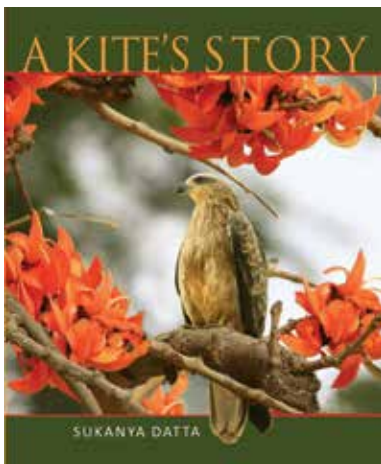


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### PICK OF THE MONTH



**A Kite's Story**  
Sukanya Datta  
978-81-237-8710-7  
Rs 155

## Sharjah International Book Fair



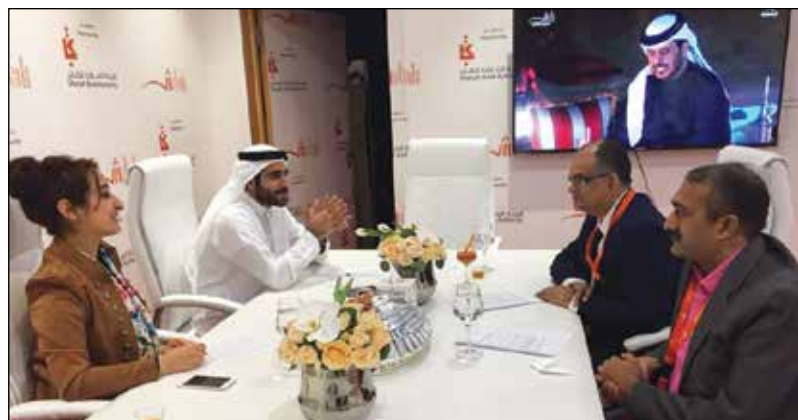
National Book Trust, India participated in the 37th edition of Sharjah International Book Fair held at Expo Centre Sharjah, from October 31 to 10 November 2018.

His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan Bin Muhammad Al Qasimi, Member of the Supreme Council and Ruler of Sharjah inaugurated the Fair. HE Ahmed Al Ameri, Chairman of the Sharjah Book Authority and His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan bin Muhammad Al Qasimi, Member of the Supreme Council and Ruler of Sharjah

were also present on the occasion.

The theme of the Fair was 'Tale of Letters'. Over 470 authors, poets and artists from 19 countries participated in the literary and cultural programmes including celebrity author talks, seminars, book signings, poetry and storytelling and theatre held during the Fair. Over 1800 publishers from 77 countries participated in the Fair who displayed over 1.6 million titles, of which 80,000 titles were displayed at the Fair for the first time.

This year Japan was the Guest of



Honour and Azzeldine Mihoubi, Algeria's Minister of Culture, was the Cultural Personality of the Year. More than 100 literary activities, lectures and workshops were organized at the Guest of Honour pavilion in which 13 award-winning Japanese authors and artists participated. Cultural programmes including Japanese classic and folk music, Samurai show as well as book signing ceremonies by a number of Japanese writers and literary figures were also organised.

The three-day SIBF Publishers Conference was held which engaged 486 publishers in various panel discussions, and 3,000 matchmaking meetings. Besides, several workshops for children were also organized.

This year's guests at the SIBF 2018 included British writers James E. Montgomery, Bruce Parry and Emma Gannon; American authors Dr Leonard Mlodinow, James W. Parkinson and A.J. Finn as well as Canadian YouTuber, Lilly Singh. Indian writers and celebrities including Soha Ali Khan, noted actor; Ranveer Brar, Indian Chef, TV Host and Food Stylist, and Manu S. Pillai, 2017's Yuva Sahitya Akademi Award winner also participated at the Fair.

National Book Trust, India



participated with a Collective Exhibit of nearly 300 titles of 35 Indian publishers in Hindi, English, Urdu, Malayalam and Tamil languages. To commemorate the 150 years' celebrations of Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary, a major focus of the Exhibit was books on and by Mahatma Gandhi as well his associates in



India's National Movement. NBT books on Gandhiji like *Bapu* by F.C. Freitas, *What is Hinduism* by Gandhiji, *Gandhi: The Writer* by Bhabani Bhattacharya, *Gandhi: A Life* by Krishna Kriplani, *Gandhiji and His Disciples* by Jayant Pandya were among the 30 books that were part of special Exhibit.

