

# APEEJAY KOLKATA LITERARY FESTIVAL 2015

in association with

THE TIMES OF INDIA

14th - 18th January



## PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

### WEDNESDAY, 14 JANUARY

**10.00 am - 1.00 pm, Modern High School**  
**ReadRite - An Interactive Litfest for Schools**

Chief Guest: Justice Leila Seth. With writers Kanishk Tharoor, Pia Padukone, Devdan Chaudhuri, Sandip Roy & Indrapramit Das, columnist & author Salil Tripathi, & litterateur Tilottama Tharoor.

Presented with *Modern High School*.  
For participating schools only.

### INAUGURATION APEEJAY KOLKATA LITERARY FESTIVAL 2015

**6.30 pm, Indian Museum**  
**Creating & Sustaining: Cultural Heritage & Contemporary India**

A panel discussion on tangible & intangible heritage featuring Shashi Tharoor, Charles Allen & Jawahar Sircar. Moderated by Swapan Chakravorty. Guest of Honour Leila Seth. Commencing with a vibrant performance by traditional artistes of Manipur, choreographed by Priti Patel & presented by Anjika.

Presented with the *Indian Museum Bi-centenary Year Programme (BeYP)* with support from the *Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS)*. This event will be held outdoors. Please join us for tea at 6.00 pm.

### THURSDAY, 15 JANUARY

**10.30 am - 11.30 am, Oxford Bookstore**  
**Of Memory & Repentance: Revisiting the history of Bangladesh**

Launch of *The Colonel Who Would Not Repent: The Bangladesh War & its Unquiet Legacy* by Salil Tripathi, followed by a discussion with K. Anis Ahmed, writer & publisher, Bangladesh.

Presented with *Aleph Book Company & Oxford Bookstore*.

**11.30 am - 1.00 pm, Oxford Bookstore**  
**In Search of the Indian Masterpiece**

Launch of *A Clutch of Indian Masterpieces* edited by David Davidar, with a reading from the anthology by Shashi Tharoor, followed by a discussion with contributors Upamanyu Chatterjee, Shashi Tharoor, & Kanishk Tharoor.

Presented with *Aleph Book Company & Oxford Bookstore*.

**3.00 pm - 4.00 pm, Rabindranath Tagore Centre, ICCR**  
**India Shastra: Points of View**

Launch of *India Shastra* by Shashi Tharoor, a collection of essays on contemporary India.

Guest of Honour Krishna Bose will release the book, followed by a discussion with Sandip Roy, Senior Editor, Firstpost.com.

Presented with *Rabindranath Tagore Centre, ICCR*.

**4.00 pm - 5.00 pm, Rabindranath Tagore Centre, ICCR**  
**Fairy Tales at Fifty: Twists in the Tale**

Launch of *Fairy Tales at Fifty*, Upamanyu Chatterjee's 'wonderfully wicked & witty' new novel, followed by readings & a conversation with Jeet Thayil.

Presented with *Rabindranath Tagore Centre, ICCR & Oxford Bookstore*.

**5.00 pm - 6.00 pm, Rabindranath Tagore Centre, ICCR**  
**Wild Tales of Bush & Field - Saad bin Jung in Conversation**

Saad bin Jung of the Pataudi royal house, author, columnist, former international cricketer, wildlife, angler, conservationist & photographer, launches *Matabele Dawn*, his book of African travel writings. Chief Guest Sahebzada Wasif Mirza, descendant of the Nawab of Awadh, will release the book. The author will be in conversation with Bikram Grewal, author, birdwatcher & conservationist & travel writer Michael Buckley.

Presented with *Rabindranath Tagore Centre, ICCR & Oxford Bookstore*.

**7.00 pm, Tollygunge Club**  
**Beautiful Tales - Fables for Our Times**

A collection of pieces by Vikram Seth & James Thurber. Motley presents a stage rendition of Vikram Seth's poetic parables performed by Naseeruddin Shah, Ratna Pathak Shah, Heeba Shah & Kenny Desai. Produced by Jairaj Patil.

Presented with *Tollygunge Club & Motley Productions*.

Please collect your passes from *Oxford Bookstore, Park Street*. This event will be held outdoors.

### FRIDAY, 16 JANUARY

**9.00 am - 12 noon, Apeejay Lawns, Park Street**  
**The Hero in Me with Jeroninio Almeida**

In memory of Jit Paul. Motivational & leadership coach Jeroninio Almeida, author of *Karma Kurry*, addresses students on the importance of Character, Karma & Individual Social Responsibility™, as exemplified by Jit Paul, Karmayogi & mentor Apeejay Surrendra Group.

Presented with 91.9 Friends FM, *Apeejay Karmayuga*, i-Congo, *Apeejay Schools & Oxford Junior*.

