

THE LITERATURE TIMES

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*Article by
Shweta Pandey*

*Short Stories
Experimental Literature
Literary News
Sahitya Sparsh Awards*

*Best Books
to Read*

Cover Story

Dr. Kumar Vishwas

Editor's Note



Pooja Sahu

Editor-in-Chief

When we embarked on the journey of creating The Literature Times, little did we know the remarkable path it would pave for us. With each passing issue, we honed our skills, expanded our horizons, and absorbed knowledge that enriched our venture. The evolution of our magazine has been a transformative experience, reshaping our perception of media and bridging the realm of literature with the swiftly advancing domain of technology. As we proudly present the 2nd Issue of Volume 3 in the June 2024 Edition of The Literature Times, we stand on the threshold of new possibilities, ready to embrace a diverse array of fresh perspectives.

The magazine covers a wide range of themes, from technology to lifestyle to fashion to anything revolutionary or impactful in people's lives, and it even has book reviews and author interviews. Under the subject of current themes, it also features material that is timely and applicable to the contemporary situation. In addition, once readers get their hands on this issue, they will find a few unexpected inclusions.

We believe there is always more to add and learn, thus with each new edition, we push ourselves to new limits in order to better the following one. Consequently, we would appreciate it very much if our readers provided us with feedback at:

editorial@theliteraturetimes.com. We hope to hear from you soon. If you're reading this, I hope you enjoy it.

Enjoy your reading!

WELCOME

Cool to see you in this issue.

We invite you to join us in our journey to reach the next milestone and see what marvel our new venture has in store for us. Our effort intends to reach out to maximum readers who want to see the movements and developments in the literary world and aspire to write someday too. So, with the hope of giving you a joyous experience in reading, let's begin without delays.

We hope you enjoy this one.

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A photograph of a man with dark hair, wearing dark sunglasses and a light green kurta with a patterned collar and buttons. He is smiling broadly. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with greenery and a colorful mural.

COVER
STORY

Dr. Kumar Viswas

A Renaissance Personality in Indian Literature and Politics

Dr. Kumar Viswas stands as a great figure in the field of Indian literature, entertainment and politics. Born on February 10, 1970 in Pilkhuwa town of Uttar Pradesh, Vishwas set out on a journey that redefined the boundaries of poetry and public discourse in India. His life story full of courage, passion and unwavering dedication serves as an inspiration to millions of people across the world.

Early life and literary aspirations Faith's journey was not traditional in the world of poetry. Despite family pressure to pursue a career in engineering, he decided to pursue his heart's desire for literature. Armed with determination and an intense passion for poetry, he set out on the path less traveled by and devoted himself entirely to the pursuit of literary excellence.

Poetic Master

Faith's progress in the world of poetry was tremendous. His poetic works, characterized by profound emotional depth, religious social commentary, and subtle humor, influenced audiences of all ages. One of the most famous poems that gave Kumar Vishwas an identity in the world of poetry is his poem, *Koi Deewana Kehta Hai...* which did not come to his heart just like that. He too has taken a dip in this ocean of love and after that his pen has written an immortal poem. Which we can usually hear humming on the lips of today's youth. His magnum opus, the iconic poem "Koi Deewana Kehta Hai" brought him unprecedented fame, garnering him a huge number of devoted fans and admirers. This four line poem is the most famous, which is as follows -

***Koi Deewana Kehta Hai, Koi Pagal Samajhta Hai.
Magar Dharti Ki bechaini, To bas badal Samajhta Hai.
Main Tujhse Dur Kaisa Hu, Tu Mujhse Dur kaisi hai!
Ye Tera Dil Samajhta Hai Ya Mera Dil Samajhta Hai.***

Not just love poems, poems of faith cover a myriad of topics including social justice, women empowerment, patriotism and the human condition. His poems serve as a mirror to the society, reflecting its triumphs, struggles and aspirations. Vishwas's lyrical talent transcends the boundaries of language and culture and continues to impress audiences across the world. Kumar Vishwas has reshaped Hindi poetry not only in India but across the world, making him one of the re-founders of Hindi poetry.

extraordinary artist Faith's poetic talent is not limited to the written word; It comes alive on stage, where he enralls the audience with his soulful singing and captivating performances, the most famous of which is this song -

“Jab Bhi Munh Dhak Leta Hun,
Tere Zulfon Ki Chhaon Mein
Kitne Geet Utar Aate Hain,
Mere Man Ke Gaon Mein.,,

He revolutionized the traditional notion of "poets' convention" and poetry recitation, transforming them into electric spectacles of art and entertainment. His ability to keep the audience enthralled for hours, apart from his poetic verses and magnetic charisma, is a testament to his unique talent as an artiste. Faith concerts are not just singing; They are profound experiences that leave a lasting impact on the hearts and minds of all present.

A voice for social change Apart from his contributions to literature and entertainment, Vishwas is a staunch advocate of social change and political reform. He has aligned himself with the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), where he is a supporter of transparency, accountability and good governance.

Despite facing challenges and controversies in his political journey, Vishwas remains committed to his principles and ideals. He uses his platform to raise awareness of important social issues, amplify the voices of marginalized people, and inspire positive change in society. Kumar Vishwas has also said a very good thing about politics which he has expressed through his poems

“Sabko Ladne Pade apne- apne yuddh
Chahe Raja Ram Ho Ya Ho Gautam
Buddh.,,

The legacy continues As Kumar Vishwas continues to inspire and motivate through his poetry, performances and political activism, his legacy grows stronger with each passing day. He remains a beacon of hope and inspiration for aspiring poets, artists and change-makers, and reminds us all of the power of passion, perseverance and purpose.

In a world often filled with doubt and despair, words of faith serve as a source of solace and strength, reminding us of the inherent beauty and resilience of the human spirit. As we deal with the complexities of life, let us draw inspiration from the life and works of Dr. Kumar Biswas, a true renaissance man whose impact transcends time and space.

Political engagements and challenges

Dr. Kumar Vishwas' entry into politics added an important chapter to his journey, adding another dimension to his multifaceted personality. He joined the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), founded on the principles of anti-corruption and grassroots activism, and aligned himself with its mission of bringing about systemic change in Indian politics.

However, Vishwas's political journey was not without challenges and controversies. He found himself embroiled in internal conflicts within AAP and faced criticism and opposition from some quarters of the party leadership. Despite these challenges, Vishwas remained steadfast in his commitment to his political ideals, advocating transparency, accountability and inclusive governance.

“Siyasat!

Main Tera Khoya ya Paya Ho Nahin Sakta,

Teri sharton pe Gayab ya numaya ho Nahin Sakta,

Bhale Sajish se gehre dafn Mujhko kar bhi do per main,

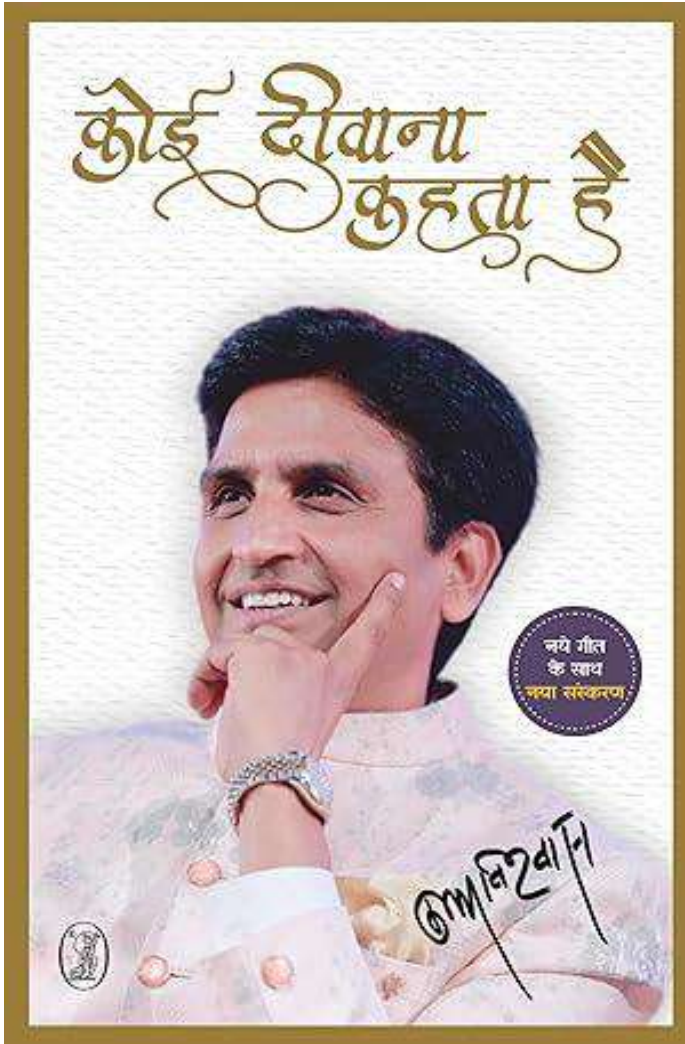
Srijan ka Bij hun Mitti Mein Jaya Ho Nahin Sakta.,,

Social media influence and literary contribution

In the age of digital media, Dr. Kumar Vishwas leveraged the power of social media to amplify his message and connect with a wider audience. His witty comments on current affairs, social issues and political developments have earned him massive followers on platforms such as Twitter and Facebook, further cementing his position as a leading voice in Indian public discussion.

Amidst his political engagements and public appearances, Biswas continued to contribute to India's literary landscape. He wrote many poems, essays and articles addressing various topics and subjects. His literary contributions are a testament to his enduring passion for literature and his unwavering commitment to artistic expression.

Books of Dr. Kumar Vishwas



Review for "Koi Deewana Kehta Hai" by Dr. Kumar Vishwas

“Koi Deewana Kehta Hai” is not just a book of poetry; It is an emotional journey through the complex tapestry of human emotions. Dr. Kumar Biswas, with his excellent command of language and depth of expression, takes readers on a poignant exploration of love, longing and love. Each poem in this collection is like a lyrical gem, shining with its unique talent. Words of faith have the power to touch the depths of the heart, evoking innumerable emotions in the reader. Be it the soul-stirring “Koi Deewana Kehta Hai” or the introspective “Satyam Shivam Sundaram”, every poem resonates with authenticity and true emotion.

What sets Vishwas apart as a poet is his ability to infuse his poems with a sense of universality, making them relevant to readers from all walks of life. His poems transcend the boundaries of language and culture, speaking directly to the soul with their eternal wisdom and beauty.

