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PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE INDIA



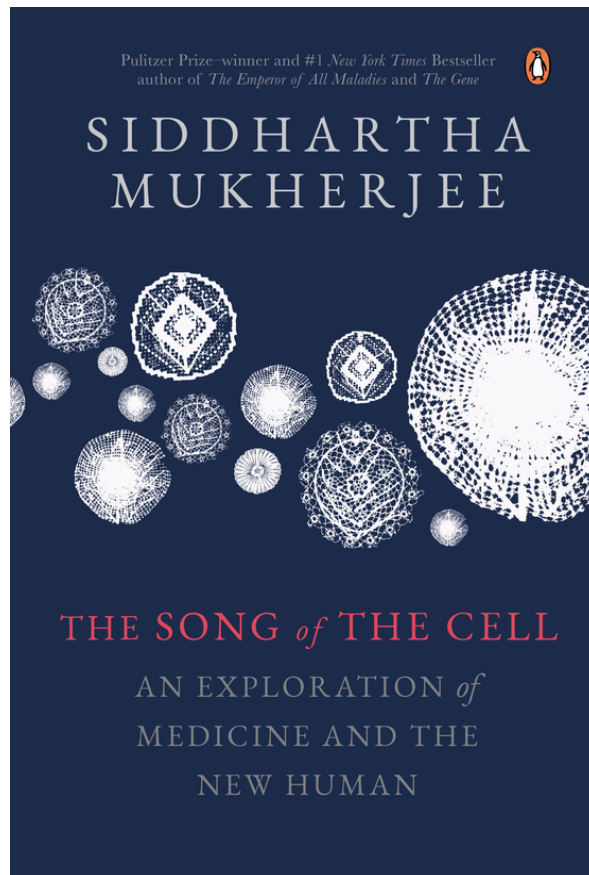
THE PENGUIN PRESS GROUP

*Catalogue*

October – December 2022

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OCTOBER 2022



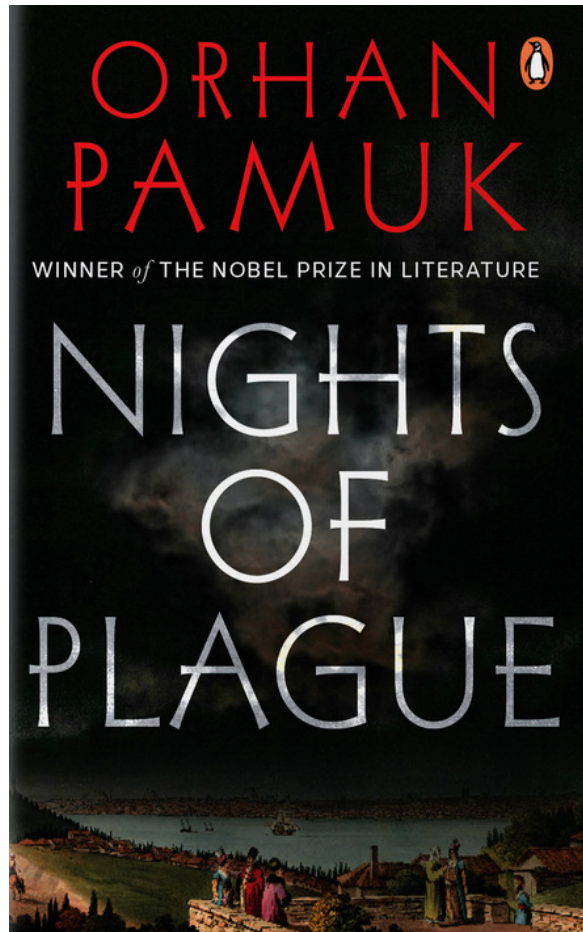
## THE SONG OF THE CELL

*The Song of The Cell* is the third book in this extraordinary writer's exploration of what it means to be human. The discovery of cells—and the reframing of the human body as a cellular ecosystem—announced the birth of a new kind of medicine based on the therapeutic manipulations of cells. In *The Song of the Cell*, Mukherjee tells the story of how scientists discovered cells, began to understand them, and are now using that knowledge to create new humans. He seduces readers with writing so vivid, lucid, and suspenseful that complex science becomes thrilling. Laced with Mukherjee's own experience as a researcher, doctor, and prolific reader, *The Song of the Cell* is both panoramic and intimate—a masterpiece.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Siddhartha Mukherjee is the author of *The Gene: An Intimate History*, a #1 New York Times bestseller; *The Emperor of All Maladies: A Biography of Cancer*, winner of the 2011 Pulitzer Prize in general nonfiction; and *The Laws of Medicine*. He is the editor of Best Science Writing 2013. Mukherjee is an associate professor of medicine at Columbia University and a cancer physician and researcher. A Rhodes scholar, he graduated from Stanford University, University of Oxford, and Harvard Medical School. He has published articles in many journals, including *Nature*, *The New England Journal of Medicine*, *Cell*, *The New York Times Magazine*, and *The New Yorker*.

