

www.theliteraturetoday.com

Vol. 2, Issue 3 July 2022

# THE LITERATURE *Today*

DOORWAY TO THE UNLOCKED WORLD

**EXCLUSIVE  
JOY OF  
READING**

**NEELAM  
KUMAR**

**COVER STORY**



ISSN - 2583-2263

TEDx Speaker, Bestselling Author, Motivational Speaker, Adversity Coach, Writing Coach, Life Skills Coach, Corporate Trainer, Pinkathon Ambassador and Cancer Crusader, **Neelam Kumar** wears many hats.



PG.54



## COVER STORY – NATIONAL BESTSELLING AUTHOR NEELAM KUMAR

Globally educated and widely traveled, Neelam is a **Bestselling Author** of 10 books. Her books span across genres and include our favourite Indian stories by **Khushwant Singh** and **Neelam Kumar** (JAICO ) as well as the latest bestseller, *To Cancer-With Love – My Journey of Joy* (Hay House, 2015.) Neelam has written India's first humorous book on cancer as well as India's first graphic novel on cancer. Over the years, it has become a source of strength and positivity not only for the cancer-stricken and their caregivers but also for those looking for hope and positivity amid life's adversities.

Neelam has received many awards is the *Nargis Dutt Memorial Trophy* for changing the narrative of cancer in India from grimness to hope as well as the *REX Karmaveer Global Fellowship* and the *Karmaveer Chakra (Gold)- 2019* instituted by ICONGO and the **United Nations**. Neelam has had an illustrious career of 30 years in India's largest steel company where she headed the Corporate Communications Deptt in Mumbai.

Neelam holds a Master's degree in Journalism from the U.S. She also has a Bachelor's degree in English Literature, a Bachelor's in Education, and a Post Graduation in Public Relations and Advertising. Neelam is a successful Life Coach, Motivational Speaker, and TEDx speaker.

She lives in Mumbai and can be reached at

Instagram: @lifecoachneelam

Email: corporate.lounge@gmail.com

FROM THE

# EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

---

With every edition of The Literature Today, we strive to reach out and give every author space in our editions. In the July-Aug 2022 Volume 2 Issue 3 edition, we have tried to expand the list of our features beyond book reviews and author interviews. For the first time, we have taken a political personality, the newly appointed President of India, Droupadi Murmu, and talked about her life and political career. In addition, we have also explored different issues of the current day while also publishing research papers. Our primary purpose has always been to give a unique place to budding authors or the ones who are recently published. Through this, we intend to give the authors the recognition they deserve and help their books reach as many readers as possible.

We are always willing to grow and feature more issues that influence life and people in general. Thus, we covered other topics like lifestyle, articles on contemporary issues like the changed scenario after covid, money matters, and many that hold relevance for different readers. With The Literature Today, we aspire to build up a magazine that would gather more and more readers with every edition. For that, we always look forward to hearing your suggestions and ideas. Write to us at [theliteraturetoday@gmail.com](mailto:theliteraturetoday@gmail.com). We would love to hear from you. Happy reading!



**Dr. Mayurkumar Mukundbhai Solanki**

Editor, *The Literature Today*, India

[mayur.solanki.gen@growmore.ac.in](mailto:mayur.solanki.gen@growmore.ac.in)

Best Regards,

*M. M. Solanki*

# Table of Contents

1

## AUTHOR INTERVIEW

- ❖ NEELAM KUMAR
- ❖ SAMEEN RASHID KHAN
- ❖ SANJEEV BANSAL
- ❖ JITHIN SHAJU

3

## RESEARCH ARTICLE

- ❖ HOW THE SCHOOLS BLOOMED IN 2022 FOR THE FIRST TIME AFTER 2020
- ❖ ABSURDITY OF MAN'S LIFE IN BADAL SIRCAR'S PLAY EVAM INDRAJIT
- ❖ THE RELENTLESS SERVICES BY INDIA POST DURING THE LOCKDOWNS

4

## BOOK REVIEW

- ❖ WIND CHIMES
- ❖ THE TASTE OF MIDNIGHT
- ❖ RENDEZVOUS IN REHAB
- ❖ AKSARA BHAGAVAD GITA
- ❖ A BEAUTIFUL HEART
- ❖ TO THE WORLD OF HAPPINESS
- ❖ DARE ME AND OTHER STORIES
- ❖ LIKE THE RADIANT SUN: A NOVEL
- ❖ THE SECRET TROVE
- ❖ RIDING THE DE(MON)

2

## AUTHOR STORY ARTICLE

- ❖ HARINDER CHEEMA
- ❖ SWAPAN KUMAR NATH
- ❖ RAVI RANJAN GOSWAMI

5

## TLT SPECIAL

- ❖ SMT. DROUPADI MURMU – AN INSPIRATION FOR THE NATION

6

## THE LITERATURE TODAY POETRY

- ❖ JYOTIRMAYA THAKUR
- ❖ DIPTIREKHA DAS
- ❖ NAHEED AKHTAR

**E-mail**  to:

[theliteraturetoday@gmail.com](mailto:theliteraturetoday@gmail.com) Or  
log on to [www.theliteraturetoday.com](http://www.theliteraturetoday.com)



# AUTHOR INTERVIEWS



**Neelam Kumar**  
Bestselling Author

Myths and superstitions abound around cancer. I was horrified to hear stories of village women getting beaten by their husbands for getting "infected" by cancer, before being thrown out for a new, younger woman. Or a father diagnosed with cancer opting to save his treatment money for the dowry of his only daughter. I decided to do my bit to shed off the fatalistic, resigned view of cancer many of us have. I decided that I would come out in the open about my illness and celebrate life. To tell people that cancer is no longer a death sentence if you catch and treat it early. This is why I became a Cancer Crusader.

**TLT:** What was the impetus behind this very special book of yours, *To Cancer, with Love: My Journey of Joy*?

## Questionnaire:

**TLT:** Firstly, big congratulations on your inspiring life journey and for all the milestones that you have achieved. Well, can you please share your experiences as a Cancer Crusader with us!

**Neelam Kumar:** Thank you! While we struggle with one C—Corona, why do we forget the threat of the other C? Cancer? I have used the horror script of my life—early widowhood; single parenting; the unimaginable struggles; my encounters with Cancer (s) to live with courage, hope, and joy and infuse the world with positivity through my books and motivational talks. One person in India dies of cancer every 50 seconds. The number of cancer cases in India is predicted to double in the next 20 years. Yes, the truth is India is sitting on the verge of a cancer epidemic. And yet there is so much ignorance and lack of awareness about cancer.

**Neelam Kumar:** When Cancer struck a second time, I began looking for hope and joy to lift my spirit. Unfortunately, I found grimness everywhere—classic movies like “Anand” in which the silently suffering, sacrificing hero inevitably *dies*. In the three classics, I read “Tuesdays With Morrie” *he* dies; in “Grace and Grit” *she* dies; In “The Last Lecture” *he* dies. I had made up my mind that the rest of my life would be the best of my life. I wanted a happily-ever-after story for myself. Finding no happy book on Cancer in India, I decided to write one myself. That is how **“To Cancer with Love-My Journey of Joy”** was born. It was picked up by **Hay house publishers** and zoomed on to become a bestseller.

My book is about an alter ego-Carol, who emerges in my darkest moments to make me see life through her own lens of undiluted joy. Carol is witty, spunky, and a joyous adversity fighter. All I had to do after that was to follow my own script. Somewhere during the pain of Chemotherapy, I became Carol herself—despite my bald head. My book **“To Cancer with Love”** by **Neelam Kumar** has helped thousands of stricken, suffering, and their caregivers find hope. Very happy to share that the new edition of this book has just been released. Have you ordered your copy yet and dropped a review on Amazon to bring hope into the lives of the stricken and the suffering?

**TLT: You have written 10 books in a stride of a few years only. So, what are some of the tips that you would give those authors, who want to stay long in the field and make it big like you?**

**Neelam Kumar:** Be unrelenting in the pursuit of your craft. Make a difference through your words.

**TLT: You’ve also worked with the legendary author, Khushwant Singh in your book,**

**Our Favourite Indian Stories. Therefore, can you please describe your experience of working with the legendary Indian Author!**

**Neelam Kumar:** The experience was a life-transforming Master class. I learned the art and science of writing a bestseller from the literary giant and hard taskmaster, **Mr. Khushwant Singh** himself. He had seen a spark of brilliance in the amateurish books I wrote before he made me the offer of co-authoring a book with him. I had just come back from the USA after topping my Master's in Journalism course. He punctured my ego every time I cribbed about the hard work he was putting me through. “America ke liye kafi kur liya, apne desh ke liye kya kiya? Kaisi writer hai tu?” That would quieten me down. I always felt I was working towards a bigger cause. With no Google to help me, I had to travel to each State of India to collect and translate hitherto unknown, untranslated literary gems in regional languages of India to make them accessible to English-speaking readers. I also did a lot of footwork to physically visit Sahitya Akademi, libraries, and unknown regional authors across the country.

Our book - our favourite Indian stories by Khushwant Singh and Neelam Kumar become a bestseller. In fact, it still is, long after Mr. Singh has passed away. What did I gain? The precious secret of writing bestsellers was finally revealed to me. I also received invaluable training from a litterateur of Mr. Khushwant Singh's stature. I shall be ever grateful for that.



**TLT: You have been an exceptional writer-author and an inspiration to many. So next, I want you to tell us about some of those writers, who had inspired you in your journey!**

**Neelam Kumar:** I used to be fascinated by the fluency and ease with which my parents, **Mr. O N Panchalar** and **Mrs. Urmila Panchalar** wrote their books in **Hindi and Russian**. As a young girl, I dreamt of becoming like them. Having been a voracious reader, every writer left some impression on me, but I would like to mention 4 favorite writers who have inspired me:

1. Dr. Brian Weiss (Many Lives, Many Masters)
2. Paulo Coelho (The Alchemist)
3. Daisaku Ikeda (Unlocking the Mysteries of Birth and Death... And Everything in Between)
4. Richard Bach (Jonathan Livingston Seagull)



# Sameen Rashid Khan

## Author

**About The Author** - Sameen Rashid Khan (now Sameen Danish Sayyed) is a Professional Writer, Public Speaker, and Mental Health Worker, residing in the satellite city of Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra, India. She is the daughter of Mohd. Rashid Khan, a Civil Engineer and Businessman by profession (also a closet writer), and Mrs. Yasmeen Khan. Both her parents being avid readers, she grew up along with books. Her love for reading ignited her passion for writing in her. She started writing her first novel at the young age of 12. It is currently an incomplete draft lying on her PC, but it gave her writing talent a push forward. In 2015, she started working on 'The Aftermath' and got it approved by Blackbuck Publications. It was published as a paperback in 2017 and gave her amazing reviews. Later, she finished writing a series of short stories titled, 'A for Ambiguity', that she self-published on Amazon Kindle. Her next book, 'Mostly Me', is a collection of poems that she has written during a troubled phase in her life. Sameen's latest book, 'Rendezvous in Rehab' is a collection of 9 short stories focusing on women residing in Indian Rehabilitation centers. The USP of the book is that it is based on true events. Now married to Mr. Danish Sayyed, a Senior Network Engineer by profession, Sameen is working on future writing and speaking projects mostly revolving around mental health.

**The Literature Today: Your book, "Rendezvous in Rehab," is a product of the work of real-life events and incidents. What led to the idea of writing "Rendezvous in Rehab"? Were there any events that inspired the work?**

**Sameen Rashid Khan:** I have a major in Psychology and a very curious mind. As a student, I got the opportunity to be exposed to rehabilitation centers and something about the outside told me that there was a lot to those places on the inside as well. This combined with my ability to bring stories to life is what inspired me to get into the process of writing the book.



### Questionnaires:

**The Literature Today: I would like to begin by congratulating you on the publication of "Rendezvous in Rehab." How has the response to the book been so far?**

**Sameen Rashid Khan:** Thank you very much. Rendezvous in Rehab is one work that I am most proud of the way it has turned out. The response has been amazing! A lot of people have reached out to tell me that they have been brought out from the darkness of ignorance after reading it. But the best feedback I've received so far is being able to inspire one of its protagonists to stand up for herself and fight for a better future.

**The Literature Today: How easy or difficult was it for you to write and connect a contemporary subject with the learnings from the present world and also remain objective about them in "Rendezvous in Rehab"?**

**Sameen Rashid Khan:** I think somewhere, seeing things from an objective perspective was instilled in me as a child and I am very grateful to my parents for that! At the same time, I have absorbed my education rather than just studying for the sake of it. This is how it becomes a little easy to remain objective and as for connecting my writing to contemporary subjects- that has always been my forte. If you look at my earlier writings, you'll see that they reflect the same.

**The Literature Today: Through “Rendezvous in Rehab” you have tried to show a different side of human existence. Why do you think that this side has got less mention so far?**

**Sameen Rashid Khan:** As human beings, we have the ‘if it is not happening with me, it is not happening at all,’ tendency in us. Also, we choose to remain ignorant of what instills uncertainty into our normal life. This, I believe is why we ourselves don't try nor do we encourage others to see the different faces of human existence.

**The Literature Today: “Rendezvous in Rehab” shows the uniqueness of your style of writing. How is this book different from your previous books? Please share a little about them with the readers.**

**Sameen Rashid Khan:** So, mental health has always been the core when it comes to my writing. But every story is unique and needs to be told in its own way. While my first book, ‘The Aftermath’ was a complete novel (a story that reflected the after-effects of suicide) it still had the contemporary mental health angle. My poetry collection, ‘Mostly me’ also reflected the journey of struggling with mental health issues in a society that doesn't attempt to understand it. However, for ‘Rendezvous in Rehab’ it took a different direction altogether. I realized post ‘The Aftermath’, that maybe reading a novel is too time-consuming for our fast-paced society. That is when I thought of using brevity to convey my message effectively and Rendezvous in Rehab was born.

**The Literature Today: “Rendezvous in Rehab” shows the story of a different set of people. How would you categorize “Rendezvous in Rehab” as its appeal seems to be to a broad audience?**

**Sameen Rashid Khan:** When I wrote the book, I knew that I was not targeting a certain section of the society. My target audience was each and every human on this planet. The stories are also about humans- different or alike, we are the same species and I think it's high time we move on from just knowing how much a person earns or how they're faring in their love life to actually knowing what makes a person who they are (i.e. their struggles). So, Rendezvous in Rehab can be categorized as, if I may say, “a source of awareness about our own species.”

**The Literature Today: “Rendezvous in Rehab” has given a powerful introduction to your potential as a writer. Can the readers expect more from you in the future? Please share about your future projects.**

**Sameen Rashid Khan:** I'm really honored to hear that! As for my future projects, I assure my readers that I won't be disappointing them and that this is just the beginning. There's a lot more to come along the lines of mental health advocacy.

**The Literature Today: You have chosen a title that is relevant and best suited. What is the story behind the creation of the title, “Rendezvous in Rehab”?**

**Sameen Rashid Khan:** Well, I wanted to introduce the real face of rehabilitation centers in India to my readers and I played along with the phrase ‘a day in rehab’ until the very end. Finally, it struck me that a rendezvous is more structured than a random meeting and it fits perfectly well with the seriousness of the message that the book gives. That's how I ended up with the title.

**The Literature Today: “Rendezvous in Rehab” shares stories which are born from your passion for imparting awareness about mental wellness. Do you have any other favorite writers or any which you read regularly?**

**Sameen Rashid Khan:** To be honest, when it comes to authors, I don't really have favourites. The mere reason is that I have exposed myself to multiple genres and authors and I know the effort that goes into a book. So, each one is doing their best I believe. Talking about my passion for imparting awareness be it related to mental health or any other area; I would say that's why my writing was born. I grew up in a family which has taught me that if you are blessed with a gift (like writing for example), use it as an advantage to serve humanity.

**The Literature Today: Thank you very much for sparing your time. I look forward to reading more books from you in the future. All the best.**

**Sameen Rashid Khan:** It has been a pleasure expressing myself here. Thank you for the opportunity and I look forward to more collaborations with you in the future.



# SANJEEV BANSAL

## AUTHOR

**About The Author** - Sanjeev Bansal is a young and emerging poet, writer, and author of the new novel *The Taste of Midnight*. The novel is spine-chiller/ mystery-themed. It's a tale about a man who battles with his psyche and heart to substantiate himself unadulterated against his female closest companion's affirmations. He writes out his experiences delving into his subconscious trying to unknot his mind, heart, and soul's emotions. Laced in the strings of the world weaved out of his creative ability, he penned down the mysteries of his sentimental specialty. The virgin voyage of writing art sailed in the mid-years of 20th century when thine roused him like the star does to a visionary and the crescent moon does to the ocean. He is an immense love for nature and it reflects significantly both as a part of his identity and verses written in her adoration as an anthology named *An Ode to Shimla*. He calls it a mansion of dreams in the land of verses. The inerasable thoughts of thine sprouted a seed in Sanjeev's heart to dive in the profoundness of solitary love. Each time Sanjeev fizzled he skipped back with more prominent greatness. After each set back, Sanjeev takes a shot at remaking his life. A pivotal piece of modifying his life was his interest towards the life of innovativeness which was embellished by a cornucopia of scholarly enjoyments. In this manner he pens down each shade of life that comes in his direction which is like Nirvana to him.



### Questionnaires:

**The Literature Today: Congratulations on the publication of your marvel of a book, "The Taste of Midnight." How has the audience received it?**

**Sanjeev Bansal:** Sanjeev Bansal: The reviews are being collected and as the starting stage, readers are liking the first part in the series of "The Taste of Midnight".

**The Literature Today: What were the events that inspired you to write "The Taste of Midnight"?**

**Sanjeev Bansal:** The stories and plots are built based upon the varied experiences and happenings on a so-called journey of life. Every now and then such moments elate you and sometimes they get the best out of you. So you collect and present them in the form of a tiny web.