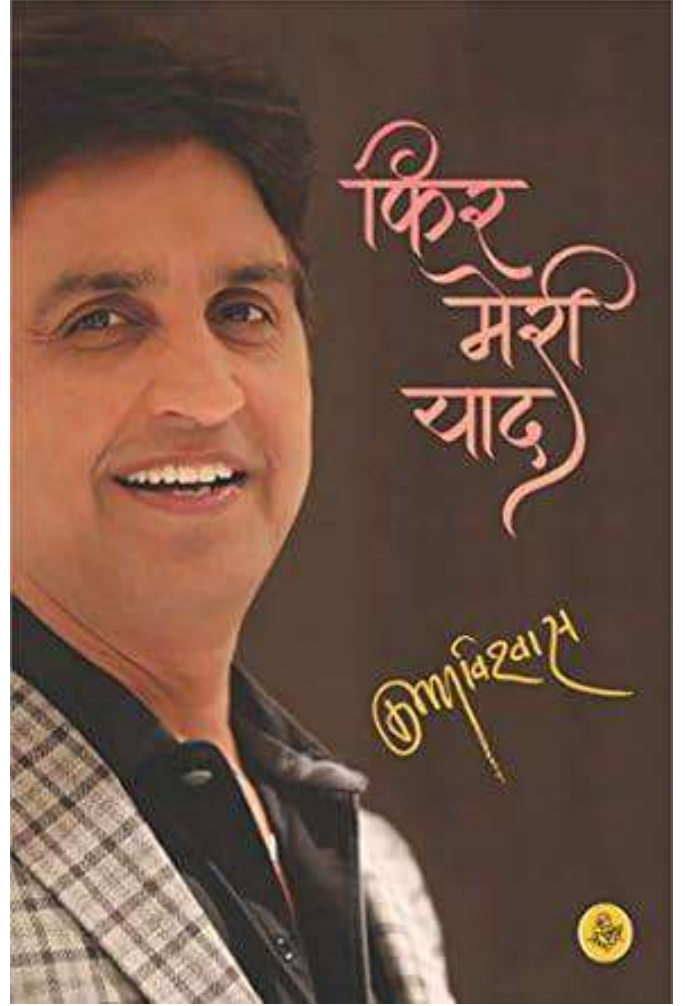
Apart from her poetic ability, Faith's comments and philosophical insights on social issues add depth and substance to this collection. His poems serve as a mirror to society, reflecting its joys, sorrows and complexities with unparalleled clarity.

Overall, “Koi Deewana Kehta Hai” is a masterpiece of modern poetry, showcasing Dr. Kumar Biswas at the peak of his creative powers. Whether you are a poetry lover or are looking to delve into the world of poetry for the first time, this book is essential for you - reading it will have a lasting impact on your heart and mind.

BOOK REVIEW

Review for "Phir Meri Yaad" by Dr. Kumar Vishwas

"Phir Meri Yaad" is a delightful collection of poems that takes readers into the realm of introspection and nostalgia. Dr. Kumar, with his distinctive blend of confidence, wit and wisdom, weaves a picture of emotions that resonates with readers on a deeply personal level. Each poem in this collection is a testament to Vishwas's poetic talent, showcasing her ability to capture the essence of the human experience in words that are both deep and relevant. From love and longing to hope and despair, Faith's poems effortlessly represent the entire spectrum of human emotions.



What makes "Phir Meri Yaad" truly special is its universality. Whether you are young or old, male or female, the themes explored in these poems resonate with readers from all walks of life. The profound observations of faith and keen insight into the human condition make this collection a timeless treasure that will be treasured for generations to come.

Apart from its poetic brilliance, "Phir Meri Yaad" also reminds us of the importance of self-reflection and introspection in our fast-paced lives. Through her poems, Faith encourages readers to stop, contemplate, and appreciate the beauty of the world around them.

Overall, "Phir Meri Yaad" is a testament to the enduring legacy of Dr. Kumar Biswas as one of India's most beloved poets. Whether you're looking for solace in poetry or simply want to be inspired, this book will surely leave a lasting impression on your heart and soul.



स्वर्णिम भारत

श्वेता पाण्डेय

हम सभी प्राचीन भारत को सोने की चिड़िया के नाम से जानते हैं। इतिहास के पन्नों में भारत को विश्वगुरु यानी कि पूरे विश्व को पढ़ाने वाला शिक्षक कहा जाता था, क्योंकि भारत देश की प्राचीन अर्थव्यवस्था, राजनीति और इनके समृद्ध ज्ञान का पूरा विश्व कायल था। जब पूरी दुनिया खाने, पहनने और रहने की व्यवस्था में जुटी हुयी थी उसके सैकड़ों साल पहले ही भारत में अन्न, वस्त्र व मसालों का व्यापार होने लगा था व भारत के महापुरुषों ने बहुत से आविष्कार कर दिए थे। जिनमें आर्यभट्ट ने शून्य की खोज, सुश्रुत ने शल्य चिकित्सा, वराहमिहिर का खगोलशास्त्र, शिकार व युद्ध नीति के लिए शब्दभेदी बाण व अन्य शस्त्रों के आविष्कार आदि शामिल हैं। भारतीयों ने कभी भी अपने फायदे के लिए दूसरों का नुकसान नहीं चाहा और इसलिए हमारे प्राचीन गुरुओं ने भारत को नीतिबद्ध ढंग से विश्वगुरु बनाने के लिए एक सूत्र अपनाया। जिसके 3 पहलू क्रमशः हैं- ज्ञान, विज्ञान और प्रज्ञान (तर्क + नीति = दर्शन)।

जिनके आधार पर उन्होंने देश की आर्थिक, राजनीतिक, कृषि व सांस्कृतिक व्यवस्था को मजबूत कर कई पीढ़ियों में स्थिरता लाने का काम किया।

इस सूत्र का उपयोग कुछ यूँ था कि जैसे हजारों साल पहले ही भारद्वाज ऋषि को लोहे व अन्य साधनों के उपयोग से कई प्रकार के विमान बनाये जा सकते हैं का ज्ञान था किंतु किस प्रकार से कौन-सा विमान बनेगा यह उनका यह जानकारी उनका विज्ञान था। लेकिन यदि इन आविष्कारों द्वारा उन तरह-तरह के विमानों से प्रकृति व मानव को होने वाले लाभ से ज्यादा हानि होती तो इस बात का बोध होना उनका प्रज्ञान था। जिस कारण उन्होंने उस खोज को नष्ट कर दिया था। भारतीय दर्शन ने सदैव तर्क व नीति को अपनाया है। भारतीय दर्शन के अंतर्गत ऐसे किसी भी आविष्कार को बढ़ावा देने या अविष्कृत करने का पूर्णतः निषेध व विरोध किया गया है जिससे की प्रकृति को किसी भी प्रकार से हानि हो और इसीलिए भारत की महान वैज्ञानिकों वह गुरुओं ने केवल उन्हीं आविष्कारों को अविष्कृत किया जिससे कि मानव व प्रकृति समाज का भला हो सके। भारतीयों की इसी सोच ने भारत को उन्नति की मजबूत दिशा दी।

भारतीयों ने तन व मन दोनों को स्वस्थ रखने के लिए महर्षि पतंजलि के आविष्कार योग व आयुर्वेद को प्रधानता दी। गुरुकुलों में वैदिक शास्त्रों व सामाजिक शिक्षा के साथ "करके सीखने का,, महत्व बताया गया और इन सब से होते हुए भारत में वह दौर भी आया था जब पूरा विश्व भारत के निर्यात पर टिका था। भारत के उत्तम कोटि के मसालों, वस्त्रों व अन्य वस्तुओं का निर्यात सोने के भाव में विदेशी व्यापारियों द्वारा होने लगे। जिससे कि भारत में सोने के सिक्के तक चलने लगे। भारत की इसी संपन्नता और समृद्धि को देखते हुए विदेशियों ने कई बार आक्रमण कर भारत को लूटा। विदेशी आक्रमणकारी यह बात भली-भांति जानते थे कि यदि भारत को वे बार-बार भी लूटेंगे तब भी वे भारत देश को गरीबी की दशा की ओर नहीं ले जा पाएंगे क्योंकि भारत शिक्षा व संस्कृति के दृष्टिकोण से बेहद ही मजबूत देश है इसीलिए उन्होंने भारत की शिक्षा व्यवस्था पर भी आक्रमण किया। जिस कारण से भारत को प्राचीन समय से आज के वर्तमान समय तक आने को युगों में बदलने का भी दर्द झेलना पड़ा। लेकिन फिर भी आक्रमणकारी पूरी तरह भारत की शिक्षा व्यवस्था व संस्कृति को खत्म नहीं कर पाए।

अब आते हैं विपन्न भारत के कारण की ओर:

15 अगस्त 1947 तक भारत बंगाल व पाकिस्तान जैसे दो टुकड़ों में बंट चुका था। फिर चीन व पाकिस्तान से हुए युद्ध व बांग्लादेशी शरणार्थियों का आवागमन , भारत की उपजाऊ धरती के कारण लोगो में आलसपन ने भारत की अर्थव्यवस्था को काफी हानि पहुंचाई और इसी क्रम में सरकार का कृषि व किसानों पर ज्यादा ध्यान न देने के कारण गाँव की जनसंख्या शहरों की ओर पलायन करने लगी जिस कारण से लोगो में अस्थायित्व देखने को मिला और इसी कारण लोगो में अपनी संस्कृति व संस्कारो का लोप होने लगा। महँगी शिक्षा आम जनता से दूर होने लगी। राजनीतिक भ्रष्टाचार, विज्ञान व राष्ट्र विकास की आड़ लेकर निजी स्वार्थ में प्रकृति का विनाश करना होने लगा । चीन व अन्य देशों के सामानों का धड़ल्ले से उपयोग व मशीनीकरण ने लघु उद्योगों का विनाश कर छोटे कामगरो को बेरोजगार बना दिया। वैदिक शिक्षा से दूरी व अन्य कारणों ने भारत के समृद्ध ज्ञान व अर्थव्यवस्था को झकझोर दिया और स्वर्णिम भारत विनाश के पथ पर तेजी से बढ़ने लगा। यदि हम भारत को फिर से विश्वगुरु बनाना चाहते हैं तो पुनः उन प्राचीन तीनों सूत्रों को अपनाना होगा। हमें विदेशी से ज्यादा स्वदेशी सामग्रियों को अपनाना चाहिए। जिससे पुनः लघु उद्योगों का विकास हो सके। नारी की दशा में सुधार करना होगा। कृषि व किसान पर विशेष ध्यान देना चाहिए और साथ ही हर राज्य कि सरकारों को उस राज्य के युवाओं को ऐसे रोजगार के अवसर देने चाहिए जिससे उन्हें अन्य राज्यों में नौकरी के लिए भटकना न पड़े जिससे गाँव में स्थायित्व व संस्कृति बनी रहेगी। Online की दुनियां से बाहर निकल कर समाज के प्रति अपने दायित्वों को समझना चाहिए। हमें मशीनीकरण से ज्यादा हस्त उद्योगों पर जोर देना चाहिए। वैदिक शिक्षा व हिंदी को विद्यालयों में अनिवार्य करना चाहिए। सरकार को चाहिए कि राष्ट्रहित की राजनीति करें। जिससे फालतू के दंगे न हों और साथ ही सैनिकों पर भी विशेष ध्यान देना चाहिए जिससे कि हमारी सीमाएं सुरक्षित रहें।

Self-Publishing vs. Traditional Publishing Pros and Cons



Choosing between self-publishing and traditional publishing is a pivotal decision for authors, as each route presents distinct advantages and challenges. Self-publishing offers authors complete creative control, allowing them to make all decisions regarding content, cover design, pricing, and marketing. This control enables authors to bring their vision to life exactly as they imagine it, without compromising on their creative ideas. Additionally, self-published authors often retain a larger percentage of royalties, leading to potentially higher earnings per book sold. The process is also faster, with no need to wait for a publisher's schedule, allowing authors to publish their work as soon as it's ready. Furthermore, self-published authors have direct access to sales data and reader feedback, which can be invaluable for making quick adjustments to marketing strategies.

