

I have been reading your Newsletter for so many years now and am amazed at the progress it has made.

The amount of information on various topics, books and

issues that it supplies is simply mind boggling.

Srinagar

Farooq Ahmad, IPS

My entire family is regular reader of your Newsletter so as it conveys us the whereabouts of the print worlds of India and abroad. We want to draw your attention on the speech of our Hon'ble President while inaugurating the 11th Delhi Book Fair on 27 August 2005. He emphasised about establishing village knowledge centres in the panchayats to empower the rural Indian masses. Will the NBT plan to act as a nodal agency for this cause? Till then, your efforts will be limited to the privileged class of urban India.

Unnao

Anubhav

THE READERS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND MONEY ORDERS TO THE TRUST WHILE PLACING ORDERS FOR BOOKS OR FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS.

THEY ARE ADVISED TO MAKE THEIR PAYMENTS THROUGH DEMAND DRAFT FOR THE SAME.

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The views expressed in the signed articles do not necessarily reflect the official views of the Trust.

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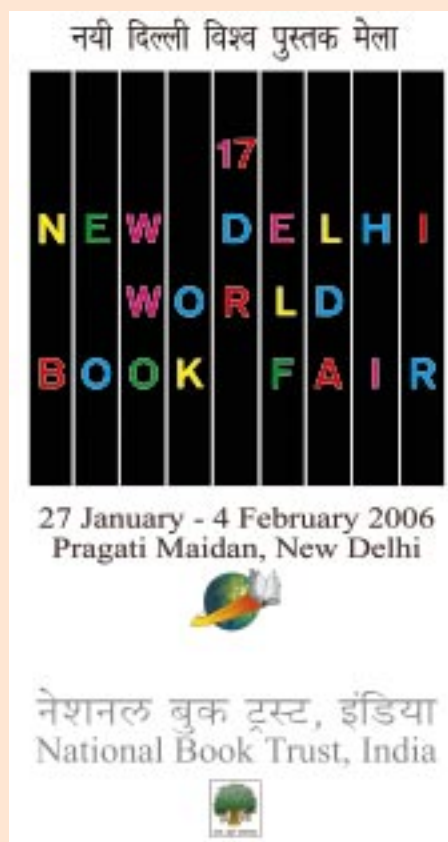
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ADIEU



After a distinguished service of over three decades, Shri Arun Chakraborty, Editor, National Book Trust, India, retired from the service of the Trust on 31 October 2005. A fond farewell was given to Shri Chakraborty, where his contribution to the Trust was recalled by Prof. Bipan Chandra, Chairman, Ms. Nuzhat Hassan, Director and other senior officials and colleagues.

FORTHCOMING BOOK FAIRS

International Book Festival, Kochi

3 to 12 December 2005

Aurangabad Book Fair

2 to 13 December 2005

17th Vijayawada Book Festival

1 to 11 January 2006

On India Government Service



INDIA AT THE FRANKFURT BOOK FAIR 2005

National Book Trust, India has all along been participating in the Frankfurt Book Fair (FBF). Frankfurt Book Fair 2005 had a participation of 6,700 exhibitors from more than 100 countries. This year the Indian participation at the Fair was a different experience because India was participating in its special capacity as the next Guest of Honour country. This time it was also the largest ever participation of Indian publishers as a part of the joint India Pavilion under the aegis of National Book Trust, India. For India, apart from the usual display of books, the Guest of Honour country status presented an opportunity to show glimpses of its publishing and printing capabilities as well as its cultural aspects through various programmes including screening of Indian films, seminars and discussions.

The specially designed India Pavilion with its posters and panels declaring India's Guest of Honour status at FBF 2006 reflected the theme *Today's India* with beautiful Indian calligraphic representations. Thirty Indian publishing houses including the National Book Trust, India participated



A view of India Pavilion

in the India Pavilion putting up their wide range of books on display. Indian delegation was led by Shri Sudeep K. Banerjee, Secretary, Secondary and Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development Govt. of India & Chairman, Steering Committee of India's GHP and included Prof. Bipan Chandra, Chairman, NBT and Ms Nuzhat Hassan, Director, NBT. Apart from the delegation and the participating Indian publishers, the programmes and meetings at the India Pavilion were also graced by the Acting Indian Ambassador in Germany, Shri Amit Dasgupta as well as the Consul General of India at Frankfurt, Shri Ashok Kumar who also actively participated in all the other programmes of India at different venues during the fair.

India as the next Guest of Honour country was invited by the Korean G.H.P. Organizing Committee to attend their inaugural function on 18th October 2005. The Fair was formally inaugurated on 19th October 2005. Visitors to the India Pavilion included rights experts as

well as marketing and general visitors. Besides, the India Pavilion generated huge interest and curiosity among all sections of the people.

