

Welcome to the *The* Volume 2 Issue 1 **literature today**



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CRITICSPACE LITERARY AWARDS

The Literature Today team feels elated in announcing the much-awaited quarterly magazine. In this edition, we have attempted to touch upon new topics in addition to the ones which were a part of the previous edition in an endeavor to reach even more readers. This edition includes reviews of books covering diverse genres and which the readers would find interesting. Other than this, the author interviews have also been featured like the earlier edition. The new features of this edition include different, well-researched articles book business with JIO Mart, Criticspace Literary Awards also, we have tried to bring the lives of authors in front of their loving readers, who would like to know the circumstances which led to the shaping of their artistic persona. Also, there is some space for books selected by the editorial board of The Literature Today. This edition is multi-faceted with an intention to make more and more readers happy and recommend this magazine to their friends and family. We hope we will be able to meet our intentions. We would love to hear the feedback and responses of our readers at theliteraturetoday@gmail.com and help us get better and better with every edition.

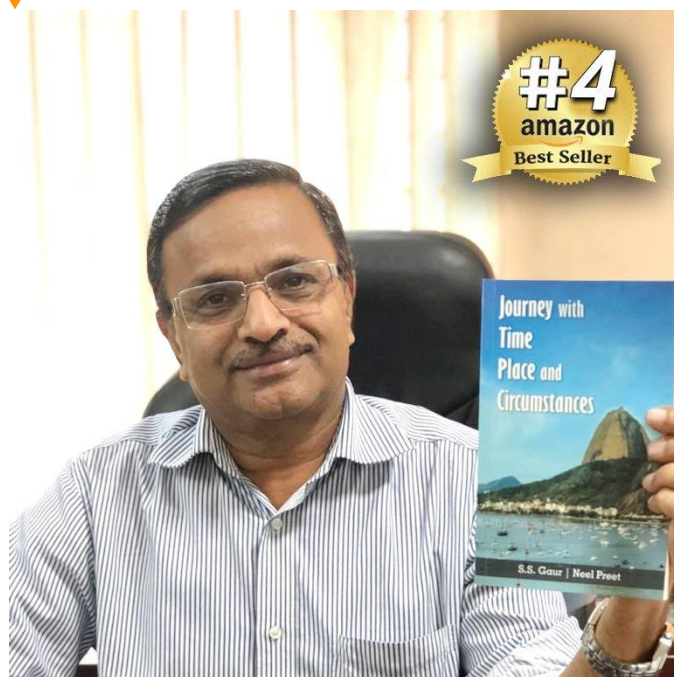
JOURNEY WITH TIME PLACE AND CIRCUMSTANCES

BOOK REVIEW


This book, Journey With Time Place And Circumstances was gifted to me by the Co-Author Neel Preet and I was really amazed to read a book like this, which consists the answers of almost all the day-to-day life's problems. This book is Self-Help in all True Sense!

“
**THERE ARE NO
FIXED
FORMULAS IN
LIFE FOR
ANYTHING.
LIFE IS NOT
MATHEMATICS**
”

Books as good as this one are not written every day and Author S.S. Gaur Sir had proved this with his unique approach of solving the problems of the modern generation. His philosophies are evergreen, which will help the upcoming generations as well. The writing style is flawless and the theories are presented in a manner, where it is incredibly smooth to read and understand the ideas of the authors; no wonder the book became a BEST SELLER.

JOURNEY WITH TIME PLACE AND CIRCUMSTANCES

The Author, Mr. S.S. Gaur comes from a small village called Chhapoli, in district Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan. He was born on 15th July, 1957 to Late Shri G.L. Gaur and Late Smt. Misri Devi. At the young age of 7, he lost his parents and by facing great financial difficulties, he did his schooling from the Government School of Chhapoli and then came to Jaipur to do his Graduation in Commerce. He passed his Secondary, Higher Secondary and Graduation with 1st Division and he was a recipient of "Merit-cum-Need" Scholarship from the Government of Rajasthan.