However, self-publishing comes with its own set of challenges. Authors must bear the upfront costs of editing, cover design, formatting, and marketing, which can be significant. They also face the daunting task of marketing and promoting their book independently, a process that can be both time-consuming and challenging. Additionally, self-published books often struggle to gain access to traditional distribution channels such as bookstores and libraries, potentially limiting their reach. There is also a lingering stigma associated with self-publishing, with some readers, reviewers, and industry professionals perceiving self-published books as lower quality. On the other hand, traditional publishing provides a structured support system. Authors benefit from a team of professionals, including editors, cover designers, and marketers, who help polish and promote the book, ensuring a high-quality final product. Traditional publishers also offer wider distribution, with established connections to bookstores, libraries, and international markets, significantly increasing a book's visibility and sales potential.

Authors may receive advance payments, providing financial support before the book is released. Furthermore, being published by a reputable traditional publisher can lend credibility and prestige, opening doors to further opportunities and recognition in the literary world. However, traditional publishing has its drawbacks. Authors often have to compromise on creative aspects as the publisher has the final say in decisions related to cover design and editorial changes. Additionally, traditional publishing typically offers lower royalty rates compared to self-publishing, meaning authors earn less per book sold.

The process is also longer, often taking a year or more from manuscript acceptance to publication. The competitive nature of traditional publishing can be discouraging, with many authors facing numerous rejections before securing a contract. Ultimately, both self-publishing and traditional publishing have unique benefits and challenges. Authors must weigh their priorities, resources, and long-term goals to decide which path best aligns with their aspirations.

Ultimately, the choice between self-publishing and traditional publishing hinges on an author's individual goals, preferences, and resources. Authors who value creative autonomy and are willing to invest time and effort in learning the intricacies of self-publishing may find it a rewarding path to pursue. Conversely, those who seek the validation and support of an established publishing house, along with the expertise of industry professionals, may opt for traditional publishing despite the trade-offs involved. Whichever path authors choose, thorough research and careful consideration of the pros and cons will empower them to make an informed decision that aligns with their long-term aspirations for their writing career.

In conclusion, authors face a choice between self-publishing, which offers control and higher royalties but demands upfront investment and marketing efforts, and traditional publishing, providing support and wider distribution but with longer timelines, less control, and lower royalties.

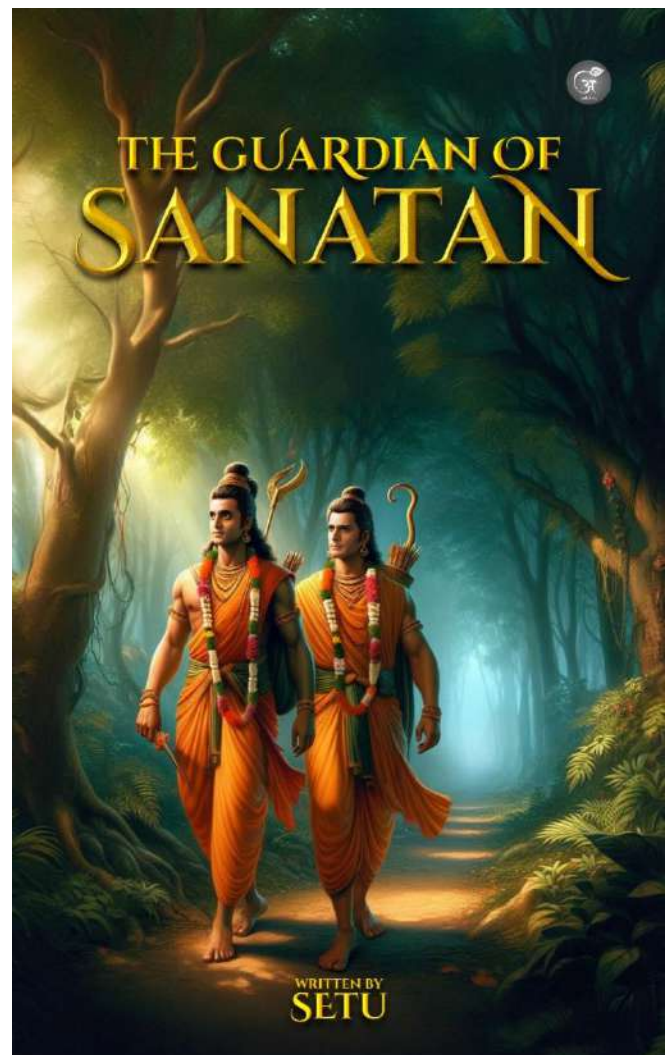
My name is Apurva Srivastava, and I am an IT professional specializing in the cyber security domain. I hail from Uttar Pradesh, the birthplace of Lord Ram and Krishna. I have a beautiful and intelligent wife named Shveta, and we are blessed with a baby boy whom we lovingly call Kanha.

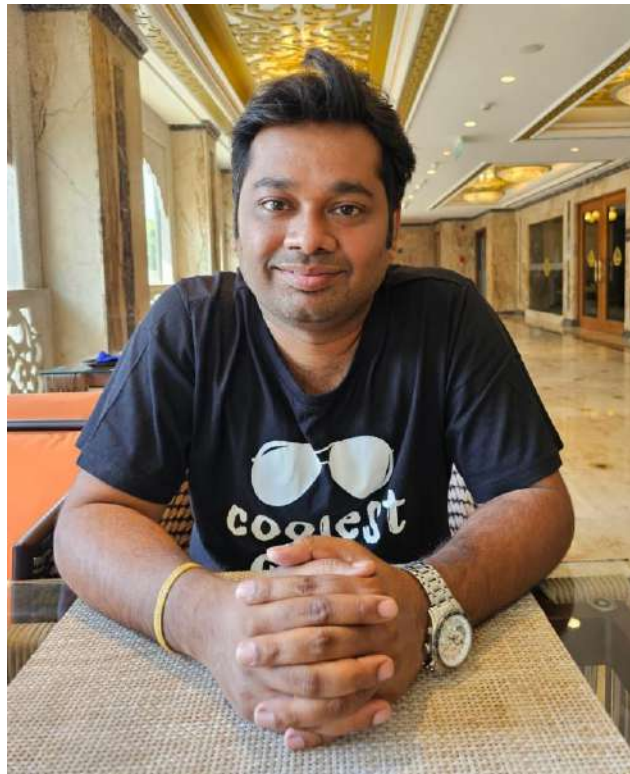
We live with my parents, who are my constant inspiration. Since my childhood, they have instilled strong spiritual beliefs in me. My mother, a great devotee of Ramayan, always told me that all the secrets and ultimate wisdom lie within Ramayan, guiding us to be good human beings. Growing up, I watched many spiritual serials like Ramayan, Shree Krishna, and Mahabharat. My favorite TV serial maker is Shri Ramananda Sagar, who has put true effort into bringing divine stories to us.

I am fortunate to have a brother, Shikhar, who is also my best friend. He is a great sports lover and music enthusiast, and he too has a wonderful wife. By God's grace, our entire family lives together, embodying the belief that "A family who prays together, stays together." Even my brother helped me in deciding the name of the book.

THE GUARDIAN OF SANATAN

Setu Srivastava





I recently ventured into writing and am excited to launch my debut book, "The Guardian of Sanatan." I have chosen "Setu" as my pen name because I see this book as a bridge, connecting me with my readers and facilitating a deeper exploration of the Ramayan's timeless teachings.

Driven by my passion and pride as a Sanatani, I wrote this book out of personal interest. I deeply believe in and follow Sanatan Dharma while respecting all other faiths. I hold the conviction that there is profound wisdom to be gleaned from our ancestors.

My book delves into the timeless teachings of the Ramayan and brings valuable wisdom from our ancestors. I believe we should all take pride in our Sanatan Dharma and show respect for other faiths as well.

It's a profound truth that everything happens for a reason, so why did all these incidents occur in the Ramayan? Do we know the answers to them all?

I believe that we can gain unlimited insights from each incident in the Ramayan. That's why I have attempted to identify key lessons from some of its major events.

I believe we should always be proud of our roots, as they serve as the greatest guide for boosting our spiritual growth and becoming better human beings.

I am confident that my book will resonate with you and receive your love and support.

"Kozhikode Makes History as India's First UNESCO City of Literature"



Kozhikode, a city in Kerala, is celebrating a momentous achievement today as it becomes India's first UNESCO City of Literature. The historic announcement took place at the Kandamkulam Muhammad Abdu Rahiman Memorial Jubilee Hall in Tali, Kozhikode, affirming the city's rich literary heritage. UNESCO bestowed this prestigious title on Kozhikode on October 31, 2023, recognizing it as a vibrant cultural hub dedicated to literature.

In the coming four years, Kozhikode plans to host a variety of literary and cultural activities to celebrate and showcase its new status. Locations such as Mananchira, Tali, and Kuttichira will be transformed into bustling centers for literary events, fostering an environment of creativity and literary exchange.

Even before receiving UNESCO recognition, Kozhikode had already honored its literary legacy with sculptures commemorating eminent figures such as dramatist KT Muhammad and the iconic goat from Vaikom Muhammad Basheer's renowned story "Pathummayude Aadu," displayed at Mananchira's Ansari Park.