**The Literature Today: Many authors have written in the same genre as yours, yet "The Taste of Midnight" appears unique and different from its counterparts. How did you manage to create that uniqueness despite remaining true to the genre?**

**Sanjeev Bansal:** Firstly, the framing of characters especially the appeal of dark angle is what the readers will love. Secondly, the mixture of short verses in classic poetry style followed by the blend of real-life heartache experiences make the genre an inimitable affair to remember.

**The Literature Today: "The Taste of Midnight" does not have clear-cut segregation, yet it is specific and to the point. How did you construct the idea of writing in such a manner?**

**Sanjeev Bansal:** All the writers have their own style of writing. They create an atmosphere in which the readers submerge themselves and deep dive into the writer's imagination. However, the heart of the plot is Stella around which all the events revolve. It's Mike's inner appellations that are specific and reach the vantage point.

**The Literature Today: After writing "The Taste of Midnight" do you think there is more that can come from your pen as a sequel to the work? Would you like to share your plans for writing in the future?**

**Sanjeev Bansal:** Yes, as I said, it's the starting of the series. The coming versions will be more exciting which will be transpiring the hidden secrets and answering the unsolved questions in "The Taste of Midnight".

**The Literature Today: While "The Taste of Midnight" explores a world beyond, what genre of literary writing would you like your work to be placed in since it doesn't seem to be restricted to just one?**

**Sanjeev Bansal:** Well, the genre of the literary writing in my point of view is vast and diversified. Since, it covers the aspects ranging from crime, suspense, love, etc. therefore, it can specifically be placed in the tag of diverse literature.

**The Literature Today: "The Taste of Midnight" introduces you and your potential as a writer. Do you think you have been influenced by any other writers? Who would they be?**

**Sanjeev Bansal:** I'm always amazed and thrilled by the suspense stories which shake my inner self to portray a masterpiece. In my list, the top most position of such profound plots is of Agatha Christie.

**The Literature Today: Do you think "The Taste of Midnight" has the potential to influence many lives at once?**

**Sanjeev Bansal:** Well it depends upon the person to person how they take it. But as a writer, I've did all my efforts that the people get influenced in a positive and growing direction. The negativities will be shunned off automatically.

**The Literature Today: "The Taste of Midnight" as a title seems quite thought-provoking and multi-dimensional. How did you decide upon it?**

**Sanjeev Bansal:** Well, it was quite difficult, and had to brainstorm a lot. The view was that the title should express the deep contours of the characters and situations. Hence, "Taste" signifies the essence of the midnight hour from which Mike has gone through because of the events that happened between him and Stella.

**The Literature Today: "The Taste of Midnight" explores the journey of the lives of unique and strikingly different characters. What inspired the creation of these characters?**

**Sanjeev Bansal:** The characters are driven by a deep-rooted motivation and create a story arc. The characters' lives in "The Taste of Midnight" have been digged deeper and have contrasting features. As an illustration, think of Mike's quest in the novel to save Stella, fueled by her kidnapping and his guilt.

**The Literature Today: "The Taste of Midnight" is likely to excite the readers in no time. Did you have an idea of the gravity of the subject before you started writing the book?**

**Sanjeev Bansal:** It's always felt that being a writer, the story is incomplete and still more can be done to fill the voids. But it's a saying that "Some things are better not to be completed and their beauty lies into that only".

**The Literature Today: "The Taste of Midnight" shows your ability to write through incidents that have the flavor of fiction. Would you ever plan to write anything in the non-fiction category?**

**Sanjeev Bansal:** It may be. We don't have control over time and situations.

**The Literature Today: "The Taste of Midnight" seems promising for the present and future generations. I wish you luck with your future ventures.**

**Sanjeev Bansal:** Thank you Literature Today for providing me an opportunity to be featured in your journal. I hope through your platform, "Taste of Midnight" reaches as far as it can be. Moving ahead, I would love to interact with our esteemed readers and followers to know the plot and other ideas.



# JITHIN SHAJU

## Author Of The Book “To The World Of Happiness”

**Author's Background:** Author, **Jithin Shaju** was born on the 1st of July 1991 in the state of Kerala, in Southern India. He is a self-inspired, visual-eyed writer and an avid dreamer. The author is the eldest child in his family of three and he got graduated from Mahatma Gandhi University. While after his graduation, he worked in India as well as abroad till he decided to stick on to his passion for storytelling.



### Questionnaires:

**The Literature Today:** Firstly, Congratulations on your book, “*To The World Of Happiness*” Well, can you please share your experience about making your work come into the form of book!

**Jithin Shaju:** Thank you, The Literature Today. It was a wonderful experience. As a first-time author, there have been so many hurdles on the path, mostly unexpected. But I enjoyed the experience overall. And the pleasure getting after it's published can't be matched with anything else.

**The Literature Today:** What inspired you to write this book? What was the impetus behind this work of yours?

**Jithin Shaju:** It all started as a game I played with my friend Liz, writing a short story based on a prompt the other person give within 24 hrs. And we both have written more than 100 stories like that within a span of two months. This was one of those short stories I wrote. I myself liked the idea very much and send feedback from my friends who also liked the idea. That's the beginning of expanding this work. The inspiration was from the concept of neural waves I happened to read accidentally in the later half of the first wave of Covid-19. And from the very beginning, I don't like the idea of war and humans killing other humans. I have always thought that if every country decided to disperse their army, the world will be a more happy place, will be more economically stable, and more free.



**The Literature Today:** Your book title, '*To The World Of Happiness*' is definitely a catchy one! Therefore, can you please explain the reasons for going with this book title!

**Jithin Shaju:** You can get many reasons for the title in the story. Basically, the story is a journey of a man to achieve a world of happiness when the world around him is nothing but chaos. The research and the discovery he made in the story were also related to happiness. Like there are many references throughout the story where happiness is the need, happiness is the vaccine.

**The Literature Today:** Well, can you please explain that how is this book different from the other books of the same genres?

**Jithin Shaju:** This one has no aliens or machines attacking humans. No space navigation or something like that. It's just humans and human minds here. It is not a long or difficult read. While I write this, I had an intention, even a non-reader could read it during the time of watching a movie and enjoy it like they watch a good movie and bring some new readers to this literature world. I hope I could achieve that with this.

**The Literature Today:** Apart from science fiction, in which other genres would you like to make your contributions?

**Jithin Shaju:** Fantasy, psychological thrillers or psychological drama, social commentary or social sarcasm, and historical and mythical fiction seem interesting to me. I would definitely try on these.

**The Literature Today:** Studying the subject matter of this book, I'm greatly impressed & I want you to explain to us, in your version, that how this book will appeal the readers of the present day!

**Jithin Shaju:** Everyone needs to be happy nowadays, it becomes a necessity and people realized the importance of mental wellness. But is our world really going towards a happy world? If so, the army strength of every nation will get reduced. You can see it's increasing and everyone wanted to increase the strength, even with new and new weapons coming alive every two or three months. With constant exposure to these ideas, people's mindsets can get altered. A journey of a scientist in that situation is what my story is.

**The Literature Today:** Next, I want you to tell us about some of those writers, who had inspired you!

**Jithin Shaju:** There are many. In the sci-fi genre, like most, I also started reading H.G. Wells or Mary Shelly. At newer age, I was inspired by "*The Illuminae Files*" by Amie Kaufman and Jay Kristoff. I liked the difference in the format of their presentation and narration, I didn't see something like that before. Dan Brown is another one. Among Indian English authors, I like Amish. And there are some in Kerala (Malayalam) who inspired me so much like M. Mukundhan, T.D. Ramakrishnan, Benyamin, Vinoy Thomas, etc.

**The Literature Today:** Is there any message that you would like to convey to your readers? Or any piece of advice, which you would like to give to the readers out there!

**Jithin Shaju:** I'm not someone who gives advice to others, I think nobody has the right to say how others should live. The only thing I can say from my ideology is never chose to hurt any other person or animal in any case in any way. There's always an alternate choice. I hope in the future world will move to a state where every boundary in the human mind will fade away and a wonderful harmony will come around the globe.

**The Literature Today:** Are there any other books being worked by you? Please let us know about your future projects.

**Jithin Shaju:** Most of my works begin with a dream, When I woke up, I will note down whatever I remember and if that story made me sleepless for the next two days I will write a short story on that. And I had many short stories written like that, and there's one such story which is so exciting and whenever I think about it, I am having goosebumps about making it to something epic. I am researching it now.



# AUTHOR STORY ARTICLES



The Literature Today features the internationally celebrated and versatile poet and author Harinder Cheema who is the only Indian to receive the “Naji Naaman International Honor Prize for Complete Work in 2022”.

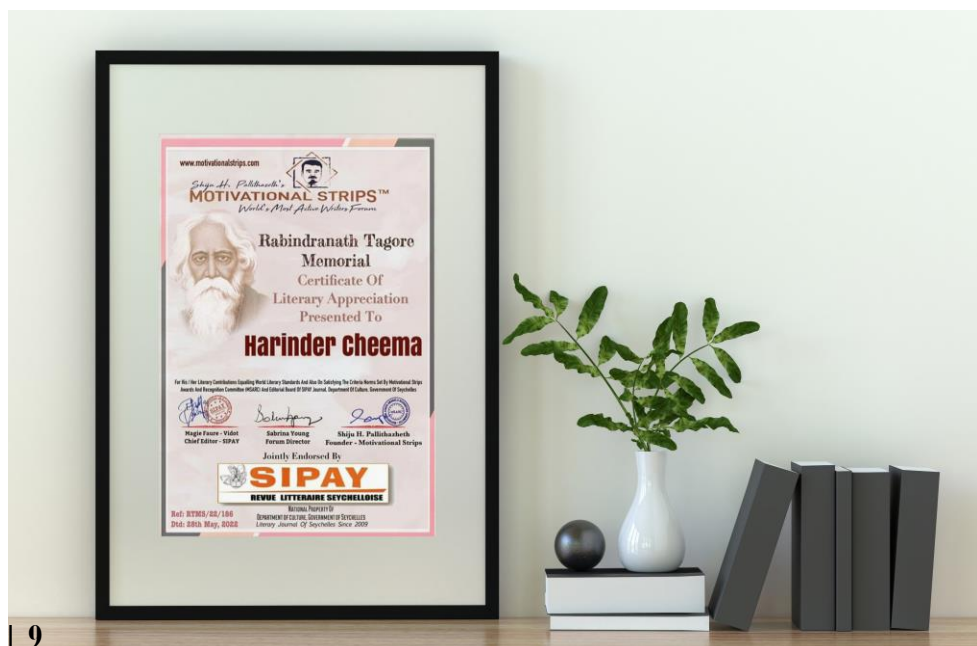
She shares space with other 67 great world authors including the Birland Prime Minister. With 3322 participants in the competition, from eighty-two countries, she is the only proud Indian to receive the prestigious "Honor Prize for Complete Work" 2022. Released in 2002, Naji Naaman literary prizes are awarded to authors of the most emancipated literary works in content and style, aiming to revive and develop human values.

She is also the proud recipient of the title and honour, “MASTER OF CREATIVE IMPULSE 2022” for her Book entitled “Soul Chants” by WORLD LITERATURE INDIA.

Whether it is environmental degradation, moral depravity in society, crimes against women, people choosing materialism over spirituality, or discrimination and division in the world, her meaningful poetry holds a mirror to the present-day world. Her achievements as mentioned under show her dedication and her love for literature.

**Achievements** - Harinder Cheema is the author of two books, entitled, "The Temple Stop" and "Soul Chants", A Collection Of Poetic Hymns. Her novel "The Temple Stop" is the recipient of 'The Best Book of the Year Award 2020' by Aghaaz, Author In You. She is the co-author of 30 poetry anthologies and her articles have been published in various prestigious international magazines.

**About the Author** - This is the story of a passionate writer who with her resolve and determination became an internationally celebrated poet and a world author. Writing is not just a passion for her. It is meditation. She is a change maker as through her writing she conveys the right messages with a strong urge to make a difference. She is the modern-day poet and her poetry truly reflects the challenges faced in the present times.





Her short stories have been published in the coffee table books and she is also the proud recipient of many prestigious awards including the **'Naji Naaman International Literary Prize For Complete Work 2022'**, **'The Author of the Year 2019'** and **'The Voice of Indian Literature'** by Ne8x, **'The India Inspirational Women Awards 2020'** and **'The Women Excellence Award 2020'**. Her name finds a mention in the '101 Influential Women of India 2020'. **'The Queen Of Era Award 2022'** by International Council Of Research and Reforms. Her story has been covered and published by **'The Crazy Tales'**, and she has been felicitated with **'The Prolific Writer Award'** at the Constitution Club of India. She is also the proud recipient of the Swaavilambika Samman 2021. Her story has also been featured in **'The Literature Times'**. Besides, she is a member of AIPC, the only global platform for elite women, and a member of the Screenwriters Association of India.

Her story has been covered by the leading newspapers, magazines, and websites. Her Inspiring Story has been featured in the Inspiring Women Power Stories in the Women Power Edition of the Lifestyle Magazine, March issue 2021 alongside Priyanka Chopra's Success story. She shares space with great women of substance like Kiran Bedi, Nita Ambani, Priyanka Chopra to name a few.

She has been featured in the 'Tycoon magazine' which has a global presence. She has also been featured in the 'Pitara Magazine' along with other Women Of Substance. She is also the proud recipient of the National level Pratibha Samman, Golden Peacock award 2021. She has had the honour of being invited as an esteemed guest at the World Poetry Conference III and the Global Literature Conclave, 2021, and the All India Poetess Conference 2021. She is a featured Contemporary World Poet by Poetry And Literature World Vision. She was also an esteemed guest poet at the Panorama International Literature Festival 2022 and Paper Fiber Festival, Mexico 2022. and Senando Mexico 7th edition.

She is also the proud recipient of The Global Environmental Award 2021 and Mother Teresa Global Peace Award 2021. Her name also finds mentioned in, 'The Pillars of India' and she is a proud member of the Writers Capital Foundation. She has also received the 'International Proud Woman Award 2022' by Namaste India Group and is also the proud recipient of The 'Best Social Activist Award.' She has also been honoured as an 'International Declarator' by the ICD Worldwide Networks on World Civilization Day. She has also received the very prestigious APJ Abdul Kalam Award from Arpita Foundation.

She has also been honoured with the 'International Educationist Award 2021' by Oxford Eduserve. She has also received Literary honours from the Gujarat Sahitya Academy in 2021. She shares space with some great intellectuals in the 21 st century critical thought, a collection of interviews of eminent scholars, poets, and thinkers from all across the world, of the 21st century. She has been interviewed by the New York Parrot Literary corner. She is also the proud recipient of 'The Tagore Honour 2022' by Literoma and the Rabindranath Tagore Literary Honour commissioned by **Motivational Strips** in joint association with the Cultural Department, Government of Seychelles.

She has had an illustrious academic career and her fondness for literature has been instrumental in her having done her Masters in English Literature. Since her childhood, she has been into creative writing, dramatics, and public speaking. As a professional, she has been an educationist, scripted and anchored Air Force events, and has been reciting poetry at various forums across the country for the last two decades. She has had the rare privilege of being invited by the Sahitya Academy to recite poetry in their literary forums. She was also an esteemed guest at the Jammu Literary Festival. Her Poems have been translated into Albanian, Hindi, Odia, Malayalam, and Bengali languages, and is a much respected and revered poet.

She has also been positively impacting society through her poetry videos on heart-touching subjects. She is a trilingual poet and writes in English, Hindi, and Punjabi. She is a motivational speaker and has been invited as a guest of honor by various top colleges and universities in India. She is a dedicated writer, a change-maker, and an optimist who believes in the motto, "Life is beautiful".



## Swapan Kumar Nath

### - Bilingual poet

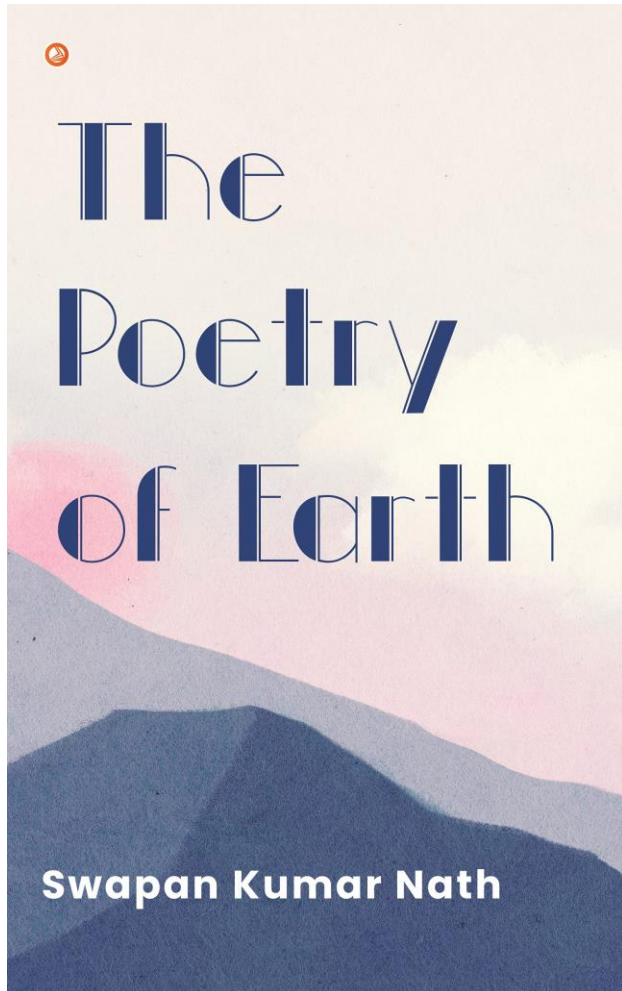
Few talents remain in a drowsy state, as when gets a room for rousing it gets its excellence. Kathakriti takes an effort to focus such talent to be a banyan tree. Swapan Kumar Nath was born in 1968 on 17<sup>th</sup> December in a very respectable family in Nadia district of West Bengal. His father, Rash Behari Nath was a teacher of the English language and History of repute. His mother was Mrs. Shefali Rani Nath from whom he got the opportunity to grow up as a person of humanity. He has two elder sisters namely kajal Nath, and Bakul Nath Bhowmik, and an elder brother namely

Ratan Kumar Nath. Mr. Nath completed his school education at Bethuadahari J C M. High school and completed his H S from Krishnanagar Government College. He completed his Honours in English and Master's degree from **Rabindra Bharati University**, Kolkata. He started his career as a teacher of English language in **JHAPORDAH DUKE INSTITUTION, HOWRAH** from 1997 to 2021 September. And then he joined Panihati Tran Nath High school as a teacher of the English language on and from 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021. When the whole world was going through a critical juncture caused by COVID-19, at that moment few people indulged themselves in the work of literary creations. In this hard time of life, the literary works of Swapan have come in limelight. The English poetry book namely **"THE INSPIRING TRAVEL"** is reported to have been published as the first English poetry book by the poet, **Swapan Kumar Nath** under the publication of **KATHAKRITI** in 2020 on 28<sup>th</sup> October. The publication of this book has been published in **Ananda Bazaar Patrika**. This book has been praised by the readers.

