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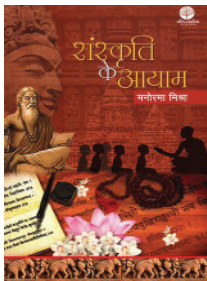
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### PICK OF THE MONTH



**Sanskriti Ke Aayam**  
Dr. Manorama Mishra  
ISBN 978-93-5743-775-2  
Rs. 215.00

## Sambalpur Book Fair 2024: A Celebration of Literature, Culture, and Creativity



**S**ambalpur Book Fair, held from 21 to 29 January 2024, at the Ph.D. Ground, Ainthapali, was a resounding success, drawing book enthusiasts and culture enthusiasts from far and wide. Organized jointly by NBT-India and SETU, the fair witnessed a grand celebration of literature and creativity, offering a plethora of activities and programs for all age groups.

More than 100 prominent publishers and booksellers, both from within the state and outside, participated in the fair, contributing to its vibrant atmosphere.

The book fair was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister of Education, Govt. of India, Shri Devendra Pradhan, who emphasized the importance of literature and education in shaping the future of the nation. The inaugural ceremony also saw the presence of esteemed guests, including Shri Subas Chandra Panigrahi and Shri Nauri Nayak.

Inaugurating the Sambalpur Book Fair, Hon'ble Minister of Education, Shri

Dharmendra Pradhan went on a tour of the of the book fair, visiting all stalls, sharing insightful thoughts about the power of books and imploring everyone to indulge in the joy of reading.

Addressing the media at the press conference for the Sambalpur Book Fair, Shri Yuvraj Malik, Director of National Book Trust-India, outlined the diverse range of activities and programs designed to engage every section of society, particularly the youth, in the world of words, books, and literature.

The fair was a hub of literary exploration, featuring a lineup of authors, creative workshops, panel discussions, and cultural performances.

Children were especially engaged in various activities at the Children's Corner, including painting competitions, and storytelling sessions in Oriya and Hindi, which sparked their imagination and creativity.

Evenings at the Sambalpur Book Fair were adorned with cultural performances, including an Odisha-Maharashtra Jugalbandi dance, which enthralled the audience with its mesmerizing rhythms and graceful movements.

Notably, NBT-India's Mahanadi Pustak Parikrama was flagged off from the fair by Hon'ble Minister of Education, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, marking the beginning of a literary journey along the banks of the River Mahanadi.

Various workshops and competitions added to the vibrancy of the fair, including sessions on Odissi dance, Calligraphy, and Mandala Art, providing attendees with opportunities for learning



and self-expression. The fair also paid tribute to national heroes, with events commemorating Parakram Divas and Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, showcasing the artistic talent of participants through competitions and exhibitions.

Overall, the Sambalpur Book Fair 2024 was not merely an event but a celebration of literature, culture, and creativity, inviting visitors to immerse themselves in the enchanting world of books and imagination. With its diverse range of activities and programs, the fair served as a testament to the enduring power of words to inspire, educate, and unite communities.



## Fun and Learning Galore: Highlights from the Children's Corner at Sambalpur Book Fair

The children's activities at the Sambalpur Book Fair were as diverse and vibrant as the colors of a rainbow. From embracing cultural heritage to fostering creativity and mindfulness, there was something for every young mind to explore and enjoy.

The fair shone with a burst of creativity as children immersed themselves in the Folk Fusion Pattachitra Painting Competition and "Kathani" - a Folktale session in Oriya, penned heartfelt



letters to Hon'ble PM Narendra Modi during "Let's Write Letters! Mann Ki Baat to Hon'ble PM Narendra Modi."

Dance enthusiasts swayed gracefully in the Bala Nritya Odissi workshop. Mindfulness took center stage with Mandala Art and origami workshops, encouraging young ones to explore their imagination.



As patriotism filled the air, children expressed their respect through drawing competitions commemorating Parakram Diwas and remembering heroes like Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and Veer Surendra Sai. The essence of Bharatiya culture resonated in performances by Vedic International School and Gayatri H S School of Science and Technology, showcasing Sambalpuri Folk Dance.

The event also fostered social consciousness with competitions like “Beti Bachao Beti Padhao” and “Swachh Bharat,” while empowering self-expression through calligraphy, poetry recitations, and elocution contests. The message of resilience and courage was expressed with colors in the drawing competition on the topic “Pariksha Pe Charcha 2024: Be A Warrior Not A Worrier,” reminding children of their



strength and potential.

Through a plethora of activities like “Ikkat Imprints” and “Creative Quills,” the event nurtured not just artistic skills but also a sense of community and pride in our rich heritage.