Looking forward, Kozhikode aims to leverage its UNESCO designation to attract global attention and promote cultural tourism. Plans include expanding the literary circuit to connect significant landmarks associated with luminaries like Thunjath Ezhuthachan in Tirur and Vaikom Muhammad Basheer in Beypore.

Being recognized as a UNESCO City of Literature not only celebrates Kozhikode's historical contributions to Malayalam literature but also paves the way for future growth and international collaboration in literary arts. The city anticipates welcoming writers, scholars, and enthusiasts worldwide, facilitating cultural exchange and enriching its diverse cultural tapestry.



Kozhikode, also known as Calicut, is a vibrant city steeped in historical and cultural significance. Renowned as an ancient trading center and the landing site of Vasco da Gama in 1498, the city seamlessly blends its illustrious past with contemporary developments. Visitors to Kozhikode can enjoy its pristine beaches such as Kozhikode Beach and Beypore Beach, famed for their stunning sunsets and traditional wooden boat craftsmanship. The city is equally celebrated for its culinary heritage, especially its Malabar cuisine, featuring aromatic spices and delectable seafood.

Today, Kozhikode continues to captivate tourists and scholars alike, offering a compelling destination that embodies the essence of Kerala's coastal charm and cultural diversity.



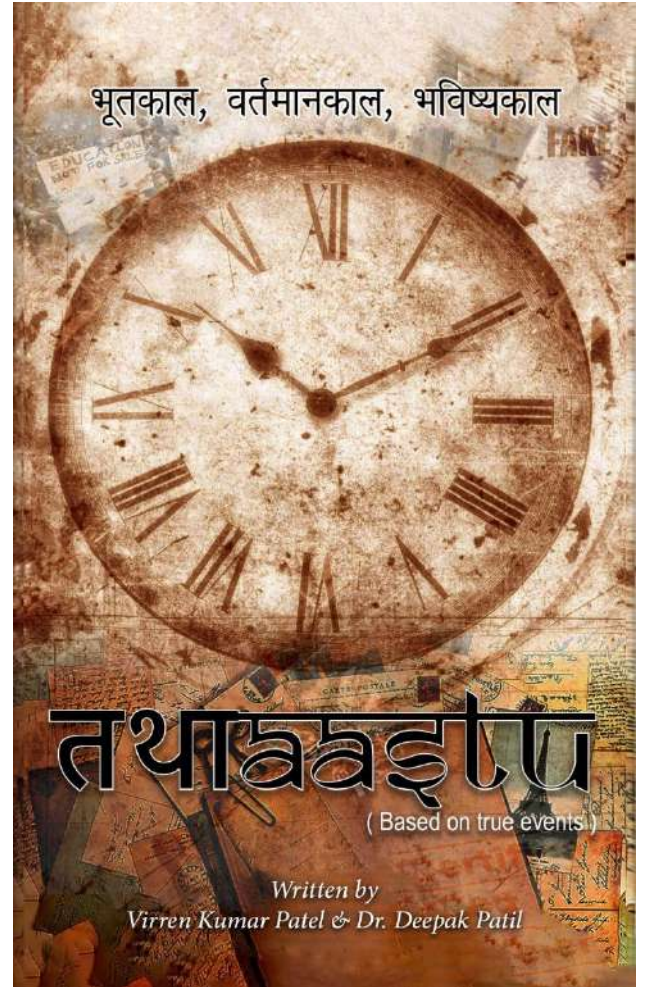
“Tathaastu” by Virren Kumar Patel

"Tathaastu" by Virren Kumar Patel and Dr. Deepak Patil delves into the dark underbelly of governmental corruption, focusing on the systemic job scams that plague the Employment Ministry. The narrative is a powerful exposé on the widespread cheating and fraud that undermine the meritocratic principles of government job recruitments. Through a gripping storyline, Patel sheds light on the intricate web of deceit spun by ministers, bureaucrats, lawyers, and property brokers who collude to exploit the dreams and hard work of innocent job seekers. The book opens by setting a realistic backdrop of a society where scams and corruption are often highlighted in the media but soon forgotten by the public. Patel's work stands out by refusing to let these issues fade into oblivion, instead bringing them to the forefront with a detailed and unflinching examination. The premise of "Tathaastu" is rooted in the real-world implications of these scams, emphasizing how deeply they impact the lives of ordinary citizens.

At its core, "Tathaastu" revolves around the crime of job scams in various government sectors, with a particular focus on the 'CHEAT MAFIA'—a nefarious group involved in leaking job entrance exams and profiting immensely from this illicit activity. Patel's narrative is set in a time before the widespread availability of the internet and digital technologies, when the government lacked the capability to protect its citizens from such organized crimes. This historical context adds a layer of complexity to the story, highlighting the vulnerabilities of the system and the ease with which these crimes were perpetrated. The plot of "Tathaastu" is driven by a diverse cast of characters, each representing different facets of the corrupt system.

Patel's writing excels in its depiction of the human cost of these scams. The book portrays the dreams and aspirations of young job seekers who fall victim to the scam. These individuals, who have invested countless hours and significant financial resources into preparing for their exams, are left devastated by the betrayal of a system they trusted. The emotional toll on these characters is palpable, and Patel's empathetic portrayal invites readers to share in their frustration and despair. One of the strengths of "Tathaastu" is its attention to detail. Patel meticulously outlines the mechanisms of the job scam, from the initial planning stages to the execution and subsequent cover-ups. This detailed approach not only adds authenticity to the narrative but also educates readers about the intricacies of such scams. The procedural aspects of the scam are explained in a way that is both accessible and engaging, ensuring that readers remain invested in the unfolding drama.

The book's pacing is another commendable aspect. Patel maintains a steady tempo throughout, gradually building tension as the full extent of the corruption is revealed. Each chapter unveils new layers of deceit, keeping readers on the edge of their seats. The climactic moments are particularly well-executed, delivering powerful punches that resonate long after the pages have been



turned. "Tathaastu" also serves as a critique of the broader societal issues that enable such corruption. Patel explores themes of power, greed, and the erosion of ethical standards. The complicity of various societal actors, from high-ranking officials to local brokers, underscores the pervasive nature of corruption. The book questions the integrity of a system where those in power prioritize personal gain over public service, and it calls for greater accountability and transparency. The people in "Tathaastu" are well-developed and multifaceted. The protagonist, representing the common man, embodies the struggle against systemic injustice.

What comes to our mind when we think of yoga – stretches, exercise, asana. Well yoga is more than that. It is a spiritual discipline that aims to achieve eternal peace and harmony between mind body and soul

Origin: Yoga Is an ancient practice that originated in ancient India and has been gaining immense popularity worldwide it income passes a holistic approach to well being integrating physical mental and spiritual aspect of health

Yoga comes from the Sanskrit word “yuj”, meaning yoke or Union. It is an ancient practice that dates back thousands of years in ancient Indian philosophy. Yoga aims to achieve harmony between the body, mind, and spirit through various physical postures (asanas), breathing exercises (pranayama), and meditation practices (dhyana). It recognizes the interconnectedness of all aspects of human existence and emphasizes self-realization and self-transformation.

Historical background: Yoga has a rich history that dates back to thousands of years. Ancient texts such as the Yoga Sutras of Patanjali and the Bhagavad Gita have played a significant role in shaping the philosophy and practice of yoga.

The Father of Modern Yoga: Sage Patanjali: The credit for creating a systematic version of yoga, making it accessible to regular people goes to sage Patanjali. The Patanjali Yoga Sutras, known as the classical yoga text, dates back to around 2500 years ago, around the time of the Buddha. Sage Patanjali composed this form of yoga between 500 BCE and 400 CE. The Sutras are the earliest organized representation of yoga. Such was the popularity of this text that it became the most translated text of ancient India! Like all things amazing, yoga did lose popularity for a great many years but was revived in the late 19th century by many indian revivalists like Swami Vivekananda etc.

YOGA

An Ancient Indian Science



SRUSHTI SAWANT

Branches of yoga:

Yoga comprises various branches or paths, each focusing on different aspects of practice and self-discovery. Some of the prominent branches include:

Hatha Yoga: It emphasises physical postures (asanas) and breath control (pranayama) to balance and align the body and mind.

Raja Yoga: It focuses on meditation and self-control to attain mental and spiritual discipline.

Karma Yoga: It emphasises selfless service and the performance of actions without attachment to the results, promoting a sense of duty and mindfulness.

Bhakti Yoga: It is the path of devotion and surrender to a higher power or deity, cultivating love, devotion, and gratitude.

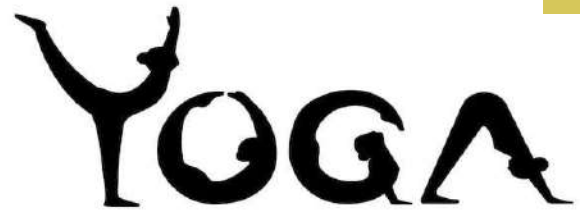
Jnana Yoga: It involves the path of knowledge and wisdom, seeking self-realisation through self-inquiry and contemplation.

Kundalini Yoga: It aims to awaken and channel the dormant spiritual energy (kundalini) through a combination of physical exercises, breath work, and meditation.

Significance of Principles and Techniques of Yoga:

Yoga encompasses various principles and techniques that contribute to its therapeutic benefits. Key elements include:

Asanas: Asanas are physical postures that promote strength, flexibility, and balance. Through a series of poses, asanas enhance physical fitness, improve body awareness, and promote overall well-being.



Pranayama: Pranayama involves breath control exercises that regulate and manipulate the breath. It improves respiratory function, enhances energy flow, and promotes relaxation and mental clarity.

Dhyana: Dhyana, or meditation involves focusing the mind and cultivating mindfulness. It promotes mental calmness, emotional stability, and self-awareness.

Correct Alignment, Breathing Techniques, and Mindfulness:

During yoga practice, correct alignment, breathing techniques, and mindfulness play crucial roles in maximising the benefits and minimising the risk of injury. Correct alignment ensures that the body is positioned optimally to receive the full benefits of each asana. Proper breathing techniques synchronise breath with movement, oxygenate the body, and induce a calming effect on the nervous system. Mindfulness cultivates present-moment awareness, allowing practitioners to deepen their practice, improve concentration, and enhance mind-body connection.

Yoga has several benefits. Everyone must practice it to keep their health maintained and also benefit from it. It is the secret to living a healthy and long life without the use of any artificial means like medicines or any other shortcuts of any kind.



Twinkle Khanna's New Book "Welcome to Paradise" Launched

"Welcome to Paradise" by Twinkle Khanna unfolds as a sumptuous collection of five intricately woven short stories, each offering a poignant glimpse into the lives of resilient female protagonists. With her fourth book, Khanna showcases her mastery in capturing the complexities of human emotions and relationships, navigating seamlessly between humor and profound introspection.

