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Pick of the Month

Mahamana Madan Mohan Malviya: Vyaktitva aur Vichar
Balmukund Pandey
ISBN 978-81-237-8273-X; Rs 325

Training Course in Book Publishing

@ Puducherry

“Publishing connects the world with one’s idea,” said Dr Kiran Bedi, Hon’ble Lieutenant of Pondicherry at the inauguration of Training Course in Book Publishing at Puducherry. The course was organised by National Book Trust, India in association with Pondicherry University from 28 September to 6 October 2018.

Dr Kiran Bedi further said that those aspiring to enter the world of publishing and express their ideas can acquire new skills in this week-long programme. She added that in the age of digital revolution, carrying out electronic publication has also become a very easy task, provided one acquires the skills of writing and editing.

Speaking of the quality of content and printing, Dr Bedi remarked that publication should have the qualities of readability, should be easy to grasp, paper should be environmental friendly and of good quality and expression should be concise.

Prof. Gurmeet Singh, Vice-chancellor, Pondicherry University presided over
the function. He said that through this course participants will get all-round knowledge of publishing and there is also a scope to become an entrepreneur, and start a publishing house.

Shri Baldeo Bhai Sharma, Chairman, NBT in a message to the participants said that in this age of technology and ebooks, printed books are still relevant. He said that publishing in India is growing rapidly and there are ample opportunities for young professionals. Therefore, the Trust has been organizing the certificate course across the country. He further said that the course is a step towards reaching the goal of Kaushal Vikas i.e. skill development in India.

Participants in the training programme included 14 from Puducherry, seven from Kerala, 13 from Tamil Nadu, three each from Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh, two each from Odisha and Rajasthan and one each from Assam, Telangana and Jharkhand.

Members of the faculty drawn from leading universities, institutions and publishing houses provided an insight into the publishing industry to the participants through interactive sessions. The experts included Shri Arun Bhagat, Dr Suresh Chand, Shri A.K. Sinha, Shri Kalyan Banerjee, Shri Prabhat Kumar, Ms Lipika Bhushan among others.

@ Patna

“The publishing course would prove much beneficial for the youth as it would make them self-employed in publishing industry,” said Shri Krishna Nandan Prasad Verma, Hon’ble Minister of Education, Government of Bihar at the inaugural function of Book Publishing Course in Patna. The course was held at Patna Law College, Patna from 7 to 13 October 2018.

Appreciating the course, Shri Verma remarked that for the larger interest of the students such job-oriented courses need to be started in different universities.

Prof. Rash Bihari Prasad Singh, Vice Chancellor, Patna University said though e-books have of late come into use, the charm of physical books shall remain forever and keep on attracting the readers. He urged the participants to emulate high standards set by eminent publishers of the world when they take up this profession.

The valedictory function was held on 13 October 2018. Prof. N K Jha, Dean, Social Welfare, Patna University and Dr Mohammad Sharif, Principal, Patna Law College were the special guests on occasion. Over 30 participants from across the state attended the course. The faculty of the course included Shri Pranav Singh, Shri G S Jolly and Shri B D Mendiratta.

The training courses were coordinated by Shri Narendra Kumar, Production Officer, NBT.

Book Exhibition in Punjab


Shri Abhijeet Kaplish, IAS, Sub Divisional Magistrate, Mansa inaugurated the exhibition. He encouraged children and youth to become a part of culture of reading.

During the exhibition, several literary and cultural programmes were organized by the Trust. A two-day translation workshop was organized in which the participants translated sixteen NBT titles for children including Rahul and His Dream Bat, Water, Prakash Manu ki Chuninda Kahaniyan, Sabzi Mandi, Chitra Mudgal Ki Chuninda Bal Kahaniyan and Bansuri Ke Sur into Punjabi. The participants at the workshop were: Shri Gurpreet Mansa, Shri Tanveer, Shri Rajvinder Mir, Shri Jagdeep Sidhu, Dr Sandeep Singh, Dr Barinder Kaur, Dr Buta Singh Sekhon, Dr Hardeep Sidhu and Shri Darshan Singh Joga. The workshop was conducted by Dr Paramjeet Ramana, noted translator.