Mr. Nath has come in contact with so many world-famous professors in his educational life. He feels proud to mention their names - Professor, Pabitra Sarkar, Dr. Sudhir Chakrabarty, Dr. Ranjit Sarkar, Dr. Amitava Ray, Dr. Madhumanti Maitra, and above all Dr. Dhriti Kanta Lahiri Chowdhury. Meanwhile, his two consecutive Bengali poetry books,

**ADBHUT ANDHAR** and **ALOR ABHIMUKHE** have been published. Both the books got applause from the readers. That is why he can be called a **bilingual poet**. Though the poet started writing in the recent past yet his writings both in English and Bengali have touched the mind of the readers not only of his own country but also abroad. His writings are simple, colloquial and a reflection of daily life having the quality of his own style and excellence. His writings mainly focus on the present political scenario that is inviting restlessness in society and the malpractice of administration. His poetry also sings about universal love and affection among men and women.





His second English poetry book, **THE POETRY OF EARTH** from Orange publication was a milestone for the poet. The book brought worldwide fame to the **World Book Of Records, LONDON**. The poet, Swapan Kumar Nath has been awarded the best Indian Author by writing The poetry Earth by **Criticspace Journal** of International fame. His many English poems and short stories have been published in many international journals. The poems of Swapan have been published in two English poetry books namely **REVERIE** and **REVERIE2** by **INNOVATIVE AUTHOR'S INTERNATIONAL FORUM**. Under the editorship of Dr. Janatha, a professor of English and poet, writer, and essayist, Swapan's English poems have been published in a book, **STRINGS OF SYMPHONY**. His Bengali poems have been published in Bangladesh. He is a regular speaker on different commercial channels in the language of English teaching and speaking. His many more poems both in English and Bengali are awaiting to be published in different magazines both in his country and abroad. He has been awarded, **SAHITYA RATNA AWARD** from Gappo Baggish prakashoni, Kolkata. The poet was awarded, **KALARATNAM AWARD** from Creative Art Forum, Kolkata. Mr. Nath was declared a **World poet** by Creative Art Forum, Kolkata. The poet also got appreciation from Nepal.



**Swapan Kumar Nath** with Trophy,  
Certificate & Memento of *Criticspace*  
*Literary Awards 2021*



Reading and writing was his hobby. He started writing when he was in junior high school. Then he wrote Hindi poems, which got published in the local newspaper and school magazine.

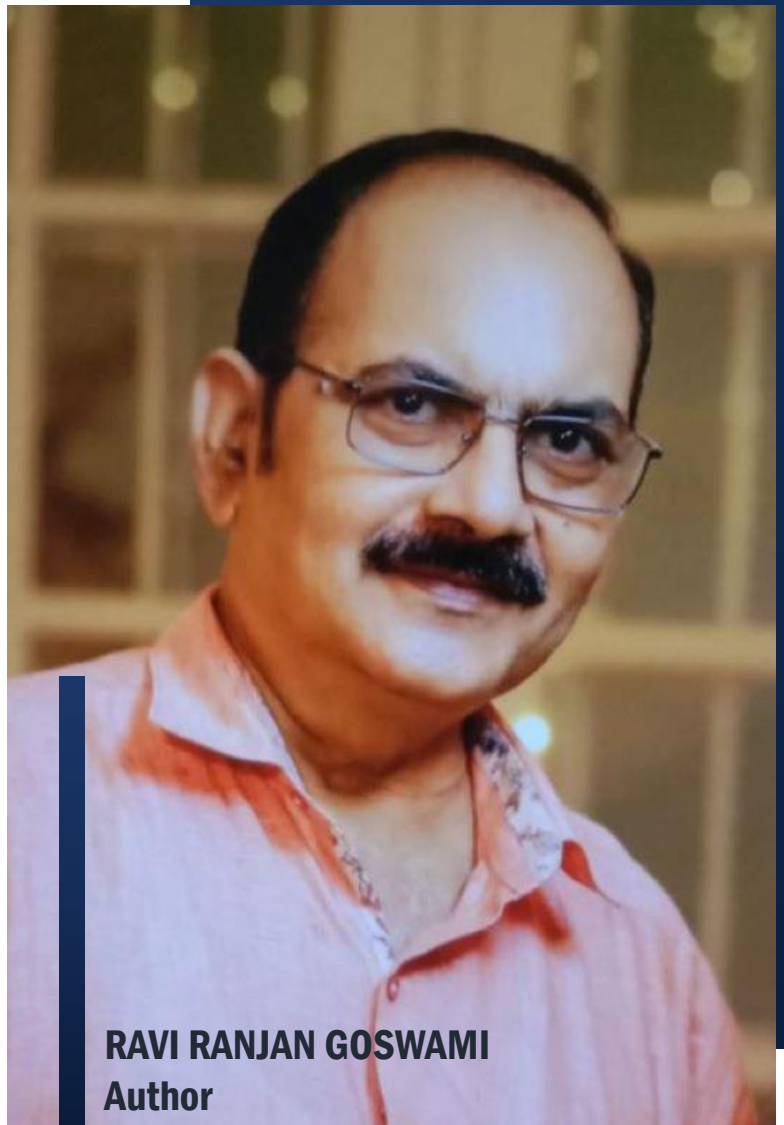
Now he is living in Cochin and pursuing his passion for writing. He is a bilingual writer who writes poetry in Hindi and prose in Hindi and English. He especially enjoys telling stories. ***The author has written over 20 books across multiple genres, including Sci-fi, fantasy, crime, thriller, mythology, and romance.*** The story of his latest book, 'Asht Yogi,' is fiction based on Yoga and Tantra. Guru Vishnudev is a perfect yogi. Whatever he does, it is good for the nation and humanity. He plans to create an army of eight accomplished Youth Yogis who will help people when a disaster strikes India. Envious of the Yoga Guru's powers, there is a Tantric who tries to harass him with black magic. However, the purpose of the author is to entertain the readers. Along with the entertainment, while reading this short novel, the readers who are unaware of yoga will have an Idea about yoga, and curiosity towards yoga will increase. Ravi Ranjan Goswami received the **Criticspace literary award 22**, Best Indian author for The Asht Yogis (English translation of अष्ट योगी।)

He has published poetry, short stories, novels, and novellas in Hindi and English. His writings are, however, famous among Hindi readers and he is known to a wider audience as an established Hindi writer.

His other popular titles are Luteron ka Teela, Chambal, Nakam Dushman, Love marriage, It so Happened, Palayan, Parallel Love, Love and Lust, Providence, Manav The Human, The Seven shades, Foiled, and Asht Yogikal (Malayalam translation of Asht Yogi) It will be interesting to read the synopsis of some of these books.

Ravi Ranjan Goswami is a native of Jhansi, a historic city made famous by its brave queen **Lakshmibai**, where his father, Late Shri Purushottam Das Goswami, worked in the Railways. His mother late Shrimati Bhagwatidevi was a god-fearing housewife.

He completed his schooling at **Lokmanya Tilak school**, and SPI inter-college, Jhansi. He passed B. Sc from Bipin Bihari Degree, College of the Bundelkhand University, Jhansi, and earned his degree of M.Sc (Physics) from the Agra college of the Agra University. Then he joined Indian customs as a preventive officer. Subsequently, he became an **IRS (Indian Revenue Service) officer**. He retired as an Assistant Commissioner of Customs.



**RAVI RANJAN GOSWAMI**  
Author

Luteron ka Teela, Chambal It is a small story about a bandit in the Chambal. Kailash Pandey, a bandit, abducts a bunch of people who are returning from a marriage. The bandits leave the bride but kidnap the groom, his father, and a few more people and demand ransom. But something happens, which causes the change of heart in Kailash, who surrenders unconditionally to the Police.

### **Foiled, The enemy's Plan.**

Rajesh is the central protagonist of this novella. He is a spy on a mission to get information about the terrorists' next step. Rajesh collects pieces of information, and the government manages to stop it after hurdles.

### **Love Marriage**

For an arranged marriage, when the boy and his family like the girl, the next event should be a marriage between the boy and the girl. In this story, even after liking the girl, the boy's family backs out because the girl's family cannot fulfill the demand of the boy's father and marriage becomes doubtful. The girl's practical approach and the advice and plan of a close friend of the boy made the marriage happily possible.

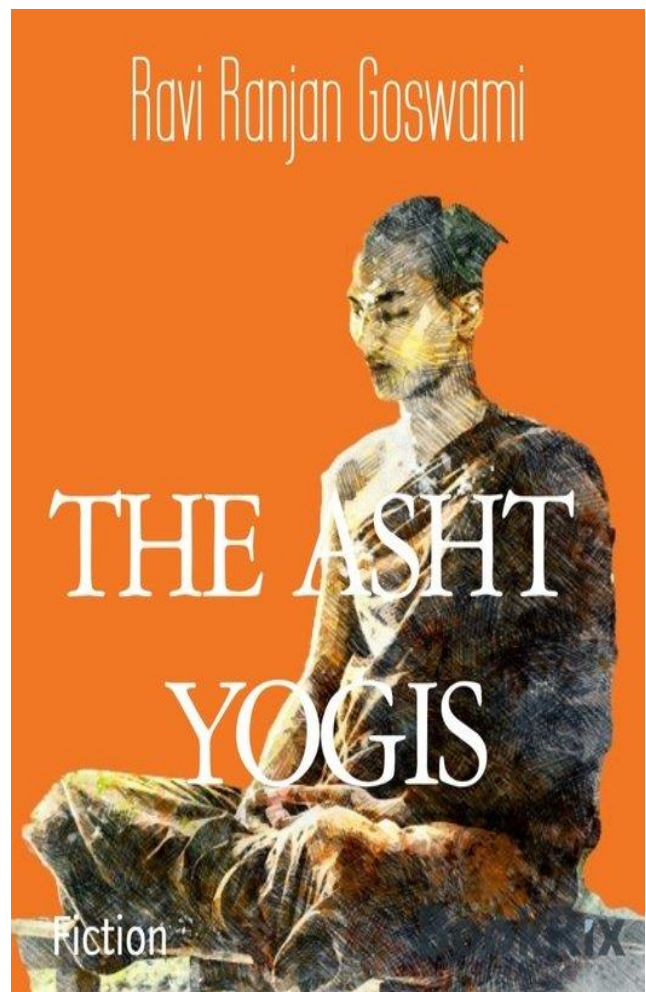
### **Manav**

Chagan had a stronghold in his area, and as the MLA, he commanded a certain respect. This status led his younger brother Magan, who was still a student pursuing an LLB, to do things that would have otherwise put him into police custody. Enter Manav, once a member of Chagan's party, now an upcoming reformed politician. Magan and Manav lock horns, and it is up to Chagan to resolve the issue between these two hot-headed young men before it turns for the worse and destroys his career. Who will win this war of right and wrong?

### **Parallel Love**

Madhu was the new college girl and had already driven all the guys crazy with her looks. Rajesh knew she was different from the other girls in the college, and she stayed in his mind after he returned to the hostel room. Rajesh got a chance to meet Madhu at the badminton selection venue, and they also won the University Badminton Championship together. But when Rajesh asked her to go with him to see the Taj Mahal, she told him she was engaged, which broke his heart. In the meantime, Geeta, the girl he was introduced to by his friend Ruchi, had a crush on Rajesh - she kept writing letters to him but never sent them.

Ravi Ranjan Goswami has also published audio versions of his novels and short stories. His books are available on Amazon, Flipkart, **Notionpress**, **Rajmangal publishers**, **Aligarh, UP**, and **Saiktham publishers**, **Ernakulam, Kerala**.



# GET

## PUBLISHING & PROMOTION GUIDANCE



**Visit: [www.inkerspress.com](http://www.inkerspress.com)**  
**Email: [inkerspress@gmail.com](mailto:inkerspress@gmail.com)**



# RESEARCH ARTICLE

ISSN - 2583-2263

## How The Schools Bloomed In 2022 For The First Time After 2020

What happened in the year 2020 is something that the world will always remember! The Chinese **Virus (COVID-19)** destroyed many of the lives in many ways, be it the business of a small vendor or the education of a hard working kid or the functioning of the governments and what not. In 2020,

when the first wave of the Chinese Virus out broke then the whole world lost a lot in their battle with this deadly disease however, many of us who were safe in the first wave took things lightly, which resulted to the rise of the second wave of the Chinese Virus in the year 2021. When the first wave of the Chinese Virus out broke then the whole world lost a lot in their battle with this deadly disease however, many of us who were safe in the first wave took things lightly, which resulted to the rise of the second wave of the Chinese Virus in the year 2021. Therefore, it was just a matter of time and we lost 2 complete years and nothing concrete were done during these years as things used to get done before the spike of the Chinese Virus. One big thing that kept affecting the people in many ways was the unconventional functioning of the schools, all around the world.



Almost the whole of 2020 and 2021 witnessed the schools being closed and online classes taking place via the mediums like Zoom or Google Meet. Even the beginning of 2022, witnessed the same thing at those places, which got affected by the third wave of the Chinese Virus. Nevertheless, things got under control very soon and fortunately, the third wave of the Chinese Virus proved to be ineffective and ended soon.

Moreover, the schools did open in a 'Full Fledged' manner, finally in the current year of 2022. Students went back to the offline or the traditional methods of learning without fear this year for the first time since 2020. Well, whether the conventional method of learning is better or the unconventional modern methods are better is the debate for some other time. While, today our focus would be only upon *how the schools bloomed in 2022 for the first time after 2021*. Interestingly, the parents as well as the students are happy with the way things are going after the re-opening of the schools and studies being carried out in the traditional methods. As most of the parents and students waited very long for this day to see the schools being functioning in a full-fledged manner!

So why was it so important for both the students as well as their parents to see the schools being opened and functioning in a full-fledged manner? Let us try to understand the reason behind this from the parents' point of view first.

Well, not everyone is equipped with smart phones, laptops, proper internet connections and the other requirements, which are essential for carrying out online classes. Not to forget, these things were new for many of the parents and they were not mentally and financially ready for these new changes. The books, notebooks, stationaries, uniforms and the other requirements, which are parts of the regular schooling, are themselves very costly and to add more burden these new requirements occurred too. One can only imagine how deeply these things burned the pockets of the parents, especially the ones who are not financially very strong.

Now, let us try to understand why it was so important for the students to go back to school and attend classes physically. Well, for students too getting familiar with new gadgets was not so easy, as it is easy to use those same gadgets for gaming and entertainment purposes but the very thought of using those gadgets for the purpose of studies is not very comforting. Moving ahead, it became very difficult for those students who belonged to the economically backward sections to keep up with this online classes' thing. Most importantly, the reason why every section of the students looked up to the re-opening of the schools in a full-fledged manner is to live their 'once in a lifetime – school life!'