A special programme was organised at the Business Breakfast Meeting on 'Indian Book Market'. The speakers Mr. Amarnath Verma of Star Publications and a book exporter, Shri Sukumar Das, Chairman, CAPEXIL, and Ms. V.K. Karthika of Penguin India Ltd. discussed various aspects and emerging dimensions of Indian book market and in particular the huge scope for mutual economic and intellectual partnerships that it

presents for the world at large and Germany in particular. The audience apart from the Indian participants and publishers comprised a large number of German print and visual media, German publishers and interested German public.

A seminar on 'Print Brand India' was also organised. Shri Sukumar Das and Shri Satish Malhotra, a senior member from the Master Printers Association of India participated. Among other things, they highlighted the potentialities and capabilities of Indian printing in terms of its range of quality and economy which could be utilised by the western world by outsourcing such



Prof. Bipan Chandra in a discussion with publishers

Contents

New Series on Popular Social Science Launched	3
Writers' Workshop at Jaisalmer	3
Asian Conference on Story-telling	4
Training Course in Book Publishing	4
Literary Week at Puri	5
Anthology of Maithili Poems Released	5
Books Received	5
Book Review	6
NBT Publications of the Month	7
Mail Bag	8

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Ms. Nuzhat Hassan and Shri Sudeep Banerjee (second from left) addressing the Press Conference

services to economise their overall operations.

On 20 October 2005, a Press Conference was organised declaring India as the Guest of Honour country at Frankfurt Book Fair 2006. The Press Conference was addressed by Shri Sudeep Banerjee, Ms. Nuzhat Hassan, Prof. K. Satchidanandan, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi and Shri Shakti Malik, President of the Federation of Indian Publishers. The Press Conference appropriately set the tone for India's Guest of Honour Presentation (GHP) next year as to what it has to offer in terms of publishing and printing capabilities, its literature and culture including theatre, films and various art forms to the world. The Press Conference attended by German media and others was followed by a reception.

On 21 October 2005 there were four different programmes. A presentation on *Translation of Indian Books into German: Scope and Potential* was addressed besides Ms. Nuzhat Hassan, by Shri N.K. Mehra and Shri Ashoke K Ghosh, both renowned Indian educational publishers. They emphasised on the scope as well as the potential that the Indian literature and publications hold globally and the necessity to facilitate their translations as a priority to unravel these rare literary treasures to the world at large. The speakers also highlighted the specific endeavour in the form of the translation fund that India has created under GHP.

In another presentation on *Children's Publishing in India* Shri Arvind Kumar, a renowned publishing professional and senior consultant from India looked at the whole gamut of children's publishing, its extent, its rich quality and range, its emerging dimensions and its global content with a high degree of scope for translations and travel across the world.

The same evening a general reception was hosted jointly by the National Book

Trust, India, Federation of Indian Publishers and the Federation of Publishers and Booksellers Association of India at the India Pavilion. It was joined by the officials from the Frankfurt Book Fair Authority, invitees from the Korean Organising Committee, other publishers, rights experts, literary agents dealing with India and having particular interest in Indian literature and books. The reception also highlighted the unified

enthusiasm on the part of all Indian participants not only those who were in the India Pavilion but the whole Indian publishing fraternity participating in terms of their collective motivation and urge to make India's GHP next year and its status as the guest in the FBF 2006 a grand success. Speaking at the reception Shri Sudeep Banerjee called upon and urged the whole publishing fraternity of India to join together in the endeavour to make most of this unique global opportunity.

In another presentation on *Academic Publishing in India* at the Academic Forum the speakers Mr Ashoke K. Ghosh and Ms. Urvashi Butalia, both renowned academic publishers, shared their vast experiences and ideas with German and other publishers from across the world.

On 22 October 2005 a special screening of the film *Parineeta* with English sub-titles was arranged at the Cinema Hall of the Book Fair. Another Hindi movie *Chandini Bar* was also screened at the same cinema hall on 23 October 2005.

On 23 October there was a programme at Gastlandhalle where Korea, the Guest of Honour country at FBF 2005 handed over the Guest of Honour Torch to India—the Guest of Honour country for FBF 2006. The programme was coordinated by Mr. Peter Weidhaas of the Frankfurt Book Fair Authority. On the special request of the programme coordinator, Ms. Nuzhat Hassan while symbolically accepting the Guest of Honour Torch from Korea thanked the gathering stating that India accepts the Guest of Honour status as a responsibility involving both a challenge and an opportunity for the Indian publishing. A special poetry recitation was organised where three poets participated from the Korean

side, and from the Indian side Prof. K. Satchidanandan and Shri K.K. Daruwalla participated. On the occasion Ms. Nuzhat Hassan presented token gifts on behalf of Indian Organizing Committee of GHP and Indian delegation to the Korean poets and the German translators and programme coordinator.