**10.30 am - 11.30 am, Oxford Bookstore**  
**Whodunnit? A Crime Writers' Conclave**

Whodunnit? A Crime Writers' Conclave Nesser (Sweden), Zac O'Yeah (Sweden/India), in conversation with Kishwar Desai.

Presented with the *Hindustan Times Crime Writers Festival New Delhi*, *Crime Writers Forum of South Asia*, & *Oxford Bookstore*. Supported by *French Book Office & Embassy of Sweden, New Delhi*.

**11.30 am - 1.00 pm, The Park**  
**The Big Fat Bollywood Bubble**

Tisca Chopra, author of *Acting Smart* in a discussion on the romance of Bollywood with Amrita Chowdhury, Publishing Director, Harlequin India, & writer Ruchir Joshi.

Moderated by Nandita Palchoudhuri.

Presented with *Ladies Study Group, Kolkata & Oxford Bookstore, Park Street*.

Please collect your passes from *Oxford Bookstore*.

**2.30 pm - 4.00 pm, Indian Museum, 2nd Floor**  
**Literary Commons: Indigenous Literatures & the 21st Century**

Australian indigenous writers Ali Cobby Eckermann & Lionel Fogarty, in conversation with Mridula Chakravarty & Mona Zote, Esther Syiem, & Robin Ngangom, writers from Northeast India. Moderated by Tilottama Tharoor.

Presented with the *Indian Museum, Australia Council for the Arts & Oxford Bookstore*

**2.30 pm, Oxford Bookstore**  
**The Great Indian Blogging Contest**

Kolkata based bloggers meet for the award ceremony for the best blog on the theme of The Great Indian Chamcha.

Presented with *The Times of India & Oxford Bookstore*. With support from *Kolkata Bloggers*.

**4.00 pm - 5.00 pm, Indian Museum**  
**Imploding Realities? Perspectives on Contemporary India**

Launch of John Elliott's *Implosion: India's Tryst with Reality*, followed by a discussion with journalist Sajeda Momin & political commentator Shikha Mukerjee. Chief Guest Suranjan Das, Vice-Chancellor, Calcutta University, will release the book.

Presented with the *Indian Museum, HarperCollins Publishers India*, & *Oxford Bookstore*.

**4.30 pm - 6.00 pm, Bhowanipore Educational Society College**  
**The Great Indian: with Sorabh Pant**

Stand up comic & author Sorabh Pant lets it rip. A laugh a minute.

Presented with *The Times of India*.

**5.00 pm - 6.00 pm, The Park**  
**Anticipating India: Issues of National Interest**

Launch of senior journalist Shekhar Gupta's *Anticipating India: The Best of National Interest*, a ringside view of contemporary history, followed by a discussion with Sugata Bose,

Gardiner Professor of History at Harvard University.

Presented with *The Park, HarperCollins Publishers India & Oxford Bookstore*.

**6.30 pm - 7.30 pm, The Park**

**Meltdown: From the Highlands of Tibet to the Deltas of Asia**

Michael Buckley, environmentalist, travel-writer & documentary filmmaker, in his *Meltdown in Tibet*, discusses the damage to India & China's fragile ecosystems from extensive development projects. With Sutanu Ghosh, environmental consultant & Dr Sreeradha Dutta, Director, MAKAIAS, followed by an audiovisual presentation.

Presented with *The Park, Pan Macmillan India & Oxford Bookstore*.

**7.30 pm, The Park**  
**TASCHEN celebrates 125 years of National Geographic**

Taschen, international publishers of art, design & photography books, celebrates 125 years of the iconic *National Geographic* magazine.

Renowned Paris-based photographer Reza presents his award winning photography for *NatGeo* & will be in conversation with Neha Dara, Deputy Editor, *National Geographic Traveller India*. Moderated by Marc Parent, TASCHEN.

Presented with *The Park, TASCHEN & National Geographic India*, & *Oxford Bookstore*.

### SATURDAY, 17 JANUARY

**10.30 am - 12.00 noon, Oxford Bookstore**  
**First Day First Show: New Voices in Fiction**

On writing a first novel: Saskya Jain, Pia Padukone, Sorabh Pant, & Avik Chanda launch their debut novels, followed by a conversation on writing a first novel.

Presented with *Oxford Bookstore*.

**12.00 noon - 1.00 pm, Oxford Bookstore**  
**A Case of Exploding Ideas: A Literary Conversation**

Mohammed Hanif, Pakistani writer & journalist, in conversation with Ruchir Joshi, writer, filmmaker & columnist.

Presented with *Oxford Bookstore*.

**2.30 pm - 4.00 pm, Western Quadrangle, Victoria Memorial**  
**Border Crossings: Across the Language Divide**

With Florence Noiville (France), K. Anis Ahmed (Bangladesh), Mohammed Hanif (Pakistan), moderated by Razi Ahmed, Director, Lahore Literary Festival. Guest of honour Nabaneeta Dev Sen.

