

NBT Newsletter

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62 Years of NBT



On 1 August 2019, National Book Trust, India will be celebrating the 62 years of its Foundation. On this day in August 1957, National Book Trust, India was established by the Government of India to promote books and reading as well as to publish quality books for the general readers. All these years NBT India has engaged itself in producing good literature in English, Hindi and other Indian languages and making them available at moderate prices to the public at their doorsteps.

Publishing

NBT publishes a wide range of books across different genres including children's books, fiction, social science, medical science and cutting edge technology, biographies, autobiographies, books on pedagogy and books for neo-literates under well-defined series in English, Hindi and all major Indian languages like Asamiya, Bangla, Gujarati, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Odia, Punjabi, Rajasthani, Sindhi, Telugu, Tamil and Urdu.

In its endeavour to encourage reading habit in remote areas of the country, NBT publishes books in minor languages and regional dialects as well. Over the years,



the Trust has brought out a number of books in Bhili, Bhatri, Halbi, Himachali and some in north-eastern languages like Ao Naga, Bhutia, Boro, Garo, Khasi, Kokborok, Lepcha, Limboo, Mising, Mizo, Newari and Tibetan.

Recently, the Trust has brought out eight books in dialects used in the Bastar region of Chhattisgarh in Devanagri script. Besides, the Trust has brought out books on Mahatma Gandhi and on children's themes in Maithili, Magahi and Bhojpuri– all spoken in Bihar – in Devnagri script. In the process of developing books in minor languages, the Trust also organizes workshops in which writers and translators participate to bring out these books.

NBT gives special focus on children's literature and publishes a large number of books for children under its Nehru Bal Pustakalaya series in English, Hindi and all Indian languages. These books are published to cater to the needs of children and develop reading habit amongst them. Besides, NBT publishes select titles from its various series in Braille for the visually impaired readers.



Over the years, NBT has widened its reach among the general readers across the country by providing innovative content to its publishing profile. Some of the recently launched series of the books include, Veergatha series, Women Pioneers, Navlekhanmala and Mahila Lekhan Protsahan Yojana









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As part of its special efforts to promote Sanskrit language, the Trust also publishes books in Sanskrit. The first book is *Gandhi Tatva Shatkam* authored by Dr M V Nadkarni. The book describes the life of Mahatma Gandhi in 108 shlokas. Besides, the Trust has published the book *Charaiveti Charaiveti*, written in Sanskrit by Shri Ram Naik, Hon'ble Governor of Uttar Pradesh. The Trust also organizes special seminars on Sanskrit languages and literature to explore the possibilities of bringing out more books in the language.

National Book Trust, India has ventured into e-book publishing, with its best-selling titles available in the e-format, mainly intended to cater to the demands of Indian Diaspora and tech-savvy youth. The e-books are available in English, Hindi as well as in other Indian languages.

Publicity & Social Media

To enlighten readers about the literary and publishing events being organized by NBT across the country and connect them with the rich tradition of writings, NBT brings out monthly *Newsletter* in English as well as a quarterly magazine in Hindi titled *Pustak Sanskriti*. Besides the activities of NBT, the magazine carries the unpublished, original writings (short story, essays, poems, travelogues, etc.) of authors, book reviews, among others.

Readers can also get catalogues of NBT publications in English, Hindi and Indian languages in print format from its stalls and in e-format from its website.

The readers can also connect with NBT through social networking websites like Facebook and Twitter. Facebook page





carries information about forthcoming programmes, new publications and events conducted. Taking into account the spread of smartphones and internet connectivity, NBT has developed an app which is available for downlaod in Google Play Store for Android phones. The app works as an information provider of NBT's publications as well as a sales platform where one can place orders for books.

Research & Surveys

As part of its endeavours to assess the readership patterns as well as the reading needs of the youth, NBT organised a survey amongst the rural and urban youth across the country. The survey was carried out in association with National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER) under the National Action Plan for Readership Development Among the Youth (NAPRDY). The first such survey has been brought out



as National Youth Readership Survey. The followup study in the form of a second *Report on the Youth of North-East India: Demographics and Readership* which presented an analytical and detailed account of the reading habits of the literate youth in the northeastern states and their exposure to different forms of media has also been published by the Trust.

India-China Translation Programme

In a significant initiative in cultural diplomacy, the Government of India and the Government of People's Republic of China have put forward an ambitious translation programme that includes translation of select 25 classical and contemporary literary works from Chinese into Hindi and Indian literary works into Chinese. The project of taking forward the programme was given to National Book Trust, India. To implement this project the External Publicity and Public Diplomacy Division of Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India and the National Book Trust, India signed an MoU, to translate the 25 Chinese works into Hindi.