Despite the hardships life had thrown at him, he fulfilled his dream of studying Chartered Accountancy for which he went to Kolkata and he passed the Chartered Accountancy examinations in the year 1985. He married his wife Mrs. Basanti Gaur in 1976 and is blessed with two sons, Arun and Aditya, both of whom are married and have two lovely granddaughters. Currently, Mr. Gaur is involved in the Business of Real Estate activities in the name of "Vijaya Homes" in Jamshedpur and the group has grown to become one of the Largest Developers in this part of the Country.

The Author wrote this book where shares his thoughts and ideas on life, which he has learnt from his hardships and experiences. Since 2003, he penned down his thoughts, which has transformed into this book. The book aims to benefit the Youths of the today's world with the understanding of life, which depends on TPC (Time, Place, Circumstances). Now this young boy Neel Preet has come into the life of the Author and agreed to become the Co-Author. Hence, this book is a combination of Young and Old. The Author believes that anyone who does hard work with knowledge and honesty will definitely realize their dreams. Nothing can stop them!

Book's Introduction: Journey With Time Place And Circumstances, is a Self-Help Book, which is based on the Philosophies of Common Lifetime Experiences and aims to enlighten us with the primary aspects of life like TIME, PLACE and CIRCUMSTANCES on which the Human Journey depends! The Author intends to edify the need of inculcating Knowledge and Skills to the Youths of today's world so that they learn the DOs and DON'Ts of the life without committing the common mistakes and for them to understand about the RIGHTS and WRONGS, well in advanced.

Moreover, it is extremely significant for every being to take only those steps, which are beneficial for our Growth and Progress! The book, JOURNEY With TIME PLACE And CIRCUMSTANCES, is written with the object of providing benefits to the youths with the understanding of the life, which depends on TPC (Time, Place, Circumstances).

Readers Connect: The Authors of the book, believes that anyone who does hard work with knowledge and honesty will definitely realize their dreams. Nothing can stop them! Readers are bound to love the book after reading it, as the efforts made by both the Authors are genuinely praise worthy! The tips in this book will amaze you, as their application in practical life are indeed helpful. The book has all the qualities to be a 'Best Seller' and it reflects in the theories present in this book, which are very much like a life changing experience!

Verdict: A well-scripted book written by the Authors from their own experiences of life. Every sentence in this book makes a complete and total sense, which makes it a Must-Read one. The book is truly wonderful as it is filled with great insights that one can simply learn the Do's and Don'ts of the life by just following the theories written in this book. The words used by the authors are also very inspiring and the overall theme has been providing that motivation, which the people are lacking in their lives, while moving ahead towards for their goals!

AUTHOR DEBOTOSH CHATTERJEE (IRS)

8THINGS TO DO WHEN YOU TURN 20

“We probably take each and every action to find our WAY, but often we forget to look for that WHY, the very basic question that we need to answer to ourselves before finding out our way!”

This remarkable book, “8 Things to Do When You Turn 20: Lessons from My Life So Far” by **Author Debotosh Chatterjee** has been written with an excellent objective of imparting ‘Knowledge’ by creating motivation in the life of the people, who are seeking wisdom to accelerate their lives

Author’s Background: The Author, Debotosh Chatterjee is an Officer in the Indian Revenue Service (IRS). He cleared the prestigious UPSC Civil Service Examination 2015 in his first attempt, right after graduating from Jadavpur University (Kolkata) as a Chemical Engineer. Author Debotosh is a well-known writer on Quora as well with more than 60 thousand followers and is fond of helping out the youth with their career issues. He is known for his numerous free initiatives on UPSC Civil Service Exam preparation.

Book’s Introduction: The book, “8 Things to Do When You Turn 20: Lessons from My Life So Far” by Author Debotosh Chatterjee is a Self Help title, which attempts to give you insights into life in the 20s so that you can make the best out of it. The eight chapters of this book collate the most important lessons of life in the 20s, in a concise, easy-to-read language!