On 17 October, several activities for children including essay writing, recitation and story writing competitions were organized in which a large number of students from schools and colleges from across the district participated. Besides, a poets’ meet, cultural programme and an interaction with young authors were organized by Punjab Art Council, Government of Punjab; Punjabi Akademi, Delhi and Shiksha Vikas Manch respectively.

The programme was coordinated by Ms Navjot Kaur, Punjabi editor, NBT.
“All religions of the world source their inspiration and guidance from books referred to by their practitioners,” said Shri Praful Patel, Hon’ble Administrator of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu at the inaugural of the first-ever book festival held at Silvassa, Dadra and Nagar Haveli. The Festival was organized by the National Book Trust, India in collaboration with Union Territory Administration of Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Dept. of Tourism at Stadium Ground, Silvassa from 30 September to 7 October 2018.

Shri Patel urged teachers and officials to remain proactive during the entire period of the book festival and to ensure maximum participation in order to benefit from the wide range of books available at the Fair.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Natubhai G. Patel, Hon’ble Member of Parliament, Dadra & Nagar Haveli said that organizing a book fair is the need of the hour and he hoped that this festival would become an annual event in the days to come.

Shri Saurabh Shah, noted Gujarati author also spoke on the occasion. He said that books are important to us as they not only educate us but also build our character. Shri S.S. Yadav, IAS (Advisor to Hon’ble Administrator) also spoke on the occasion.

During the Festival, several cultural programmes and literary activities were organized including illustration and writing workshops, and storytelling sessions. On the first day, renowned Pandavani exponent Teejan Bai gave a mesmerizing performance at the festival.

More than 30,000 titles from various publishers and booksellers in Hindi, English, Gujarati and Marathi languages were displayed. The NBT stall had a special display of over 250 titles in Gujarati, Hindi, English and Marathi languages for all age groups and particularly for children.

A large number of book lovers visited the Fair and appreciated the wide range of books on spiritualism, yoga, science and technology, literature, etc.

Coinciding with the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the Western Regional Office (WRO) of National Book Trust, India organized a series of mobile book exhibitions at the birthplace of Mahatma Gandhi in Porbandar as well as at different cities of Gujarat and Daman & Diu. The exhibition concluded on 17th October 2018.

The programmes were coordinated by Shri Imranul Haque, Deputy Director (Exh.) and Shri Amit Kumar Singh, WRO, NBT India.
**Hindi Book Release**

"Mahaman Madan Mohan Malaviya was a visionary who while fighting for the freedom had a clear picture of the future Bharat and his every step was directed towards materialising his vision about future Bharat," said Shri Mohan Bhagwat at the release function of *Mahamana Madan Mohan Malaviya: Vayktitva Evam Vichar* held at National Museum, New Delhi on 3 October 2018. The book authored by Shri Balmukund, has recently been published by the National Book Trust, India.

Shri Bhagwat further added that Madan Mohan Malviya left his imprints not only in politics and journalism but also in social reforms. He was a guide and philosopher, and his views were received very attentively, but he never imposed his views on anybody.

Prof. Satish Mittal, noted historian presided over the function. Prof. Mittal said that he was a journalist and a teacher par excellence. His every word proved to be a 'sanjivani' for the youth in those days. As a Barrister, he accepted only those cases, which were genuine and he never defended anyone in false cases. As a social reformer also, he tirelessly worked to eradicate untouchability and urged the upper caste people to be respectful to sections of the society. He never hesitated to plead for the social cause. His 1916 speech was so much inspiring that it motivated countless youth to work for the nation and the society. He was of the firm opinion that unless the Hindu society is united, this nation cannot move forward in the desired direction," Prof Mittal added.

The other speakers on the occasion included Dr BR Mani, Director General, National Museum; and Shri Ishwar Vishwakarma, General Secretary, Itihas Sankalan Yojna.