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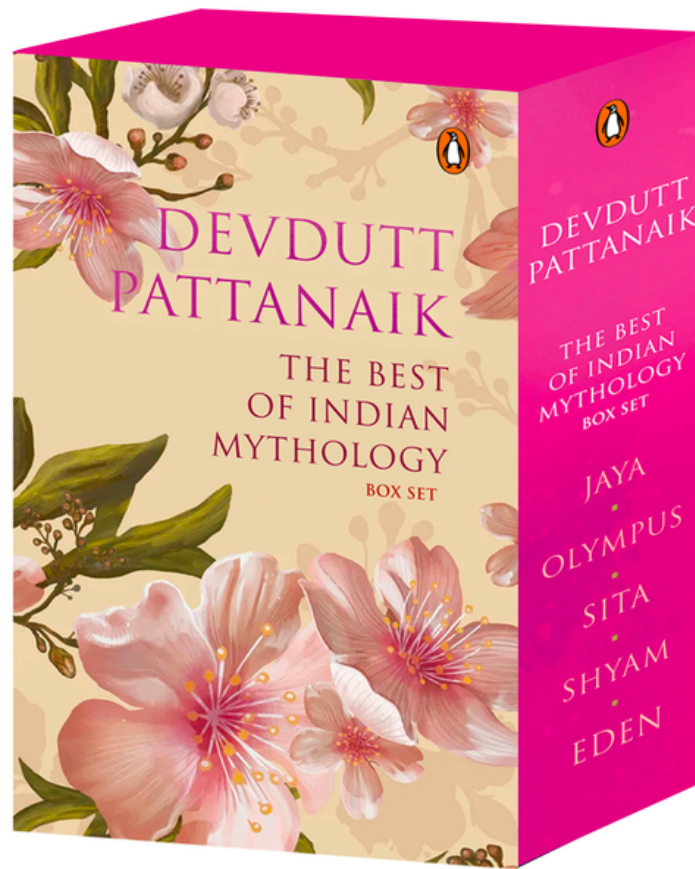
## NIGHTS OF PLAGUE

A new book by the winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature. Part detective story, part historical epic—a bold and brilliant novel that imagines a plague taking over a fictional island in the Ottoman Empire. Steeped in history and rife with suspense, *Nights of Plague* is an epic story set more than one hundred years ago, with themes that feel remarkably contemporary.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Orhan Pamuk won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2006. His novel *My Name is Red* won the 2003 International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award. His work has been translated into more than sixty languages. He lives in Istanbul.

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## THE BEST OF INDIAN MYTHOLOGY

*Shyam:* The wisdom of the Bhagavata for the modern reader

*Sita:* An unheard voice from the Ramayana

*Jaya:* Folklore from the epic Mahabharata

*Olympus:* Indian parallels for classic Greek myths

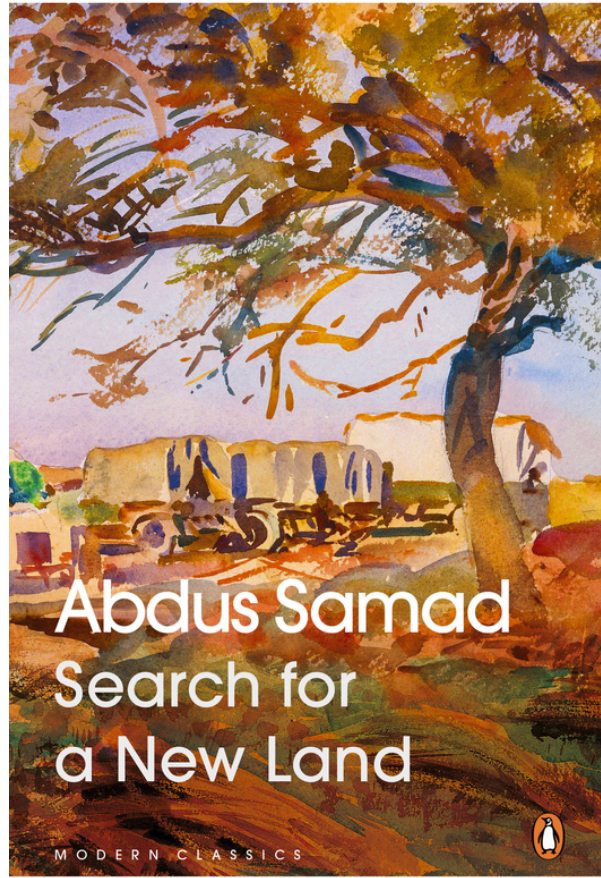
*Eden:* A unique take on Abrahamic lore

For curious first-time readers of Indian mythology, this new collection of Devdutt Pattanaik's five best-selling books is the perfect gift. Take an epic voyage with Devdutt through ancient and mythological worlds. This captivating, richly illustrated narrative will regale readers with the many legends and parables that make our collective cultural heritage. Through decades of research, Devdutt decodes ancient epic tales and presents them with a blend of simplicity, candidness, and elegance. This box-set is sure to ring in the festive spirit this holiday season.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Devdutt Pattanaik writes, illustrates, and lectures on the relevance of mythology in modern times. He has, since 1996, written over 50 books and 1000 columns deconstructing the symbols and myths of ancient and modern cultures around the world. His books with Penguin Random House India include *Myth = Mithya: A Handbook of Hindu Mythology*; *The Book of Ram* and the *Devlok* series. He consults with corporations on leadership and governance, and TV channels on mythological serials. His TV shows include *Business Sutra* on CNBC-TV18 and *Devlok* on Epic TV.