In addition, the Author has summarized his learnings in this book, which he accumulated based on the various ups & down that, he experienced in his life while he was in the crucial age of 20s. The author believes that in the modern age of today’s generation, the age of 20s is very crucial and the factors affecting us in this age range can either make us or break us. This book shares some great insights and covers some of the prime subject matters related to the various social as well as personal issues, which most of us faces in our 20s.

The book is indeed a ‘Reading Worthy’ piece of text as it is based upon the evidences and instances of Author’s life, which is certainly an excellent read for the readers. As the book talks about the transitional point of one’s life from academic phase into the career phase!

Readers’ Connect: The uniqueness of this book, 8 Things to Do When You Turn 20: Lessons from My Life So Far is that the Author has laid down some very practical guides for those readers, who are looking forward to excel in their lives and are seeking guides in taking a correct and long-term fruitful decision for themselves.

Through this book, the Author ensures that the chances of success for the youths, who are in their 20s increases by multi-fold. The book lays out various Dos and DON’Ts of the life in a very short and crisp manner, which the readers would find easy and smooth to read. Through his Self Help title, the Author has given numerous insightful information and facts, which is a real help to the readers of all ages. This book is an attempt by the Author to share his personal experiences to the readers, help them in taking a correct decision and make something big out of themselves!

Book’s Verdict: Well, a book like ‘8 Things to Do When You Turn 20: Lessons from My Life So Far’ can be described as a “True Guide & a Saviour” for the people, who have entered in their 20s. Through this book, the Author had intended to teach the youths about the ways of keeping things simple and yielding results simply by managing themselves. In addition, the readers are bound to achieve a mind set to create solutions for themselves, which makes this book a MUST READ one!

Book: 8 Things to Do When You Turn 20: Lessons from My Life So Far
Author: Debotosh Chatterjee
Publisher: Notion Press (2022)
Total Pages: 60
Reviewed By: Neel Preet at Criticspace Journal



8 Things to Do When You Turn 20
 by Debotosh Chatterjee IRS

HANG ON: A SECOND WIND

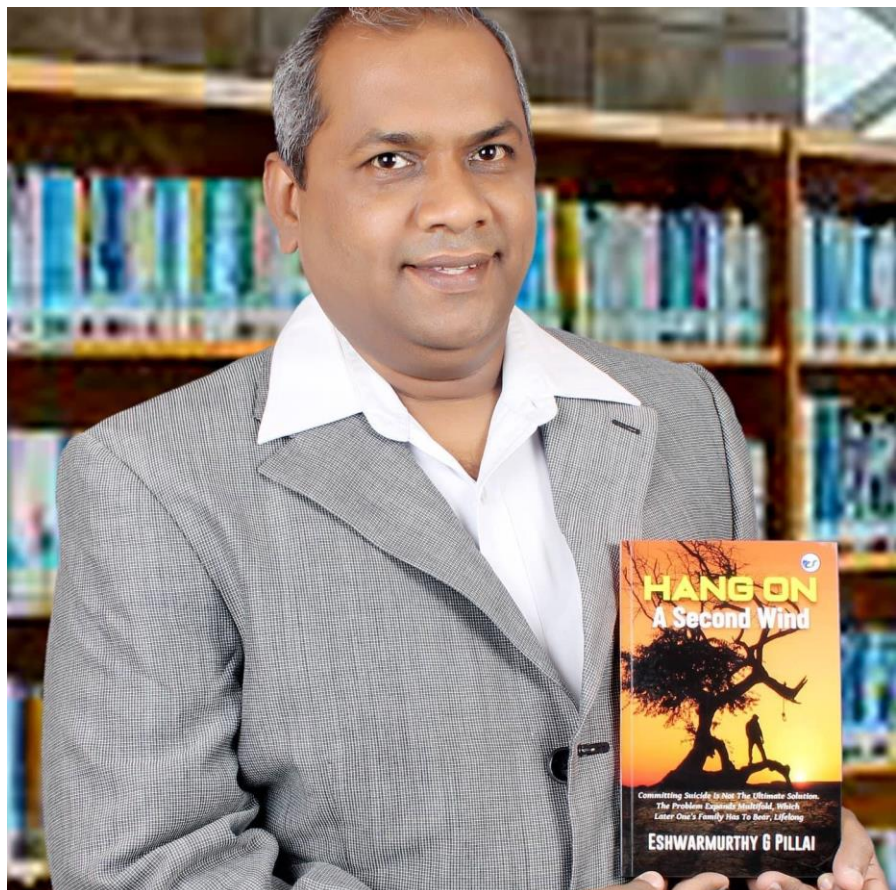
“Suicide, a thin line between life and death. One who sees it, doesn’t cross it. One who doesn’t see it, crosses it.”