**Written By NEEL**

**PREET – Author of the**

**Books, Voice From The**

**East (2016); Journey**

**With Time Place And**

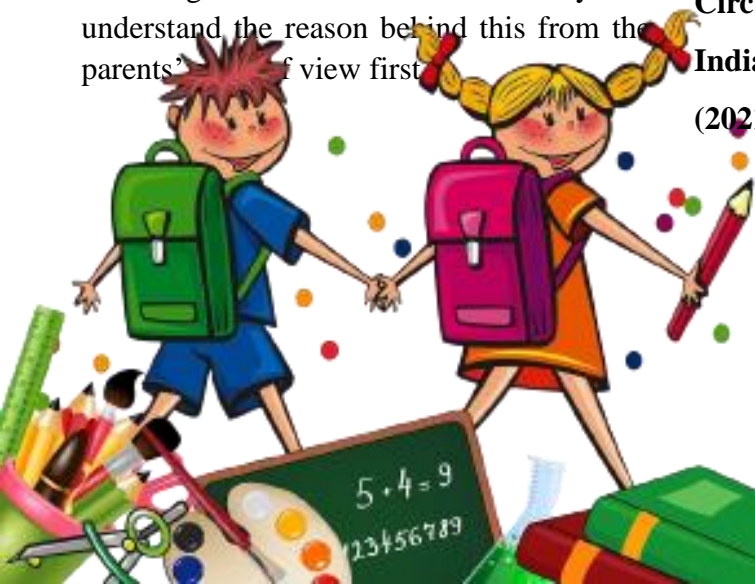
**Circumstances (2018) &**

**Indian Defence Files**

**(2021).**

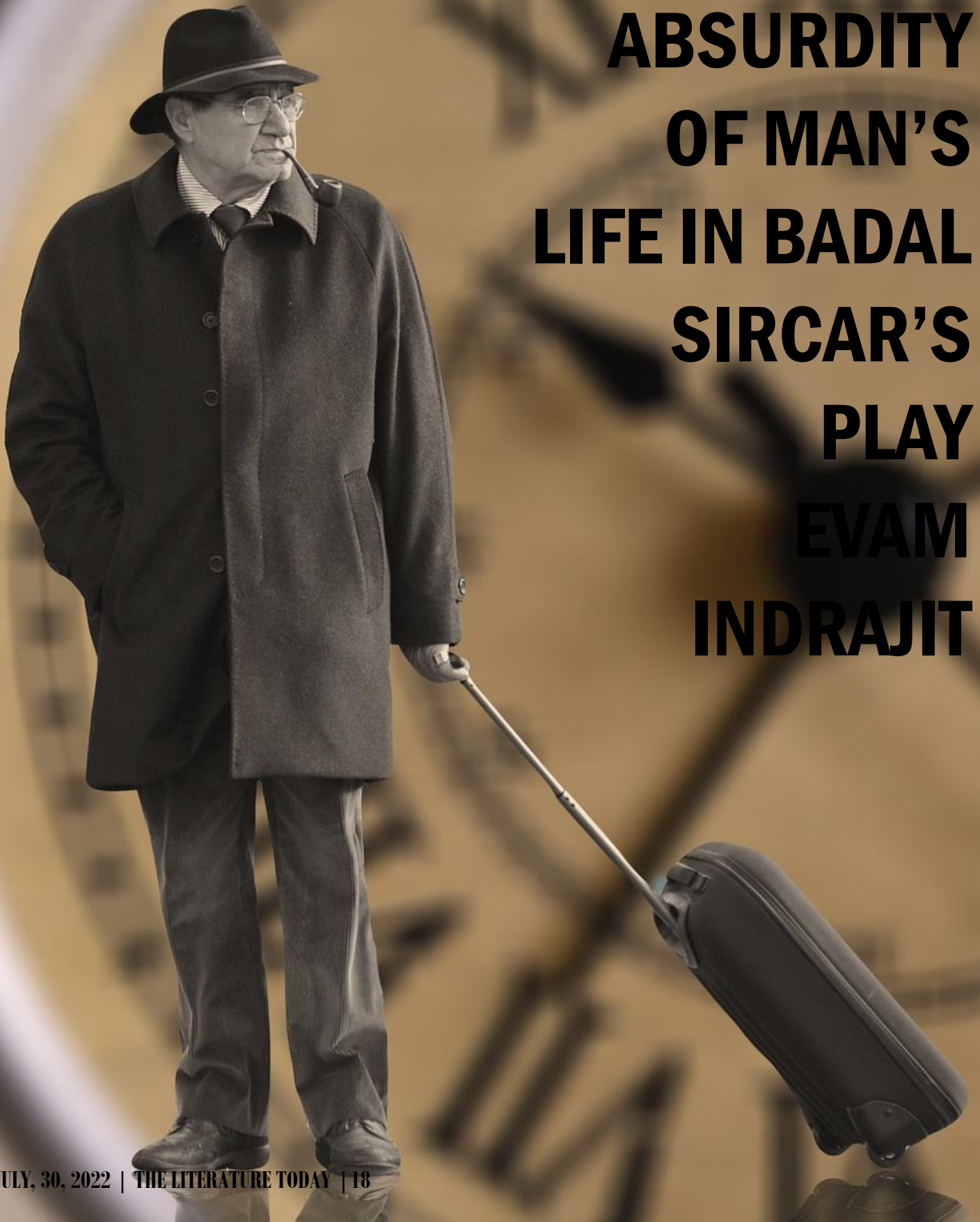


**NEEL PREET**





**ABSURDITY  
OF MAN'S  
LIFE IN BADAL  
SIRCAR'S  
PLAY  
EVAM  
INDRAJIT**





**Abstract** - Badal Sircar, an Indian dramatist, is mainly famous for the presentation of his tragic vision of life in his play *Evam Indrajit*. Sircar reveals his thoughts through the characters of his play. The play contains the autobiographical elements and raises a question about the absurdity of man's life. Man lives his life with great expectations and aspirations without knowing his future. Sometimes his expectations and aspirations become the cause of his predicament but no one can deny that man is always helpless against destiny. Whatever happens to a man is predestined. Sircar concentrates on the theme of absurdity in his play *Evam Indrajit*. The term 'Absurd' denotes uncertainty of man's life. Sircar's characters struggle to gain something in life and try to find the meaning of life. At the end they found themselves where they were in the beginning of the play.

### **Introduction**

"Ah, make the most of what we yet may spend,  
Before we too into the Dust descend; Dust into Dust, and  
under Dust to lie Sans Wine, sans Song, sans Singer, and--  
sans End!"

Omar Khayyam (Persian Poet)  
([www.goodreads.com](http://www.goodreads.com))

Badal Sircar appeared on the surface of Indian theatre as a playwright who pioneered the concept of the Third Theatre. Although he began his literary career as a theatre actor and then turned into the field of direction and scriptwriting, his versatility was always visible to all. He is generally considered to be a dramatist who brought the concept of absurdity into Bengali theatre, but was only an imposed tag on his ability as an artist; it confined his multifaceted genius within a certain dimension.

The first play that made his appearance feel strongly on the stage was *Evam Indrajit* in 1963. It proved to be a landmark in the history of modern Indian theatre. This significant contribution of Sircar not only helped his recognition to flourish, but also improved the level of Indian theatre too. The thematic concern of the play *Evam Indrajit* is "the loneliness of the post-independence urban youth." in Calcutta. Through this play, he reflects the crisis of the complex situation of Indian middle-class people. Making the young generation the focal point of the play, Sircar depicted their passion as well as frustration in dealing with the imposed circumstances. While moving into the play in depth one comes across various characters, Manasi is a woman character along with Amal, Vimal, Kamal and Nirmal (*Indrajit*). All these characters show the complexities of modern life and the worthlessness of their existence.

When Sircar was once questioned about the play *Evam Indrajit* in an interview that whether he reckon the play as a satire on contemporary politics and its worthlessness, replied to this, that the play is not an attack on politics and he was not aware of the existential philosophy. Though he expressed his not being aware the absurdity and existentialism, the effect of absurdist philosophy is very much felt in his play *Evam Indrajit*. The play reflects the point of meaninglessness when we come across the line, "nothing worth mentioning ever happens." (41) The play portrays a very apt picture of the complex condition of the prevalent attitudes and undefined crisis, running through the veins of the middle class urban youth of Indian society. The play moves around a woman named, Manasi who appears as an inspiration in the life of a playwright, who is struggling strenuously to write a play. The play reflects the inner complexities of the writer who is finding it's tough to write a play due to the honesty and integrity of his personality. The play beautifully deals with the life of the writer who finds life to be much more fragmentary that is why its transformation into the dramatic form is not possible. He feels that life is less natural and much more mechanical in the chaotic modern time and his attitude reflects the anxiety and agony of the artist who is a keen observer of the critical scenario of modern world life. Throughout the play, the protagonist is reflecting a journey that starts from the nothingness and ends up in nothingness- despair. This portrayal of hopelessness is a keynote of the absurdist philosophy

### **Absurdity of man's life in the play**

The play deals with the writer's life and his agony to write a play but the vague feeling and the undefined hopelessness restrict his creativity to enhance itself. He finds himself not able to write as he has nothing to write about. He expresses his agony in the initial part of the play, he says: What shall I write? Who shall I write about? How many people do I know? And what do I know about them? I know nothing about the suffering masses. Nothing about the toiling peasants. Nothing about the sweating coal miners. Nothing about the snake-charmers, the tribal chieftains, or the boatmen. There is no beauty in the people around me, no splendour no substance. Only the undramatic material. (6)

The expression of the writer reflects his sterile approach toward life. He seems to have less knowledge and experience of the basic reality of life. He is also finding those people about whom he wants to write, undramatic who are sitting in the auditorium. At this point of the play, one can easily witness its closeness to absurdist philosophy and existentialism. The swift twist takes place in the play and out of a sudden the protagonist, the writer invites four persons from the audience named Amal, Vimal, Kamal and Nirmal but the writer was not agreed with the last name Nirmal. He says: No. It can't be. You must have another name. You have to have. Tell me truly, what's your name? (4) After the element of doubt rose by the writer about the name of the fourth person Nirmal, he finally confesses to have shied away from his real name. He reveals the fact that his real name is not Nirmal but Indrajit, the name of the mythical rebel, Meghnad who defeated Indra. Nirmal says that he called himself Nirmal because he was "scared of unrest. One invites unrest by breaking norms." (5)

Indrajit appears to be different to the other characters in the story as Amal, Vimal and Kamal have an approach toward life that is considered to be an appreciable way to survive. Such kinds of people are only concerned about their status and comfort in life. They don't crave the betterment of society or bring a drastic change in society. They are so much self-contained that they never peep into the crisis of the others. Sircar, while critically dealing with the absurdities of existence considers these people to be dead as they reflect the meaningless approach toward life. At the initial point of the play when the writer queries Indrajit about his being dead. Indrajit at this answered very absurdly as he says that he is in doubt whether he is dead or alive. The question that may come to the mind of any reader here is, why the writer is not keen to ask a similar question to the other characters. One of the reasons that will come to the reader's cognition is that the writer has already reckoned them as no more alive. The part of the interaction that took place here in the play shows the mastery of the handling of the technique of the dramatist. Such kind of innovative approach helps the Indian playwrights to re-structure the already set norms of dramatic technique. The play unfolds all the characters' lives and psychologies with the help of the interactions that take place among them.

Sircar through the portrayal of such characters against the world which is full of inhumanity focuses on the worthlessness of human existence. With help of these characters, Sircar defines a new aspect within the framework of the play, in which he not only focuses on the outer world of the characters but also their internal conflicts are also portrayed in the play. As an apt instance of postmodern Indian drama *Evam Indrajit* depicts the dilemma of the middle-class individual who is suffering for sustainable survival. The very title could be taken into consideration to reflect the fact that, how an individual is trapped in a chaotic situation. The title, *Evam Indrajit* is read as 'And Indrajit' in English, this attachment of the conjunction 'And' shows the relation of an individual to the society. While analyzing the title one can also understand that this relationship of the individual with society is not a natural but an imposed attachment. Indrajit is shown about society this also reflects the fact that he hasn't got his individuality as a human.

Sircar deliberately portrays the character like Indrajit to show the opposite nature of modern individuals living in an age which is full of self-centered nature. In comparison to the other characters, Indrajit is shown very differently. His approach toward life is entirely different from the pseudo-modern people. This is quite evident when he is seen resisting any part of exploitation. At one point in the play, the prevalent corruption of modern society becomes very much evident when all of them including Indrajit have to face an interview, though they all are aware of the fact that the recruitment process is all fake and the interviewers have already selected the candidate. This incident depicts the crisis of the youth of modern India where power matters more than talent.

The play also emphasizes a very vital aspect of the orthodox Indian middle-class society through the relationship of Indrajit and Manasi. Their relationship is not only questioned by the so-called ethical society but at the same time, they also question the orthodox nature of the society. Their relationship lacks ethics as she is his cousin. Indrajit showed an anti-traditional way to resolve the issue but his daring resistance could not sustain longer as Manasi didn't want to interrupt the norms established by the society. The portrayal of Indrajit's character reflects the middle-class individual trapped in the chaotic circumstances of the modern world. He assumes a name 'Nirmal' so the existing norms of the society would not be disturbed. His other name 'Indrajit' connects him with mythology. According to Ramayana, Indrajit was Ravan's son who used a covering of clouds to hide himself so that nobody can recognize him and this was the only reason why he was called Meghnad. Indrajit though didn't want to go against the established norms yet he has a sense of superior knowledge of existence. This becomes evident when he says to Manasi: "If I hadn't tasted the fruit of knowledge I could have gone on living in his paradise of your blessed society of rules. This statement shows that Indrajit realizes the futility of his knowledge. (23)

### **Conclusion**

The end of the play questions the contemporary situation in which the modern individual's life is confined within a fixed dimension. Life appears to be more mechanical than natural. Sircar here through this play endeavours to suggest that even in such kind of situation there are people who can attempt to come out of such type of chaotic situation. The deliberate portrayal of characters like Indrajit and the Writer reflects the daring tendencies against the set norms of society.

### **References:**

1. Sircar, Badal. *Evam Indrajit*, Trans. Girish Karnad. New Delhi: Oxford University Press. 1975. Print.
2. Jain, Nemichandra. *Indian Theatre: Tradition, Continuity and Change*. New Delhi: National School of Drama, 2012. Print.
3. Naik, M.K.. *Perspectives on Indian Drama in English*. Madras: Oxford University Press, 1977. Print.
4. <https://www.goodreads.com>

# THE RELENTLESS SERVICES BY INDIA POST DURING THE LOCKDOWNS

During the summer days of the year 2020, when the nationwide lockdown was imposed for the very first time and the commercial activities faced the speedbump it was only one thing that kept the things moving around the country. Be it the medicines, the medicinal tools, the *Rakhis*, books, documents or whatsoever that was needed to be shipped from one part to the other part of the nation, **India Post** made it their aim to not let the COVID-19 or Chinese Virus disrupt their operations.

India Post has been tremendously successful in shipping the parcels of their customers not just during the first lockdown but also during the second and in all the other major and minor lockdowns that took place at different parts of the country later.

Now, you must be wondering that why are we only focusing upon the 'relentless services by India Post during the lockdowns', while there were numerous other courier (private) services available too!

WRITTEN BY NEEL PREET

Well, undoubtedly there were several other private courier services available during the lockdown days and they too their rendered services of shipping the parcels around different parts of the country. Interestingly, some of the private couriers were successful enough to ship the parcels much faster than the India Post during the lockdowns. Still, there was something, which made India Post better than all the private couriers combined. Over the years, India Post has achieved the image of being a trustworthy shipping service and the thing that has made India Post so popular among the citizens of India is their virtue of being 'Economical' to their customers!

India Post, being a pocket-friendly shipping service has gained the trust of the people around the nation. Well, as citizens we must acknowledge and appreciate the Modi Government's decision of maintaining the services of India Post at the same old rates, without increasing the charges of shipping (national & international) or any other services even a bit during the lockdowns. Isn't this a wonderful gift to the citizens by the central government in times of need?





Sadly, the private couriers did not act with so much humanity as the Modi Government did at times of despair. It was during this time, when the vaccines for the Chinese Virus was not ready and the lockdown seemed endless the private couriers decided to make super normal profits, keeping the humanity factor aside. Sensing the urgency of the people to deliver their parcels from one place to another, the private couriers stooped a level even lower than imaginable and went ahead to increase the charges for shipping and the other services provided by them. Well, these private couriers might have earned their targeted super normal profits but on the account of what?

It is not a common habit in our country, India that people praises the steps taken by the government. Most of us are in the habit of criticizing the government and some of us are so lost in this habit that they even criticize the government even when the government is 100% right. So, in such a country if almost everyone has appreciated the decision of **Modi Government** of not increasing the charges of India Post, be it the shipping charge or any other service charge then you know what kind of a gem is our India Post. Therefore, India Post deserves all the praises for their relentless services during the days of lockdown!

The background of the cover is composed of several vertical stripes of different colors: yellow, green, light blue, dark blue, and purple. On the left side, there are several white paper butterflies of various sizes, some of which are partially cut off by the edge of the frame. The text 'PRIDE MONTH' is written in large, bold, white capital letters. Below it, the words 'Special Books' are written in a yellow, cursive script font, with a thin yellow underline.

# PRIDE MONTH

*Special Books*

# TheLiteratureToday.Com The Homepage For India'S Most Influential

## THE LITERATURE TODAY

### An Ultimate Destination for Literature

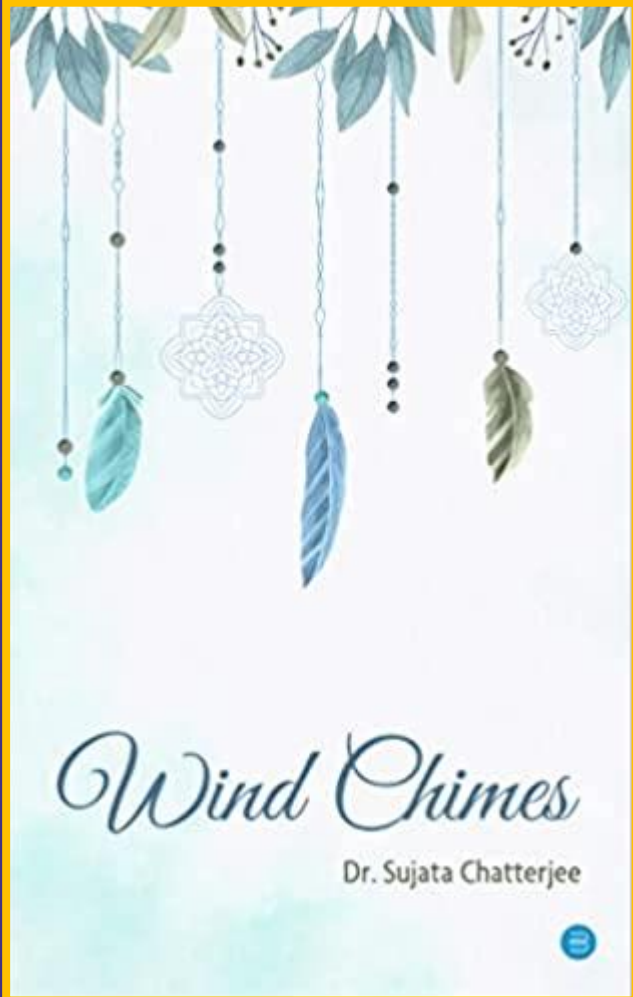
The literature today, founded in 2021, is known for literary articles and book reviews. We at The Literature Today are a group of critics, reviewers and editors who look forward to bring the best content to our readers. We have the best collection of articles on book reviews, author stories and literary criticism. Visit our official website to explore more.