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## SEARCH FOR A NEW LAND

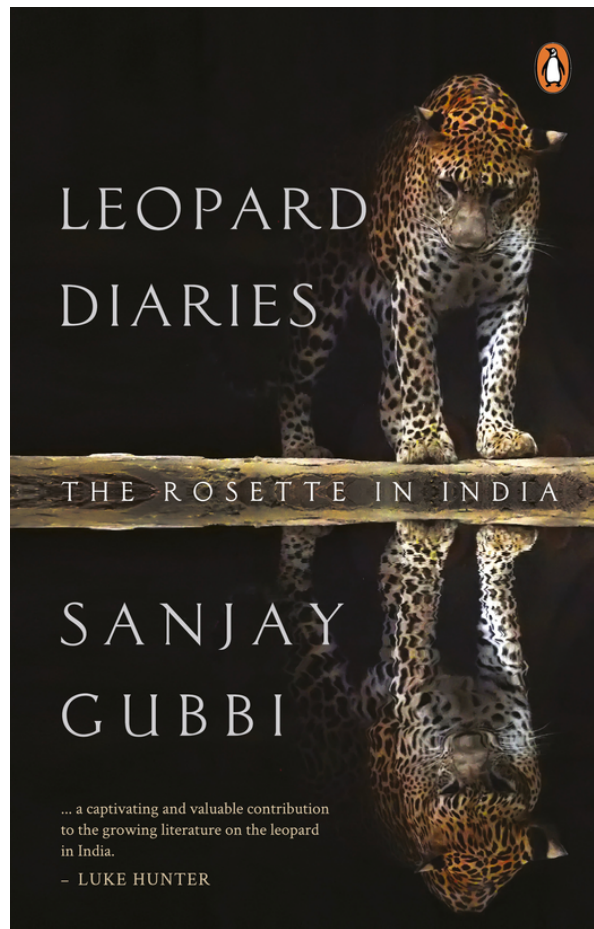
A Muslim feudal family in provincial Bihar Shareef faces devastating grief and anguish during the Partition of India in 1947 and then again, the partition of Bengal in 1971, when lines are drawn across their lands and hearts. Originally published in Urdu as *Do Gaz Zameen*, Abdus Samad's deeply emotional and political novel traces the journey of the Hussain family from the 1920s to 1970s, as they travel through the Bihar province, to Calcutta, Karachi, and Dhaka and take us along intensely critical political events that shaped the formation of new lands and new identities in India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh. Abdus Samad received the Sahitya Akademi award in 1990 for *Do Gaz Zameen*.

## ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Abdus Samad is an award-winning Urdu writer and poet. He started writing at the age of fifteen and received numerous awards for his works, which includes eleven novels as well as five collections of short stories. He has won the Sahitya Akademi award, the Bhartiya Basha Parishad, the Ghalib Award and the Life Achievement Award from the Urdu Academy, Bihar. He has also served on the board of the prestigious Jnanpith Award.

Syed Sarwar Hussain is Associate Professor at the Department of English Language & Translation, College of Languages and Translation, King Saud University, Riyadh. He has been teaching English for the past forty-two years. He has authored eight books that include a book on literary criticism and English translations of several Urdu short stories and novels.

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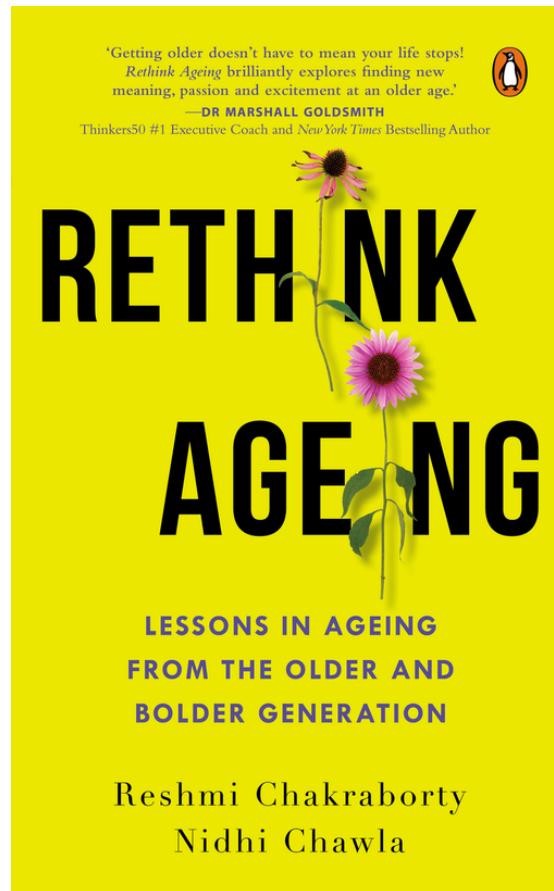
## LEOPARD DIARIES