In "The Man from the Garage," Khanna introduces us to Huma, who grapples with the emotional turmoil of her mother's passing amidst cultural differences and family dynamics. Set against the backdrop of a funeral that brims with both solemnity and unexpected humor, the story delves deep into themes of grief, identity, and the bonds that tie families together.

"Let's Pretend" immerses readers into the close-knit world of Amrita and her bedridden aunt, whose relationship transcends conventional roles. United by secrets and a shared penchant for mischief, they navigate life's challenges with a blend of wit and resilience. Khanna deftly explores the nuances of intergenerational relationships and the transformative power of companionship.

In "Nearly Departed," Khanna presents the unconventional tale of 86-year-old Madhura Desai, who seeks autonomy and dignity in her desire for euthanasia. Against the backdrop of modern activism and societal expectations, Madhura's quest for a peaceful exit is met with unexpected hurdles and humorous interventions, painting a poignant picture of aging, independence, and societal perceptions of dignity.

"Welcome to Paradise" shifts gears to Garima's journey of self-discovery amidst the idyllic setting of Goa. Struggling with betrayal and forgiveness, Garima's sojourn becomes a transformative experience, where the serene beaches and enigmatic characters mirror her own quest for inner peace and acceptance. Khanna's narrative skillfully explores themes of love, redemption, and the complexities of human relationships. In "Jelly Sweets," Khanna unveils the quiet heroism of Nusrat, whose story unfolds against the backdrop of everyday challenges and personal triumphs. Through Nusrat's resilience and unwavering spirit, Khanna celebrates the strength found in unexpected places, weaving a narrative that is as heartwarming as it is insightful.

Throughout "Welcome to Paradise," Khanna's storytelling is imbued with cultural richness and vivid imagery, transporting readers to diverse settings infused with authentic Indian flavors. With a blend of humor, empathy, and keen observation, Khanna invites readers to explore the depths of human emotions and the resilience of the human spirit. "Welcome to Paradise" is not merely a collection of stories; it is a testament to Khanna's ability to capture life's complexities with grace and authenticity, leaving an indelible mark on those who embark on this literary journey.

Dive into the world of "Welcome to Paradise" on Amazon.in and experience Khanna's storytelling prowess—a journey filled with laughter, tears, and profound insights into the beauty and challenges of life.

Experience the Best of Art at Our 2024 Juried Art Exhibition – Venue- UAE & New Delhi, India



We are thrilled to invite you to our 2024 juried event, a celebration of artistic excellence that showcases the best in contemporary art. This gallery and online exhibition combine a diverse array of visual artists, photographers, and authors featuring everything from abstract art to landscape art, books, and photography. Our event offers a unique opportunity to experience the cutting-edge of artistic expression and to see how today's creators are pushing boundaries and challenging conventions.

Art as a Reflection of Our Times In our juried event, we're showcasing art that mirrors the pulse of our society. The exhibited works delve into pressing themes and offer thought-provoking social commentary. We've carefully selected pieces that address current events and issues, demonstrating how artists interpret and respond to the world around us. This exhibition serves as a platform for fostering dialog and understanding, highlighting the crucial role art plays in our collective discourse.

Theme of the Year - 2025 - Love & Compassion

ART KING & QUEEN - 2025

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Themes and social commentary in exhibited works We've curated a collection that challenges viewers to think critically about the world we live in. Through various mediums, artists express their perspectives on societal issues, inviting us to engage with these themes on a deeper level.

How artists address current events and issues Our featured artists use their creativity to respond to the latest headlines and ongoing global concerns. Their work serves as a visual commentary on the state of our world, offering unique insights and alternative viewpoints. By exploring these pieces, attendees can gain a fresh perspective on current events and the complexities of modern life.

The role of art in fostering dialog and understanding Art has the power to bridge divides and promote empathy. This exhibition aims to create a space for open discussions and shared experiences. We believe that by engaging with these thought-provoking works, visitors can develop a greater understanding of different perspectives and cultures, ultimately contributing to a more inclusive and compassionate society.

Supporting the Arts: Why Attend Juried Exhibitions We believe in the power of art to enrich our community. By attending our juried event, you're not just viewing art; you're actively supporting local artists and contributing to the vibrancy of our art scene. Your presence helps to create a thriving ecosystem for creativity and innovation. Community engagement is crucial for a flourishing art scene. Our exhibition provides a unique opportunity to connect with fellow art enthusiasts and engage in meaningful discussions about the works on display.

How attendance benefits artists and the local art scene Your attendance at our juried event has a direct impact on artists and our local art community.

Additional events and programs during the exhibition

We offer artist talks, a live painting show, and guided tours throughout the event. These programs provide opportunities to engage more deeply with the artworks and connect with fellow art enthusiasts. Our 2024 juried event promises to be a captivating showcase of artistic talent and creativity. By bringing together a diverse range of styles and mediums, this exhibition offers a unique chance to explore the cutting-edge of contemporary art. We invite art enthusiasts and creative individuals alike to immerse themselves in this enriching experience. Your presence has a significant impact on supporting local artists and fostering a vibrant art community. We encourage you to join us in celebrating the power of art to inspire, challenge, and connect us all. Register NOW to be part of this exciting artistic journey.

FAQs

What does a juried art event entail?

A juried art event is a competitive showcase where artists submit their work to be evaluated against others. Participation in such events is often seen as a way to enhance an artist's resume and gain recognition or approval for their artwork.

Calling All Artists, Photographers & Authors!

Showcase your talent at our exclusive Juried Art Exhibition-2025. This is your chance to get your work seen by industry professionals and art enthusiasts.

49 shades of grey

ARTICLE

Author: Arryan Hasan

After the war, architecture was dead. Buildings were made of raw concrete. No designs. Pure cold hard concrete and iron rods inside. In a way, this represented the death of the human soul. Lifeless skyscrapers towering over Russia. Brutalist architecture, they called it. No soul in any project, only minimalist functioning slabs of bricks. Especially in Russia, this style of architecture was supported by socialist utopian ideology. French Swiss modernist architect Le Corbusier started the movement for modern brutalist architecture. But this story is not about architecture, for if it was you wouldn't be reading this right now. There's better things to do than read about architecture. This story isn't even about Le Corbusier, I don't care about the old man. This story is about the damnation of the human soul.

He woke up. Again. Goddamn it not again. He lay there in bed for a good 45 minutes, thinking why he was doing this. What was the point of living. Look outside. All you see is concrete. Where's the flowers where's the birds where's the colour. Life feels like a colourless photocopy of what it's supposed to be. His room, cramped. People lived there like sardines, in a brutalist building. He was late for work but he didn't care. Life was not for him to go to work everyday and work in a customer care centre. Sverbank, Moscow. Wished he could see some colours instead of black and white and grey and the other 49 shades of it. He picked up his legs, standing them up vertically, and threw them forwards to swing himself out of bed. Somehow carried his tired and soulless body to the bathroom. Squeezed his generic nameless soulless toothpaste onto his plastic colourless lifeless toothbrush. Where's the contrast, all you see is a continuum of nothingness.

Pulled up his brown pants onto his chicken legs. You see, the pants were supposed to be brown but all you saw was black and white. He went commando, didn't care about his dick hanging out at the customer care call centre at Sverbank Moscow. If he had it his way he'd shove it in some customer's mouth anyway. Life was draining, or rather it was drained of colour, life was drained of life itself. He hadn't felt much in months, except the feeling of oblivion. He had scraped his cheek open while shaving, his eyes, droopy, dark circles. If I hadn't told you about his insomnia and will to throw himself off Sverbank Moscow's terrace you'd think he had something terminal. Brain cancer, blood parasites. Something that was eating him up from the inside and would kill him soon. But then again that was what he had, he had a lack of 1 soul. There was no hope anywhere. And even if there was you wouldn't see it under the carpet of concrete they'd made. Felt like prison, was one. Only escape, throw yourself off of Sverbank Russia's terrace. Someone once told him, you wouldn't die if you throw yourself off that high. The wind currents are too strong, and you'd be flung back in again. As a man of scientific curiosity he had to try didn't he. Buttoned up his miserable grey shirt. Supposed to be white, but it hadn't been washed in a week. Who cares. This was the 23rd shade of grey if you picked up a colour book and matched it. Slipped on his pointed shoes, 44th shade of grey. Hadn't been polished.

The way from his apartment to the lift was barren concrete slabs on all four sides. Even the balconies were netted with metal mesh so you couldn't end your life by slamming into more concrete below. There was a colourful flower growing out of the concrete, under a dripping roof. First time in months he'd seen colour. He bent down and held it between his fingers. It was soft velvet, and cool. It felt like the centre of the world, the most important thing there was. He'd die for it. This flower was his purpose. Red, with a yellow centre. There was life emanating from it, into the cold hard world. She joined him in the elevator, the girl from apartment 403. He didn't know much about her except she survived a drug OD last week, and that she was back at it again. She had red lipstick on and a white shirt, although he saw the 12th shade of grey.

They stood besides each other, in silence. She felt warm, like life. He had an attraction towards her since he moved in, and she also took a liking to him. They met eyes. She had huge eyes, like marbles. Her red lipstick, he could see the red instead of grey. This girl had life, she had soul. Like spontaneous combustion they pounced at each other and kissing like long lost lovers.

They fucked to elevator music as it went through the concrete building's floors. A centre of warmth in a world of coldness. She was the flower in the concrete. He'd die for her, she was her purpose. The elevator door opened. They reached ground floor, and both of them walked away from each other. He went to Sverbank Moscow to work, and she went to party.

The Role of Literary Agents

How to Find and Work with One



Introduction

Literary agents are pivotal in the publishing industry, acting as intermediaries between authors and publishers. They offer crucial guidance, negotiate contracts, and help authors navigate the often complex path to publication. This article delves into what literary agents do, how to find one, and tips for fostering a successful working relationship.

What Does a Literary Agent Do?

Manuscript Evaluation and Editing: Agents provide editorial feedback to help authors refine their manuscripts before submission to publishers.

Market Expertise: Agents have extensive knowledge of the publishing market, understanding current trends and what different publishers seek.

Submission and Negotiation: They submit manuscripts to suitable publishers and negotiate contracts to secure the best possible terms for authors.

Career Management: Agents advise on long-term career strategies, future projects, and marketing efforts, helping authors build and sustain their careers.

Rights Management: They handle subsidiary rights, such as film, TV, translation, and audio rights, maximizing the book's potential.

How to Find a Literary Agent

Research Potential Agents: Look for agents who represent books similar to yours by checking literary agencies, acknowledgments in books you admire, and online resources like QueryTracker and Manuscript Wish List.