Besides, National Book Trust, India was the facilitator to the participation of 25 Indian publishers at the Sharjah International Book Fair. Shri Navdeep Suri, Hon'ble Ambassador of India to UAE, visited the NBT stall. NBT's participation at this year's Fair had a special dimension too. Sharjah is the Guest of Honour at the New Delhi World Book Fair (5-13 January 2019) being organised by the Trust. The NBT delegation had a wide ranging meeting on various issues with Hon'ble Al-Amiri, Chairman of Sharjah Book Authority and his team. National Book Trust, India delegation also had a meeting with Ms. Smita Pant, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of India, UAE and Mr Kapil Raj, Second Secretary, Embassy of India at Abu Dhabi.

Shri Kumar Vikram, Editor and Shri Imran Ul-Haque, Deputy Director (Exhibition) represented NBT, India at the Fair.

## Sharjah: Guest of Honour at NDWBF 2019

Sharjah is the third largest and third most populous city in the United Arab Emirates, forming part of the Dubai-Sharjah-Ajman metropolitan area. It is located along the southern coast of the Persian Gulf on the Arabian Peninsula.

Sharjah is the capital of the emirate of Sharjah. Sharjah shares legal, political, military and economic functions with the other emirates of the UAE within a federal framework, although each emirate has jurisdiction over some functions such as civil law enforcement and provision and upkeep of local facilities. Sharjah has been ruled by the Al Qasimi dynasty since the 18th century.

Though young, the Sharjah publishing industry is growing rapidly, it hosts Sharjah International Book Fair annually which is the third largest book fair in the world and has recently opened the world's first



specialised book publishing free zone. The zone currently offers 40,000 square metres of offices and office space for up to 550 publishers, distributors, printers and other associated publishing businesses.

Sharjah has been chosen as the 'World Book Capital 2019' by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

As part of the India-UAE Joint Statement released during the visit of the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to UAE in February 2018, Sharjah is the Guest of Honour at the New Delhi World Book Fair (5-13 January 2019). Sharjah has been chosen the guest of honour due to its pioneering efforts in the promotion of literature, arts in all its forms, intercultural appreciation, reading and knowledge sharing in the region.

Sharjah, as the Guest of Honour, will be participating with a delegation of publishers, writers, artists and other intellectuals at NDWBF. A host of programmes, including literary events, discussions, workshops and cultural programmes will be organized during the Fair. These interactive sessions will help the booklovers know about the rich literature, tradition and culture of Sharjah.



# National Education Day Celebrations

“I have many friends. But there are two friends who are very close to me, one is the book and the other are children,” said Shri Divik Ramesh, noted children’s author at the storytelling session organized by the National Centre for Children’s Literature at NBT Conference Room, New Delhi on 12 November 2018. The session was organized to mark the National Education Day



celebrations. The occasion marks the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the first education minister of India.

He added, “Whenever I write a story, I first get it reviewed by children before printing.” Talking about the importance of reading habit, he said that books are a source of knowledge and help us become a good human being. He further said that learning is incomplete with textbooks, one needs to read books other than textbooks also. He made children aware about their rights also like right to play, right to read books, etc.

Encouraging children to read books,

he read out a Korean poem in Hindi and remarked that a number of quality books from across the world are now available in the form of translations.

Later, he narrated stories from his



book, *Lulu Ki Sanak* and interacted with the children. Children asked him several questions like when he started writing stories, who inspired him to write, etc.

In her address, Dr Rita Chowdhury, Director, NBT said that children’s literature is different from other literature. It helps children to learn new things and gives them guidance. She added that authors are part of human

development. Therefore, they should write books according to the interest of children and help them enhance their inquisitiveness.

Ms Neera Jain, Chief Editor & Joint Director, NBT also spoke on the occasion. She hoped that the children would enjoy the session and learn new things.

Around 50 children from an NGO namely, Combined Action for Progress participated in the programme.

Shri Dwijendra Kumar, English Editor, NBT India, coordinated the programme.

## FAIR DAILY

The visitors’ pick and a must read for the New Delhi World Book Fair goes is the **FAIR DAILY**. An NBT initiative, the **FAIR DAILY** is the only daily publication which is distributed throughout the fair grounds. It is the best and unique opportunity for publishers, booksellers and other fair participants to be seen and heard.