In *Leopard Diaries: The Rosette in India*, Sanjay Gubbi, who has studied and documented the leopard for nearly a decade, gives us a close look at this fascinating creature. From detailing its food habits to throwing new light on how the young are reared, from offering suggestions on tackling leopard–human conflict to imagining the future of this arresting animal, this book is a 360-degree view of the leopard, its ecological context, its fraught relationship with the human world, and how wildlife and human beings can find a way to co-exist.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sanjay Gubbi is a scientist, conservationist and writer. His work integrates science, contemplative studies of the natural world, and society. Working on leopards has been central to his research work. Gubbi holds a doctorate in leopard ecology and conservation. Along with his scholarly research, Gubbi has also written extensively in the popular press. A self-taught conservationist, he was the winner of the Whitley Award (popularly known as the Green Oscars) in 2017. He was listed as one of ‘Tomorrow’s 25 Leaders’ by The Times of India and is the recipient of the Co-existence Award, the Carl Zeiss Conservation Award and various others.

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## RETHINK AGEING

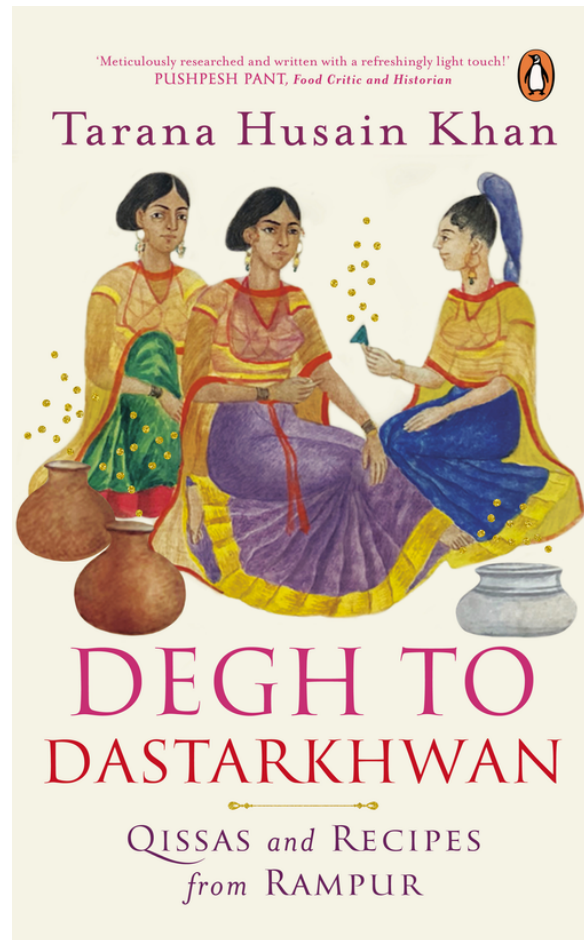
Veena Iyer, aged sixty-six, got a degree in dance movement therapy. She is training to upgrade her skill and now runs various workshops. B.R. Janardan, aged eighty-seven, started running after sixty and has sixteen full marathons under his belt. These important stories illustrate the shifting narrative for ageing in India. India will have over 300 million senior citizens by 2050. 'Active ageing' has become a popular topic of conversation in urban India and is the process of developing and maintaining functional activities as one gets older. Urban Indians are navigating health challenges, isolation and shifting social barometers to practise active ageing, the best form of preventive healthcare. This book takes a deep dive into understanding ageing, its impact on society, and how to overcome certain 'hurdles'.

## ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Nidhi Chawla is the co-founder and Business & Strategy Head of Silver Talkies. Nidhi has received several leadership awards for her work in the eldercare space and is currently a member of the CII Seniorcare committee.

Reshmi Chakraborty is the co-founder and Editor of Silver Talkies, a social enterprise focused on active ageing since 2014. She has worked as a journalist for over two decades and continues to write for various publications. She believes in highlighting skill and initiative in older adults, many of whom are discovering new avenues at a later age.