Grants & Subsidy

To promote Indian writings abroad, NBT has initiated Financial Assistance Programme for Translation under which financial assistance is provided to the publishers from abroad for translation of original Indian writings published by Indian publishers in English,



Hindi and other Indian languages into foreign languages.

To promote the publication of reasonably priced books for higher education, NBT gives financial assistance to authors and publishers of textbooks and reference material. So far, NBT has subsidized the publication of more than a thousand titles.

The Trust also runs a Grant-in-Aid Scheme under which it gives financial assistance to select voluntary and literary bodies for organizing book fairs and book promotional activities.

Promotion of Books and Reading

Promotion of books is another major objective of NBT. In furthering this objective, NBT continues to organize a number of book exhibitions, book fairs, book festivals and literary programmes throughout the country. NBT has organized nearly 300 Regional Book Fairs, over 40 National Book Fairs and 27 New



Delhi World Book Fairs. Besides, NBT operates an innovative scheme of exhibition of books through mobile exhibition vans.

Crisscrossing the different states of the country, these vans help make books accessible to people living in rural and remote areas of the states.

The Trust has a scheme of NBT Book Club. The members of this Club can avail a special discount on purchase of NBT



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books and also a discount on postal charges on the receipt of books through VPP. Now book lovers can also buy books online through NBT website.

New Delhi World Book Fair



The annual New Delhi World Book Fair is one the most prominent event of global importance which is organized by NBT. The first New Delhi World Book Fair was held at Windsor Place, New Delhi in the year 1972 in which 200 publishers participated. Over the years, it has become the largest and prestigious book publishing event in the Afro-Asian region.

Thousands of prominent publishers, booksellers and distributors from across the globe participate in the Fair. Authors



Corners, CEOSpeak and Rights Table have become regular features of this Fair. Supplemented with literary and publishing programmes, NDWBF provides an opportunity to authors, book lovers and publishers to interact with each other, promote titles, make copublication arrangements and enhance trade contacts. The next edition of NDWBF will be held at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi in January 2020.



The regional offices of NBT in Bengaluru, Kolkata, Mumbai and New Delhi play a crucial role in the promotion and sale of books in different parts of the country. NBT has also set up Book Promotion Centres in different states/UTs including Agartala, Chennai, Cuttack, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Kochi and Patna. These centres have designated areas for organizing literary events, programmes for children and book release functions. These centres also organize mobile van exhibitions across their respective states.

Participation at International Book Fairs



As a nodal agency to promote Indian books abroad, NBT participates in various international book fairs and put up exhibitions to display select titles brought out by various Indian publishers. Since 1970, NBT has participated in several international book fairs including Abu Dhabi, Beijing, Bologna, Colombo, Frankfurt, Indonesia, Seoul, Sharjah, Tehran among others. India's Guest of Honour Presentations at Frankfurt (2006), Moscow (2009), Beijing (2010), Seoul (2013), Asian Festival of



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Children's Content (2014) and Abu Dhabi International Book Fair (2019) were organised by NBT. This is will be followed by presentations at forthcoming Guadalajara (Mexico) and Paris book fairs.

Literary Festivals



Literary festivals are forums where authors candidly interact with the booklovers and share their views on current issues. In an attempt to make the author-reader relationship lively and interactive, NBT organized the Brahmaputra Literary Festival in association with the Government of Assam at Srimanta Sankaradeva Kalakshetra Guwahati, Assam in January 2017 and February 2018. It brought together authors of different languages from different regions of India and abroad. The Festival saw a number of discussions, conversations and reading sessions being organized on various important issues of contemporary times like media, democracy, children's writings, literature from Northeast, Bangla literature, Hindi literature, oral literature and writings on wildlife among others.

National Centre for Children's Literature

NBT has a dedicated wing for the creation, promotion and dissemination of children's literature, National Centre for Children's Literature (NCCL). Established in the year 1993, NCCL is the nodal agency in the country to promote, monitor, coordinate, plan and aid children's literature in various languages. NCCL organises workshops, discussions, seminars and exhibitions for children and professionals to explore new avenues in children's literature and creative skills in children and participates in international book fairs to promote Indian children's literature abroad. Besides NCCL runs the Readers' Club Movement to promote the habit of reading at school level. The Movement, arguably, is considered to be one of the largest reading movements in the world. Till date over 35,000 Readers' Clubs have been established in the country. A bilingual magazine





Readers' Club Bulletin is also published to foster the Movement.

NCCL has a Library-cum-Documentation Centre with a collection of over 15,000 books on children's literature covering wide range of subjects in 44 languages of the world (18 Indian and 26 foreign languages).