*The*  
**literature today**



# WIND CHIMES

*Dr. Sujata Chatterjee*



*“Poetry is the play of right words with some of the most in-describable emotions, while poets are those players who plays with the beautiful words and makes way to compose these heart touching and soulful poems for us!”*

Reviewing this beautiful poetry collection book, **“Wind Chimes”** by Author-Poet **Dr. Sujata Chatterjee** has been a very satisfying experience to me since I started my writing journey as a poet. And now whenever I get a chance to review a Poetry Collection book, I not only enjoy reading these new and expressive poems, where the Poet conveys some unheard messages through their words, but also I get the opportunity to learn something new regarding the composition of poetry, each time!

**About the Author:** The Author, **Dr. Sujata Chatterjee** is a doctor and an author by passion. She is the recipient of many prestigious awards like the *Swami Vivekananda Excellence Award for Literature*, *Shonghoti Sammanana Awards*, *National Book Honour Awards*, *Literoma Laureate Award*, *Literoma Achiever Award*, *Nari Samman Award*, etc.

In addition, Dr. Sujata is also an author with 4 books till now, namely: *Looking through the Prism*, *Waves of Fortune*, *Flights of Fantasy* and *Wind Chimes*. She has edited a book (*TRAVELLER’S Diary*) and co-authored numerous books. She is the Honourable Program Director of Lions Club of Kolkata Magnates, where she has organized and hosted many poetry open mikes and panel discussions. She is also the freelance Journalist of the Hello Kolkata Evening Daily Newspaper. She is a regular contributor to Woman’s Era magazine.

**Book’s Theme & Introduction:** Poetry – This book, *Wind Chimes* is having a lovely collection of poems, one after another, which are mostly based upon the various aspects of life like togetherness, sentiments, relationships, faith, and happiness.

JULY, 30, 2022 | THE LITERATURE TODAY | 25



Book: Wind Chimes

Author: Dr. Sujata Chatterjee

Publisher: Bluerose Publishers Pvt Ltd (2022)

Total Pages: 70

Reviewed By: Neel Preet

The book highlights the human emotions in an incredible manner. 'Wind Chimes' touches every chord of the heart. It dwells around the different facets of emotions one experiences and tries to interweave it with the varied aspects of life. It tries to reflect upon the significance of bonding among kinship.

In addition, the book contains some Award-Winning poems. The title denotes that it is a collection of sublime poems compared with the soft swaying of the Wind Chimes. The tinkling notes of the Wind Chimes show that the sound of poetry is calm and serene. Each poem leaves behind an emotional imprint in the minds of the readers, be it *THE SECRET OF MY PEN* or *JAI HIND*.

**Book Title:** The title, "*Wind Chimes*" for this poetry collection book is certainly an appropriate one, with reference to the collection of poems added to this book by the Author. In addition, it is a very 'Catchy Title' and this is something, which makes the book even more interesting, as the title itself compels you as a poetry lover to pick up this book for a read. In this case, the title is giving a very positive and beautiful vibe so you would feel the urge to go inside the chapters and try to understand the Author's expression of words!

In addition, I must mention that the title of this book is much "**Justified**" with regards to the poems in this book. Undoubtedly, it is a very apt for this poetry collection book and the Author had been extremely wise to go for this title.

**Book Cover:** The portrayal of "*the tree leaves hanging in the wind chimes*" in the book's front cover is not just giving a very "**Specular Impression**" but also, creating a very optimistic and beautiful vibe just like the Book's Title!

The readers can interpret the book cover design in a thousand different ways as per their sense of interpretation, but the most common interpretation could be that the illustration on the book cover is showing the Author's idea of happiness flowing through the winds and passing through the wind chimes shown in the cover of the book!

**Readers' Connect:** The way, Author had expressed herself with her well versed poems in this poetry collection book, "*Wind Chimes*" is something really incredible and is undoubtedly an enough reason for you to shift your focus towards her poems and give this book a chance. It is the poets, who plays the pivotal role in touching the inner cords of our emotions and making us believe and think the way their words intend to and Author-Poet, **Dr. Sujata Chatterjee** had done this job in an exceptionally top notch manner!

Moreover, the Author had beautifully expressed her feelings through her soulful words and had given a **Strong-Start** to the poems; also, you can see that most of these poems had retained their flow until the very end, which gives you an immense amount of satisfaction as a poetry lover.

**Verdict:** A Book like "*Wind Chimes*" is for sure a **Must-Read** one and deserves a chance. The way author had penned down her emotions and feelings through her writings will make you go deep into the poems and find out the hidden meanings of the words, used in these poems. Author Dr. Sujata Chatterjee is a promising poet, who is very honest with her emotions, which makes her writings honest and reading worthy as well.

# The Taste of MIDNIGHT



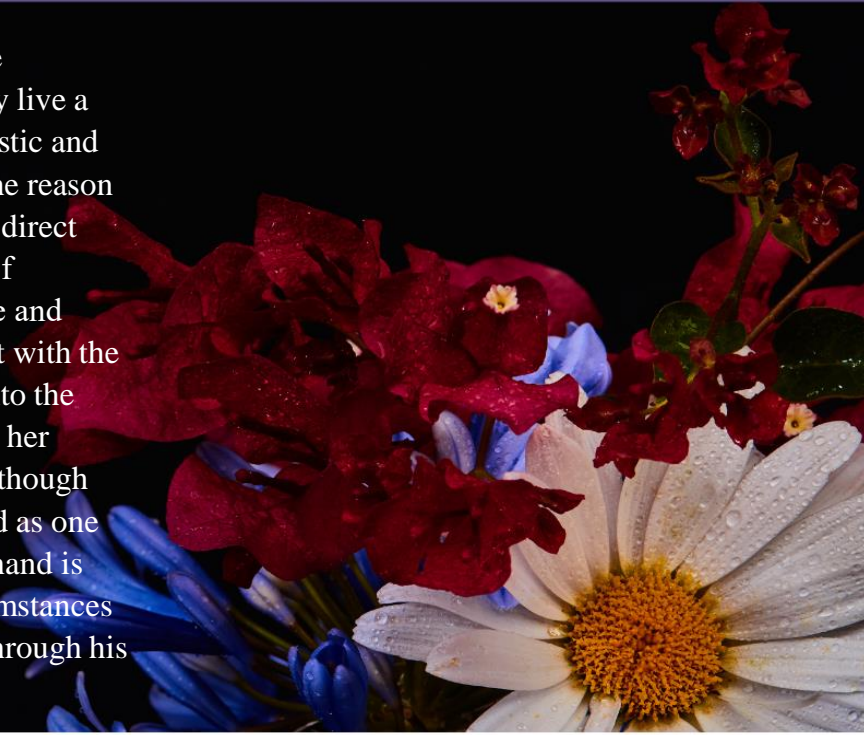
Through his craft and skill, the author creates a world that is connected to the present lives of human beings, and yet, the readers have the seat of a third person. They remain detached observers despite being involved in the unraveling of the story. “The Taste of Midnight” as a title strikes the readers in the first reading. Since the idea of tasting midnight comes as the essence of the title, the readers are prepared for the dark facts of human life which are featured in the book. These elements form the fragment of human lives in the first place, which makes the book relatable for the readers. At the same time, these facts are the untold reality that finds less mention in books. This distinguishes Sanjeev Bansal’s creation from any of its counterparts and defines the book in a category of its own.

The plight and circumstances Mike faces in “The Taste of Midnight” are a representation of the lives of many, as those events could occur in the life of any person. He features human emotions ranging from anger and rage to desires and regret. These desires make him think on different dimensions, and he is thus, determined to go to the roots to know the truth about Stella. In the midst of this, the author packs the books with different events which involve the readers, and they are equally engrossed in investigating what had happened and how. This involvement ensures that the readers are alert, interested, and tuned with the events and the sequence of their occurrence.

A plot that features elements of mystery, suspense, and thrill keeps the readers engaged and engrossed in the book reading throughout the plot development. If this excitement is sustained till a major point in the text, then it is likely that the readers would read through even when the text takes time to reveal the details. A similar situation happens in Sanjeev Bansal’s text, **“The Taste of Midnight.”** The book features all the elements required to keep the readers involved in the text in their attempt to explore and unravel the unsaid and the facts that lie between the lines. These features are particularly the defining factors that make the readers remain involved throughout the book.



At the same time, Bansal also hints toward the contemporary lifestyle of the youth where they live a different kind of lifestyle, which is individualistic and secluded from their family. That is probably the reason that the parents of the characters do not find a direct place on the canvas of the text of “The Taste of Midnight.” This keeps the book true to its time and makes sure that the readers are able to connect with the characters easily. Even though Stella comes into the picture through references of other characters, her personality is a strong and realistic one. Even though she is a victim, her personality is not portrayed as one being a damsel in distress. Mike on the other hand is portrayed as a person who is a victim of circumstances and strives to make things better for himself through his perseverance.



The plot of “The Taste of Midnight” opens with a note of bewilderment for the readers, and they are lost in wonder about what would have happened in the lives of the characters before the text began. This bewilderment is a primary reason for the readers being fixed to the text from the beginning, and the other factor is the dramatic element that the author infuses into the text.

Even though the book is in prose format, the manner in which the author presents the lives of the people has a dramatic atmosphere. The arranging of events and the dialogues do the rest of the part in supplying the book with dramatic elements. The author ends the book on a note of suspense and mystery. This further tickles the imagination of the readers and makes sure that they are ready to get their hands on the next edition of the book as soon as it hits the bookstores.

“The Taste of Midnight” should be read by all people who are interested in reading books that feature mystery and suspense and also involve them as primary investigators of an action that took place before the opening of the main action. The other attraction of the book would be the length of the book. Since the book is less than 200 pages, that again becomes an attraction for readers who prefer less voluminous texts and short ones which feature quick action. Therefore, the readers can try to have “The Taste of Midnight” through Sanjeev Bansal’s creative thoughts and see what happened in the lives of Mike and Stella and other supporting characters.



**Book: The Taste of Midnight**

**Author: Sanjeev Bansal**

**Publisher: Rumour Books**

**Reviewed By: Akhila Saroha, Editor at The Literature Today**

**JULY, 30, 2022 | THE LITERATURE TODAY | 28**

# RENDEZVOUS IN REHAB

Sameen Rashid Khan

It is always said that there is a story of the other side which is often unheard and unknown. Human beings have a tendency to not pay attention to the stories of the other side and believe what they see or hear. To tell the complete story and open the readers' eyes to the big picture, Sameen Rashid Khan writes her book, "Rendezvous in Rehab." Through her collection of stories written in the fiction framework, the author highlights the different aspects surrounding rehabilitation that has been unheard of and unsaid so far. These aspects highlight the humanitarian aspect of people's lives and show how they are impacted by the system in the name of rehabilitation. Her book features stories of women who are from different sections of society, and these stories show life and the different experiences it gives to people.

"Rendezvous in Rehab" primarily focuses on stories featuring powerful female characters who are the victims of fate and circumstances. As victims, they don't have a choice but to accept their circumstances the way they are. In the midst of this, there are stories featuring women from different walks of life who have become a part of life in rehabilitation centres for one reason or another. Through the different stories, the author shows how life can be different for everyone, yet, destiny plays its role in bringing them where they are. Through this book, Khan also shatters the perception that rehabilitation centres are only meant for drug addicts. All of her stories mark the absence of drug addicts and rather show women who are sent to rehabilitation for other reasons.

Sameen Rashid Khan is a Professional Writer, a part-time Public Speaker, and Mental Health Worker, residing in the satellite city of Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra, India.

Know more about her:

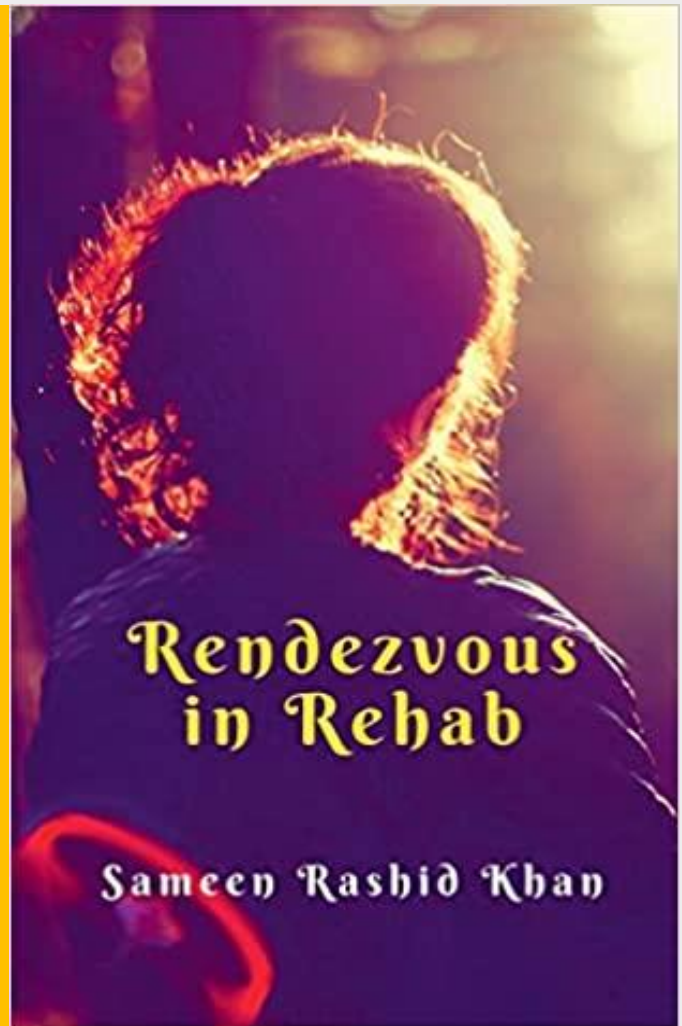
<https://www.sameenrashidkhan.com/about/>





Basing her book on true events, the author gives the stories in “Rendezvous in Rehab” a fictional framework with touches of reality. These touches make the stories interesting, poignant, and genuinely touching the hearts. At the same time, these stories also open the readers’ minds to a world that has been unseen so far and make them understand the other side of the story. As a mental health professional, the author shares the intricate details and thus, fulfills her responsibility of showing the world a broader picture. Through different stories, the author shows how life situations change in a short time and transform lives into what the characters or readers may not have imagined. The story “Age No Bar” is an example of this. It shows how a person’s life can change even in the later stages.

Stories like “Starstruck” and “Beauty Restrained” show women as victims when they fit into the stereotypes about women. The typical characteristic of a woman to possess beauty is met by the women in the stories, and yet, they become victims of patriarchy and end up in rehabilitation centres. Through “Beauty Restrained,” the author also shows the social forces coming into play that ultimately ruin the life of an individual because of various factors like name in society, greed, and the tendency to harm others. Other stories like “Dark Forces” jolt the readers into a bitter reality that is generally unseen and unspoken about. Through the story, the author also highlights the delicacy of human relationships and how not taking each other seriously can mess up things in an unalterable way. By the time the readers finish reading Khan’s book, their perception of rehabilitation centres changes, and they think differently about them without restricting them to just being centres for drug addicts. The manner in which the author brings her stories to an end also creates a sense of gloom and wonder simultaneously. Even when the readers know that the story is over, they still want to read further and know what happened next.



Another story like “School’s Out” shows a different side of human existence where the author removes the negativity by showing a ray of hope which comes through patience and love towards people who have special needs. It also reinforces people’s faith that there still is goodness in the world, and it is not completely over. Similarly, “Kid at Heart” talks about the same idea from a different perspective. It shows that the inmates of rehab also have similar feelings to humans and are no less than them.

“Rendezvous in Rehab” is a book that will take the readers on a fictional spin but also get them in touch with reality because of the reality touches that it bears. The presence of powerful women characters shows a different side of the world and makes sure that the book is not seen as merely a collection of stories. Readers who are interested in reading content that is based on reality and would make them think and question things the way they are would find Sameen Rashid Khan’s work appealing and interesting. It would also open their mind to new dimensions and help them understand society and its members in a different way.



# AKSARA BHAGAVAD GITA

**Author:** Haribakth & Vaishnavi.

**Book Title:** Aksara Bhagavad Gita.

**Sub Title:** The Imperishable Gita.

**Publisher:** Mark My Book LLP:

**Imprint:** Book Mitra.

**Pages:** 596.

**Paperback-ISBN:** 978-8194416791

**Genre:** Mixed: Philosophy/Hermeneutics /Religion /Hinduism/ Sacred Writings.

**Reviewed By:** Dr. Mayur Solanki

Aksara Bhagavad Gita is a book that rewrites rules of interpretation of any scripture based on the Gita and is in sync with contemporary branches of knowledge such as science, management, law, and Logic. Couched behind the narrated story is the new philosophy /paradigm/theory related to Srimad Bhagavad Gita, which the author seeks to share with the world at large. He uses this book as a medium to propound it. It touches on the four main areas of philosophy viz. ethics, epistemology, and metaphysics & hermeneutics.

**About The Author -** Ravindra Rao writes under the pen name Haribakth. He is an alumnus of Marathwada University, Aurangabad, India, with a Master's degree in commerce and a bachelor's degree in law. He graduated from Osmania University, Hyderabad. He served as an IT officer in a state-owned Bank and opted for 34 years before quitting service to pursue his passion, The Bhagavad Gita.

A self-confessed plagiarist who steals ideas from the Almighty's words collates it and analyses its import, and implications, and performs extrapolation before passing it off as his own. The adoption of Haribakth as his pen name is a reflection of his goal, but he has miles and miles to go before he sleeps. Life span, birth/births to go before the description befits him. He is the writer who has vowed not to write about anything other than Krishna, Gita, or things connected or related to Gita or Krishna. His works are a must-read for those looking for unconventional, unique, and unheard-of perspectives, which appeals to logic even if otherwise radical.