"It is a matter of honour that National Book Trust, India has published a biography on a great patriot Madan Mohan Malaviya," said Shri Baldeo Bhai Sharma, Chairman, NBT. He hoped that the book will help readers to understand the life and times of this great personality closely. In his address, Shri Sharma also talked about various new initiatives of the Trust for the promotion of books and the culture of reading in the country.

**Frankfurt Book Fair**

N ational Book Trust, India participated in the Frankfurt Book Fair held at Frankfurt, Germany from 10 - 14 October 2018. With the catch line *Lettres d’Afrique Francfort: Changing the Narrative*, for the first time a multi-day programme of events around the African book market was organized. Publishing houses and collective stands from 19 African countries exhibited titles at the book fair including Angola, Ethiopia, Ghana, the Cape Verde Islands, Nigeria and Senegal. This year Georgia was the Guest of Honour country at the Fair. More than 70 authors from Georgia participated in various events organized during the Fair. A wide range of novels, crime fiction, short stories, myths and fairy tales, Georgian epics, poetry anthologies, non-fiction, collections of critical essays and books for children and young adults were exhibited at the Pavilion. Besides, there was a special focus on Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in which numerous countries from ASEAN including Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and the Philippines participated.

The year 2018 marks 25 years of NBT’s participation at the Frankfurt Book Fair. This year, National Book Trust, India participated with a collective exhibit of over 300 books representing 40 publishers from across the country.

Many publishers, trade visitors and dignitaries visited the NBT stall. They showed keen interest in books on spiritualism, yoga, self-help books, memoirs, autobiographies, travelogues as well as books for children and young adults. Among the dignitaries who visited the stall included Ms Pratibha Parkar, IFS, CGI, Frankfurt, Germany; Maruf Alam- Editor, DPD; Shri Vikram Sahay, JS, MIB; Shri Anindya Sengupta, Director, DPD visited NBT’s stall and appreciated the wide range of publications exhibited at the stall. In a post, Consulate General of India, Frankfurt stated, “CGI Frankfurt is happy to see a great response at the National Book Trust, India stand during the Book Fair/ Frankfurter Buchmesse, the largest book fair in the world, held in Frankfurt. Consul (Commerce) Mr. Prem Singh Chauhan visited the Fair and visited the stalls representing India in Hall 6 at the Fair.”
Historical Novel of Fascinating Sweep

A gripping historical novel, written by an Indian, and yet faraway from the 21st century battles of Growth versus Development, of Secularism versus Hindutva et al. Full of romances and intrigues woven around quickly developing international events rewriting national boundaries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia from the last quarter of the 20th century.

But penned as it is by an Indian, its also moves around India and Indians very knowledgeably. And as the author is very well informed on matters Russian and Central Asian (having also written an authoritative account of the Great October Socialist Revolution), it skilfully jumps in and out of the violent redrawing of national boundaries and domestic governments in last three decades which has made Asia a veritable zone.

There is Shivan Kamboj, a bit transitory in his emotional sweeps, but admirably courageous in his independent line of thinking, which as a journalist lands him in jail during Indira Gandhi’s Emergency.

There is Alexei Rumyantsev who like many Russians sincerely thought their alliance with Afghanistan would liberate that oppressive feudal order. The chain of events led to an end-result not expected either in Russia or the West—that the burden of Russian intervention would precipitate the fall of the Soviet system. More tragically, it saw the rise of Islamic fundamentalism promoted by the West to counter Soviet hegemony in Central Asia which is now eating into the West’s security systems like cancer, suppressed in one country only to cultivate its cells in another. And the disorder in Yeltsin’s Russia in the aftermath of the fall of the Soviets, picturesquely depicted through the personal vicissitudes of Alexei’s doctor-wife, Ludmilla, is gripping.

Prince Farid Brezhna, a Westernised Afghan, sees the local warlords and the Mujahideen (both propped up by the West to counter Communist thoughts) as obscurantist and hence antagonises them.