The Trust's proposal with regard to translation subsidy under the Translations Fund for GHP publications received huge response and large number of prominent German publishers turned up for discussing the modalities of translating and publishing Indian books under the programme. At the India Pavilion a special meeting with Shri Sudeep Banerjee was also organised for all the Indian participants at the Book Fair. Shri Banerjee shared with them in detail the ideas that are being developed for India's GHP and also the necessity for the Indian publishing community to put up a joint show to highlight the real global profile that India deserve to have both in publishing as well as printing. He felt that the Indian publishers should also maximise their participation in terms of numbers in the India Pavilion next year because the Indian publishers as one unified whole would present a much stronger face to be recognised by the world publishing community. He also felt that whatever costs can be subsidised for participation in terms of construction of India Pavilion by NBT, as per its norms and constraints would be done and hoped that Indian participation would be much larger in number in India Pavilion in the next year.

Prof. Bipan Chandra and Ms. Nuzhat Hassan had a detailed meeting with the Director, FBF Authority and their team of officials dealing with the GHP where modalities related to the programmes of GHP were discussed.

The GHP of India will have a major curtain raiser in Germany at the Leipzig Book Fair in March 2006.

—N.S. Randhawa



Prof. Bipan Chandra at India Pavilion

Nehru Bal Pustakalaya

Adventures in the Desert (English rp), Cheryl Rao, ISBN 81-237-2524-8, Rs. 15

How Mnjini Became a Magician (English rp), Reeta Dutt Gupta, ISBN 81-237-3775-0, Rs. 13

Bholu and Golu (English rp), Pankaj Bisht, ISBN 81-237-1908-6, Rs. 25

Dear Father (English rp), Bhabendranath Saikia, ISBN 81-237-2341-5, Rs. 25

Lines and Colours (English rp), Ella Dutt, ISBN 81-237-3983-4, Rs. 65

India's Young Heroes (Hindi rp), Sigrun Srivastava, ISBN 81-237-0510-7, Rs. 13

How Films are Made (Hindi rp), Khwaja Ahmad Abbas, ISBN 81-237-1102-6, Rs. 12

The Colourful World of Flags (Hindi rp), K.V. Singh, ISBN 81-237-4054-9, Rs. 30

I Like the World (Tamil rp), Jayanthi Manokaran, ISBN 81-237-4493-5, Rs. 9

Where Does the Wind Live (Tamil rp), Santhini Govindan, ISBN 81-237-4178-2, Rs. 20

This is My Story (Tamil tr), Vicky Arya, ISBN 81-237-4503-6, Rs. 12

World Literature

Not Just Milk and Honey (English rp), Haya Hoffman, ISBN 81-237-2456-X, Rs. 45

Popular Science

The Story of Man (Hindi rp), Biman Basu, ISBN 81-237-3130-2, Rs. 35

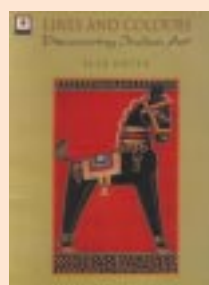
Fibre Optics (Hindi tr), G.K. Bhide, ISBN 81-237-4442-0, Rs. 50

Epilepsy (Punjabi rp), ISBN 81-237-0325-2, Rs. 25

Young India Library

Among Tigers and Tuskers (Hindi rp), Ramesh Bedi, ISBN 81-237-4321-1, Rs. 45

Reminiscences of a Hunter (Tamil tr), K.L. Rai, ISBN 81-237-4448-X, Rs. 55



General

Freedom Struggle (Hindi rp), Bipan Chandra & others, ISBN 81-237-1004-6, Rs. 50

The Cinema of Satyajit Ray (English rp), Chidananda Dasgupta, ISBN 81-237-0753-3, Rs. 130

Women Who Dared (Hindi rp), Ritu Menon (ed), ISBN 81-237-4434-0, Rs. 100

Women Who Dared (English rp), Ritu Menon (ed), ISBN 81-237-3856-0, Rs. 80

Books for Neoliterates

Pinjara (Bangla rp), Dronveer Kohli, ISBN 81-237-2453-5, Rs. 10

Boka Kanaier Beada Gai (Bangla rp), ISBN 81-237-3400-X, Rs. 9

Paramveen Senani (Hindi rp), Achhay Kumar Jain, ISBN 81-237-0616-2, Rs. 12

Creative Learning Series

Low Cost No Cost Teaching Aids (Hindi rp), Mary Ann Dasgupta, ISBN 81-237-2773-9, Rs. 35