When Premchand was writing the classics of Indian writing, his primary focus was to depict the social conditions prevalent in those times and bring the atrocities faced by the people to light. They became classics because of the subjects that they explored more than anything else. “Hang On a Second Wind” by Eshwarmurthy G Pillai is one of the pioneering books that explore the burning issues of contemporary India and how the common man, who is less common and more of a hero in some sense, faces the situations.

These situations form the heart of the matter in the present-day Indian media and top story highlights. Pillai’s “Hang On a Second Wind” talks about the central issue of farmers and their conditions, which reach the headlines when farmers end their lives but otherwise not even close to it. In this sense, the short novel becomes a social commentary on the social divide and discrimination, which results in farmers being in debt, which seems like an unending spiral of woes and worries. The aspects of the social relevance of Pillai’s text are unignorable and can not be undermined. It also opens the eyes of the readers to the serious issue that challenges society at large and yet remains unnoticed due to a variety of reasons. By bringing different lives together on one canvas of “Hang On a Second Wind,” Pillai not only touches the different corners of one world but also shows the different lives people lead and how each of them have their share of atrocities.

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About Author: Author Eshwarmurthy G Pillai, was born in 1972 in Mumbai, a city of dreams. His grandfather had influenced him immensely towards leading a social life. Starting the profession career as a Medical Representative in Mumbai, he experienced patient’s trauma closely, which still continues. Working with two great pharma giants, he developed the passion of writing and innovative thinking. After completing his MBA in 2003, the pharma journey continued and gave an opportunity to travel across India. In the process, he went on acquiring knowledge by interacting with the people in various fields.



From another perspective, Subodh's life is also symbolic of the fates of many farmers, but not all (probably none) are lucky to find a Vahni to give them their moments of epiphany and inspire them to set on an altogether different path filled with grit and determination. Subodh breaks the ground with his newfound self and wins the reader's hearts with his resilience and hope to achieve what he has dreamt of all along.

At the same time, "Hang On a Second Wind" may become a study of motivation and optimism for many readers and the ones who are interested in reading the genre. But on closer reading, examining the facts which had led to Subodh's ultimate decision while lying to his family are more significant and worth noting. They show the dark side of the Indian mainland, which is hardly mentioned in any kind of media these days. Pillai does monumental work with his "Hang On a Second Wind" and makes the difference by striking the chord and making the readers ponder.

Pillai follows a different plot concept where he brings the probable end in the beginning and takes the plot in a different direction. This makes his book unpredictable, and the short chapters ensure that the readers enjoy every bit of the story while they think along. Through this work, they also go on a journey into the depths of the Indian system and how things work in the remotest corners of the country, which are yet to experience the effects of the digital revolution.