His lands are taken over and wife, Anahita, violated and disfigured, a violent preview of the Taliban and ISIS habits in the 21st century.

Achala Moulik has penned a fascinating historical sweep, where the London School of Economics during the Cuban crisis of October 1962 is the gathering-point of the main characters. And the night of Kennedy’s (still unexplained) murder is when Shivan tells Romona of his uncharted marriage plans, taking three years to finally marry her in a Venice gondola! In due course, the scene shifts to India, where on return Shivam and Romona discover the problems of chaos (thrown up by the uncertainties of 1967 poll results in the States?) and of Naxalite disorders (thrown up by the unsettled peasantry issues).

Shivam now also reports on the fall of Saigon, where for the first time a small Asian nation defeated, in succession, two Western military powers. The romance of the US GI forces was buried, only to rear its head 40 years later in Afghanistan, Iran, and Syria, with the ugly change of combat battles now replaced by missile attacks and drone assaults, launched from a safe distance.

Shivan’s journalistic forays now take him to Iran, where the Islamic Revolution throws out the West-propped-up Shah and his (un-Islamic style) corrupt family.

By 1993, Shivan moves to Bosnia in 1993, to report on Tito’s unified Yugoslavia falling to pieces, into half-a-dozen divided countries! Verily, the West won!!

Achala Moulik has written a historical novel very well, and hopefully it will spin off similarly readable novels on Indian political historiography. The only factual difference that I can raise is her imputation that Sivan (when he returns to Delhi and India by the turn of the 21st century) is appalled by the deterioration of the press. My own take is that the Indian press (exemplified by The Indian Express and EPW) has finally thrown up shining islands of investigative journalism. And yet, its a highly recommendable book.... excellent prose of fictional personal stories woven around fast-moving historical events.

After 35 years in the IAS, the reviewer is now occupied fulltime in a Claims Commission reporting directly to the Supreme Court.

- by Alok Sinha

http://www.mainstreamweekly.net/article8084.html
Books for Children and Young Adults

The biggest multilingual publisher of books for children in India, National Book Trust, India brings out colourful and well illustrated books for various age-groups in 30 Indian languages and English with the intention of providing books to children in their own mother-tongue. All books for children and young adults are published under the series, Nehru Bal Pustakalya and Young India Library. Some of the recent and important titles are given below -

A Story about Tea
Arup Kumar Dutta
Both entertaining and educative, this is an adventure story set in the background of tea gardens and explains all about the growing and processing of tea.
978-81-237-0169-1; Rs 30

A Tale of Trouble
M C Gabriel
The adventures of a mouse who loses her luxuriant long tail and is driven from pillar to post in her attempts to regain it.
978-81-237-2573-4; Rs 30

Adventures in the Desert
Cheryl Rao
A group of friends visit a desert town and stumbles upon lost mysteries and forgotten history in the sand dunes.
978-81-237-2524-6; Rs 30

Adventures of Dipu the Donkey
Vernon Thomas
This enchanting story is about Dipu and his friends which include a parrot, monkey, elephant, grasshopper and frog. Subtly interwoven into the story is a concern and love for the environment and animals.
978-81-237-0811-9; Rs 25

Animals You Can’t Forget
Ruskin Bond
This collection of stories makes interesting reading while bringing to limelight some common household animals and their bewildering characteristics.
978-81-237-4954-9; Rs 55

As They Saw India
K C Khanna
An interesting account of India as seen through the eyes of Hiuen Tsang, Fa-Hien, Megasthenes and Alberuni.
978-81-237-0170-7; Rs 25

Bholu and Golu
Pankaj Bisht
Bholu the circus bear and Golu the little boy become great friends. What follows is the story of many adventures they face.
978-81-237-1908-5; Rs 30

Bukka Learns a Lesson
Dipanwita Roy
A charming tale about a boisterous elephant calf that does not care for anyone and loves to create trouble.
978-81-237-6749-9; Rs 45