Divasvapna (Tamil rp), Gijubhai Badheka, ISBN 81-237-3118-3, Rs. 30

ACCU

Stories from Asia Today (Hindi rp), ISBN 81-237-0932-3, Rs. 30

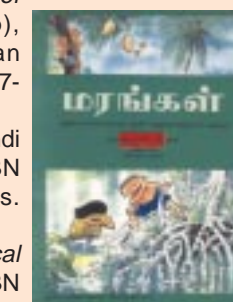
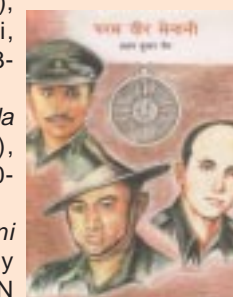
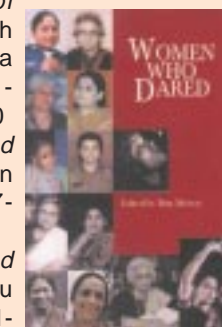
Guess What I'm Doing (Hindi rp), ISBN 81-237-0223-X, Rs. 40

India—The Land and The People

Physical Geology of India (Hindi rp), Shankar Mohan Mathur, ISBN 81-237-2061-0, Rs. 45

Common Birds (Hindi rp), Salim Ali, ISBN 81-237-1174-3, Rs. 45

Trees: An Ecological Book (Tamil rp), ISBN 81-237-2664-3, Rs. 30



Prevention of Burns, Kalpana Sood Lal, NBT, ISBN 81-237-4575-3, Rs. 45

In India, almost 30 lakh people suffer burns annually, of whom nearly 10 lakh die and an equal number are crippled. Eighty per cent of these burns affect women and young children in the prime of their lives. Treatment of burns is expensive, prolonged and not readily available throughout the country. Much of this can be prevented by exercising small precautions in our day-to-day life, which can go a long way in saving many lives. This book is a step towards the same direction, and aims to spread awareness among people that for burns, prevention and precaution are better than cure. Subjects covered in this title include:

- Types of Burns
- Who Gets Burns?
- Common Accidents at Home
- First Aid Guide

The Communal Problem, NBT, ISBN 81-237-4573-7, Rs. 85 (PB); ISBN 81-237-4574-5, Rs. 250 (HB)

Set up to enquire into the violent communal riots that broke out in Kanpur in 1931, the six-member Committee appointed by the Indian National Congress produced one of the most insightful analysis of the genesis and spread of communalism in

modern India as well as remedial measures to counter it. The challenge before the Committee was to offset the pervasive and deeply ingrained thinking that Hindu-Muslim relations were inherently and historically antagonistic. By taking a broad historical view, the report provides telling evidence of the centuries-long association of the two communities forming a rare cultural fusion transcending all socio-economic, religious and political barriers. The authors also make an impassioned plea against the 'perverted view' of Indian history as portrayed by colonial writers and administrators. This abridged version of the report, now re-issued for the first time after seven decades for a wider readership, remains as relevant as it was then.

ASIAN CONFERENCE ON STORY-TELLING

"Stories are vehicle of preservation and propagation of myths, cosmology and civilizational awareness," observed Dr Karan Singh, President, Indian Council for Cultural Relations and Member of Parliament, while inaugurating a three-day 'Asian Conference on Story-telling to Promote Reading Habit' organised by Association of Writers and Illustrators for Children at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi on 19 September 2005. He further said that the story-telling has been an age-old methodology for transmitting values across the globe. However, Dr Singh lamented that "the art of story-telling is disappearing along with mime, dance and theatre".

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Peter Schneck, President, International Board on Books for Young People, said that "better international understanding may be developed through children's books". However, he observed that "in most of the societies, children do not have access to books that promote cultural values". UNICEF representative Cecilio Adorna emphasised 'the need to create partnerships for promoting value-based learning and reading'.

Delivering the keynote address, Prof Krishna Kumar, Director, National Council for Educational Research and Training, said that "depletion of oral tradition is cause of



many problems in education". He further mentioned that "the world needs healing and nursing which would come by the stories" and advocated right of every child to listen to stories which provide them confidence to speak and patience to listen. He maintained that "new technology should be used in transmitting the oral traditions as well as interacting with the children".

During the inaugural function Cecilio Adorna presented AWIC Honour Award to Ms Nuzhat Hassan, Director, National Book Trust, India in recognition of contributions made by the Trust in the field of children's literature while Rewati Bhushan Ghosh and Kalvi Gopala Krishnan received Life-time Achievement Award. Earlier, Ms Neelima

Sinha, President, Association of Writers and Illustrators for Children, welcomed the guests and Manorama Jafa, Secretary General, AWIC shared the activities and achievements of the Association.

Focus of the first working session of the conference was 'telling a story, creating a reader'. K Ramakrishnan, Feisal Alkazi, Khsama Sharma and R K Murthy presented their papers on various aspects of story-telling. The most appealing presentation during this session was a live demonstration of Kamishibai—Japanese art of story-telling by Kyoko Sakai and Etsuko Nozaka of the International Kamishibai Association of Japan. "This method of story-telling is very significant in the world today, especially with communication being lost due to video and television. 'Kamashibai' helps promote the feeling of joy. It is spread through the story-teller to the audience and within each other in the audience," said Etsuko. Ms Nuzhat Hassan presided over this session.