Prepare a Strong Query Package: **Query Letter:** Write a compelling letter that includes a brief synopsis of your book, your bio, and why you believe the agent would be a good fit.

Synopsis and Sample Chapters: Prepare a concise synopsis and have the first few chapters of your manuscript polished and ready for submission.

Follow Submission Guidelines: Each agent or agency has specific submission guidelines. Follow these precisely to ensure your query is considered.

Network and Attend Conferences: Participate in writing conferences, workshops, and online pitch events where agents are present. These are excellent opportunities to make personal connections.

Building a Successful Working Relationship

Clear Communication: Establish open and honest communication from the start. Be clear about your expectations and inquire about theirs. Regularly update your agent on your writing progress and new ideas.

Collaborative Effort: Remember that the agent-author relationship is a partnership. Collaborate on decisions and strategies for your writing career.

Conclusion

Finding and working with a literary agent can significantly enhance an author's journey to publication. By understanding their role, diligently searching for the right agent, and fostering a professional and collaborative relationship, authors can navigate the publishing world more effectively and achieve greater success.

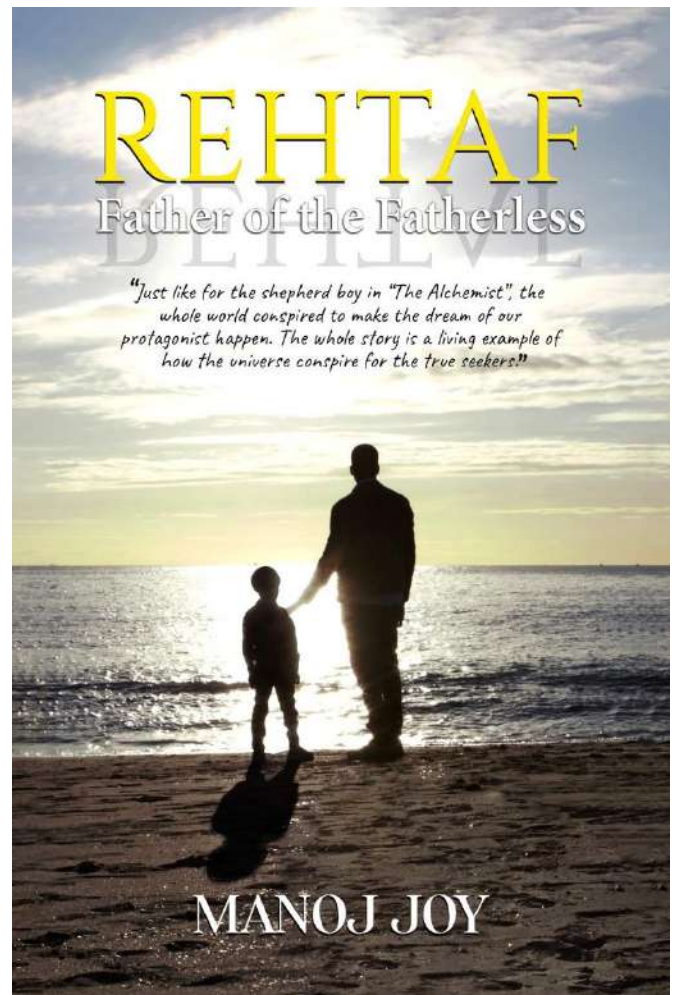
Literary agents play a crucial role in the publishing industry by evaluating and editing manuscripts, providing market expertise, submitting and negotiating with publishers, and managing authors' careers and rights. To find an agent, authors should research agents who represent their genre, prepare a strong query package, follow submission guidelines, and network at writing events. Building a successful relationship with an agent involves clear communication, mutual respect, and a collaborative approach to career management.

“REHTAF: Father Of The Fatherless” by author Manoj Joy is a gripping and emotionally resonant novel that explores the themes of the family devastations, trauma, and the pursuit of identity. Set against the backdrop of 1970s India, this poignant story follows the journey of a young boy who embarks on a heartfelt quest to uncover the truth about his origins and find his true father. Well, the book transports the readers directly into the setting, making them feel like the participants in these captivating stories told from a unique perspective. Interestingly, the manner in which the author has carried out the task of storytelling in this book is captivating enough to make the readers quench for more with every turn of the page, and this is something that actually makes this title reading worthy!

Author Manoj Joy is a teacher at a senior high school in Western Australia. Born in Kerala, India, he eventually landed in an orphanage after the death of his mother. His debut novel, “REHTAF: Father Of The Fatherless” is inspired by true events. Today, Manoj resides with his wife and two children in Perth, Australia. Undoubtedly, Manoj Joy is a talented and emerging voice in the literary world. Drawing from the personal experiences and a deep understanding of the human emotions, the author weaves a compelling narrative that resonates with the readers on a profound level. With this debut novel, the author demonstrates a remarkable ability to explore complex themes with empathy, authenticity, and a unique storytelling style.

REHTAF: Father of The Fatherless

Manoj Joy



The Great Adventure

A Short Story



Aaryah Sidhu

He is 9 years old boy, studies in class 4 at YPS, Patiala. He has great interest in robotics. Is kind by heart. Wants to become IT entrepreneur. He loves to socialize and read. He has won silver medal in regional rounds of WRO olympiads.

The Acrolpsis Adventure Squad's project was a huge success, and they were hailed as heroes by their classmates and teachers. Their presentation was so impressive that it caught the attention of the school's administration, who decided to display their work in the school's lobby for everyone to see.

As they walked through the halls, they were met with high-fives and congratulations from their peers. Their teachers beamed with pride, and even the school's principal, Dr. Singh, personally congratulated them on their achievement.

But the Acrolpsis Adventure Squad's adventure didn't end there. They soon discovered that their project had also caught the attention of the local media, and they were invited to be featured on the local news channel.

Aryoh, Shiranch, Arshun, and Carbair were thrilled at the opportunity and quickly prepared for their TV debut. They were interviewed by a local news anchor, who asked them about their project and their experience working together.

The friends confidently shared their story, showcasing their skills and teamwork. They even demonstrated some of the puzzles and riddles they had solved, impressing the anchor and the audience.

Their TV appearance made them local celebrities, and they were mobbed by fans and well-wishers wherever they went. But more importantly, their adventure had brought them closer together, and they knew that their friendship was the real treasure.

Years later, as they looked back on their adventure, they realized that the Acrolpsis Adventure Squad's legacy lived on, inspiring future generations to embrace their passions, work together, and never stop exploring.

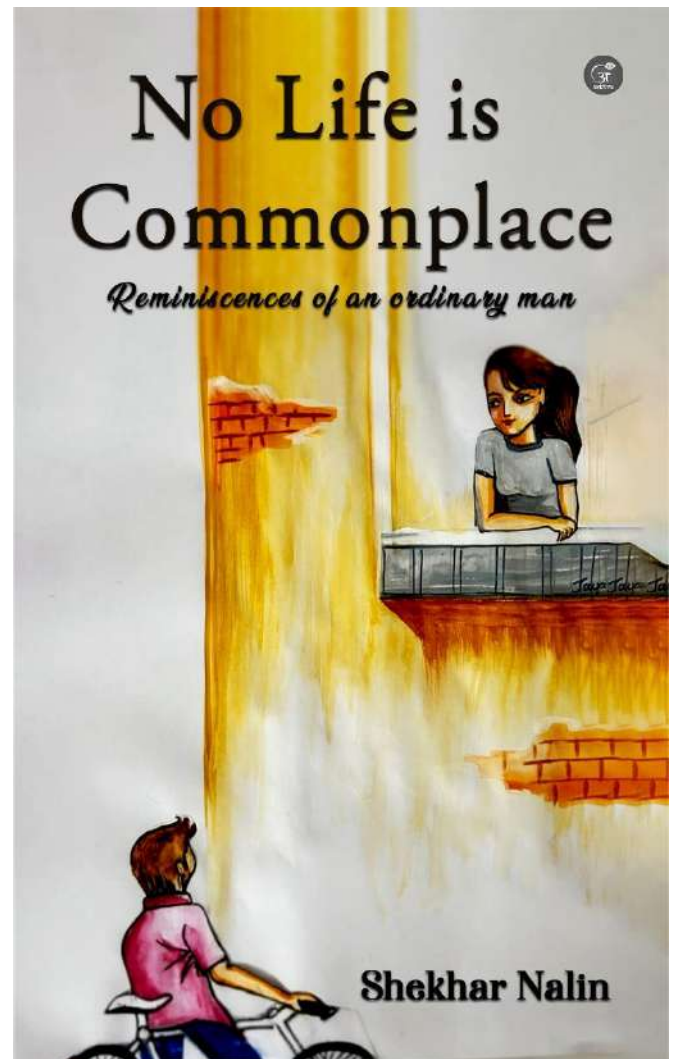
In "NO LIFE IS COMMONPLACE - Reminiscences of an ordinary man," Shekhar Nalin takes us on a heartfelt journey through the tapestry of his life, offering a collection of memoirs that celebrate the ordinary moments that shape our existence.

The book opens with a profound reflection: "What is the greatest epic till date? The greatest epic is your own life story." With this premise, Nalin invites readers into his world, where he chronicles events and people who have left an indelible mark on his life. From childhood escapades to reflections on aging, each vignette is a testament to the richness found in the everyday.

The first half of the book, Section A, paints a vivid portrait of Nalin's life through thirty-five anecdotes. These stories traverse the spectrum of human experience—some humorous, others poignant, and a few tinged with nostalgia or suspense. Nalin's writing style is straightforward yet deeply evocative, capturing the essence of each moment with honesty and warmth. Whether recounting tales of love and camaraderie or sharing moments of sheer horror, his narratives resonate with authenticity.

Section B shifts focus to Nalin's career with the State Bank Of Bikaner And Jaipur, detailing his experiences across four different branches. Here, Nalin's keen observation of human behavior shines through as he paints vivid portraits of his colleagues and the unique dynamics within each workplace. Through anecdotes and reflections, he offers readers a glimpse into the camaraderie, challenges, and memorable events that colored his professional journey.