You can advertise your contents/products to attract visitors to your stall at the Fair. The Rates for the Advertisements are:

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NEW DELHI

# World Book Fair 2019

5-13 January 2019

Pragati Maidan, New Delhi



**BOOKING DATES**  
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2018



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presence for  
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Delight"  
- The Quint

## WELCOME TO THE NEW DELHI WORLD BOOK FAIR 2019

New Delhi World Book Fair (NDWBF) today is a major calendar event in the publishing world. NDWBF 2019 is scheduled from 5 to 13 January 2019 at the centrally located Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. The Fair is organized by National Book Trust, India an apex body of the Government of India under the Ministry of Human Resource Development. ITPO, under the Ministry of Commerce, is the co-organizer of the Fair. As one of the fastest growing publishing industries in the world, the Indian book market offers a

diverse range of business opportunities. And the best way to explore and trade with this market is through participation at the New Delhi World Book Fair, one of the biggest book Fairs in the world. Held annually, the NDWBF attracts over 1000 exhibitors not only from across India but also major international publishing houses of the world. Besides, the Fair also hosts many literary and publishing conferences, emerging new voices in Indian writing as well as special programmes for children and youth.

Online booking for stands/stalls at : [www.newdelhiworldbookfair.gov.in](http://www.newdelhiworldbookfair.gov.in)



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# Books on Energy and Environment

December is a special month of environmentalists. 2nd December is observed as 'National Pollution Control Day'; 8th December is 'Plastic Free Day'; and 14th December is 'World Energy Conservation Day'. NBT has published a number of books related to environment and energy conservation. Some of the titles are given below.

## Our Environment

Laeq Futehally

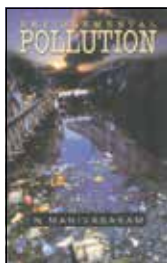
Written in an easy and lucid style, the book looks at the varied natural environment of our country in all their contours of utility and aesthetic appeal. The author emphasises, without being averse to the needs of man's dependence on Nature, that most of the damage inflicted on the environment is unwittingly done.

ISBN 978-81-237-0036-6; ₹ 95.00



is increasing day by day, this book, while discussing the general nature of pollution, also examines in detail some of the major areas of pollution like air, water and soil, including thermal radiation and noise pollution and their deleterious impact on man and environment alike.

ISBN 978-81-237-1034-1; ₹ 100.00



## Minerals, Mines and Environment in Human Life

K K Chatterjee

This book seeks to bridge all the gaps between the mining industries and the environmentalist groups and clear the confusion in the minds of all the stakeholders by treating the subject through a blend of geology, social science and environmental science.

ISBN 978-81-237-6733-8; ₹ 90.00



## 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; ₹ 145.00



## Plastics: A Threat to Mankind

Chintan

This book explains the impact of plastics on the environment, human health and economy, and what all is being done to reduce our dependence on the plastics, which will eventually be beneficial to the mankind in the long run.

ISBN 978-81-237-4629-6; ₹ 45.00

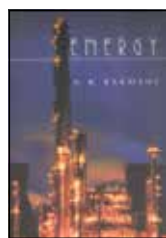


## Energy

A K Bakhshi

The importance of energy in our daily life can never be overemphasised particularly in today's world when fossil fuels are in danger of being depleted. There is practically no activity which does not involve the transfer or transformation of energy. This book discusses its various aspects including the consequences of production and utilisation of energy on our environment.

ISBN 978-81-237-1458-5; ₹ 80.00



## Primer on Forest Biodiversity

P S Ramakrishnan

This volume emphasizes upon ecological, social, economic and cultural dimensions of forestry, taking a trans-disciplinary approach towards forest biodiversity conservation



and linked sustainable forest management. ISBN 978-81-237-6301-9; ₹ 70.00

## Primer on Sustaining Agrobiodiversity for Food Security

P S Ramakrishnan

Part of a series of primers on biodiversity, this volume discusses designing sustainable pathways for sustainable agriculture for ensuring future food security for all.

ISBN 978-81-237-6362-0; ₹ 60.00



## We Breathe and Drink Poison

N Manivasakam

The book discusses the major areas of pollution like air, water and soil and how thermal radiation and noise pollution are casting an impact on man and his environment, posing a danger to all living beings.

ISBN 978-81-237-1488-2; ₹ 90.00



## Wind Energy

Suneel B Athawale

This book, through diagrams and illustrations, introduces the readers to this non-conventional source of energy and explains how wind energy can be converted into mechanical and electrical energy by windmills for supplementing our energy needs.