A Festival of Story-telling was also organised in the sidelines of the conference. Shovana Narayan presented story-telling through Kathak dance while Anita Babu and Sadanam Balkrishnan presented story-telling through Odissi and Kathakali.

—Dr Srirang Jha

TRAINING COURSE IN BOOK PUBLISHING

Shri Pratap Singh Rane, Chief Minister of Goa, inaugurated a two-week training course in Book Publishing at Institute Menezes Braganza at Panaji on 20th September 2005. A book exhibition was also held in the sidelines of the training programme. In his inaugural address Shri Rane described books as man's best friend in solitude.

Earlier, Shri Pundalik Naik, President, Goa Konkani Akademi welcomed the

guests. Shri Chandrakant Keni graced the occasion as Guest of Honour. Shri Sridhar Balan delivered the keynote address on current scenario of publishing in India. Shri Mohandas Surlakar, Vice-Chairman, Institute Menezes Braganza, presided over the inaugural function. Shri Arvind Bhorkar, Regional Manager, Western Regional Office, NBT proposed a vote of thanks.

Thirty participants received training in various aspects of book publishing such as acquisition of manuscripts, editing, copy-editing, book designing, production process and copyright issues during the training programme. Faculty included Sharmila Abraham, Sukumar Das, V.K. Karthika, Subir Datta, Joesph Mathai, S u n a n d a n Roychoudhury and

Sridhar Balan. Goa Konkani Akademi and Institute Menezes Braganza were the local collaborators.

All the trainees received certificates from Shri Ramdas Bhatkal of Popular Prakashan in the valedictory function held on 4 October 2005. Eminent Konkani writer and publisher Shri Suresh Amonkar graced the occasion as Guest of Honour.

Based on a report by **Sumit Bhattacharjee**



Shri Pratap Singh Rane delivering the inaugural address



Shri Ramdas Bhatkal giving away the certificates

LITERARY WEEK AT PURI

A week-long literary programme was held at Puri as part of the Puri Book Fair organised by the National Book Trust from 29 October to 6 November 2005. A panel discussion on 'Oriya Publishing Today: Children's Books' was held on 29 October. Dash Benhur and Nrusingha Prasad Mishra were the distinguished panelists. Souribandhu Kar presided over the panel discussion. Another Panel Discussion on 'Oriya Publishing Today: Humour and Satire' was held on 30 October in which Prof Mrinal Chatterjee and Dr Basant Kumar Panda were the discussants. Dr Lakshmi Priya Acharya presided over the discussion session.

Doyen of modern Oriya poetry, Sitakant Mahapatra, interacted with the readers in a 'Meet the Author' programme held on 31 October. Speaking on the occasion, Shri Mahapatra said that 'his poetry is the product of a matrix made up of words, time and memory. Prof Bishwaranjan chaired the interactive session. Mahapatra Nilmani Sahoo and Binapani Mohanty also interacted with the readers in separate 'Meet the Author' programmes held on 3 and 4 November.

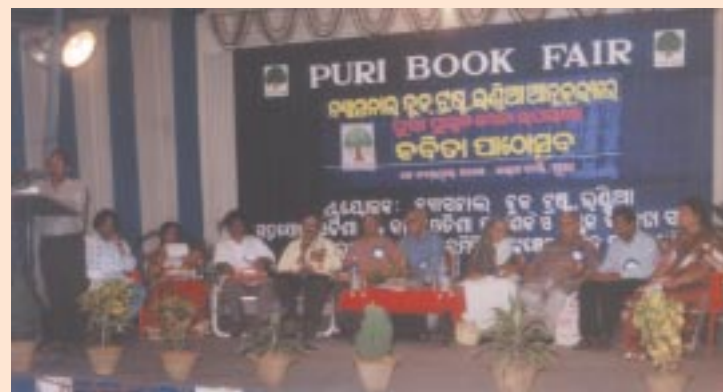
A symposium on 'Definition of a good book' was held on 2 November. Prof

Chandra Shekhar Rath delivered the keynote address in the symposium. The panel of discussants comprised Prof Nityanand Swain, Saroj Ranjan Mohanty, Dr Shakuntala Baliyar Singh, Bibhuti Mishra and Dr Bhagwan Jaysingh. Prof Dasarathi Das chaired the symposium.

A Poets' Meet was held on November 5 in which Soubhagya Kumar Mishra, Sourindra Barik, Manorama Mahapatra, Prasanna Kumar Mishra, Amresh Patnaik, Indu Mishra and Shatrughna Pandav recited their poems. Ramakant Rath presided over the function. Sucheta Mishra compared the programme. On this occasion, four of NBT titles translated in Oriya were released. Sitakant Mahapatra released 'Qurratul-Ain-Haider Kee Muntkhab Kahaniyan', Mahapatra Nilmani Sahoo released 'Samkaleen Gujarati Vartao', 'Rabi Kahani' and 'Govind Ballabh Pant'.