Ek-Kori’s Dream
Mahasveta Devi
The story of a little boy who paints, carves beautiful figures and tells stories in pictures and who dreams of building a temple for the queen.
978-81-237-0154-7; Rs 30

Everest: My Journey to the Top
Bachendri Pal
The autobiography of Bachendri Pal, the first Indian woman to have climbed Everest.
978-81-237-1527-8; Rs 25

Festival of Eid
Premchand
The moving story of a poor little boy who visits the Eid fair and returns with a pair of tongs for his grandmother so that she does not burn her hands while cooking.
978-81-237-2592-5; Rs 25

From Bone to Stone
Karen Haydock
An illustrated story of the fossilisation of a dinosaur which was killed around 67 million years ago in a fight with another dinosaur.
978-81-237-2665-6; Rs 45

Granny’s Day Out
Debashish Majumdar
This is a hilarious tale about a Granny who decides to have fun. It finally becomes too much to digest and she returns tired and famished.
978-81-237-6196-1; Rs 30

Holidays Have Come
Rabindranath Tagore
Originally written in Bangla, this is a very touching tale about a boy who due to his aggressive disposition becomes a victim of circumstances.
978-81-237-5619-6; Rs 30

Jawaharlal Nehru
Tara Ali Baig
Replete with anecdotes and profusely illustrated with photographs, this book brings alive Nehru the child, adolescent, young man and the Prime Minister.
978-81-237-0160-8; Rs 40

Joy in the Jungle
Santanoo Tamuly
A story about a boy called Munu who is very kind-hearted, loves nature and how he manages to help a baby rhinosaurus survive.
978-81-237-5628-8; Rs 30

Lizards
Indraneil Das & Romulus Whitaker
An informative book about the locale, habits, breeding, etc. of different kinds of lizards. Pencil sketches and photographs complement the text.
978-81-237-2145-3; Rs 18

Mangu’s Top
Kamakshi Balasubramanian
A gentle story of a poor boy who has no toy to play with till he comes across a battered top and makes it his own.
978-81-237-0310-7; Rs 30
**Mother Teresa**
Lila Majumdar & Bachi Karkaria
The life and work of Mother Teresa and her Sisters of Charity are told through interesting and revealing anecdotes. This book is profusely illustrated with black and white photographs of Mother and the Sisters at work.
978-81-237-1082-2; Rs 25

**Music of the Hills**
Ranjita Biswas
Mysterious circumstances happening in an abandoned house in Shillong makes Jocelyn and June, the two sisters, fearful but curious too. A thrilling story that introduces young readers to the concept of bio-piracy and how it affects environment.
978-81-237-8029; Rs 60

**My Life: The Tale of a Butterfly**
Anjan Sarkar
Exquisitely photographed, this book in a frame by frame sequence narrates the remarkable and beautiful changes in the life-cycle of a butterfly.
978-81-237-2333-4; Rs 32

**My Robot Robbi**
Dilip M Salwi
This fascinating story of a Robot called Robbi – 999 XHA and his young master Sunny, contains interesting facts about the history and origin of Robots besides games and puzzles.
978-81-237-2469-0; Rs 25

**Once in a Village . . .**
H C Madan
This is a charming story of a village which is affected by drought due to the felling of trees, portraying the importance of preservation and conservation of nature.
978-81-237-2046-3; Rs 30

**Our Environment**
Laeeq Futehally
Written in an easy and lucid style, the book looks at the varied natural environment of our country in all their contours of utility and aesthetic appeal.
978-81-237-0036-6; Rs 90.00

**Our Useful Plants**
K S Sekharam
A little girl finds out how plants live and grow big, what kinds of plants can grow indoors, how they prepare their food with the help of sunlight, water and soil, and a lot more.
978-81-237-1110-2; Rs 30

**Raju and Jimmi**
Bandita Phukan
An English rendering of a story originally written in Assamiya, it is a sensitive portrayal of a young boy who cares for his pet dog Jimmi.
978-81-237-4538-1; Rs 17