Presented with *Victoria Memorial & Oxford Bookstore*.

**4.00 pm - 5.15 pm, Western Quadrangle, Victoria Memorial**  
**Having the Last Word with Hanif Kureishi**

Hanif Kureishi CBE, British playwright, screenwriter, filmmaker, novelist & among *The Times List* (2008) of 'The 50 greatest British Writers since 1945' interacts with Kolkata audiences after three decades. The author will be in conversation with author Jeet Thayil & Sujata Sen, Director, British Council, Eastern India.

Presented with *The Jaipur Literature Festival, British Council, Victoria Memorial & Oxford Bookstore*.

**5.15 pm - 6.30 pm, Western Quadrangle, Victoria Memorial**  
**History between Literature & Social Science**

Eminent historian & writer Ramachandra Guha dissects approaches to History. Followed by an interaction with Supriya Chaudhuri, Professor Emeritus, Jadavpur University.

Presented with *Victoria Memorial & Oxford Bookstore*.

**7.00 pm, Lascar War Memorial**  
**Honour, Fidelity & the Great War**

Launch of *Honour & Fidelity: India's Military Contribution to the Great War 1914-18* by Captain Amarinder Singh. To commemorate the centenary of WW1, Capt. Singh, military historian, painstakingly retraces the footsteps of the Indian Battalions during the First World War. Audiovisual presentation & interaction with Sunanda K Datta-Ray, journalist & author.

Chief Guest General Shankar Roychoudhury, former Chief of Army Staff, will release the book.

Presented with *Roli Books, Open Doors, INTACH & Oxford Bookstore*. This event will be held outdoors.

**SUNDAY, 18 JANUARY**  
**9.30 am - 11.00 am, Indian Museum**  
**The Literary Mile: A Literary Heritage Walk**

Join fellow enthusiasts on a literary stroll down historic Chowringhee & Park Street, starting from rare manuscripts at the Indian Museum to De Roozi's grave in the Park Street Cemetery. Starting at Indian Museum main gate at 9.30 am.

Presented with *INTACH, Indian Museum & Oxford Bookstore*. With support from *Calwalks & Presidency University Literary Society*.

Please pre-register at *Oxford Bookstore, Park Street*.

**11.30 am - 1.00 pm, Bengal Club**  
**My Bookshelf: A Literary Adda**

Hanif Kureishi, Ashis Nandy, Ramachandra Guha, Shekhar Gupta, Sugata Bose, Kalyan Ray, Mohammed Hanif, Tilottama Tharoor, Meera Mitra, Ruchir Joshi, K. Anis Ahmed & others at an informal 'adda'.

Presented by *Oxford Bookstore & Bengal Club*. Please collect your passes from *Oxford Bookstore, Park Street*.

**4.00 pm - 5.00 pm, The Park**  
**Breaking Through - On Beating Poverty**

Launch of Meera Mitra's *Beating Through: India's Stories of Beating the Odds on Poverty*. Followed by a discussion with filmmaker Goutam Ghose, social theorist Ashis Nandy & social activist Sudha Kaul. Chief Guest Ashis Nandy will release the book. Moderated by Anjum Katyal.

Presented with *Rainlight Rupa & Oxford Bookstore*.

**5.00 pm - 6.30 pm, The Park**  
**The Home & the World - Calcutta Revisited**

Launch of photographer Laura McPhee's *The Home & the World - A View of Calcutta*. Opening comments & moderation by Modhurima Sinha. Kalyan Ray, eminent author & academic, will release the book. Guest of Honour, Joanne Joria, Director, American Center Kolkata.

Presented with *American Center Kolkata, INTACH & Oxford Bookstore*.

**7.00 pm, National Library Steps**  
**Has India kept Her Tryst with Destiny?**

Panel Discussion with Shekhar Gupta, Ashis Nandy, Srinath Raghavan & Sugata Bose.

Presented with *National Library & Oxford University Press*.

This event will be held outdoors.

### 17-18 JANUARY

**11.00 am - 4.30 pm, Apeejay Lawns, Park Street**  
**Oxford Junior Book Fest**

An activity-crammed fun fest to promote a love of books & reading, with interactive sessions of story-telling, role-playing,

improvisation, & more! With famous writer Nabaneeta Dev Sen

reading from her work, & talking to the children; & sessions led by well-known Kolkata cultural personalities like S. V. Raman,

novelist Anjana Basu, award winning theatre actor Ramanjit Kaur, theatre actor & writer

Baishali Chatterjee Dutt; theatre artiste Shuktara Lal, amongst others.

Curated & conducted by *The Creative Arts*. Presented with *The Creative Arts, Soi, Kolkata & Oxford Junior*.

For invited schools only.



Programme subject to change.

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