Dr Bijoyanand Singh, Member, Oriya Advisory Panel, NBT, Birendra Mohanty, General Secretary, Puri District Writers' Cooperative Society and Dr Pramod Sar, Assistant Editor (Oriya), NBT facilitated the literary programmes spread over the week.

—Based on a Report by **Dr Pramod Sar**



ANTHOLOGY OF MAITHILI POEMS RELEASED

Maithili Kavita Sanchayan edited by Gangesh Gunjan and published by National Book Trust was released by noted linguist and poet Pandit Govind Jha in a programme held at Vidyapati Bhawan in Patna on 3 November 2005. On this occasion, Hindi translation of *Maithili Kavita Sanchayan* edited by Shivshankar Srinivas and published by the Trust was also released by noted Maithili writer Raj Mohan Jha. The programme was organized to mark the occasion of a hundred years of Maithili magazines and was 56th in the series of 'Sagar Rati Deep Jaraya' - a quarterly event

of Maithili story-tellers in which only the original and unpublished stories are read and discussed from dusk to dawn. This particular event was christened as '*Katha Ganga*'.

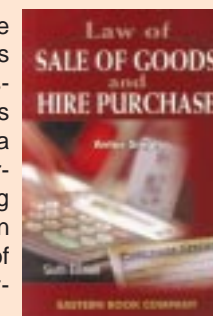
Speaking on the occasion, noted critic Dr Taranand Viyogi said that '*Maithili Kavita Sanchayan* is a unique anthology in which seven hundred years of tradition of Maithili poetry has been woven in a very compact and cogent manner.' Distinguished Maithili writer Ashok expressed his views on 'Maithili Kavita Sanchayan'.

—Dr Deo Shankar Navin

BOOKS RECEIVED

Law of Sale of Goods and Hire Purchase, Avtar Singh; Eastern Book Company, 34 Lalbagh, Lucknow-226 001; ISBN 81-7012-868-4; Rs. 165

A handy reference book for to students preparing for professional examinations at any level and a book of general interest to all those looking for a lucid exposition on the law on sale of goods and hire purchase.



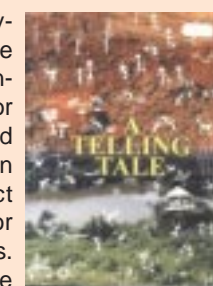
Principles of Office Management, R.C. Bhatia; Lotus Press, 4263/3 Ansari Road, Darya Ganj, New Delhi - 110 002; ISBN 81-89093-67-3; Rs. 225

The basic functions of a modern office are to receive and collect information, record it, arrange and process it, and communicate it. The book presents knowledge and concepts relating to current developments in

the area of office management.

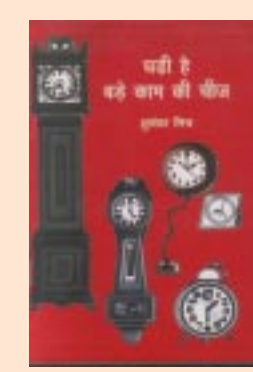
A Telling Tale, Bhavarlal Jain; Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd., Plastic Park, Jain Fields, Bambhori, Jalgaon - 425001; ISBN 81-89502-00-X; Rs. 221

The document analyses and evaluates the watershed project undertaken by the author in 1995. First of its kind in private sector, Jain Watershed Project covers 500 acres for more than eight years. This document will be helpful for those who want to experiment similar projects.



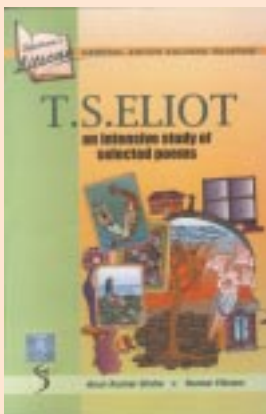
Ghari hai Bare Kam ki Cheese (Hindi), Shubhankar Mishra; R a j k a m a l Prakashan, New Delhi; ISBN 81-267-1072-1; Rs. 20

This book tells the story of evolution of clock and watch in a lucid and comprehensive manner. Illustrations are good. Children will find the book interesting.



A FRESH LOOK AT T S ELIOT'S POEMS

T S Eliot: An intensive Study of Selected Poems, Arun Kumar Sinha & Kumar Vikram; Spectrum Books Pvt. Ltd., A1 291, 1st Floor, Janakpuri, New Delhi -110058; ISBN 81-7930-173-7; pp 530; Rs. 195



The present study offers a thorough and critical viewpoint on the poetry of T S Eliot, who undoubtedly is the most extensively read poet of the 20th Century. The book is divided into three main sections:

Introduction, Critical Readings of Selected Poems and Annotations. The comprehensive introduction to Eliot places him in his literary context and brings out the main stylistic features of his works while also examining his contributions to criticism and theatre.