The children were filled with immense enthusiasm thanks to NBT-India’s thoughtful organization of diverse competitions each day during the Book Fair. Each evening, a group of 20 to 30 children were honored as winners, alongside their proud parents, in a special ceremony. These young achievers were bestowed with books from NBT-India and certificates as prizes, presented by the esteemed Chief Guest in attendance. The infectious zeal of the children not only added vibrancy to the book fair but also garnered significant appreciation from the attending parents.



# Sambalpur Book Fair 2024: A Cultural Extravaganza to Remember

The Sambalpur Book Fair 2024 was a vibrant celebration of culture, music, and tradition that left attendees mesmerized and enchanted. From energetic performances to soul-stirring melodies, the event showcased a rich tapestry of talent from across the country.

One of the highlights of the fair was the Odisha-Maharashtra Jugalbandi, where artists from both states came together to create a harmonious fusion of music and dance, captivating the audience with their seamless collaboration.

Renowned performer Bishnu Mohan stole the show with his energetic performances, spreading joy and getting everyone on their

feet. An evening filled with enjoyment and dancing to vibrant tunes left a lasting impression on all who attended.

The magic continued with 'Musical Evening with Aseema Panda,' as she filled the air with soulful tunes, captivating hearts and minds alike. Additionally, Bijay Sahoo's mesmerizing performance of Gutipo, a semi-classical dance art, immersed the audience in graceful expressions and rhythmic movements, showcasing the cultural richness of the region.

The cultural journey continued with the students of Lady Louis Girls High School, who showcased their talent and enthusiasm, brightening the stage with their graceful performances. Pratibha



Bhawani Patana's Ghumura folk dance and Bijay Sahu's Odissi dance added to the spectacle, celebrating elegance, tradition, and vibrancy.

The Space Folk Ensemble from Jammu and Kashmir brought a touch of magic to the event with their traditional flair and graceful moves, while the students of Gayatri H S School of Science and Technology impressed the audience with their enchanting dance performance.

To top off the evening, attendees were taken on a nostalgic journey with the "Retro Bollywood Music Evening" by Kubar Shadap. Experience the magic of timeless melodies and create memories

as Kubar Shadap's enchanting performance left everyone immersed in the beauty of retro classics.

Closing the event on a soulful note, Faisal Ashoor & Band from Ladakh filled the evening with Ladakhi tunes, resonating with the essence of the mountains and leaving attendees with a sense of awe and appreciation for the diverse cultural heritage of India.



The Sambalpur Book Fair 2024 was not just a literary event; it was a celebration of art, music, and tradition, bringing people together and leaving a lasting imprint on all who attended.



## Book Release Event at NBT-India: 'Sanskriti ke Aayam'

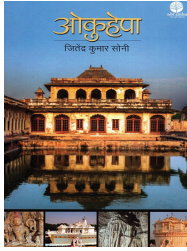
Honourable Minister of State for Civil Aviation, Road Transport, and Highways, General V.K. Singh (Retd.), released the book 'Sanskriti ke Aayam' written by Dr. Manorama Mishra and published by NBT-India. Congratulating the author, General Singh said, "This small book contains everything that one needs to understand our culture." Shri Yuvraj Malik, Director, National Book Trust, India, said, "There is a need to re-establish the

Indian Traditional knowledge system due to which we are called Vishwa Guru. The eternal task of establishing the knowledge tradition is through documentation of knowledge, which is possible only through books." Shri B.R. Shankaranand, National Organising Secretary, Bharateeya Shikshan Mandal, Dr. R.C. Mishra, along with Prof. Ravi Prakash Tekchandani and Prof. Harindra Kumar were present on this occasion.

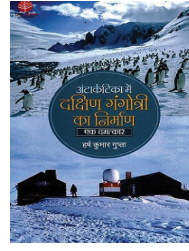


## Latest Titles By NBT-India

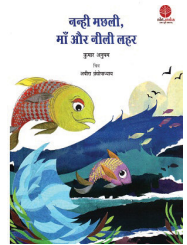
Explore fresh reads from NBT-India's latest lineup. Exciting tales await, ready to unwind



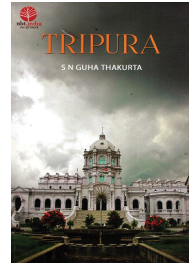
**Okuhepa (Hindi)**  
Jitendra Kumar Soni  
ISBN 978-93-5743-731-8  
Rs 205.00



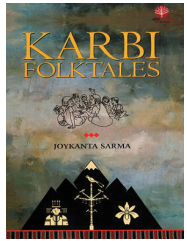
**Antarctica Mein Dakshin Gangotri Ka Nirman Ek Chamatkar (Hindi)**  
Harsh Kumar Gupta  
ISBN 978-93-5743-284-9  
Rs 95.00



