhayapuri welcomed the distinguished gathering. Shri N. Jeffrey, Project Director, DRDA, Bongaigaon presided over the function.

Earlier hundreds of school children brought out a colourful book march enthralling the booklovers gathered on the occasion. The children also took a pledge to work for building a book-

minded society.

Several events for booklovers of all age groups were held on various days of the fair including North East Women Poets Meet, a Theatre workshop by noted children’s theatre expert Dr Ashis Ghosh, Asamiya Spelling Bee contest by Dr Santanoo Tamuly, Editor, *Mouchaq*, the largest circulated children’s monthly from North East, Meet-the-Author session with Anubhav Tulasi, eminent poet and a talk on “The Other Tagore” by Shri Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharjee, Director, K K Birla Foundation. Shri Rajib Deka, eminent Career Consultant, also conducted a career counseling session for young adults. A seminar on biodiversity was also held by Aranyak, a local NGO. Besides several book release functions and a multilingual



Striking a note of caution, Haider Hussain, eminent journalist, and chief Guest at the Inaugural Function said, “Asamiya language has faced a crisis even within the geographical boundary of the state of Assam. There are genuine reasons behind the resentment shown by certain ethnic groups from time to time. To address



Poets’ Meet by Assam Sahitya Sabha added flavour to the fair.

Kamrupa Cultural Group from Guwahati presented a musical evening on the last day in memory of Bhupen Hazarika, Assam’s cultural icon, and Mamoni Roisom Goswami, the Jnanpith award winning author.



BOOK RELEASE AT VIJAYAWADA

“Ram Manohar Lohia was not only a great leader and politician but also a great role model for present generation and politicians. His sacrifice for the nation is unforgettable. All through his life he struggled to take socialism to the grassroots” said Shri S.A.M. Rizvi IAS, District Collector and Magistrate, Krishna District, while releasing the Telugu translation of Biography of Ram Manohar Lohia published by the National Book Trust, India. He also said that with the help of his book the younger generation can read about Lohia and his movement. Shri Rizvi was speaking at the book release function organised on 9 January 2012 at the Vijayawada Book Festival.

Inaugurating the function, Prof. Anjaiah, a noted socialist thinker and Director, Centre for Scientific Socialism, Acharya Nagarjuna University, Guntur, spoke at length about Lohia and his socialist thoughts and philosophy. He also appreciated the NBT for bringing out his biography in Telugu.



Guest speaker and noted socialist Shri Ravela Somaiah said that the writings of Lohia as well as his ideology should be taken to the youth. He also exhorted the

younger generation to read the biographies of our National leaders and freedom fighters.

Others who spoke on the occasion included Shri R.V. Ramarao and Shri D. Ashok Kumar, Secretary Vijayawada Book Festival Society.

Literary luminaries, media, Lohia's friends, followers, Vijayawada and Guntur District Socialists, noted writers and critics from Vijayawada and Guntur

District and other parts of Andhra Pradesh took part in the programme.

Dr. Pathipaka Mohan, Telugu editor, NBT, coordinated the programme.



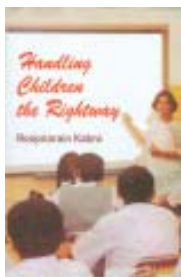
**Be A Member of
Readers' Club Bulletin**

a bilingual magazine for children
brought out by

**NATIONAL CENTRE FOR
CHILDREN'S LITERATURE
(A wing of NBT, India)**

BOOKS RECEIVED

Handling the Children the Rightway; Roopnarain Kabra; 978-93-80458-18-2; Rs. 495.00; Samayik Books, 3320-21, Jatwara, Darya Ganj, N.S. Marg, New Delhi-110002



The book has been written an experienced teacher towards shaping children. It talks about what is mistreating of children, egoistic parents, how school syllabus and exams dominate creativity exploration and experimentation, imposition of parents' ambition on children, sensitiveness of children, how to allow them to learn and grow by themselves, effects of scolding and humiliation on children, etc.

Between Friends: Letters Exchanging Ideas (Vol. 2); Margaret Chaterjee; 978-93-80188-18-8; Rs. 200.00; Bibliophile South Asia, C-127 Sarvodaya Enclave, New Delhi-110017



As in the earlier book with the title *Between Friends*, the author who did intensive research on Gandhi's life and thought, provokes strenuous reflection on issues which matter today and stresses the importance of multiple perspectives instead of dogmatism, scepticism or obscurantism. She firmly believes that the present does not trump the past and that this needs remembering as we face an uncertain future.