The Introduction provides an incisive view to the readers about different aspects of Eliot as a poet-critic that made him

undisputed leader of the new trends in Anglo-American Poetry and Criticism. There is an attempt in the introduction to view the continued influence of Eliot's technique on the successive poets even though apparently these poets have had orientation different in theme. Thus eminent post-Eliot poets like W.H Auden, Dylan Thomas, Philip Larkin and Ted Hughes are referred to in this context.

The section on Critical Readings of Selected Poems provides focused and critical interpretations and textual analysis of around twenty poems - a selection from *Prufrock and Other Observations*, *Poems 1920* and the *Ariel Poems*, besides the longer poems, *The Hollow Men*, *The Waste Land* and *Ash Wednesday*. Poems in this section have been selected from the point of view of theme, style and versification. Each poem has an introduction, analysis, critical appraisal and mapping of the thematic development. The intricacies of imagery, diction and versification of each selected poem are reasonably elucidated.

However, it is the third section that sets the present study apart from the kind of 'industry' that Eliot study has become. It is worthwhile to mention that the section having the annotations is the longest, much

longer than the critical study of the poems. Herein the title of the book 'intensive study' comes alive in true sense. The Eliot reader and scholars who have gone through the annotations of critics like George Williamson, B C Southam or Manju Jain etc may find the present study of the selected poems more comprehensive and insightful.

Moreover, the amount of new information that these annotations carries is testimony of the long years of study that the book is a product of. In the preface to the book, the author mentions that it has almost taken a decade in the final production of the book and this naturally demands a closer and more minute look at the contents of the book. It is hoped that the book will emerge as a unique supplementary reading material for the students of literature in various universities and will also be a handy reference volume for the academics and the general readers having an interest in Eliot's poetry. The low-price of the book, despite good production, is also likely to egg on its sale. This book is first in the Lit-Scan series launched by Spectrum Books with a view to provide comprehensive readers on the doyens of English literature for the university students and academics.

—Dr Srirang Jha

STILL A DAY DREAM

Divasvapna, Gijubhai Badheka, NBT, ISBN 81-237-1237-5, Rs. 25

Divasvapna (Day Dreams) which was first published in Gujarati in 1931 and its English translation published by NBT in 1990 is considered an original contribution to the world-class pedagogy. It is quite surprising that Gijubhai even being a high court pleader could write such illuminating books in the field of education. To boot, his contribution was not only limited to writings but was also bold enough to make educational experiments as a measure of which he established 'Dakshinamurti Bal Mandir' at Bhavnagar where he advocated the child-centred education with an unique slogan 'Baldevo Bhawa', i.e. 'Worship the Child'. Here comes the key word for adopting the new system of education in contrast to the colonial system of education.

He suggested a 'child-centred education' instead of a 'syllabus-oriented education' which merely imposes a set of information, curriculum, etc. upon the child without taking into consideration the individual nature of the child. The traditional system not only suppresses the individuality of the

child but also hampers their interest, curiosity and innovativeness. As a consequence, the education in India in about 200 years of colonial rule became a field of inertia and powerlessness in which children had no other option but to endure the touch of indifference in the system of education.

As the reader goes through the pages, he discovers how a mechanised system with limited tools can be converted into a living education arousing thereby the infinite interest among the children to know more and to discover more. For this, the proponent does not suggest costly tools and materials but advises the use of abundantly available materials into living visual mediums for imparting education. In the process the class would become lively, the child would take part in the learning process voluntarily in a spontaneous manner and with utmost love for learning.

In fact, it was his dream of bringing about a change in education system as thought by Tagore, Gandhiji, Sri Aurobindo and others. These luminaries had laid emphasis to create an atmosphere of independence and self-reliance which would ultimately lead to integral growth of the children. And

that was also the author's dream and he names the book in a satirical manner with the hope that one day his 'Divasvapna' may turn to be a reality.

The system prescribed by the author was under the influence of the Montessori method of education but the implementation part was thoroughly local, and moulded according to the need of the pupils and related to that area where the system is being experimented with. The most strong part of his approach comes out when it is found that Gijubhai does not propose to reward a child with monetary awards but suggest them to redirect the award for a better cause—for the development of the library. At a single stroke he converts the feeling of pride among the children to a sense of collectivity.

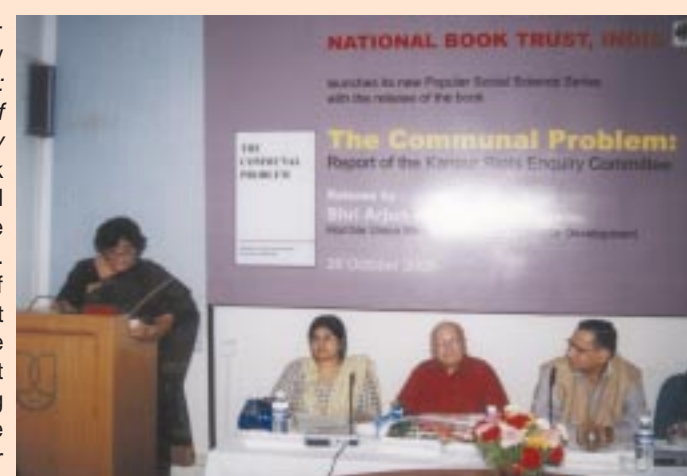
Gijubhai died eight years before India became independent but his day dream is still a day dream because even now the education system in India has not undergone the desired changes that are really needed for proper growth of the children and for imparting education in desired and effective manner.