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## DEGH TO DASTARKHWAN

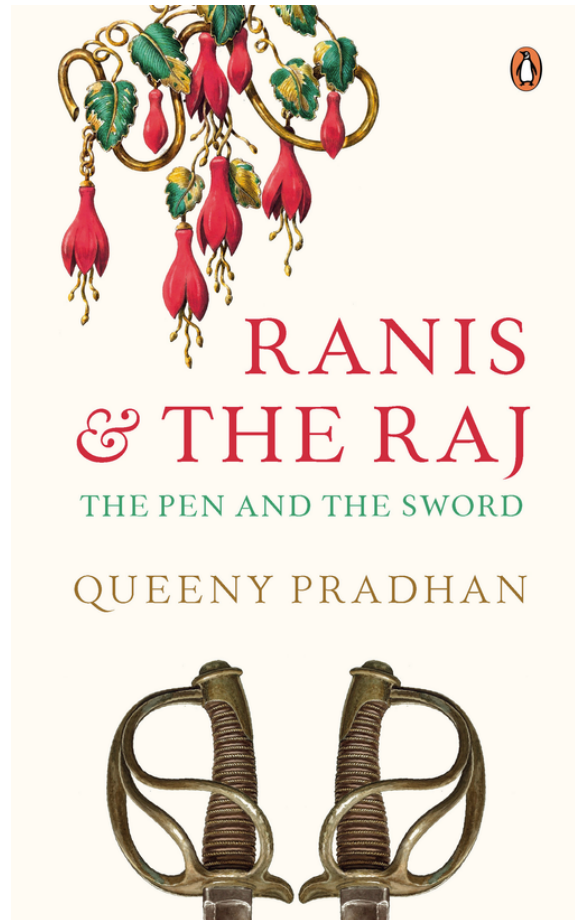
Tarana was an indifferent eater and an unenthusiastic cook until a chance encounter with a nineteenth-century Persian cookbook in Rampur's fabled Raza Library started her off on a journey into the history of Rampur cuisine and the stories around it. Part food memoir and part celebration of a cuisine, *Degh to Dastarkhwan* answers the question—'what constitutes and distinguishes Rampur cuisine?' Each chapter represents an emotion, an observance or a celebration. The spread of Rampuri food from the grand royal cuisine to the simple daily fare becomes the arena to express love, loss, forgiveness and spirituality.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr Tarana Husain Khan is a writer and cultural historian. Her writings on the oral history, culture and the famed cuisine of the erstwhile princely state of Rampur have appeared in prominent publications such as *Al Jazeera*, *Eaten Magazine*, *Scroll.in* and in the anthologies *Desi Delicacies* and *Dastarkhwan: Food Writing from South Asia and Diaspora*. She is the author of historical fiction *The Begum and the Dastan*, which won the Kalinga Literary Award for fiction and was shortlisted for Women Writer's Award by She The People and longlisted for the AuTHER Award.



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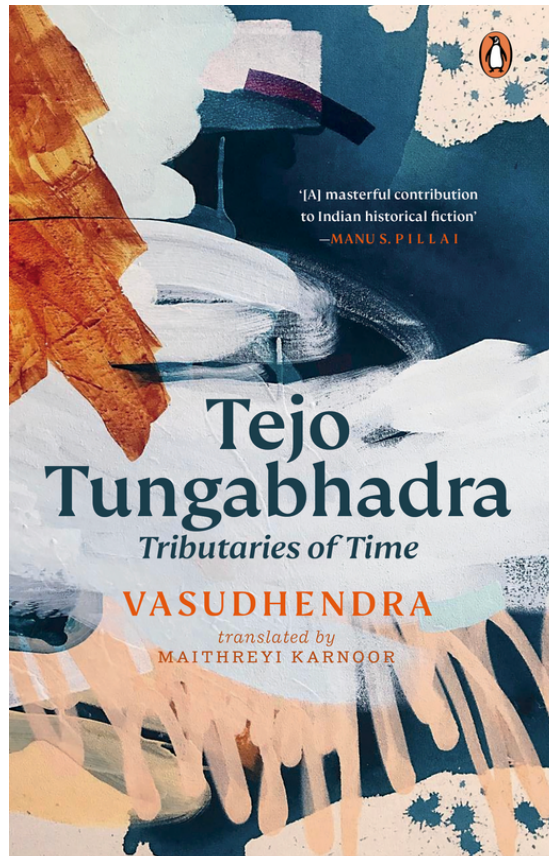
## RANIS AND THE RAJ

Traditionally, history has been telling us the stories of kings. In the long tradition of history writing, his-story has always dominated over her-story. Though queens evoke a sense of romance and their stories are told like fairy tales, it is common enough to find that these stories end in tragedy. In *Ranis and the Raj*, Queeny Pradhan has selected six queens. All the six queens are from the nineteenth century and have faced the British Raj, the East India Company and the Crown. From the Rani of Sirmur, who was the earliest to deal with the British authorities, to Rani Chennamma, Rani Jindan, Begum Zeenat Mahal, Rani Lakshmi Bai, to the Sikkim Queen from the 1860s to 1890s, Pradhan has attempted to carve an engrossing historical narrative for each of these important figures in Indian history.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

An alumnus of Centre for Historical Studies, JNU, New Delhi, Queeny Pradhan is a professor of History at GGS Indraprastha University, New Delhi. She teaches Indian History, Legal History, and Women in History. She was awarded the doctoral scholarship from Teen Murti Memorial Fund. She was a postdoctoral fellow at the Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla. She was also an ICCR Visiting Professor at the University of Vienna. She has authored a book, *Empire in the Hills: Simla, Darjeeling, Ootacamund and Mount Abu, 1820-1920*. She has also co-edited a volume, *Identities in South Asia: Conflicts and Assertions*. Presently, she is the Dean of the University School of Mass Communication, GGSIP University.