**JULY, 30, 2022 | THE LITERATURE TODAY | 31**

## EXISTING SCENARIO

Presently there are 5 main schools of thought offering their commentaries on the Srimad Bhagavad Gita. (Wikipedia)

- Bhedabheda (Simultaneously different and non-different),
- Dvaitādvaita (Dualistic non-dualism), founded by Nimbarka
- Advaita (Monistic)
- Vishishtadvaita (Qualified monism)
- Tattvavada (Dvaita)
- Suddhadvaita (purely non-dual), founded by Vallabha

Most of the commentaries are variants or a combination of variants of the above schools of thought. Plus, there are academic commentaries or non-Vedantic commentaries.

## ILL-EFFECTS OF MISINTERPRETATION OR ISOLATED INTERPRETATION.

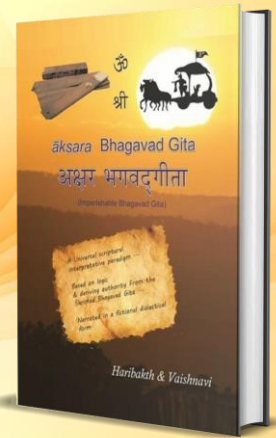
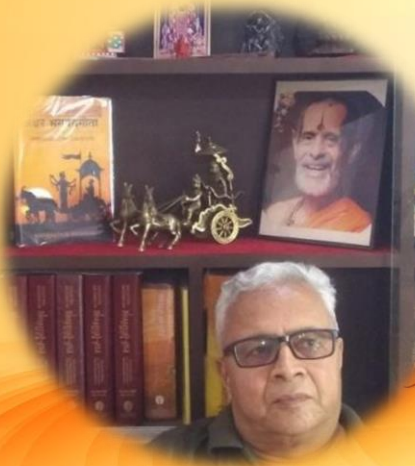
Each of the schools holds their version to be correct to the exclusion of other versions. Their conclusions are based on a semantic interpretation of words, especially of the word Brahman and its characteristics. Because Isms Create Schisms, God in His Gita, hasn't expressed or endorsed any ism, be it monism, dualism, qualified dualism, etc. Although His words support each of the interpretations.

## AUTHOR'S FIX/PANACEA

To reconcile God's words with what He meant and disambiguate His words vis-à-vis His intentions and His supreme Will, the author has shifted emphasis away from semantic and syntax-based interpretation. To gauge what God meant when innumerable interpretations are possible, the author has bypassed complete dependence on semantics and emphasized the Characteristics of the Divine Author.

These are Omniscience, Omnipresence, Omnipotence, Independent, Defect-Free, and Possessing six opulences to the fullest measure, besides those narrated in the Gita by God Himself. The Gita being a product of the supreme would inherit the above characteristics as a legacy. So any interpretation which doesn't dilute the characteristics or which enhances the characteristics is what God meant and is true and acceptable argues the author.

Words convey different meanings. Understanding also differs from individual to individual depending on his stage of evolvment, conditioning, intellect, etc. God's discourse was meant to accommodate all persons however differently-abled/disabled they are and in whatever stage of evolvment. Words may be misunderstood, but not the will or intention. This is where this paradigm scores over other ism-based interpretations.



### **STRUCTURE:**

The book has four sections with eight chapters in Book I, twenty-eight chapters in Book II, five chapters in Book III, and eleven illustrations in Book IV. This is followed by an epilogue and a message from the author. Book I gives an introduction and lays a foundation of the things to come. Chapters in Book II are taken up by putting forth propositions numbering eighteen and sixty-three supplementary or offshoot propositions and their substantiation. This substantiation takes the form of a debate wherein possible and probable objections are raised and countered successfully, thereby establishing the truth of the propositions put forth. Book III focuses on winding up the debate and effectively drawing conclusions. These conclusions are drawn by applying rules based on Science, Math, Law, Management, etc. Book IV presents eleven illustrations that simplify some of the abstract concepts, making the adage “A picture is worth a thousand words” come true. It also holds the author’s message to the readers.

### **DESIGN:**

The book is so designed that reading Chapter 2 titled “Parthasarathy’s letter to his daughter and chapter 4 titled “Verdict form” gives the essence/gist of the core philosophy being propounded without having to read the entire book. Chapter 30 titled “Wiki-style Summary “ does the same job. The dialectal form is used for presentation reviving the ancient traditions of the Socratic method or the divine Gita method. To make abstract concepts intelligible and to uphold possible objections to the new propositions a story is crafted around the narration in the form of a debate between two groups of students, with the author presenting his philosophy with 80+ propositions through the main protagonist, Haripriya assisted by Christina her friend. The author answers all the objections and misgivings that anyone may have by introducing the character Sudipta aka Trikali Gyani who opposes each proposition, creates doubts, and objects to anything not logical, not tenable, or against the spirit of the Gita, which are countered by the protagonist Haripriya, thus defending and strengthening the new paradigm.

### **IMPACT/EFFECTS**

- Moves away from creed-based, theology-dominated interpretation towards logic-based verifiable/experiential-based interpretation.
- It puts Gita and Indian theology-based hermeneutics in the center stage relegating Abrahamic religion’s Bible-based hermeneutics to the background.
- Being logical and rational, it will appeal to agnostics and fence-sitting atheists.

- Discourages bigotry and encourages rational and logical thinking.
- Contemporary knowledge-based interpretation rather than Impression based clergy's interpretation.
- Eliminates middlemen between God and His devotees.

### **A CRITIC'S CRITIQUE.**

A book that cannot be classified as fiction or non-fiction. Doesn’t adhere to any school of thought, but charts its course, and propounds an entirely new philosophy. A book that requires careful reading and rereading lest something important is missed out. A very bold attempt to unshackle an ism-based understanding of the Gita and unravel the true nature of the divine infinite, cosmopolitan, and all-inclusive nature of the Gita which is in keeping in tune with its divine author. A shift from the finite understanding of the Infinite to the Infinite understanding of the Infinite. An execution of His supreme will via this book through the author. This book fulfills the appetite for a challenge in any reviewer, especially those indulging in systematic reviews in the fields of Comparative religions, Hindu Philosophy, Gita lovers, Agnostics, logicians, litterateurs, and those in the legal profession. This gauntlet is thrown at the readers in the third chapter in the form of an appointment in the jury seeking their learned opinion thereby offering an opportunity to bring their latent skill sets to the fore. This is a philosophy for the larger welfare of mankind, in a nascent stage.

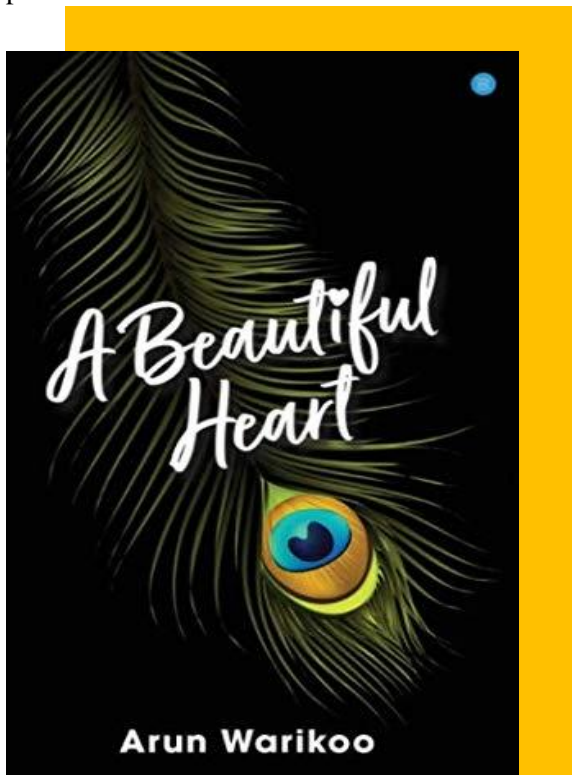
# A Beautiful Heart

By Arun Warikoo

**A** Beautiful Heart is a collection of alluring poetries that talk about life in general and everything around it. The book is divided into 4 parts: Family Bonds, Spirituality, Nature, and Inner Strength.

Family Bonds comprises poems about all the important relationships of one's life—father, mother, siblings, love interest, daughter, pet dog, and friends. The poet urges the reader to look closely at what they have and to cherish the happy memories of what they have lost.

The next section, Spirituality, talks about God being the One, Shiva & Shakti, Mount Kailash, Karma, Soul, Cosmos, and other places and people of spiritual importance. The writer's faith in and admiration for Lord Shiva is visible. The readers themselves feel connected to the presence of God with these poems.



The Nature section should have more appropriately been named Kashmir as we read about the gardens, hills, and lakes of Kashmir. Apart from that, the poet writes about the different seasons in Kashmir—Autumn, Spring, and Snowy winter. Then there are different varieties of flowers—roses, daffodils, sunflowers, and marigolds. The reader feels enveloped by the multiple smells and textures of Kashmir.

The final section is about Inner Strength. The writer motivates us to stay strong and confident. He mentions various living beings—the eagle, lion, horse, and tree—that we could learn from and imbibe some of their traits.

The common theme though, throughout the book, is love and gratitude. It's hard to pick my favourite part because they are all so good, but I think I will have to go with the Nature section. The section gives the reader a trip to Kashmir, taking them through all the iconic locations and emotions. It really inspires the reader to learn and take lessons from Nature and appreciate its beauty.





## Author Arun Warikoo

**About The Author:** The Author, **Arun Warikoo** was born in Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir, while currently he lives in Princeton, New Jersey, United States with his wife and two kids. Apart from being an author, he is also a nature lover and a Cyber-Security Specialist by profession. He loves to paint landscapes in his spare time. Author Arun Warikoo holds a Master's from the University of Colorado, Boulder, a Diploma holder from CDAC, Bangalore, and a Bachelor's from Government College of Engineering, Aurangabad. He did his schooling at the Air Force Golden Jubilee Institute, New Delhi, and Burn Hall School, Srinagar.

His poems are widely published in "Poemist" – A social publishing network that connects amateur poets and serves information about poetry, poets, and their poems and elsewhere. His poetry collection book, *A BEAUTIFUL HEART* is his debut book, which is a collection of forty-five beautiful poems, written on four themes; family bonds, spirituality, nature, and inner strength!

The Author, Arun Warikoo has been awarded the best Indian Author by writing "A Beautiful Heart" by **Criticsspace Journal** & Book Fest Award - 2nd Place in Poetry of International fame.

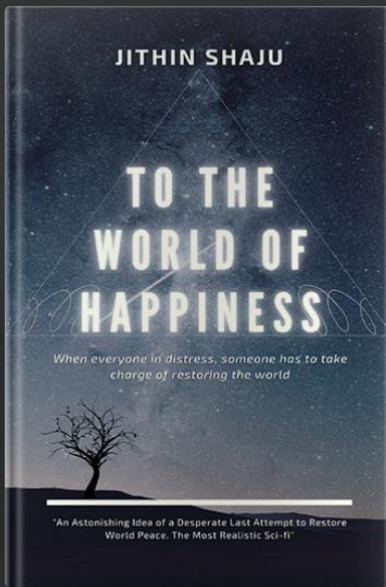
The poems are very simple and apt for an audience of any age. They talk about the simplest things of human life—what we see, what we are surrounded with, and what we often take for granted. These situations and things, being so tangible and real, grabs the attention of the reader. The book has a variety of poems with different topics and styles, but they all have one thing in common—they are all beautiful.

The poetries are really captivating and make you feel as if every word is being spoken to you. They can make you feel like you're sitting with the author, listening to them talk about their life and experiences. The poems are sensitive, emotional, and beautifully written. You can easily pick up this book, open a random page, and feel comforted by the poet's child-like view of life.

Often, as a kid, we would question the obvious, and point out the ignored stuff. Our parents would use animals and inanimate objects to teach us the biggest lessons of life. The innocence of a child is often forgotten as one grows up. The poet here attempts to connect the reader to their inner child. The reader goes back to the time when scenery would just mean two hills, a flowing river, a sun, a few clouds, a hut and some trees. In the complexity of the life of a grown-up adult, this book offers the reader nostalgia for a childhood long gone.

The simplistic style and easy vocabulary make it a quick pick. Often aspiring poets are scared to write, scared to share their emotions through their words. They often believe that poetry means fancy language, deep thoughts, and complex emotions. This book would allow them to debunk the myths associated with poetry. This book would encourage aspiring poets to write and share. Readers and writers who are new to the genre of poetry may use this book as a good start.

*A Beautiful Heart* is a book that needs to be treasured and read at calm periods, as it has the power to uplift and inspire. It's a must-read for all who need an inner source of strength or those who want to explore more about themselves. I would recommend it to readers of all ages. Whether you are looking for inspiration to write or just want to feel good, this book is your go-to. I hope more and more readers and poetry writers would appreciate the beauty of *A Beautiful Heart*.



**Book: To The World Of Happiness**

**Author: Jithin Shaju**

**Publisher: Self Published (2022)**

**Total Pages: 92**

**Reviewed By: Neel Preet**

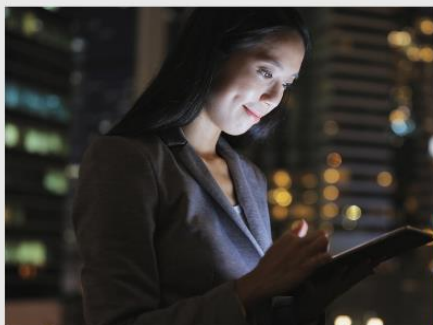
*“Every civilized person on this planet wants peace; however do the world know that even peace comes with a price, well who can afford peace? Peace is not free and always comes with a hefty price, unfortunately oftentimes bringing peace calls for some big sacrifices too!”*

# To The World of Happiness

Reviewing this amazing Science Fictional title, *“To The World Of Happiness”* by Author **Jithin Shaju** has been a great experience to me. Since, the author has very cleverly presented a world of chaos where things are rapidly falling apart and it gives a very deep message to the readers. In addition, the manner in which the author had highlighted the several incidents taking place in the lives of the primary characters in the book is truly incredible.

**About the Author:** Author, **Jithin Shaju** was born on the 1st of July 1991 in the state of Kerala, in Southern India, He is a self-inspired, visual-eyed writer and an avid dreamer. The author is the eldest child in his family of three and he got graduated from Mahatma Gandhi University. While after his graduation, he worked in India as well as abroad till he decided to stick on to his passion for storytelling.

**Book's Introduction:** This book, *“To The World Of Happiness”* by Author **Jithin Shaju** tends to take the readers to a world of chaos, where restlessness and destructiveness has wildly spread among the common people. The book can rightly be considered as a ‘Science Fiction’ novel, where the story highlights the situation of a global level war that too in the middle of an ongoing virus attack, where the various nations are deeply involved in the deadly race of the ammunition and weapons.





AUTHOR JITHIN SHAJU

ISSN - 2583-2263

The book describes how an ongoing virus attack has started affecting the common people mentally, physically, and financially. One such father who loses his daughter, because of the atrocities happening in the world, fights against all the systems to stop the war and bring back the long-lost happiness in the world without shedding blood. Well, the book tells the readers about what happens next, does the desperate final attempt of a father brings any fruitful result or the does the world believes in his success; it becomes interesting for the readers to find out the end.

**Book Title:** The title, “*To The World Of Happiness*” for this book, which is a science fiction title is certainly an appropriate one, with reference to the collection of chapters added to this book by the Author. In addition, it is a very ‘Catchy Title’ and this is something, which makes the book even more interesting, as the title itself compels you as a poetry lover to pick up this book for a read. In this case, the title is giving a very suspenseful as well as interesting vibe so you would feel the urge to go inside the chapters and try to understand the Author’s expression of words!

In addition, I must mention that the title of this book is much “**Justified**” with regards to the sequence of the chapters in this book. Undoubtedly, it is a very apt for this science fictional book and the Author had been extremely wise to go for a title like this one.

**Readers Connect:** Well, the author has done a great job with the plot of his novel and he had completely succeeded in creating a unique storyline. The book presents an interesting subject matter where the world faces a never-ending chaos along with restlessness and destructiveness wildly spread among the common people. The plot is designed very cleverly by the author presents a story, which is bound to kindle the interest of the readers. Another very important aspect of this book is that the narration made by the Author is indeed engrossing & interesting and the language used in this book is so lucid, that it would totally hook the readers until the very last page. Moreover, this is a book, which will make the readers think about the plot for several times, even after completing the book.

**Verdict:** A Book like “*To The World Of Happiness*” is for sure a **Must-Read** one and deserves a chance. The way Author had penned down the stories in his book is indeed breathtaking and deserves an appreciation. His work is praiseworthy as he has succeeded in creating a successful title in the competitive genre of science fiction!

Moreover, if you are one of those readers, who is looking forward to read a worthy **Science Fiction** plot then this book is probably a great fit for you. Jithin Shaju is a promising young author, who is very honest with his writings, which can be felt in his spectacular stories. The readers are bound to love this book.





## ***EMINENT BUZZ - Life is an Event, make it Memorable!***

Creative concepts, powerful content, immersive entertainment, and exceptional delivery - Our retail Set Up and Distribution Service is our basic trade marketing and distribution service. It is designed for authors who want us to sell and distribute their physical books through high street bookshops, online retailers, and on our own webshop.

Official website – [www.eminentbuzz.com](http://www.eminentbuzz.com)  
Email: [eminentbuzz@gmail.com](mailto:eminentbuzz@gmail.com)

# DARE ME AND OTHER STORIES

BY BENITA PATNAIK



If one ignores the unknown and the unseen, its existence can still not be denied. The experience of the unseen and supernatural forces has found expression in the writing of different authors and also common folk from both cities and villages. The genre of “Haunted stories” remains of popular interest, despite the changes of generations from manual to automatic and tech-savvy. An influence of this interest reflects in **“Dare Me and other Stories” by Benita Patnaik**. It is interesting to observe how the author has picked up content from routine life and given it’s touches of the dark elements without letting the substance get affected.