—Sitangshu Chakraborty

NEW SERIES ON POPULAR SOCIAL SCIENCE LAUNCHED

Prof B.B. Bhattacharya, Vice-Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru University released *The Communal Problem: Report of the Kanpur Riots Enquiry Committee*—the first book published under Popular Social Science series introduced by the National Book Trust recently. Speaking on the occasion, Prof Bhattacharya said that "the Report is an excellent study into the genesis of the flawed mindset that ignites violent frictions among various communities." He observed that "there is an inner instinct among human beings to believe bad things and proper sensitization regarding the issue is essential to counter this phenomenon".

Publication of the book is significant as the Report was banned by the British government in 1933 immediately after its first publication. For a long time, this historic document was inaccessible to the common men. Introducing the book, renowned historian Prof Mriduala Mukherjee



Prof Mridula Mukherjee, Ms. Nuzhat Hassan, Prof. Bipan Chandra and Prof. Bhattacharya

observed that the Report is relevant in contemporary times as well. "The book provides definitive answers to so many of the problems that we are facing today and debunks a number of misconceptions about Islam and the Muslims that generally are the causes of rift between Hindus and Muslims. The authors of the Report have clearly men-

tioned that the riots occur due to ill-conceived notions and perverted view of Indian history and not due to any religious differences," added Prof Mukherjee.

Earlier, Prof Bipan Chandra, Chairman, NBT introduced the recently launched Popular Social Science series. He said that 'the new series has been conceptualised to introduce the writings of some of the leading social scientists of the country to the common readers in a lucid and comprehensible manner'. Ms Nuzhat Hassan, Director NBT highlighted the various activities of the Trust towards promoting book mindedness and inculcating reading habits.

The book release function was held at Committee Room No. 1, School of Social Sciences, JNU. Shri Arun Chakravorty conducted the programme while Shri Binny Kurien proposed a vote of thanks. A large number of university teachers and students among others attended the function. —SKJ

WRITERS' WORKSHOP AT JAISALMER

NBT organised a four-day workshop of writers for preparing reading materials for the neo-literates at Jaisalmer during 6-9 October 2005. State Resource Centre, Jaipur was the local collaborator for the project. Altogether nineteen writers drawn from eight states participated in the workshop.

District Collector of Jaisalmer Shri P.L. Agrawal inaugurated the workshop and encouraged the writers to prepare right kind of literature for the neo-literates which represent their worldview. Speaking on the occasion, Dr Baldev Singh, Chief Editor & Joint Director, NBT said that the Trust is engaged in making the books for neo-literates accessible, affordable and compre-

hensible.

Eight books-four each in Hindi and Punjabi-were released during the inaugural session of the workshop. Hindi titles *Mahajan* by Vimal Mitra, *Ek thi Sultana* by Nasira Sharma, *Namak ka Daroga* and *Burhi Kaki* by Premchand were released by the Chief Guest Shri P.L. Agrawal while noted scholar of Punjabi and Hindi, Dr Krishna Kuamr Rattu released the titles translated into Punjabi-*Dak Babu* by Fakir Mohan Senapati, *Admi Jisne Bhagwan ko Dekha* by Bal Gangadhar Tilak, *Toba Tek Singh* by Manto and *Kafan* by Premchand.

Dr Nasira Sharma was the resource person for the workshop which was at-

tended by Dr Qasim Khursheed (Bihar), Arvind Mishra (Uttaranchal), Meeankshi Swami (Madhya Pradesh), Rajukar Raj (Madhya Pradesh), Satish Upadhyaya (Chhatisgarh), Dr Kamal Kumar, Dr Jagdish Chandrikesh, Dr Nirmal Jindal, (all

from Delhi), Ravindra Kumar (Haryana), Archana Bansla, Aidan Singh Bhati, Bharat Ola, Kiran Nahata, Satyadev Samvitendra, Habib Kaifi, Bhagawati Lal Vyas and Mangat Badal (all Rajasthan).

Manuscripts prepared in the workshop were field-tested at a village called Kanoi, 35 kilometres from Jaisalmer. Many neo-literate readers listened to the stories and added their own flavour through constructive criticism. Dinesh Purohit of the State Resource Centre, Jaipur and Dr Lalit Kishore Mandora of NBT facilitated the workshop.

Based on a report by Dr L.K. Mandora