**Rock Climbing**
Manohar Puri
This book presents the different techniques of rock climbing, various rock features, the equipment used, which will encourage and help the youngsters to take up this challenge.
81-237-4621-0; Rs 105.00

**Seven Stairs to Sun**
Dipanwita Roy
The book was developed in an author-illustrator workshop held in Goa in June 2012.
978-81-237-7889-1; Rs 60

**Some Indian Saints**
Gopinath Talwalkar
The book relates the stories of some Indian saints who fought against evils like untouchability.
978-81-237-0250-6; Rs 30

**Some Street Games of India**
Mulk Raj Anand
A recapitulation of some of the common games played on the streets of India by young children.
978-81-237-1099-0; Rs 25

**Stories from Bapu’s Life**
Uma Shankar Joshi
In this book the noted Gujarati writer relates some interesting episodes from Bapu’s life.
978-81-237-0508-8; Rs 35

**The Bridge at Borim**
Surekha Panandikar
This is the story of Joze, a young boy from the fishermen community of Goa and his heroic exploits during the struggle for the liberation of Goa.
ISBN 978-81-237-2687-8; Rs 30

**The Sultan’s Choice and Other Stories**
Kala Thairani
A collection of some fascinating stories from different countries viz., Philippines, China, Sri Lanka, Thailand, etc. illustrated by various artists.
978-81-237-3990-8; Rs 60

**The Unforgettable Nehru**
P D Tandon
The author, who knew Nehru from close quarters, presents vignettes regarding glimpses of Nehru’s dauntless courage, generosity, irritability, his personal joys and suffering, and warmth of his heart.
81-237-4099-9; Rs 90.00

**The Weaver-Bird’s Nest**
Dipanwita Roy
A story about a little fairy, Twinkle who grows to become a weaver bird.
978-81-237-7862-4; Rs 60

**The Whole Wide World**
Jeyanthi Manokaran
This book talks about the paradoxes in nature.
978-81-237-6387-3; Rs 30

**We Indians**
Mehroo J Wadia
This small attractive workbook emphasises national integration. It describes the dress, language and interests of people belonging to the various states of India.
978-81-237-1097-6; Rs 25
World Science Day

Celebrated every 10 November, World Science Day for Peace and Development highlights the important role of science in society and the need to engage the wider public in debates on emerging scientific issues. The theme for 2018 is “Science, a Human Right”, in celebration of the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Article 27), and of the Recommendation on Science and Scientific Researchers. Recalling that everyone has a right to participate in and benefit from science, it will serve to spark a global discussion on ways to improve access to science and to the benefits of science for sustainable development. Given below are some of the books on Science published by NBT.

Ecology and Sustainable Development
P S Ramakrishnan
This revised edition discusses community participation in natural resource management, which is linked to sustainable management of natural and human-managed ecosystems, with concern for sustainable livelihood of rural societies in the short-term, and sustainable development of the region as part of a long-term plan.
ISBN 978-81-237-5257-0; Rs. 145.00

Impact of Science and Technology in Warfare
K V Gopalakrishnan
Warfare has been a constant feature of human history and the most powerful impact on it has been due to the application of science and technology in the past few centuries. In this book scientific and technological breakthroughs are described and their impacts are also discussed.
ISBN 81-237-4060-3; Rs. 70.00

Environmental Ethics
Niranjan Dev Bharadwaj
This book explains the readers about the importance of environmental ethics and how by the application of environmental ethics every single person on this Earth can contribute in environmental protection and conservation.
ISBN 978-81-237-8142-6; Rs 60

Of Science and Scientists: An Anthology of Anecdotes
A N Kothare and others
Although a lot is available in the form of biographies and writings of scientists, very little information is found on what made them great discoverers and humane. This book helps to convey this very aspect of scientists who, while being involved in their unique adventure, are like us, the lesser mortals.
ISBN 978-81-237-0917-8; Rs. 115.00

On India Government Service

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