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## TEJO TUNGABHADRA

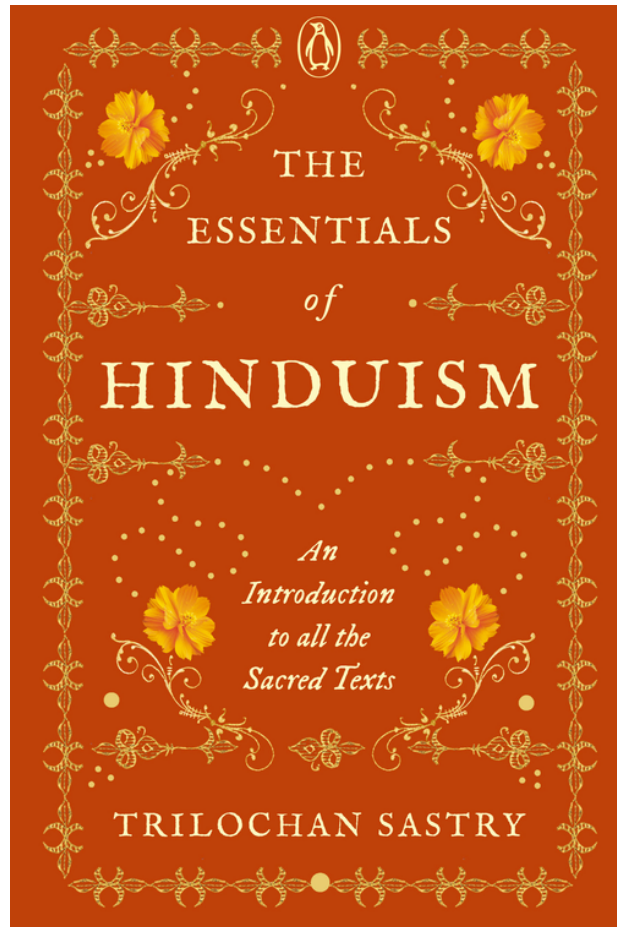
*Tejo Tungabhadra* tells the story of two rivers on different continents whose souls are bound together by history. On the banks of the river Tejo in Lisbon, Bella, a young Jewish refugee, and her family face daily threats to their lives and dignity from the deeply antisemitic society around them. Gabriel, her lover, sails to India with General Albuquerque's fleet seeking wealth and a secure future for themselves. Meanwhile, on the banks of the Tungabhadra in the Vijayanagara Empire, the young couple Hampamma and Keshava find themselves caught in the storm of religious violence and the cruel rigmarole of tradition. The two stories converge in Goa with all the thunder and gush of meeting rivers. Set in the late 15th and early 16th century, it is a saga of love, ambition, greed, and a deep zest for life through the tossing waves of history.

## ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Vasudhendra is a bestselling author in Kannada. He is the recipient of several literary awards, including the Karnataka Sahitya Akademi Book Prize and the U.R. Ananthamurthy Award. Vasudhendra now runs his own publication house, Chanda Pustaka.

Maithreyi Karnoor is the recipient of the Charles Wallace India Trust Fellowship for creative writing and translation at Literature Across Frontiers, University of Wales Trinity Saint David. She has won the Kuvempu Bhasha Bharati prize for translation.

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## THE ESSENTIALS OF HINDUISM

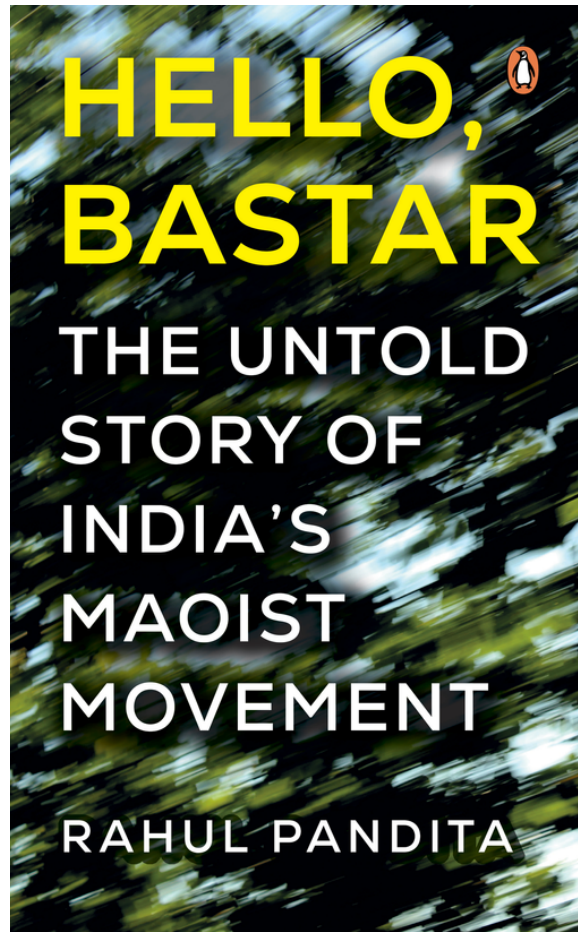
Hinduism is an ancient religion, philosophy and way of life. Unlike other great religions that are based on a small set of books, there are hundreds of texts in Hinduism, most of which are very voluminous.

In *The Essentials of Hinduism*, Trilochan Sastry unpacks all the ancient texts from the Vedas to the epics covering the entire range of scriptures and everything you need to know about them in an easy-to-read and accessible way making it of special interest to Hindus and those from other religions and nations, and even those who are agnostic or atheistic.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Trilochan Sastry is Professor at IIM Bangalore and a former Dean. He did his BTech from IIT Delhi, MBA from IIM Ahmedabad and PhD from MIT. He is the founder of ADR, an NGO that works on Electoral and Political reforms, and also of CCD and Farmveda that work with tens of thousands of small farmers. He has received various awards for his academic work and for his work in society. He has been interested in Hinduism since early adolescence and has lived in monasteries, studied the sacred texts, attended classes from various teachers and visited various pilgrimage sites.