**Nanhi Machchli, Maa Aur Nili Lahar (Hindi)**  
Kumar Anupam  
ISBN 978-93-5743-846-9  
Rs 65.00



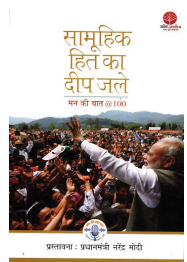
**Tripura**  
S N Guha Thakurta  
ISBN 978-81-237-2542-0  
Rs 175.00



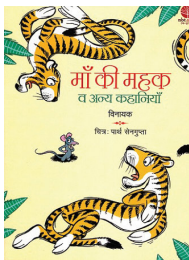
**Karbi Folktales**  
Joykanta Sarma  
ISBN 978-93-5491-479-9  
Rs 150.00



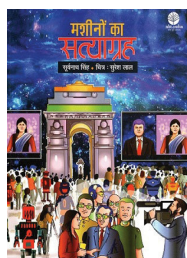
**Internet Yug: Bachche, Abhibhavak aur Shikshakon Ki Chhunautiyan (Hindi)**  
Sanjeev Rao  
ISBN 978-93-5743-263-4  
Rs 160.00



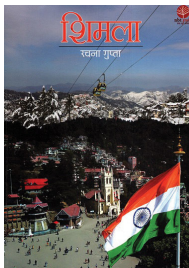
**Saamuhik Hit Ka Deep Jale: Mann Ki Baat @ 100 (Hindi)**  
Bluekraft Digital Foundation  
ISBN 978-93-5473-950-3  
Rs 470.00



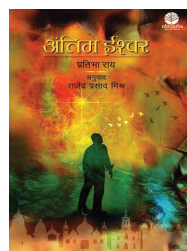
**Maa Ki Mehak Vah Anya Kahaniyan (Hindi)**  
Vinayak  
ISBN 978-93-5743-667-0  
Rs 90.00



**Machinon Ka Satyagraha (Hindi)**  
Suryanath Singh  
ISBN 978-93-5743-727-1  
Rs 110.00



**Shimla (Hindi)**  
Rachna Gupta  
ISBN 978-93-5743-901-3  
Rs 425.00



**Antim Ishwar (Hindi)**  
Pratibha Roy  
ISBN 978-93-5743-977-0  
Rs 495.00



**Mele Mein Chutki (Hindi)**  
Dr. Manorama Mishra  
ISBN 978-93-5743-775-2  
Rs 215.00

## Book Excerpt

### Tomorrow Again: Science Fiction Stories

NBT-India, known for its diverse range of publications, presents a captivating book penned by Sukanya Datta. Delve into a world where imagination meets scientific speculation, promising an exhilarating journey through the realms of the unknown.

Science fiction has a tendency to leapfrog into the future; to anticipate what time may yet bring to pass or what the past could be if created anew. Exotic speculation is the name of the game. These especially curated stories are no different; melding fact and fantasy to present an extravaganza of choices. The kernel at the heart of each story is fact embroidered with threads drawn from the myriad realms of science so that the readers enter a bewitched wonderland replete with déjà vu and amazement at the unexpected.

The kids of Dalchini village were all agog with excitement. Ravi, Khushi, Rumi, Raju, Prince, Mimi, Firoze, Shabbo, Pinky Srivastava and her brother Bittu, were thrilled beyond words. Summer vacation and *Golu Mamu* had both arrived!

*Golu Mamu* was Pinky's *Mama*; her mother's brother. He was a sailor but that was not all he was. He was a wonderful narrator of tall tales. Tall tales-yes! But tales that somehow resonated with the truth. For how else did he bring all those fabulous gifts of gold and gems? The kids loved to hear the stories he spun. They believed every word of his unbelievable adventures. The grown-ups, such as *Golu Mamu*'s sister, Siya, were sceptical but their scepticism waned when they held the ancient gold coins or the sparkling gems in their hands. Only *Nani*, (grandmother) was at her acerbic best when she periodically woke up from her snoozes in the sun to pass a snide comment or two. *Nani* had never got around to forgiving her son for running away from home at the age of thirteen years, "taking all my savings with him.." she would always add quite forgetting that *Golu Mamu* did not seem to mind.

The kids clustered around *Golu Mamu* as they waited impatiently for him to finish a cup of hot, sweet tea. Pinky and Bittu took their coveted places on either side. He was their *Mama* after all, even though they generously shared him with the others. *Golu Mamu* hugged them both.