"NO LIFE IS COMMONPLACE - Reminiscences of an ordinary man" by Shekhar Nalin





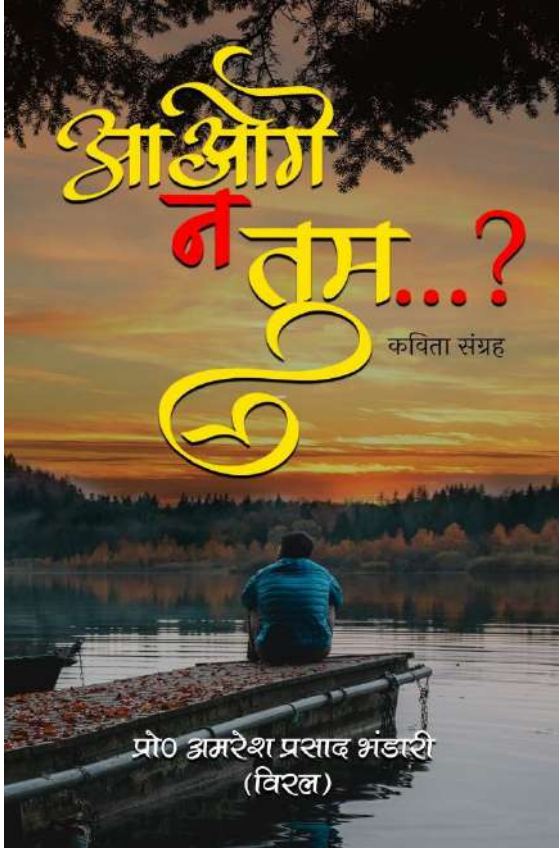
Nalin's writing is not just about recounting events; it's about capturing the essence of human relationships and the intricate web of emotions that bind us together. His ability to find meaning in the seemingly mundane aspects of life is what makes this book truly special. Whether describing the quirks of his coworkers or reflecting on the impact of pivotal life events, Nalin's stories resonate on a universal level, reminding us of the beauty and complexity inherent in every individual's narrative.

Born in 1954 in the village of Rasalपुरa, Bihar, and educated at prestigious institutions like St. Xavier's College, Ranchi, Nalin brings a unique perspective shaped by his upbringing and diverse experiences across India. His passion for sports, keen interest in human behavior, and love for storytelling enrich every page of this memoir.

In conclusion, "NO LIFE IS COMMONPLACE - Reminiscences of an ordinary man" is not just a collection of memoirs; it's a testament to the power of storytelling to illuminate the richness of ordinary lives. Shekhar Nalin's ability to weave together personal anecdotes with keen observations makes this book a compelling read for anyone who appreciates the beauty of human connections and the stories that shape us all.

Rating: 4.5/5

Recommendation: Highly recommended for readers who enjoy heartfelt memoirs, insightful reflections on life, and stories that celebrate the everyday joys and challenges of being human. Shekhar Nalin's narrative style and genuine warmth will resonate with a wide audience seeking both inspiration and introspection.

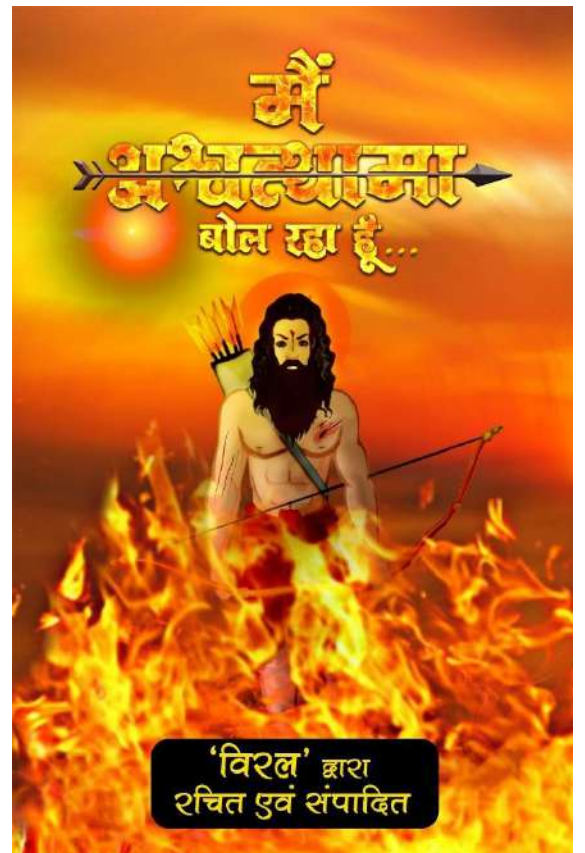


"AAOGE NA TUM" by Amaresh Prasad Bhandary

"AAOGE NA TUM" by Amaresh Prasad Bhandary (Viral) is an evocative collection of long poems that artfully blend mystery and emotion. The title, ending with a question mark, invites readers to explore the depths of the poet's mind. Each poem, from "Bevas Aansoo," depicting a father's poignant separation from his daughter, to "Baarish Mein Bheegta Jaaoon," a beautiful blend of imagination and craftsmanship, touches on diverse aspects of human experience, such as love, hope, and sorrow. The poems are unified by the central theme of 'waiting,' creating a rich tapestry of feelings that resonate deeply with readers. Bhandary's adept use of Hindi language and his ability to capture the essence of Indian cultural scenarios make this collection a must-read for poetry enthusiasts.

"Mai Aswatthama Bol Raha Hu" Author: Amaresh Prasad Bhandary

Amaresh Prasad Bhandary's "Mai Aswatthama Bol Raha Hu" offers a unique perspective on the events of the Mahabharata, narrated by Ashwatthama, a character cursed with immortality. Unlike the divine vision of Sanjaya, Ashwatthama recounts the war's deceit and horrors from his firsthand experience, offering a candid critique of both Kaurava and Pandava leaders. The book critically examines the roles of various characters, highlighting their contributions to the devastation of the war. Ashwatthama's journey from anger and pain to enlightenment and acceptance of divine truth resonates deeply, culminating in a plea for a renewed divine intervention to restore Dharma.



The Art of World- Building in Fiction



World-building is a fundamental aspect of writing fiction, especially in genres like fantasy and science fiction. It involves creating a detailed and believable setting that serves as the backdrop for the story. To craft a compelling world, authors must consider various elements such as geography, culture, history, and societal rules. This includes imagining landscapes, climates, and ecosystems, as well as developing unique customs, languages, and traditions for the inhabitants. Additionally, the world's history and politics can add depth and realism, influencing characters' motivations and the plot's direction. Effective world-building requires seamlessly integrating these elements into the narrative so that they enhance the story rather than overwhelm it. A well-built world captivates readers, allowing them to fully immerse themselves in the story and believe in the reality of the setting. This meticulous attention to detail helps bring the fictional world to life, making it an integral part of the reader's journey through the book.

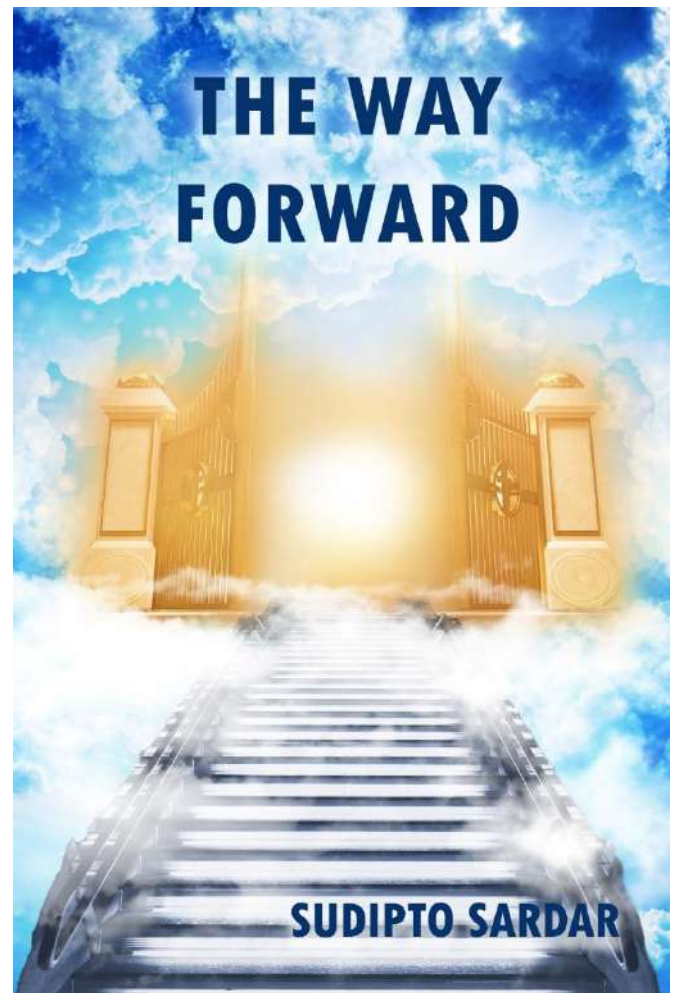
World-building is the process of creating an imaginary world within a story, providing the backdrop for characters and events. A well-built world enhances the reader's experience by making the setting feel real and immersive. To create a compelling world, authors should focus on details like geography, culture, history, and rules of society. It's important to integrate these elements seamlessly into the story, ensuring they support the plot and character development. Good world-building allows readers to lose themselves in the story, making the fictional world come alive in their imagination.

Sudipto Sardar *The Way Forward: Self Help Manual* offers a refreshing and insightful approach to the self-help genre. This book is an intriguing blend of personal anecdotes, scientific explanations, and practical advice, making it a valuable resource for anyone looking to improve their understanding of themselves and the world around them.

Drawing from a rich tapestry of life experiences, Sardar meticulously dissects various aspects of human behavior and thought processes. He combines these observations with scientific facts, making the content not only relatable but also credible. This marriage of personal experience and scientific grounding is one of the book's standout features. It bridges the gap between abstract self-help concepts and concrete, actionable steps that readers can implement in their daily lives.

One of the key strengths of *The Way Forward* is its narrative style. Sardar writes with clarity and sincerity, which makes the complex scientific concepts he discusses more accessible. He does not simply regurgitate scientific data; instead, he interprets these facts through the lens of his personal experiences, offering readers a unique perspective on familiar issues. This approach helps demystify the workings of the human mind and provides readers with a deeper understanding of their own behaviors and thought patterns.

The Way Forward: Self Help Manual by Sudipto Sardar



The book is structured in a way that each chapter builds on the previous one, creating a cohesive and comprehensive guide to personal development. Sardar covers a wide range of topics, from understanding the subconscious mind to the impact of stress on our mental and physical health. Each topic is explored in depth, with practical advice on how to address common issues. For instance, in the chapter on stress, Sardar not only explains the physiological effects of stress but also provides practical techniques for managing it, such as mindfulness and breathing exercises.

Another notable aspect of the book is Sardar's emphasis on self-awareness and introspection. He encourages readers to reflect on their own experiences and to consider how their thoughts and behaviors are shaped by both internal and external factors. This reflective approach is designed to help readers gain a clearer understanding of themselves, which is the first step towards meaningful personal growth.