ISBN 978-81-237-0679-5; ₹ 75.00



## A Real Giraffe

Deepa Agarwal

Illustrator: Arya Praharaj

An interesting story about a boy who wants a real giraffe. But his parents make him understand the real living place of giraffe is in natural habitat with parents.

ISBN 978-81-237-5625-7; ₹ 40.00

## Environmental Pollution

N Manivasakam

At a time when environmental pollution

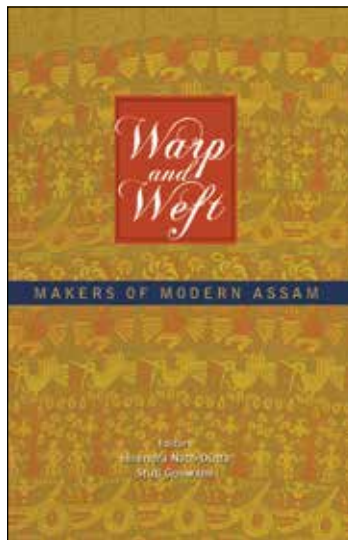
## Excerpts: Warp and Weft

NBT India is publishing a book titled *Warp and Weft: Makers of Modern India*, edited by Hirendra Nath Dutta & Stuti Goswami. Herein we reproduce excerpts from the chapter 'Sankaradeva' - Editor

No other individual has left such a powerful and lasting influence on Assamese life and society as Sankaradeva. For the last five centuries, Assam has witnessed diverse upheavals of social change; its political sky has resounded many a time with feuds amongst kings and princes, foreign invasions, imperial dominations, and so on. However, Sankaradeva has managed to survive all such vicissitudes and retain the same hold on the Assamese people as he had half a millennium ago.

This has been possible because Sankaradeva was not only a guru who propagated Neo-Vaishnavism in Assam; he was a multi-faceted personality whose actions and ideals have reinvigorated the Assamese for a new social restructuring. He was an erudite scholar, a gifted poet, a dramatist par excellence, a talented musician, a steadfast pursuer of humanistic ideals, and above all a social reformist.

Sankaradeva came from a Bhuyan family. 'Bhuyan' is corrupt form of the Sanskrit word *bhaumika* which means landowner. His great-great-grandfather Chandivara was a resident of Gauda country. He came to Assam during the reign of Durlabhanarayana (1330-50), the powerful king who ruled the Kamata kingdom in the fourteenth century. The king granted him land at a place called Lengamaguri near Hajo (near Guwahati). He migrated eastwards and settled at a place called Rauta on the north bank of the Brahmaputra. However, he did not remain there for long. In search of fertile land he came to the southern bank of the Brahmaputra, reclaimed lands near Bordowa, built a village called Alipukhuri by constructing roads (ali) and digging a tank (pukhuri) and finally settled there. He soon became a big landlord and came to be recognised as Siromani Bhuyan (or the head of the Bhuyans).



Chandivara's great grandson Kusumvara inherited the title of Siromani Bhuyan. Kusumvara was married to Satyasandha. As he remained childless for a long time he married again. Some time after his second marriage, his first wife gave birth to a son. With the belief that the newly born child was the result of his offerings to Lord Shiva, Kusumvara named him Sankaravara (or Sankara's boon). Sankaravara later came to be known as Sankaradeva.

Legend has it that Sankaradeva was born at Alipukhuri in 1449 AD. Some scholars, however, express reservations about this date. To them the actual date was some years later. When Sankaradeva was six years old, he lost his father and then his mother. Orphaned at a young age, he was brought up by his grandmother Khersuti and Jayanta, the younger brother of his grandfather who took up the title of Siromani Bhuyan on his behalf.

Pampered by his grandmother and other elders of the family, Sankaradeva began attending school at the age of twelve. He was admitted to a *tol* (a school where Sanskrit learning is given importance) under the supervision of Mahendra Kandali. Sankara was a gifted child and soon he outshone other pupils in his studies. At the same time, he also took great care of his health and practiced yoga. There are many tales that bear testimony to his immaculate physical fitness. He could swim across the Brahmaputra in

spate; tear off the threads tightly wound round his arms by flexing his muscles at will, keep his breath under control for a long time, and so on.

After leaving school in his late teens, Sankara took over the charge of Siromani Bhuyanship from his grand uncle and began to look after the family affairs. As he shouldered the responsibility at a young age, he came to be known as 'Dekagiri' (or Young Master). He was affable and sympathetic, and was loved and respected by everyone. Meanwhile, he shifted his residence to Bordowa, where he wrote his first book *Harischandra Upakhyana*.