He took a long sip, closed his eyes and let out an "Ah!" Then he looked at the other kids and said, "Hello, Ravi, Khushi, Rumi, Raju, Prince, Mimi, and Firoze." He smiled at little Shabbo and said, "My, my! Farzana Shabana Ibrahim Lodhi how tall you have grown." Of all the kids he had a special soft corner for shy Shabbo. Shabbo blushed pink and smiled happily. Her day was made. Her twin Firoze Afroze Ibrahim Lodhi sat up slightly straighter, as if to prove that he too had gained a few inches since last year.

*Golu Mamu* looked closely at the kids who were all looking at him expectantly. He knew they wanted to hear about his latest

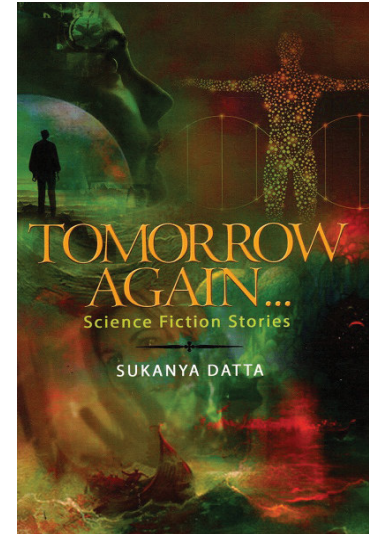
adventure. *Nani* beamed. She liked having her prodigal son home although you would never know this from her comments. "The stage is set...so bring out your gifts and the imaginary tales of your adventures," she said. Siya, Pinky and Bittu's mother walked in with bowls of snacks for everyone. She overheard *Nani*'s comment and chided her softly. "Don't start, Ma. *Golu* has just arrived."

*Golu Mamu* was as unperturbed as ever, "Oh, Ma! Thank you for reminding me. I had almost forgotten. I do have gifts for everyone." He reached behind the cushion he had been resting against and withdrew a largish rectangular box that seemed to be made of beaten silver. It had a hinged lid. Golden studs decorated the surface. The box seemed to reek of ancient adventures and mystery. The children crowded closer, eager to take a peek. Even Siya was intrigued. *Golu Mamu* did not keep them waiting for very long. "I have old Indian diamonds for all of you."

"Diamonds!" *Nani*'s face was a sight to behold. "Yes, diamonds from Vasco da Gama's lost ship, no less; come on kids...Lucky Dip. You can get rings made using the diamond you fish out."

"Thank you," said each child with a shy smile. "You too," *Golu Mamu* nodded at Siya. "Take two!" His sister was stunned to see that the box still contained many diamonds. "But *Golu*, so many diamonds...large solitaires at that...how did you find them?"

"Don't ask. Don't ask or he will launch into a silly story," said *Nani*. The kids looked at *Golu Mamu* rapturously, their eyes wide with hope. A silly story! Why, that was exactly what they had come to hear. Siya smiled at her brother, "Thank you, *Golu*...this is such a generous gift," she said.



#### Tomorrow Again: Science Fiction Stories (English)

Sukanya Datta

ISBN: 978-93-5743-070-8

Rs. 275.00

## “Books for All,” by NBT-India



In alignment with SDG 4 and NEP 2020, NBT-India supported inclusive and equitable reading opportunities for all attendees of Purple Fest Goa through the provision of Braille, Tactile books, and books in Sign Language. As part of the “Books for All” initiative by NBT-India and Social PWDs, Braille books were distributed free of charge to individuals with visual disabilities.



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## Republic Day Celebration at NBT-India Headquarters

NBT-India celebrated India’s 75th Republic Day by hoisting the National Flag at NBT-India’s headquarters in New Delhi. The event aimed to renew the pledge to uphold the principles enshrined in the Constitution and work towards building a more inclusive future for generations to come.



## Ganga Pustak Parikrama Reached Begusarai, Uttar Pradesh

National Book Trust, India’s Ganga Pustak Parikrama has reached its 15th destination, Begusarai, the birthplace of Rashtrakavi Ramdhari Singh Dinkar. The display of books captivated the young readers of DAV Public School. The display of books captivated the young readers of the school, fostering a newfound love for literature.



*“Wishing you a year brimming with literary delights, knowledge, and thought provoking reads. May year 2024 bring joy, inspiration, and countless literary adventures into your lives.”*

*Prof. Milind Marathe, Chairman, National Book Trust, India.*

*“As we step into the promising pages of the new year, NBT-India extends its heartfelt wishes to all book lovers. Let books be your constant companions, guiding you through stories that inspire, educate, and ignite the imagination.”*

*Yuvraj Malik, Director, National Book Trust, India*



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