BOOK: HANG ON: A SECOND WIND
AUTHOR: ESHWARMURTHY G PILLAI
PUBLISHER: CLEVER FOX PUBLISHING
TOTAL PAGES: 138

Alongside, "Hang On a Second Wind" also raises critical issues of the social divide, education and literacy, worth and significance of human life, the fact that inspiration can be found in anyone or anywhere, the delicate nature and power of human emotions, hope and the effects it can have on lives as a whole, the potent result of unity and teamwork and how people become victims due to the games of fate. Pillai also gives the silent message that everyone is responsible for their fate through the decisions they make. He tells the readers that it is not entirely the game of fate, but also what one chooses that casts the difference. Hence, the short novel opens to different perspectives to be examined. As the central character, Subodh comes across as the representative of his farmer class and mirrors the problems the farmers of any corner of the world would be facing. He incarnates the worries, stress, and tensions that pervade as routine in their lives. His changed situation from the earlier generations to his present condition speaks volumes of the changed state of farmers from being prosperous to paupers. This is eye-opening and disturbing for both the readers and society. Through Vanhi, Pillai in his "Hang On a Second Wind" shows the fact that hope and inspiration do not need special corners to appear from. They can appear in front of a person from anywhere at any time. It is the person's prudence to understand the gravity of the situation and make use of the opportunity they have.

SIGMA

ANTHOLOGIES BOOK

As Life Sums It Allas Life Sums It All

It is always said that one should be careful and concerned about the actions they do and the aftereffects those actions can have on a person's life.

Since time immemorial, the karmic theory has been known worldwide, and people have seen how it works. Pankaj Lochan, in his collection of short stories, "Sigma: as life sums it all.." brings many instances and stories that revolve around one thought, which is to show Karma works in a world that is far away from thinking about it. It is interesting to observe the careful manner in which the author picks the title for his collection. It may intrigue the readers at one point, but this becomes a powerful factor that attracts them to the book instantly. They have multiple questions in their mind as to what the author is going to talk about in the book. The opting for the mode of short stories makes the book quite exciting for the readers. The author mentions in the preface, "This is my first work of fiction, but the driver remains the same as all my previous technical books – analyzing and working on (managing) the 'cause' to improve the 'effect'!"

As they begin to read through the work, they notice the stories the author has chosen to write and the manner in which he places them. He may have kept as many as 7 stories in his collection, but each story successfully reinforces the message that the author has his focus on. The stories vary in terms of length and also the times they depict. Some show time leaps, while some show the distance leaps. But the fact that can not be ignored is that the author faithfully depicts the ways of the world and their getting the best of their actions.

This element of realism makes Lochan's work even more potent. At the same time, the thorough and honest depiction of human nature also makes "Sigma" universal and realistic. Human nature can never change, and hence, the relevance of his work can not be reduced in any year or time it is read. In light of this, the author successfully shows the cause and effect relationship that pertains to human lives and how lives revolve around it.

Lochan keeps his characters from routine everyday life and places them in situations that humans would generally face at any point in time. This makes the stories more relatable for the readers, and from time to time, they nod or disagree with the moves and actions of the characters. As they finish each story, there is a kind of conclusion or moral given at the end which sums up all that they have read, and even if they may not have understood the story, they are able to comprehend with the help of the conclusion. The stories successfully retain the readers' trust in karma and how life is an equalizer for all. No matter what one does, they get the best of their actions, and the readers agree with that without any disagreement.

Pankaj Lochan brings many instances and stories that revolve around one thought, which is to show Karma works in the world.

At the same time, the situations and plots that the author constructs are placed majorly in the heart of towns away from metropolitans. The action may swing between metropolitan and other cities, but the core of the action is away from the metros. This increases the social relevance of the book and opens it to be read from a sociological point of view. Since the work is realistic and so close to life, "Sigma" appears to be a product of the impressions of a contemporary world where reality is the real deal.