In his early twenties, Sankaradeva married a fourteen-year-old girl named Suryavati. Three years later, a girl named Manu was born but unfortunately, his wife died nine months after the birth of this child. This incident created a vacuum in his life. He became indifferent to worldly pleasures and began to seek solace in religious musings. When the child attained the age of nine, he married her to a youth named Hari and went on a pilgrimage. For twelve years he visited various Vaishnavite centres of India, observed the overwhelming social and religious changes brought about by the Bhakti movement and then returned home to spread Neo-Vaishnavite ideals among the people of Assam. He refused to take charge of the Siromani Bhuyanship from his grand uncle and absolved himself from all other worldly responsibilities. However, owing to his grandmother's insistence, he married a young girl named Kalindi, who was to be his devoted companion for the rest of his life.

Sankaradeva's first step to draw people towards his form of Neo-Vaishnavism was the performance of a dance musical named *Chihna* where he depicted the glory of Lord Krishna. It is said that he himself did everything necessary for the successful performance of the musical — he drew the paintings of the seven heavens (or *sapta vaikuntha*), prepared the paints all by himself, had the musical instruments made under his guidance by local artisans, and played the part of the major instrumentalist.

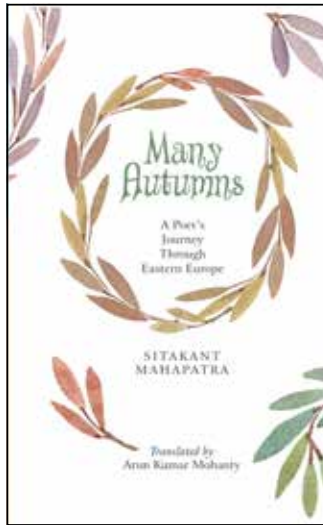
## Excerpts: Many Autumns

NBT India is publishing a book titled *Many Autumns: A Poet's Journey through Eastern Europe*, written originally in Odia by Sitakant Mahapatra and translated into English by Arun Kumar Mohanty. Herein we reproduce excerpts from the chapter 'The Way and the Wayfarer' - *Editor*

It was not yet autumn in Bhubaneswar or Delhi by the last week of August. As the monsoon was gradually receding, the sky got clearer. Floating clouds, dew drops in the late night, the night sky getting clearer, flowers of the plumed grass dancing on riverine islands, joyous mood sweeping villages and towns heralding the approach of the festive season, the clear sunshine of Bhadrav-Aswina—all these would only be a matter of days when I embarked on this journey. And I would be coming back in the second week of October, when Dussera celebrations would be in full swing. Sometimes a shower or two would pound the earth.

As I took a Buubaneswar-Kolkata flight, the view of clouds emerging from the Bay of Bengal and camping at Jambu, Paradeep and on the Mahanadi mouth reminded me of the many autumns I had left behind in my life. All those experiences now formed a part of my memory. The flow of water in the Citrotpala gradually grew silent and still; ridge gourd and cucumber flowers no longer bloomed. The walls were painted with motifs of flowers, peacocks and elephants; swords gathering rust over the years were brought from store room, lekhanis, the traditional India pen, were cleaned of cobwebs—these articles and weapons of the yore would be worshipped on the occasion of Dussera. Lord Ramachandra had to offer worship to Goddess Durga in this season. Grandpa used to bless us, "Live a hundred autumns." The autumn sky, clouds, trees, men and celebrations are spread all over. I do not exactly remember which star represented my grandpa's eyes. But those days I certainly knew the star and even showed it to others once or twice.

I had heard from my friends Loknath Bhattacharya and Amrita Pritam that Lake



Ohrid and Struga town were among the most beautiful places in the world. They had attended the international poetry festival 'Struga Poetry Evenings' in the preceding years.

Loknath, Srikant and several other friends saw me off at the Delhi airport. Celebrated Malayalam poet and literary critic Ayyappa Paniker joined me at Mumbai. It was past midnight when the plane took off from Mumbai. My eyelids were heavy and I was feeling sleepy. Seats on my either side were occupied by ladies. On one side was Mrs Meena Kshatri, a newly married Nepalese lady. After spending a few days with her parents, she was going to join her husband, an electrical engineer working in Rome. On the other side was Mrs Pamela Rachael, a high level official working with an international organization YMCA. A native of Senegal in Africa, she was going to Sweden after inspecting the organisation's work in India, Indonesia and Thailand. We discussed Struga. She was extremely glad to know that the celebrated Senegalese poet Leopold Sedar Senghor was going to receive the prestigious Golden Wreath award for the year. Senghor, the first African to be elected as a member of the Academie Française, mostly wrote in French and had more than twenty collections to his credit. Later, I was surprised to see books of criticism on his work, that too in several languages.