Keladi Nrupa Vijaya; Keladi Kavi Linganna; Rs. 150; National Manuscript Mission, Keladi Manuscripts Resource Centre, Keladi-577401, Sagar Taluk, Karnataka



This is an English translation in prose of Keladi Nrupa Vijayam, originally written in Kannada in poetry form by Kavi Linganna, the Court Poet of Keladi rulers of 17th-18th century. It gives an account on the rise and fall of this ruling line; the achievements of individual rulers in terms of their military exploits, charity and patronage and personal qualifications. Published in English for the first time to reach scholars outside Karnataka.

PUBLISHING COURSE AT KOLKATA

The National Book Trust, India organised a Training Course in Book Publishing at the Chandramukhi - Kadambiri Sabhagriha, University of Calcutta, Kolkata from 5-17 December 2011 in collaboration with the Publishers & Booksellers Guild, Kolkata and the Centre for Studies in Book Publishing, University of Calcutta.

The Publishing Course was inaugurated by Shri Brakta Basu, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge Primary, School & Higher Education, Govt. of West Bengal.

Prof. Suranjan Das, VC, Calcutta University, Prof. S N Bera, Director, Centre for Studies in Book Publishing Calcutta University and Shri Tridib Kumar Chatterjee, Hon. Gen. Secretary, Publishers and Booksellers Guild, Kolkata were also present on the occasion.

The syllabi of the course included



introduction and brief history of publishing books and journals in India, Intellectual Property and Copyright, designing of a book and its parts, copy-editing and role of a copy-editor in developing a manuscript, Indian Book Publishing, export, international book fairs and global scenario, marketing concepts of different books in the publishing house, electronic publishing, E-books, E-marketing, Concepts & recent trends and much more.

The expert faculty comprised Shri Sridhar Balan, Jayanta Bagchi, Prabir Kumar Ganguly, S. K. Mohanty, Ashoke Mukhopadhyay, G S Jolly, N N Sarkar, B N Varma, N K Bhattacharjee, Subir Roy, P Sircar, Milinda De, Kalyan Banerjee, Balbir Singh, Sukumar Das, Sugat Jain, Prantik Bose, Smt. Sharmila Abraham, Ms.

Vinutha Mallya, Ms. Mandira Sen.

Apart from the theory classes, the participants were taken to a press visit for practical experience to Saraswati Press Ltd. B T Road, Kolkata.

A valedictory function was held on 17 Dec, where the participants were awarded certificates.

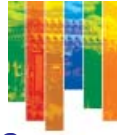
The Guest of honour for the valedictory function was Prof. Suranjan Das, Vice-Chancellor, Calcutta University.

Chief Guest, Dr. Swapan Chakravarty, Director, National Library, Kolkata, Prof. S N Bera, DN Centre for Studies in Book Publishing, Calcutta University and Ms Farida M Naik, Joint Director (A&F), NBT, India were other dignitaries present.

The course was coordinated by Sumit Bhattacharjee, AD (Exh.), NBT.



The Institute of Book Publishing, New Delhi, organised a week-long 'Special Course for Officers of Educational Publications Department, Sri Lanka' from 26-31 December 2011. Author-Editor/Publisher relationship, Editing, Proofreading, House Style, Copy Editing and Tools of Editing, Type Fonts and Designing, Copyright, Legal Issues were some of the subjects covered in the course. As part of the field work, the participants visited NCERT and NBT. Shri M.A. Sikandar, Director, NBT, spoke at valedictory session of the course.



25 February – 4 March, 2012

In the year 2012, the much awaited New Delhi World Book Fair (NDWBF) is entering the 40th year of its 'foundation'. The NDWBF, first organized in 1972, is scheduled to have its 20th edition from 25 February-04 March 2012 (Halls 1-14) at the sprawling Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. Organized by National Book Trust, India, an autonomous organisation founded in 1957 by the first Prime Minister of the country Shri Jawaharlal Nehru under the Ministry of Human Resource Development (then Ministry of Education), Govt of India as the national body for book publishing and book promotion, the NDWBF has a lot of exciting opportunities to offer to the participants and the visitors.

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Attractions at the 20th New Delhi World Book Fair

- **Theme Pavilion—One Hundred Years of Indian Cinema**
- **Children's Pavilion—Special Programmes and Activities for Children**
- **Delhi Pavilion—Celebrating Hundred Years of Delhi as the Capital City**
- **Foreign Pavilion**
- **Rights Corner**
- **Seminars, Workshops, Talks, Film Screenings, Book Release Functions, Meet the Author Programmes and much more**
- **FairNews—Daily News Bulletin from NBT on the events of the Fair**

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