Sardar's use of real-life examples makes the content relatable and engaging. He shares his own struggles and triumphs, providing readers with a sense of connection and empathy. This personal touch adds a layer of authenticity to the book, making it not just a manual, but a companion in the reader's journey towards self-improvement.

THE WAY FORWARD

However, the book is not without its shortcomings. At times, the scientific explanations can become dense, which might be challenging for readers without a background in psychology or neuroscience. Additionally, while Sardar's personal anecdotes are engaging, some readers might find them a bit lengthy, potentially detracting from the main points.

In conclusion, *The Way Forward: Self Help Manual* by Sudipto Sardar is a thoughtful and well-crafted book that offers valuable insights into the human mind and behavior. Its blend of personal experience and scientific explanation provides a unique perspective that sets it apart from other self-help books. Despite a few dense sections, the book's overall accessibility and practical advice make it a worthwhile read for anyone looking to enhance their self-awareness and personal growth. Sardar's genuine and relatable writing style ensures that readers will find both guidance and inspiration in their journey forward.



संतुलन की शुरुआत

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डॉ. परवरिश

पुस्तक अबतक के ज्ञात सभी विचारों से आगे की दुनिया को आपसे जोड़ने के उद्देश्य से निर्मित की गयी है। अपने भूत, वर्तमान और भविष्य की दुनिया को अपने भीतर महसूस करने के उद्देश्य से इस पुस्तक को समझने का प्रयास कीजिये।

“दुनिया में ज्ञान प्राप्त करने के लिए किसी गुरु की नहीं अपितु गुरुत्व की आवश्यकता है।” एकलव्य अर्जुन से बड़ा धनुर्धर बन चुका था, लेकिन गुरु द्रोण ने गुरु दक्षिणा लेकर गुरुत्व को मिटा दिया। एकलव्य हर इंसान के भीतर शुष्मावस्था में आज भी जीवित है, जबकि अर्जुन मन का भटकाव मात्र है। यह भटकाव ही आज के समय में आंतरिक, मानसिक, पारिवारिक, सामाजिक तथा वैश्विक महाभारत का कारण बन बैठा है। इस मुक्तक को अपने जेहन के भीतर तक पहुँचने दीजिये... महसूस कीजिये आप कौन हैं? ये तन ये मन ये जीवन सबकुछ, बस इक बार पाया है, कोई भी व्यक्ति धरती पर, दुबारा फिर न आया है। दोष किस्मत क्यों देते हो, ए मानुष मेरी सुन लो, भटकना छोड़ धरती पर, तुम्हें तुमने बनाया है।

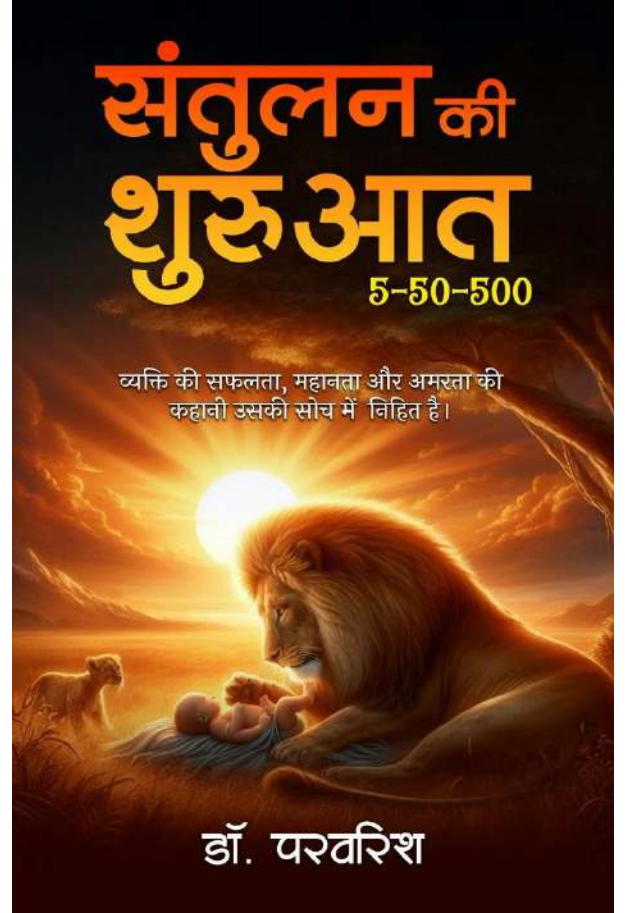
“प्रत्येक व्यक्ति अपनी किस्मत का निर्माण कहीं न कहीं अपने ही हाथों करता है।” एक विशुद्ध ग्रामीण व्यक्ति की भावनाओं से जुड़कर, खुद को समझने का प्रयास कीजिये। वास्तव में आपके अनगिनत भ्रम आपसे दूर होना चाहते हैं। जिस चौराहे पर बैठकर मैं इस पुस्तक की रचना कर रहा हूँ, यह मेरे लिए भी अकल्पनीय है। 3 वर्ष पूर्व जब मैं इस चौराहे पर आया था, उस समय अपनी किस्मत को इतना कोशा था जिसका आकलन लगाना मुशकिल है। फिर भी जीवन के तथ्य को समझने के लिए खुद से मिलना जरूरी था, जब कोई न समझ आए तो इंसान खुद से मिलने का प्रयास करता है। मेरा खुद से मिलने का प्रयास ही इस पुस्तक की रचना का सौभाग्य है।

अनगिनत मोती हैं जिसमें, ये दरिया बहुत खारी है, कोई खोजा यहाँ मरहम, कोई लाया बीमारी है। चलो खुद से मिलो इक बार, हर शिकवे भुलाकर तुम, दोष किस्मत का देना छोड़, किस्मत भी तुम्हारी है।

अनंत तक विस्तृत ब्रह्मांड में, आप अपनी कल्पनाओं में कुछ भी सोच सकते हैं। लेकिन जबतक खुद में नहीं देखेंगे, नेत्र के होते हुये भी आप नेत्रहीन ही बने रहेंगे। इस जीवन के 35 वर्ष की आयु का निष्कर्ष 5 रहस्य (जटिल, जिसे समझने के लिए गहराई तक उतरना होगा) के साथ, 50 तथ्यों (यथार्थ सत्य और सहज भाषा) और 500 विचारों (सरलतम सत्य और सहज भाव, गद्य और पद्य) का एक सूक्ष्म संकलन इस पुस्तक के निर्माण की पृष्ठभूमि है। पुस्तक में दोहे, छंद, चौपाई, मुक्तक, और कविताओं का अभूतपूर्व संकलन करने का प्रयास किया गया है। सीमित शब्दों में विस्तृत विचारों के संकलन की इस पुस्तक के निर्माण में 17 वर्षों से अधिक समय, लेखक के दृष्टिगत आधार पर अनुभूतिक विचारों का मिश्रण है। जिसका विस्तार होना अभी बाकी है। मुझे आपकी जरूरत है, अपने मार्गदर्शन के लिए। चलिये मिलकर जीवन सवारों।

जीवन एक ऊर्जा है इसका सही दिशा में प्रयोग कर सबकुछ परिवर्तित किया जा सकता है। दुनिया से नफरत का अंत किया जा सकता है और पृथ्वी को स्वर्ग जैसा बनाया जा सकता है। प्रत्येक इंसान को अपनी सोच की क्षमता का आकलन करना आवश्यक है। सोच में ही इंसान के सम्पूर्ण रहस्य कैद हैं। यह पुस्तक, दुनिया के अनगिनत रहस्यों से पर्दा उठाने का भी माध्यम बन सकती है।

संतुलन बात हर मन की, संतुलन बात हर तन की, संतुलन वह सवेरा है, जहां शुरुआत जीवन की। संतुलन से समझिए, राज जीवन का यहाँ अपने, संतुलन ताज जन-जन की, एक आगाज है मन की। जीवन अनमोल है इस बात कि परख सबको होनी चाहिए। इसी उद्देश्य से इस पुस्तक का निर्माण किया जा रहा है।



नीच वही मानुष यहाँ, दूजा कहे जो नीचामूरख और को देखते, खुद को खुद दो सीखा। इंसान का इंसान से लड़ना मानव युग के पतन को दर्शाता है। ज्ञान का अभाव ही इंसान को युद्ध के लिए अग्रसर करता है। पृथ्वी पर हुये इंसानी संघर्ष से पृथ्वी के स्वरूप में किसी भी प्रकार का परिवर्तन करने में असमर्थ होकर सिर्फ अपने आप को लकीरों में कैद करना मात्र है।

पतन हो रहा है यहाँ, कर के खुद से जंग। मानुष हो कर राक्षस, गैरन करे जो तंग। इंसान की वास्तविक प्रतिभा का हास होता है जब वह दूसरे को नीचा दिखाने के लिए संघर्ष करता है। भारतीय अस्मिता पर हुये हजारों आक्रमण ही भारतीय संप्रभुता को दर्शाते हैं। अपनी कोठी में रखो, एक तिजोरी आपावर्फ भी जिसमें रख सको, रखो साथ में भापा।



The novel is particularly effective in its portrayal of the social stratification and the resulting tensions between different castes. The upper caste characters, with their unscrupulous behavior and machinations, are juxtaposed against the lower caste individuals who are gradually awakening to their rights and fighting for socio-political equality. Chaita, a key character representing the lower caste struggle, epitomizes this awakening. His journey, fraught with challenges and conspiracies, highlights the systemic oppression faced by marginalized communities. Chaita's struggle and ultimate sacrifice serve as a powerful narrative arc that drives the story forward. His character is a symbol of resistance against the oppressive caste system, and his tragic end underscores the harsh realities of village politics and the lengths to which the powerful will go to maintain their dominance.

Dwivedi's intention to expose and critique these social injustices is clear and compelling. He paints a vivid picture of rural life, weaving an intricate tapestry of the village's environment and its inhabitants. The authenticity of his descriptions immerses the reader in the setting, making the characters and their experiences feel both familiar and relatable. The detailed depiction of Madaripur-Junction serves as a backdrop against which the broader themes of caste, power, and resistance are explored. One of the strengths of "Madaripur Junction" is its language. Dwivedi's prose is fresh and dynamic, propelling the story at a brisk pace.

"Madaripur Junction" by Balendu Dwivedi is a masterful exploration of rural Indian society, its complexities, and its contradictions. Through vivid storytelling and sharp social critique, Dwivedi brings to life the struggles of marginalized communities and the pervasive nature of caste-based oppression. The novel's rich language, dynamic characters, and emotional depth make it a compelling read that lingers in the mind long after the last page is turned. It is a poignant reminder of the enduring fight for justice and equality, urging us to question and challenge the societal structures that perpetuate discrimination and inequality.

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