Marshall McLuhan once said that the world has been contracted into a village by

technology. He has popularized the term 'global village' in his book *The Gutenberg Galaxy: The Making of Topographic Man* (1962). When I thought of my co-passengers on my both sides I felt the truth of McLuhan's statement. On several occasions, while traveling by train it also occurred to me that the fellow passengers, of different villages and towns, with different thoughts and dreams were there together for a few hours; their fate had brought them together. People of so many places were pulled together during such journeys. Friendship, bitterness and diverse feelings came to an end when it was time for them to go their separate ways—like travelers relaxing under the shade of a tree.

It was not yet morning when I got up. The plane had landed. I came out and noticed floating clouds in the sky and a few stars blinking from among them. Facing me was a hill and on the foothills there were layers of buildings of Beirut lighted with electric lamps. Darkness was gradually disappearing from the west facing the Mediterranean. Beirut airport was not very far from the sea. The morning sea breeze thrilled me. I remembered my father's words of advice: "Get up early in the morning, wash your face and take a walk. Morning breeze is good for health." Of course, I had not washed my face when I disembarked.

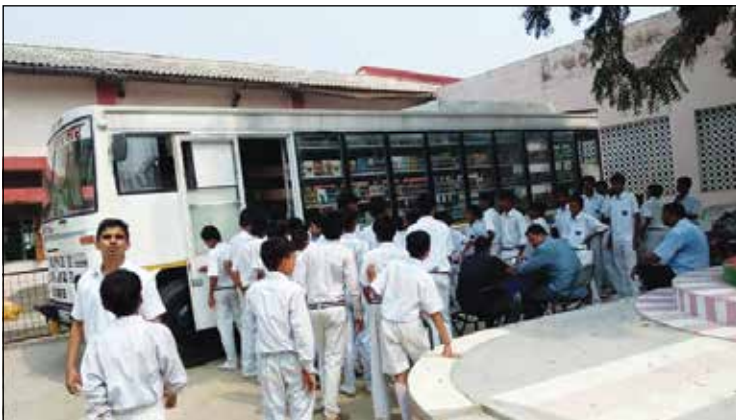
The view of the city of Beirut from the airport has always fascinated me. Twice earlier I had disembarked here early in the morning. I had enjoyed the cool morning breeze on the Mediterranean shore and watched palm leaves shiver as the city slept and dreamt. I do not know what the dream was about—perhaps some nightmare, that which took the ugly shape of murder, loot, violence and national calamity. The city of Beirut, the queen of the Middle East, how prosperous once this area was, a centre of tourist attractions! But alas, everything has been destroyed as mortars, machine guns and murderers ruled. Death, suffering and mourning have not spared anyone—Leftists, Rightists, Muslims and Christians; the intensity of tragedy was the same for everyone.



## Mobile Book Exhibitions in Maharashtra

Over the past few decades, Mobile Book Exhibitions are being organized by the National Book Trust, India. As part of the Trust's outreach programme, the mobile exhibition is a unique initiative which began over two decades ago and has helped the Trust to reach out to booklovers in nook and corner of the country, especially remote areas where it is difficult to find books and hardly any publisher approaches the readers. These mobile exhibitions have helped the Trust to carry forward its objective of promotion of books in English, Hindi and other Indian languages and the culture of reading in the country.

As part of this regular feature, Western Regional Office of the Trust which is located in Mumbai, is organizing the mobile book



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exhibition in Maharashtra in November and December 2018. The mobile vans will be organized in different parts of the State including Aurangabad, Beed, Jalna, Latur, Osmanabad, Pune, Satara and Solapur. These mobile vans will travel to various schools, colleges, villages, local markets, bus stands, etc. of the area. The schedule of the vans is given below.

Pune: 20 to 25 November 2018  
Satara: 25 to 30 November 2018  
Solapur: 1 to 5 December 2018  
Osmanabad: 6 to 10 December 2018  
Latur: 10 to 14 December 2018  
Beed: 14 to 19 December 2018  
Jalna: 19 to 23 December 2018  
Aurangabad: 23 to 28 December 2018

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