The readers are attracted to the book the moment they see the attractive book cover. The cover hints towards the dark undertones that the stories in the collection would carry, but the bright orange colour attracts the readers and invites them to indulge in reading the different stories that the author has planned for them. Each story in “Dare Me and other Stories” has a unique undertone and an engaging attraction about it. Every individual story has the potential to get the readers engrossed throughout till the end when the author gives unexpected twists and surprises the readers. These twists are completely unanticipated and unpredictable.

The element of unpredictability also gives thrill and chills to the readers as even though they know the nature of the book is horror, they can’t help but read it further to know what would happen next. Simultaneously, even if the book is written in the horror category, the spooky feelings do not exactly scare away the readers or make them scream. On the contrary, they may feel the sweats, and yet, they are unable to keep their eyes off the books. This is one of the key features of “Dare Me and other Stories,” which would make it popular among readers.

There may have been many books that have been written in the same category as Benita Patnaik’s creation, but the touches that the author gives her work make it unique and attractive. Firstly, she features human characters in it who have lives pretty much like the ordinary. Secondly, the unusual and supernatural events that occur are based on understandable reasons which can be practically explained. And thirdly, the impact of the spooky feeling remains on the minds of the readers much later after completing one story as they approach the next one.



“Dare Me and other Stories” is a package where the stories are of a fine length, each featuring limited characters with their own stories to share, the victims of circumstances becoming the investigators of the reasons behind the mis happenings to them and the action being focused on driving towards the main event of finding the reason of why all those situations were occurring.

In its more than 300 pages length, “Dare Me and other Stories” features different stories like the one in the title, “The Girl Friend,” “The New Moon,” “Live Again,” and “An Eye for an Eye” which feature people who are victims of social pressures, part of society, they may at times be lonely and needing company or the sense of belongingness. Through this, the author also hints toward the sociological relevance of her creation and the psychological impacts it can have on the personality of a person and its development.

After her debut work, “Real Dreams,” the author Benita Patnaik shows a different facet of her writer’s personality in “Dare Me and other Stories” and re-introduces the readers to the artist she has in herself. While the earlier book features the real-day aspects like love, lust and retribution, which are routine in human lives, the second book features a universe that is distinctive, profound, and unique in itself. To add to the touches, the author uses her distinct style and adds elements that make her work both enjoyable and immortal. She also gives the readers another set of stories to discuss in their camping and bonfire sessions or even when they sit with the elders of their families.

At the same time, “Dare Me and other Stories” spark the imagination of the readers and try to involve them in the imagination of the author and connect the events with their life. The undefined places and cities in the stories where they take place reinforce the fact that these are such events that could happen anywhere with any person. No factor like age, race, gender or sociological position can define what will happen to who. Stories like “The Muse” justify this at a different level where the protagonist is involved with a spirit who serves as his muse to help him become a bestselling author. Unlike its counterparts, every story is baffling, jaw-dropping, and gives the chills. Therefore, this book is suggested to all readers who look for refreshing yet spooky reading.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR** - Benita

Patnaik is a poet, blogger, and author. She has followed her debut novel “Real Dreams” (published in 2019 by The Write Place) with a collection of short stories “Dare Me and Other Stories” (Published in the year 2020 by Amazon KDP and Notion Press). Recently her last novel “Weave Some More” was published in June 2022 by Notion Press.

Her fascination for the parallel world and her sixth sense brings out aspects of the paranormal in her stories, through her own experiences, coloured a little (or a lot) by her imagination. Her passion for English literature found her in the world of academics for over a decade, helping students understand the nuances of the subject. Subsequently, she was on the Board of Directors (as Director of Education) at the Schutz American school, Alexandria for three years.

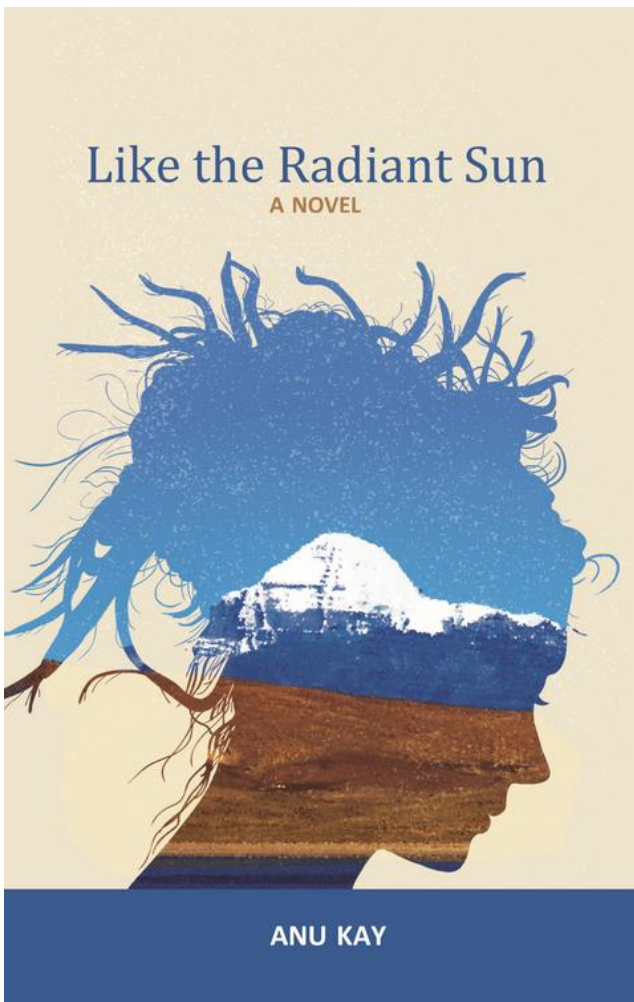
An alumna of Miranda House, University of Delhi, Benita has won the Urvashi Memorial Scholarship in her under-graduation level (English (Hons)) and followed it by completing her post-graduation in English Literature. She also holds a diploma in System Analysis which she completed simultaneously with her PG. Read more of her blogs, poetries, and her interests at [lifeasitis.wordpress.com](http://lifeasitis.wordpress.com), [importanceofbeingeme.benita.blogspot.com](http://importanceofbeingeme.benita.blogspot.com), and [binny22.com](http://binny22.com).



# LIKE THE RADIANT SUN

A NOVEL BY ANU KAY

A plot that is a mixture of mystery, suspense, thriller, and mythology is probably the accurate mix of creating a novel that is bound to keep the readers glued to it till the end. This mixture when added in the right amounts creates a world that is exciting, unforgettable, and keeps the readers on their toes. This feature is found in Anu Kay's **"Like the Radiant Sun: A Novel."** While the novel features the above-mentioned features, it also showcases a world that is born from the existing world and takes swings into different worlds.



At the same time, the presence of powerful characters on the canvas gives the novel a life that is irreplaceable. While it is a book that for once seems to be the product of the elements of mythology, it also has impressions of the present-day world that keep the book grounded and connected to the present-day scenario. It also ensures that the readers are not drifted into a different world altogether.

Spread over about 200 pages **"Like the Radiant Sun"** keeps the readers entertained from the beginning. The author utilizes the tool of flashback and looks back at life in a smooth manner. The readers are interested instantly when they hear the tale through the words of a ninety-nine-year-old. They go back to the times in their childhood when they would have heard tales from their grandparents. At the same time, the book features frequent shifts in time, mood, and narrative which keeps the readers engrossed in the story throughout. As the book proceeds, the author uses different tools at her disposal to carve a text that seems to be out of the world and yet, a part of it. The mysteries that surround the character of Rohan baffle and make the readers wonder about how things are happening. They become subconscious investigators in the action and get involved in the unraveling of all that is happening before them.

Marma Kala is the gateway to the ancient world which acts as a tool to transport the readers into a world that features layers of meaning and deciphering. The time to time mythological allusions add to the attraction of the novel and make it interesting and engaging.

## About The Author



Anu Kay started her writing journey with her debut novel, *Like the Radiant Sun*. She writes about her life and the moments that matter to her. She also takes interest in writing about history, human existence, secrets and mysteries of our world. Writing gives her hope to continue, in her own words. Anu Kay has studied creative writing and journalism at the University of Stuttgart, Germany. Before she started writing, she worked as a software developer and analyst for various companies. Anu was born in Bangalore, India. She has lived in several places in the Middle East and Europe and currently resides in Germany. Below is an interview with Anu Kay on the successful run of her debut novel, *Like the Radiant Sun*.

The references also teach the readers many things about the Hindu religion and highlight the research work done by the author before writing **“Like the Radiant Sun.”** Simultaneously, Kay’s construction of characters is precise, clear, and focused. They are clearly cut out for their respective roles and do not require the author to come and take control. The absence of the author gives the characters the freedom to grow, develop, evolve and show the different shades of their personality. They showcase their feelings and thoughts in a realistic manner which gives their personalities the required human touches.

The action in **“Like the Radiant Sun”** is a factor that would attract the readers. The story does not have unnecessary diversions to distract the readers. Instead, it has details that are significant and can’t be ignored. The presence of limited characters also facilitates the quick development of the plot and keeps the suspense till the right time. It makes the readers wait but the excitement levels raised by it are enough to keep the readers glued to the book throughout.

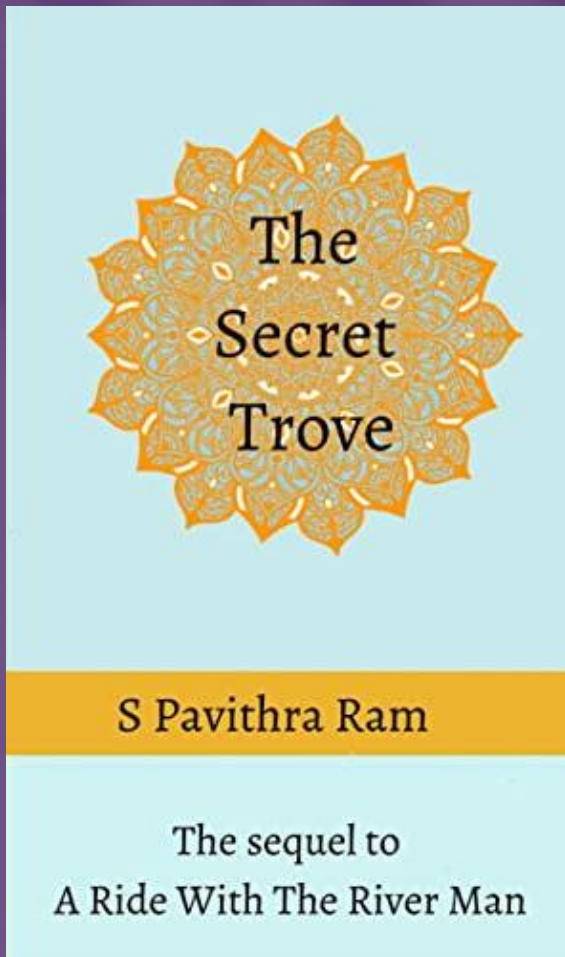
Likewise, the language used by the author **“Like the Radiant Sun”** is refined, simple, and easy to understand for all readers. It is due to this and other reasons like the presence of mystery and thrill that the novel would become an instant attraction for readers who enjoy reading fiction. Even though the book is fiction, the realistic touches make it seem like a work that is inspired by reality and is close to life.

This is further added by the presence of lively characters. **The novel** can also be read by people who read non-fiction due to the realistic touches of the author. At the same time, the length of the book is another attraction. Anu Kay’s book is around 200 pages which feature the swift development of action and is packed with twists and turns that keep the readers on their toes for the next unraveling. While this keeps the readers alert and engrossed, it also raises the possibility of their finishing the book at a quick pace.

This book is recommended to people of all age groups and from all walks of life. **“Like the Radiant Sun”** by **Anu Kay** does not restrict itself to any particular age of class and has the potential to appeal to different people at the same time. At the same time, it is also likely to be recommended by people in their friend circles or their family members to visit the world that has been created in the novel.

# The Secret Trove: The Sequel to A Ride with The River Man

**BY S PAVITHRA RAM**



The Secret Trove is an intriguing, lovable family drama that revolves around a close-knit Tamil Brahmin family living in Mumbai. This captivating story tells the tale of the trials and tribulations the family goes through. The author has crafted the characters meticulously, carefully breathing life in each of them. Interestingly, even the supporting characters are well thought out and stand their ground.

The dynamic interplay of the relationships forms the CenterStage of the story. The characters' pride in their culture and spirituality imparts strength to it. The thoughtful mention of the Carnatic songs, and sometimes the use of old Hindi songs build a strong ground for the story to play out. In fact, this is something that is unique to this book, every song mentioned has been used to impart a profound meaning to the situation, depicts the essence of the relationships between the characters, and personify the myriad human emotions displayed effectively through brilliant writing by the author. This aspect of the book stands out and draws the reader to the characters and story until the reader becomes a part of the story, witnessing it unfold from close quarters. It is rare to find such a brilliant concept beautifully implemented through conscientious writing.

The author has portrayed life in the characters such that they compel the reader to delve deeper into the story and experience the dilemmas, joy, pain, and happiness, of the characters as if they were their own. The main protagonist Hari, is effervescent, young, and shoulders the responsibility of taking care of the family business efficiently. A tender-hearted human who cannot bear to see another human in pain, his charm is endearing, and the reader cannot help but be captivated by this intriguing character. On the other hand, his wife Ananya, a passionate singer, has an almost infectious zest for life. Her insecurities, anger, pain, and endless love for her husband, the strength of her character adds spice to the story.

With a steely resolve, Hari holds the family together while nurturing the talents and hidden dreams of those around him. His kind words, wisdom, child-like demeanor, compassionate ways, love for music, his unparalleled wit takes the story to a different level altogether.



The strength of his character is on full display as he braves the blows that life brings his way yet he chooses to move on with grace each time. The tests that life puts him through don't embitter him until he faces that which shakes him completely. Will he emerge triumphant? The story goes further ahead and engages the reader to explore the journey ahead.

The undercurrent of romance between Hari and Ananya, their strong pull toward each other, the insecurities of Ananya, and their endearing fights are sure to keep the readers on bated breath. His love for his mother is captured by the author such that words fall short to describe their relationship. There is a scene where on one hand Hari loses someone who he holds close to his heart while on the other a beautiful small human is born. As he bonds with his daughter by singing Kabir's song which roughly translates to "Please take me as your slave, as I stand at your door in servitude", his heart is full of love for the little one, gratitude for his wife and yet a part of him is aching for the person he will see no more. The book has many beautiful, relatable, heart-warming, heart-wrenching moments that will tug the reader's heart.

The women characters Ananya, Prema, and Vidya are the epitome of women empowerment, having a strong mind of their own, setting boundaries, not afraid to express themselves putting their foot down when needed. The author's deeply spiritual mindset is evident through these characters, how they forego everything to build their family yet not once lose their identity or individuality. This book is a must-read, packed with interesting twists and turns, the plot of the story holds the imagination of the reader, sprinkled with wisdom and loaded with well-thought-out situations and circumstances that are sure to enthrall and captivate the reader. The character of Hari is so well crafted that he stays with you long after the book ends.

The book title personifies this very central character of the story. Hari whose emotions, good intentions, deeds, and the love he feels towards all – flows like a river, unending and selfless. Yet he carries a huge trove of secrets within his heart ensuring they never affect anyone or any relations. There could not have been a more apt title for a book that is a celebration of love and life, friendships, and romance, and is packed with action including kidnaps and raids and a whole lot more. You have to read the book to believe the author's complete hold and power to weave a story so intricate. A book that can be read across all generations, one that certainly should not be missed.

The language used in the book is easy to comprehend and follow. Moreover, the use of excellent language makes this book seem like classic literature. The credit for this is due to the author. The author has used an engaging narration style, which intrigues and involves the reader in the story. The characters and the story compel the reader to keep reading to find out what happens next, the book is certainly a page-turner, unputdownable.

**About The Author:** The author S Pavithra Ram is a Chartered Accountant based in Chennai. She was raised in a traditional Tamil Brahmin family, she was encouraged into learning and explore Hindu scriptures from a very early age, listening to the discourses of her Guru from the age of 4. This led to her developing a strong sense of spirituality and developed her love for the culture that grew with age into a deep-rooted fascination with the scriptures and their universal appeal. This aspect of the author is reflective in the story and adds character to it. An avid reader of English literature, classics, and novels, a habit that fostered in her an admiration for the language and a knack for penning her thoughts. The author brought out her first book, A Ride with the River Man, a tryst of a kind, that gave vent to her spiritual beliefs woven around an endearing tale, a family drama. The present book is an enriching read and certainly for keeps. A book that is sure to find its place on a book collector's shelf and heart.



**S PAVITHRA RAM**



# RIDING THE DEMON

**BY MURALI RAGHAVAN**

A work that is inspired by the present-day circumstances is not only more relatable for the readers but also creates their interest at a different level. **“Riding the Demon” by Murali Raghavan** explores the lives of the people at crossroads where they have to make decisions for either their personal lives or professional. While being inspired by contemporary events, it also comes as a book that not only fascinates the readers’ imagination but also takes them into a world that is inspired by this world and yet makes the readers detached observers. The author uses different techniques to keep the readers involved. Sometimes he makes them a part of the dialogue, and sometimes he detaches them to the position of observers. These techniques keep the readers involved at different levels, and they not only enjoy reading the text but also read through the messages the author gives.

The narrative in **“Riding the Demon” by Murali Raghavan** swings through the lives of different characters and shows the different situations they face. By swinging the chapters between the lives of **Vikram and Ashwini**, the author shows the parallel development of different lives that takes place simultaneously in the world. At the same time, the author also raises several issues which are of social and psychological relevance. The presence of the character of Guruji is one instance in this regard. Through the undefined references to Guruji, the author highlights the social issue where people are misled by the self-proclaimed Godmen who claim to hold the key to people’s salvation. Through the tragic fate of Ashwini’s sister, the author brings one instance which highlights the fate of many like her. It also shows the disconnect that people have with their families, which makes them look for hope beyond the boundaries of their homes. The title **“Riding the Demon”** is not just eye-catching, but it also sets the readers’ minds to action in wonder as they try to decipher and decode what it could mean. Although they try to connect the dots with the text from the beginning, it makes sense when they read through and understand the different dimensions that the title touches. It makes sense in the beginning too, but the readers are able to make sense of it by the time they reach the end.