Training Courses



To create a pool of trained professionals for the publishing industry, NBT conducts a month-long Training Course in Book Publishing in Delhi. Besides, NBT organizes short-term training courses in publishing in other parts of the country. In addition, NBT has collaborated with select universities to offer one year postgraduate diploma in publishing. With this course, NBT has been able to create more skilled human resource for publishing industry.

Foundation Day Celebrations

To mark its Foundation Day on 1 August, NBT organises a number of literary programmes every year, significant among them is the Annual Lecture series, initiated in the year 2012. NBT Foundation Day Lecture series aims to focus on the importance of 'Books and Reading in Today's India' and bring in critical thinking by inviting an eminent personality from among women and men of letters, scholars, intellectuals and others who have made significant contributions to the world of publishing. The lectures have so far been delivered by Dr Shashi Tharoor, Prof. Andre Beteille, Ms. Shashi Deshpande, Prof. Kapil Kapoor, Dr. N K Singh, Prof. Makarand R Paranjape and Dr Sreenivasa Rao.

The eighth NBT Foundation Day lecture is to be held on 1 August 2019. A number of book exhibitions and other book promotion activities will also be organized across the country.

Books on Freedom Movement

The nation celebrates Independence Day on 15 August 2017. National Book Trust, India has been publishing several books on freedom struggle marking important moments in the history of India's freedom struggle.

Story of I.N.A.

S A Ayer

This book, by a loyal colleague of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, presents a concise account of Netaji's role in India's struggle for freedom with the constitution of the Indian National Army (I.N.A.). Besides highlighting Netaji's serious nature, the book describes the events that led to his being caught in the



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vortex of politics and subsequent exile and disappearance. 978-81-237-2122-4; Rs 95

The Contribution of The Revolutionists in India's Freedom Struggle

Hiren Gohain

The book traces the role and contribution of the heroic part played by the revolutionary leaders in India's national movement. 978-81-237-5793-2; Rs 95

Trials of Independence

B R Agarwala

This book gives a vivid account of some of the well-known trials of revolutionaries, thinkers, journalists and political leaders who took up the cause of Independence and made concerted efforts to overthrow an alien rule. The trials of these freedom fighters, whose prosecution by the oppressive regimes aroused political consciousness among the

masses, give a deep insight into the characters of the persons tried, including their varied temperaments and ideologies. 81-237-0259-6; Rs 80

Freedom Movement and Indian Muslims

Santimoy Ray

The book challenges the many prejudices that generate bias and hatred against the Indian Muslims, particularly their contentious role in Indian freedom movement and the rise of the Indian Muslim League.

978-81-237-6139-8; Rs 85

Ghadar Movement: A Short History

Harish K Puri

The Ghadar Movement was in many ways a novel struggle for the freedom of India. This book is a short history of the genesis and rise of the movement, its transnational dimensions, romance of patriotism, limitations and illusions, tremendous sacrifices and its legacy that inspired Bhagat Singh and other revolutionaries.

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Freedom Struggle

Bipan Chandra and others

A lucidly written account of India's freedom struggle, its history, development and the diverse forces which contributed to it. One of the best book for students, teachers and candidates for civil service aspirants. 81-237-0249-X; Rs 105



India's Glorious Freedom Struggle and the Post-Independence Era

Mohan Dharia

The book discusses the freedom struggle, the goals set for an independent India, how far the country succeeded in achieving them and what is to be done for the future. 978-81-237-5842-8; Rs 85

History of Khadi

Geetanjali Parikh

The book attempts to take the readers on a historical journey of Khadi, from being a livery of freedom to green fabric or designer wear. It aims to provide an insight on the pivotal role Khadi played in the Indian economic planning, giving a roadmap of Khadi from local village to world market.



978-81-237-6042-1; Rs 80

Rebellion 1857

P C Joshi (Ed.); Foreword by Irfan Habib Popularly known as the first Indian war of Independence, the Rebellion of 1857 was a significant moment in the political history of modern India. Despite the broad consensus of opinion about the national character of the movement, yet this uprising still remains mired in controversies. Through extensive references to first hand accounts and other historical



documents, the essays in this volume while bringing together varied scholarship, analyse the nature, causes, its impact on the national literature of India as well as the interest it generated abroad.

978-81-237-4935-8; Rs 210

Komagata Maru: Not Just a Voyage

Malwinderjit Singh Waraich & Gurdev Singh Sidhu

The present book gives details of the journey of Komagata Maru, a Japanese steamship from Hong Kong to Canada with 376 passengers on board in the backdrop of Ghadar movement. 978-81-237-6997-0; Rs 150



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Books on Freedom Fighters

In the freedom movement of India, several known and unknown freedom fighters participated. National Book Trust, India has published a number of books on their lives and times. Some of them are given below.