The author chooses the medium of short stories to share the different lives and situations he may have witnessed or heard of. This opens the book to all kinds of readers. All stories keep the readers engaged and by the time they reach the end of each story, there is a sense of satisfaction and also a learning of what may have been ignored by them. All fiction readers who may be wanting to venture into short story reading may take "Sigma" as a book to begin with. To add on, the language the author uses is meant to cater to the needs of any reader. Whether a grown-up reader or a younger reader, all can read and relate to the stories that the author shares. The book has been published by **Evincepub Publishing**. The elders may find the author's experience reflecting through his writing, while the younger readers may find an abundance of wisdom and plenty of learning through the words of Lochan. They may also find the book suitable to be placed at their bedside, which they can go back to every now and then and read the stories again to attain the wisdom the author imparts and to understand how karma does and will continue to operate in human lives based on their actions.

Professional Background: Mr Pankaj Lochan has more than 2 decades of experience with organizations like Tata Steel, Dr Reddy's and JSW Group. He joined his current role as Executive Director & Group CHRO with JSPL from Ambuja Cements where he was working as President – Manufacturing. He has worked in various functions like Manufacturing, Projects, Human Resource, Research & Development, and Business Transformation etc. Pankaj is an engineer by profession and holds a degree in Mechanical Engineering from IIT-BHU and has also done his management education program from IIM Ahmedabad. Pankaj has authored several books in the field of TQM and HR and holds several patents and copyrights in the field of manufacturing and Total Quality Management. He is a Master-black-belt in Six Sigma and also trained in other improvement methodologies like Lean, TOC and TPM. Pankaj has also been trained on Open Innovations from the Haas School, Berkley and on TQM from Japanese Union of Scientists & Engineers (JUSE), Tokyo.

THE AUTHOR

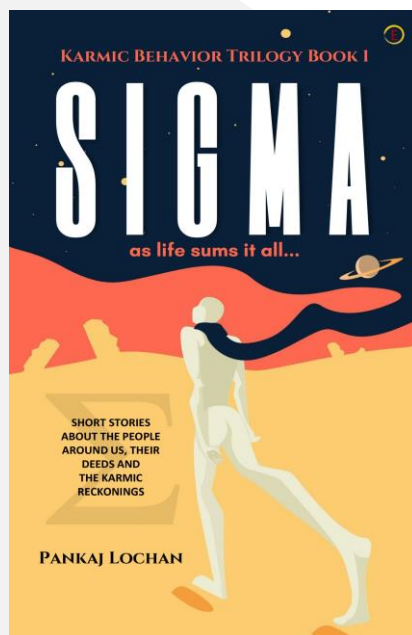
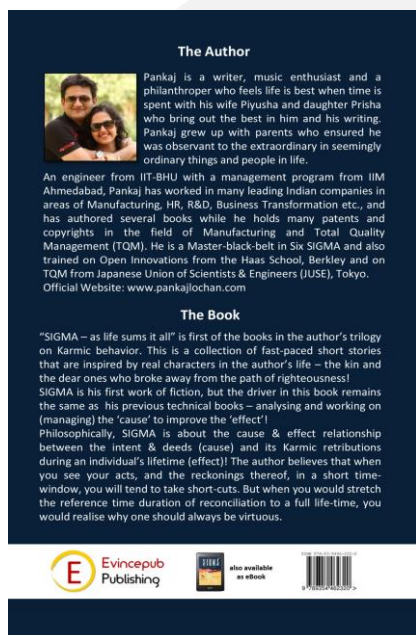


MR. PANKAJ LOCHAN

Pankaj is a writer, music enthusiast and a philanthropist who is very passionate about climate change initiatives at fundamental level. He grew up with parents who always taught him the larger meaning of life and ensured he was observant to the extraordinary in seemingly ordinary things and people in life. Pankaj feels that his wife Piyusha and daughter Prisha bring out the best in him and his writing.

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**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR &
GROUP CHRO, JSPL**



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THE LITERATURE TODAY

THE PREMIERE ISSUE

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