**About The Author:** Murali Raghavan is a Chartered & Cost accountant from India. He is based in UAE for the past 29 years and is the co-founder of the company CFOSME, which enables SMEs to optimize their Cash from Operations with improved financial ecosystems. His experience with multinational companies in retail & wholesale distribution, Information Technology, Real Estate and Hotel development, Risk Management & Insurance (Financial Advisor) gives him a wide range of skills and experience.

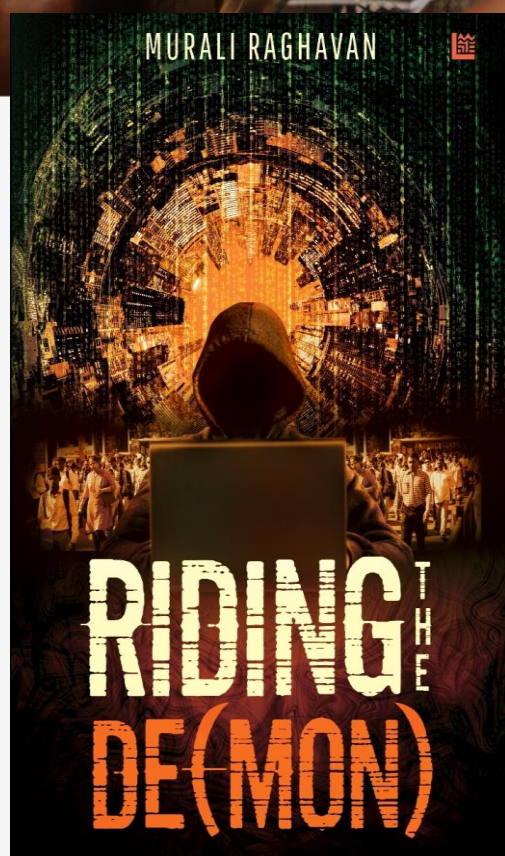
Raghavan’s book is a financial thriller that dives deep into money laundering in India, particularly the methods used by corrupt businessmen and politicians to funnel their ill-gotten gains into the banking system, post the surprise announcement of Demonetization, the novel has been written after a lot of research about the methods used by people with ill- gotten wealth to deposit their black money with banks and the vulnerabilities around the data of cash deposits that exists even today.





# A BRILLIANT TALE OF BIG MONEY AND CRIME

**Murali Raghavan**



The title triggers the imagination in different directions. It seems to have associations with mythology, or the demons with a person, or the demons on the outside. However, on reading, the title takes the meaning in a different direction altogether.

In his less than 250 pages novel, the author Murali Raghavan explores the different facets of life, society, people, and their ordinary and yet extraordinary lives. Even though the characters of Vikram and Ashwini have a life that is a product of ordinary circumstances, the fact that there could be many people like them makes them representative of the many who go through different states and fates. Vikram's character shows the present-day youth who has the potential to conquer any hurdle in this tech-savvy world. But the lack of guidance or absence of correct guidance does the damage, and thus, they end up in the wrong places and waste their lives as a result. "Riding the Demon" by Murali Raghavan is a tale that weaves the lives of different people and shows how people can be a victim of circumstances with no choice but to live with it. This is further added on by the writing style of the author. The style has an appropriate mix of suspense, thriller, mystery, wonder, and conjectures of probable reasons for things happening.

It takes the readers on a spin where they are attached to the world shown in the novel but also remain detached as spectators who decode the actions. Furthermore, the language used by the author is simple, easy to understand, and clear. There are moments when he plays with words and fascinates the readers. This adds to the attraction of Raghavan's book and makes it a recommended reading for all readers. This book is recommended to readers who enjoy reading suspense and thrillers and those who like to take their imagination to different levels of exploration through the words the author writes.

At the same time, the book can also be read aloud among circles and discussed in different groups due to the issues it raises. It would be an eye-opener for many, and for some, it would be an acquainting session with the realities of the present day. "Riding the Demon" by Murali Raghavan is a book that is recommended to people of all ages. However, mature readers would be able to understand it much better as the book raises issues and takes events from the present day which are serious and hold relevance for all.



# SMT. DROUPADI MURMU – AN INSPIRATION FOR THE NATION



It is not just a good news for the various Tribal Communities of the country but also for the entire nation. In addition, the election of Smt. Droupadi Murmu as the President of India is a great message for the entire nation in several ways.

Oftentimes, the tribal people are considered to be inferior or retiring in almost every aspects of life by many of people in our nation. Most people thinks that the tribes still wears leaves and dances around the fire and lives only in the forest regions; well we all know it is the senseless Bollywood that has framed such a stupid image of the tribes in our minds. Nevertheless, the election of Smt. Droupadi Murmu Ji as the Indian President will be a big and tight slap right across the face of the filthy Bollywood and the sick minds of the film industry.

Anyways let us keep our focus towards the takeaways from the event of Smt. Droupadi Murmu becoming the **15th President of India** and the nation's first Tribal President. Among all the vital takeaways, the biggest one is that now the nation has learnt that anyone, no matter how much oppressed can make anything possible for themselves. The lack of opportunities or the lack of resources can undoubtedly make a person's life difficult but a person with real determination can overcome all challenges to pave a way to the summit of the success.

JULY, 30, 2022 | THE LITERATURE TODAY | 46

Why is it that the Election of the 15th President of India has become such a buzz? What makes the 2022 Presidential Election of India so different from any other Presidential Election of the country? Well, almost after every 5 years, India witnesses a new President; the only exception was in the case of the First President of India, **Dr. Rajendra Prasad Ji** as he was the only President of India to be elected for two terms. However, apart from this exceptional case, India has never witnessed a repeat of President and after every 5 years since Dr. Rajendra Prasad Ji, the country has always got a New President. Similarly, this year 2022 was also no exception and in this year's Presidential Election, the country was ready to elect a New President. Interestingly, no other than the favourite candidate, **Smt. Droupadi Murmu Ji** became the 15th President of India!

One huge takeaway from the 2022 Indian Presidential Elections is that Smt. Droupadi Murmu Ji has become the **'First Tribal President'** in the history of India. Well, this rightly became the headlines and now almost every citizen of the nation is aware with the fact that the country has finally got a Tribal President.

Undoubtedly, Smt. Droupadi Murmu Ji has lived up to the words of the Prime Minister of India, **Shri Narendra Modi Ji**, as he said *"Aapda Ko Avsar Mein Badale"* during the lockdown days of 2020. What a wonderful thing to say, *"Aapda Ko Avsar Mein Badale"* translates to *"Turn the Adversities into Opportunities!"* PM Narendra Modi Ji said these inspiring words in the year 2020 when India and the entire world was facing the crisis of the Chinese Virus!

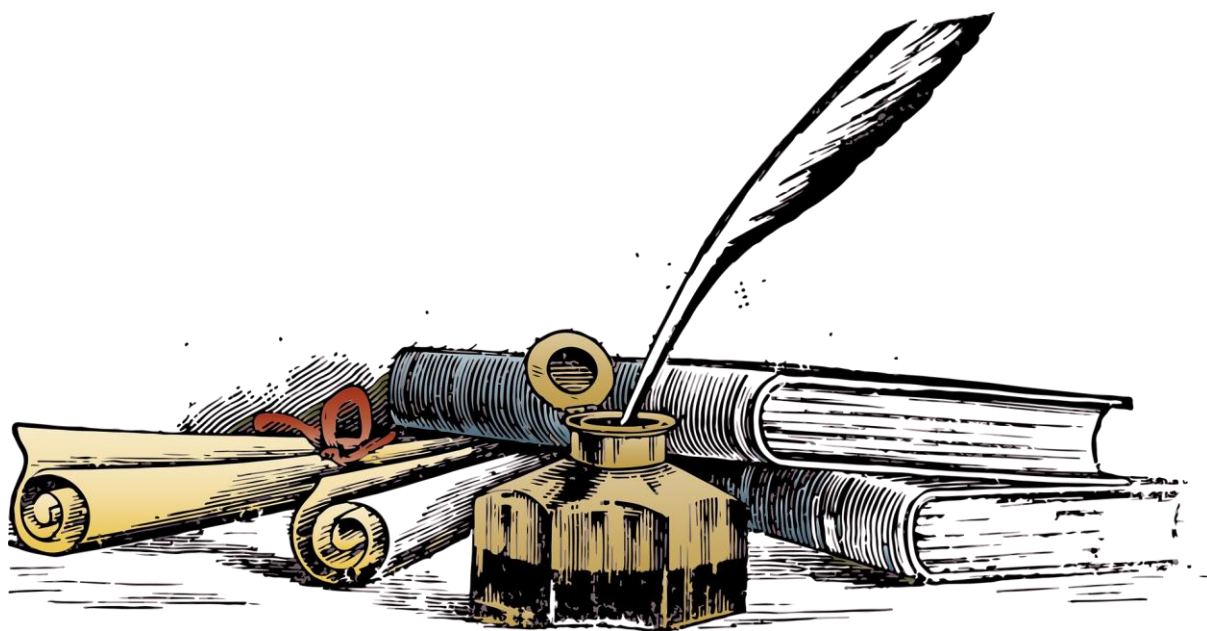
In the very same manner, our Current President, **Smt. Droupadi Murmu Ji** has made sure to keep fighting with the tough situation and all the adversities that she faced in her life. She teaches our entire nation to not give up and keep on moving ahead in the direction of our targets, even when the world does not expect anything from us. She has seen many ups and downs in her life and has been through a long road of patience and determination to reach here. Her oath swearing ceremony on the 25th of July 2022 was a delightful and memorable event, which will be written down with golden words in the Indian History forever.



## **Find the Perfect Writer or an Editor for Your Book.**

contact us to discuss which writers or editors  
would be ideal for you and your book.

**Email: [inkerspress@gmail.com](mailto:inkerspress@gmail.com)**





# What You Think—you Are

*The way we think determines the way we feel, and the way we feel determines the way we act.*

*God whispers softly to us in pleasure, but he shouts at us with painful facts.*

*Spiritual growth is not automatic, It is a matter of choice how we think.*

*The right attitude is the first step forward, to learn from every situation that stinks.*

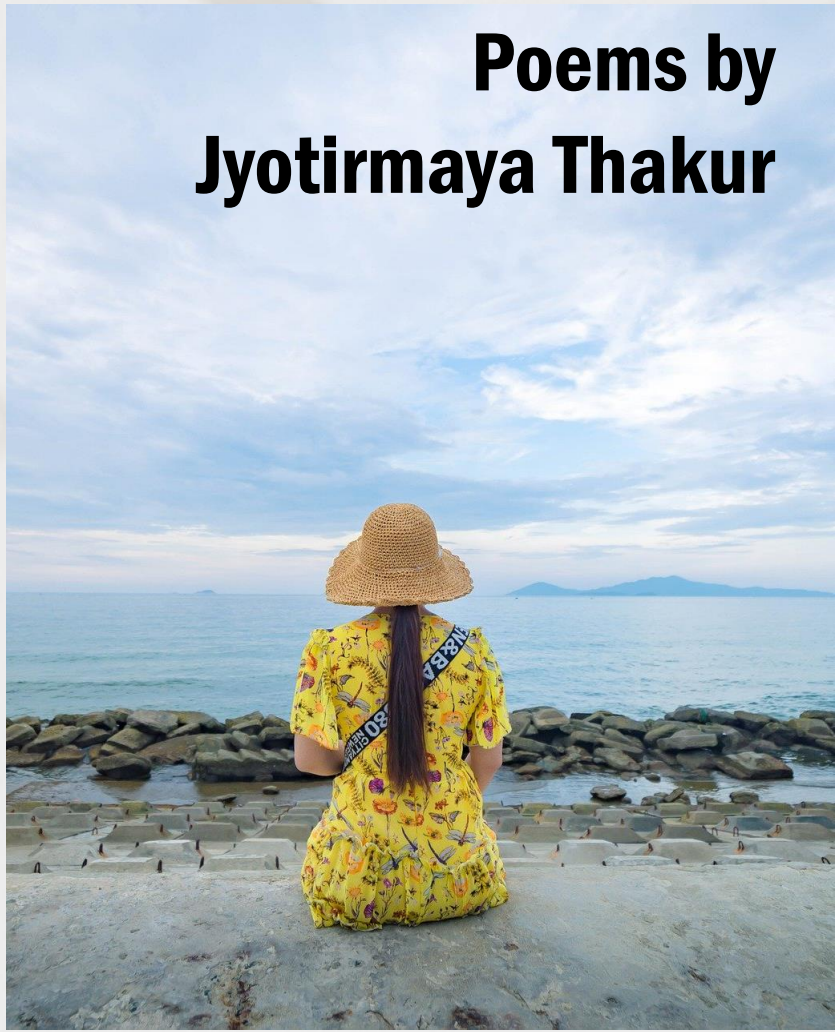
*The sad fact is we are unloving instead of loving, we feel defeated, depressed, and discouraged, rather than joyful and happy in perceiving, rather than peace we feel uptight and pressed.*

*Instead of being kind, we are selfish, Instead of being patient, we are frustrated, Instead of being confident, we lack confidence, Instead of compassion, we are irritated.*

*Being unfaithful, we neglect our commitment, and we respond to others in anger and resentment, Instead of being humble and gentle at the start, lose our self-control, and watch our life fall apart.*

*A happy person carries a temple around, music of compassion, melodious sounds, cherishes difficulties as challenges affront, and love for life defines a soul in search.*

## Poems by Jyotirmaya Thakur



**Jyotirmaya Thakur** is a retired Principal, bilingual author of forty-five books in many genres with many waiting to be published and translated into many languages, and is a co-author in many International Anthologies.

She is a Hindi translator for the Ithaca Magazine of Spain circulated globally. She is a Multi-Genre Award Winner, Reviewer, Columnist, Editor, Motivational Speaker, Philanthropist, Environmental, Social and cultural activist. She serves on various prestigious Committees as Ambassador and Adviser for literary and humanitarian organizations.

Her work has been published in many global anthologies, magazines, tabloids, and digital news media, internationally, and translated into many languages. Multi-Genre award-winning poet of many accolades from literary and humanitarian organizations.



# *Seeds Of Friendship*

*Let's sow seeds of friendship light,  
with a friendly smile, cheerful vibes,  
a friendly word greeting slides,  
a warm hug with healing lights.*

*If one person spreads a smile a day,  
leading blind when crossing his way,  
holding an elder person on a busy street,  
picking up groceries for the weak.*

*If one person picks up an abandoned,  
gave alms to beggars on the roadside,  
gave poorly shelter and some food,  
comfort the needy in rain or sunshine.*

*If friendly smiles could touch many hearts,  
a penny or two to struggling musical arts,  
If every person walked the extra mile,  
and sowed seeds of friendship on every path.*



## ALL THAT MATTERS



*Diptirekha Das*

*Remember your roots,  
To the soil, you're born.  
You're indebted to a lot of people;  
Do count them in your prayers.  
Blessings are all that matters.  
Never forget your upbringing,  
The days of struggles.  
Nothing comes swiftly,  
You've to fight for yours.  
Perseverance is all that matters.  
Stop doubting your credibility,  
When failure left you shattered.  
Make sure to be grounded,  
When success gives you goosebumps.  
Humility is all that matters.  
Don't make it a hard & fast rule,  
To stay always focused.  
Sometimes getting detached from the mainstream;  
Help detox your overexposures.  
Serenity is all that matters.  
Try to ease up on your passion,  
Don't stress so often.  
Trust your pace;  
Because at the end of the day,  
Your happiness is all that matters.*



## Selenophile

*Transfixed in your utter hypnotism  
My being could retain mere form from you  
Savored bit by bit your charisma  
Is as grotesque as the veins;  
In me absorbed, your aura paints  
Acute an image, stainless;  
So grandeur, no less than a Greek Prince,  
Your hegemonic portrait  
Before my dull eyes appear;  
The broad fair countenance, with the eyes-onyx,  
Emptying passionate oceans  
Filling my thirst to the fullest  
The light brown hair, curled and shaped,  
Like a coronet adorned in Red Coral;  
The lips are as honest as of an emperor who  
Passes his words soothing millions  
The main and it's every gesture  
Left me unmoved desiring their possession  
The voice sweetest that overwhelmed me further  
Yet on the eardrums composes rhythms  
Whirling my heart at every beat*

*The picturization in those intervals of sorrow  
Fills tears in my eyes fogging the sight  
The heart is attacked with aches*

*The sheer aches that clutch the heart so tight  
And I fail to break the series of images rolling on  
I fail as well to hold the rains that turn into floods  
I fail to save the heart-sucking poison of its own desires  
I fail and how flawless*

*To survive in those intervals of sorrow*

*Naheed Akhtar*



# Special Thanks To



**Anuradha Chatterjee**  
**Editor**



**Dr. Tripti Bajpai Toor**  
**Director of Content**



**Akhila Saroha**  
**Director of Content**



**Shreya Sharma**  
**Reviewer**



**Neel Preet**  
**Literary Advisory Board**



**Dr. Mayurkumar Solanki**  
**Editor-in-chief**



The  
Literature  
Today

# *The literature today* **Enjoyed This Issue?**

Explore the whole new world of writing.

Rekindle your love for books and literature. We bring you the latest releases, interviews and much more from the writing world in our every issue.

Get The Literature Today Magazine delivered to your inbox the moment the issue is released.

**Go ahead and subscribe now.**

To subscribe  
visit -  
[www.theliteraturetoday.com](http://www.theliteraturetoday.com)