Aruna Asaf Ali

G N S Raghavan

Aruna Asaf Ali is always remembered for her daring act of hoisting the tricolor at Gowalia Tank Maidan, Mumbai on 9 August 1942. A fiery political revolutionary during the struggle for independence, Aruna Asaf Ali became a constructive and compassionate social evolutionary after independence campaigning for the removal of poverty and illiteracy. 978-81-237-2762-2; Rs 120

Bagha Jatin

Prithwindra Mukherjee

Bagha Jatin was one of the 21 revolutionaries associated with 'Yugantar' group operating in Bengal for Indian independence. Jatin's life was a saga of struggle to overthrow foreign rule. This biography throws light on his life and times.

978-81-237-5961-6; Rs 135

Birsa Munda

K S Singh

The book tells the life story of Birsa Munda, who led an armed struggle against the British to establish Munda Raj in the tribal region of Chhota-nagpur, Jharkhand, formerly in Bihar. Besides, he launched a spirited campaign against priesthood, alcoholism and belief in spirits and black magic prevalent among various tribal communities.

81-237-3796-3; Rs 90

Dr Zakir Husain

M Mujeeb

A scholar, educationist, philanthropist and the President of India from 1967 to 1969, Dr Zakir Husain endeared himself to men of different religious communities through his secular and democratic outlook. This illuminating biography provides an intimate glimpse into the life of this great man and his work. 81-237-2011-4; Rs 170

Gandhiji and His Disciples

Jayant Pandya

This book is the story of twelve eminent Gandhians, their initiation and shaping of their personalities by the Mahatma and their contribution to humanity. 978-81-237-1116-4; Rs 100

Ghadar Party Hero : Kartar Singh Sarabha Chaman Lal

The martyr Kartar Singh Sarabha worked to unite the Indians

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living abroad in order to uproot the British Raj that had enslaved India. He was the prop of the Ghadar Party and therefore acclaimed as the Ghadar Party Hero. 978-81-237-6171-8; Rs 100

Harekrushna Mahtab

Souribandhu Kar

Harekrushna Mahtab is considered as the builder of modern Orissa. He was a great freedom fighter, nation builder, social reformer, historian, journalist and literary genius. His farsighted leadership has left an indelible mark in the history of our country. This book is an in-depth study of the life and personality of Dr



Mahtab, which is also the story of the contemporary Orissa. 978-81-237-6442-9; Rs 80

Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay Jasleen Dhamija

This concise biography of one of the most important woman leaders of the twentieth century India who contributed both during the pre-independence and post-independence periods, brings to light the life and times of Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay. The biography brings out her contribution to the freedom



movement, women's rights, human rights, living cultural tradition and performing arts.

978-81-237-4881-7; Rs 50

Kanaklata Barua

Shiela Bora

Kanaklata was only seventeen when she fell to the bullets of brutal police firing while trying to hoist the tricolour at the Gohpur Police Station, a symbol of British power. In bringing to light this little known sacrifice of Kanaklata, the book looks at the whole hearted participation of women in the freedom movement who broke through the barriers of patriarchy, caste, traditions and customs.

978-81-237-7819-8; Rs 155

Nabakrushna Choudhury

Chittaranjan Das

Nabakrushna Choudhury is a veteran freedom fighter. He was one of the founders of the Congress Socialist Forum in Odisha, Chief Minister, bibliophile, personification of knowledge, love and action. He remains a robust specimen of revolutionary spirit wedded to humanism. Variously unconventional, he was a peerless political prodigy of his time. 978-87-237-7318-6; Rs 185







GANDHIJI

BAGHA JATIN

Mobile Exhibition at Himachal Pradesh

National Book Trust, India organized mobile book exhibitions (Pustak Parikrama) in rural parts of Himachal Pradesh from 28 May to 23 June 2019. These mobile exhibitions moved across

Bilaspur, Hamirpur, Mandi, Nahan, Solan, Sundar Nagar and Una districts in Himachal Pradesh. The exhibition vans visited rural areas, schools, colleges, major bus stands, city markets, Panchayat samitis and Aanganwadi of these districts. The exhibition



included books in Hindi and English languages across genres like biographies, books on Mahatma Gandhi, social science, popular science and children's books. A large number of people including school and college students visited these exhibitions.

Over the years, this outreach programme of the Trust has helped carry forward its objective of promotion of books in English, Hindi and other Indian languages and the culture of reading in the country. These exhibitions have played a significant role in creating a unique relationship with the booklovers across the country especially, remote areas.

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Book Your Fair Dates

Jammu Book Fair	-	August 2019
Ujjain Book Fair	-	August 2019
Chandigarh Book Fair	-	September 2019
Bilaspur Book Fair	-	November 2019
Tuticorin Book Fair	-	December 2019
Shillong Book Fair	-	February 2019



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