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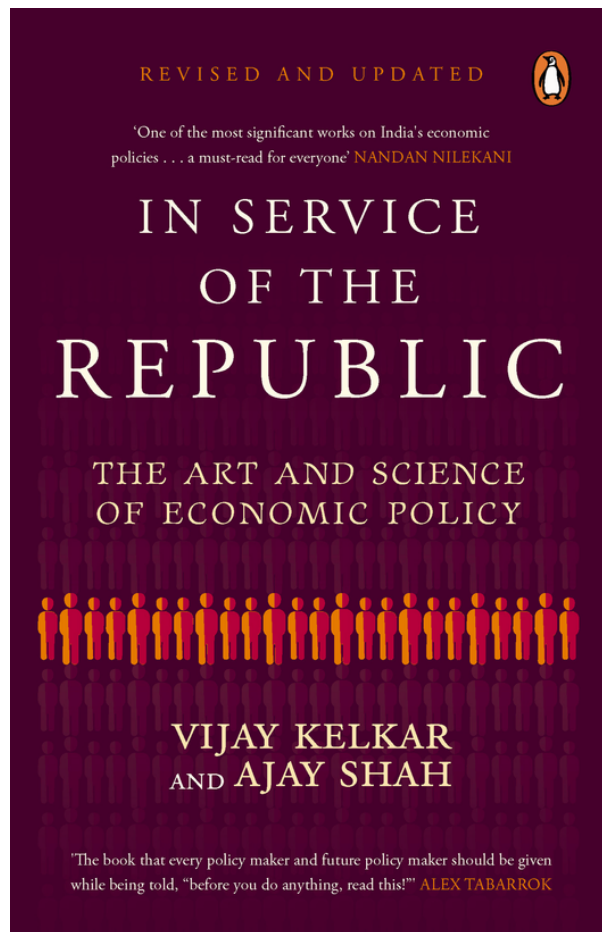
## HELLO, BASTAR

With direct access to the top Maoist leadership, Rahul Pandita provides an authoritative account of how a handful of men and women, who believed in the idea of revolution, entered Bastar in Central India in 1980 and created a powerful movement that New Delhi now terms as India's biggest internal security threat. It offers rare insight into the lives of Maoist guerillas and also of the Adivasi tribals living in the Red zone. Based on extensive on-ground reportage and exhaustive interviews with Maoist leaders, including their supreme commander Ganapathi, Kobad Ghandy and others who are jailed or have been killed in police encounters, this book is a combination of first-hand storytelling and intrepid analysis.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Rahul Pandita is a journalist and an author based in Delhi. He is a 2015 Yale World Fellow. He has also authored *The Lover Boy of Bahawalpur: How the Pulwama Case Was Cracked*, *Hello, Bastar: The Untold Story of India's Maoist Movement* and co-authored *The Absent State*. He has extensively reported from war zones, including Iraq and Sri Lanka. In 2010, he was awarded the International Red Cross Award for conflict reporting.

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## IN SERVICE OF THE REPUBLIC

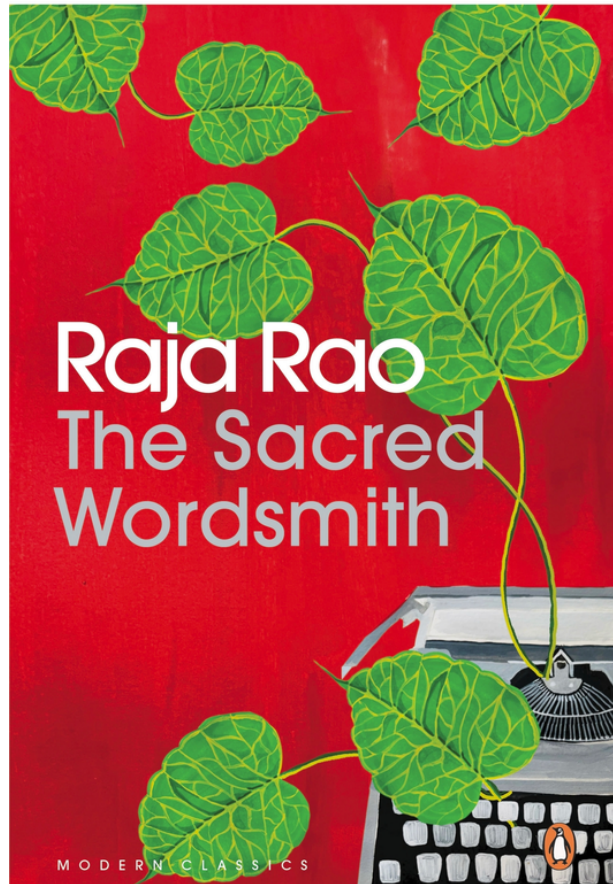
As a \$3-trillion economy, India is on her way to becoming an economic superpower. Since 2011, however, there has been a marked retreat in the high growth performance of the previous two decades. What happened to the promise? Where have we faltered? How do we change course? Vijay Kelkar and Ajay Shah have spent most of their lives thinking about and working on these questions. This highly readable book lays out the art and the science of the policymaking that we need, from the high ideas to the gritty practicalities that go into building the Republic.

## ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Vijay Kelkar served the Government of India as petroleum secretary, finance secretary and chairman of the Thirteenth Finance Commission of India. He also served as director of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and as executive director of the International Monetary Fund. In 2011, the President of India conferred the Padma Vibhushan upon him.

Ajay Shah has worked at the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy, the Indira Gandhi Institute for Development Research and the Ministry of Finance. He is a professor at the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP). His areas of research include economics, law and public administration.

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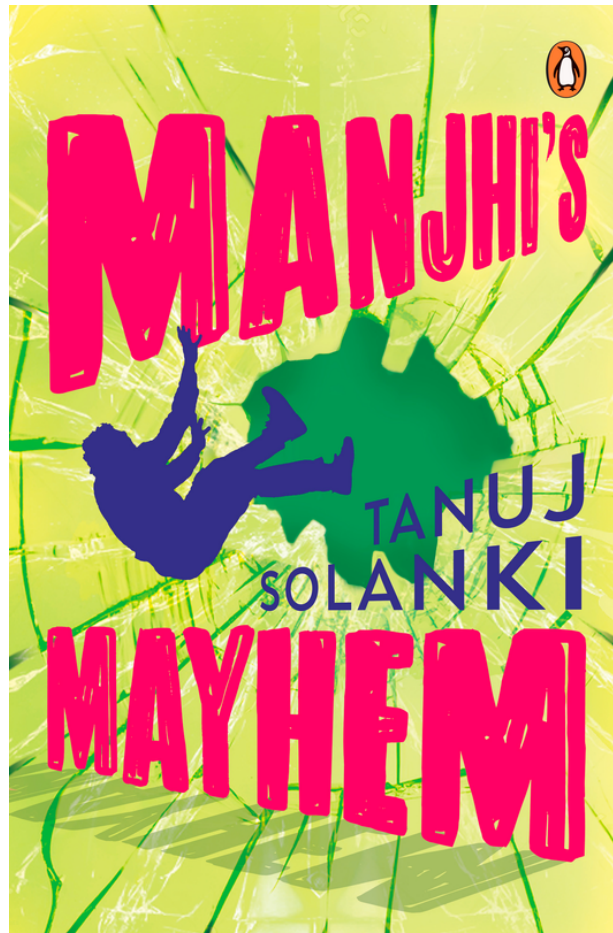
## THE SACRED WORDSMITH

*The Sacred Wordsmith* compiles the best of Raja Rao's writings, including his autobiographical Prefaces and Introductions. The volume puts together several of his noted acceptance speeches, including those for the Sahitya Akademi Award and Neustadt International Prize, and other famous pieces, such as 'The World is Sound', 'The Word', 'Why Do You Write?', 'The West Discovers Sanskrit', 'The English Language and Us', and 'The Story Round, Around Kanthapura', a fascinating, unpublished account of the makings of his famous first novel.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Raja Rao, a path-breaker of Indian writing in English, was born in Hassan, Mysore. He has been awarded the Padma Vibhushan, the Sahitya Akademi Award and the Neustadt International Prize for Literature.

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## MANJHI'S MAYHEM

Introducing Sewaram Manjhi in this explosive novel that combines a tight mystery and an anti-hero who refuses to back down.

On the surface, Sewaram Manjhi is not unlike the millions of invisible Indians who make Mumbai tick, but there is a difference: he holds rage in his heart, and he will go to any length to snatch a chunk of the good life. A damsel in distress, Santosh has a strange request for Manjhi, and far be it from him to say no. What follows is *tabaahi*—mayhem—as Manjhi finds himself caught in a web of lies and deceit, and on the trail of a bag full of money that will lead to broken noses, bloody heads, sex, seduction, and murder. If he succeeds, Manjhi might finally discover what it means to be in control of one's destiny in a land where birth determines fate.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Tanuj Solanki's last novel, *The Machine is Learning*, was longlisted for the JCB Prize for Literature 2020. In 2019, he was awarded the Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar for his short-story collection, *Diwali in Muzaffarnagar*. He lives in Gurugram with his wife.

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## HICKY'S BENGAL GAZETTE

Late eighteenth-century Calcutta. The British are well-ensconced in Bengal, but not yet an empire. Johann Zacharias Kiernander is on a mission to convert heathen souls in a land far from his native Sweden though he is not averse to lining his pockets while doing 'God's work'. Into this cauldron of skullduggery and intrigue walks James Augustus Hicky, a wild Irishman seeking fame and fortune. Sensing an opportunity, he decides to establish a newspaper, the first of its kind in South Asia. In two short years, his endeavour threatens to lay bare the murky underside of the early British empire. Does it succeed?

This is the story of the forces Hicky came up against, the corrupt authorities determined to stop him and of his resourcefulness. The product of five years of research by Andrew Otis in the archives of India, UK and Germany, *Hicky's Bengal Gazette: The Story of India's First Newspaper* is an essential and compelling addition to the history of subcontinental journalism.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Andrew Otis holds a PhD in Journalism from the University of Maryland. He spent five years researching and writing this book, first as a Joseph P. O'Hern scholar and then as a Fulbright Fellow in Kolkata, India. He lives in Washington D.C.



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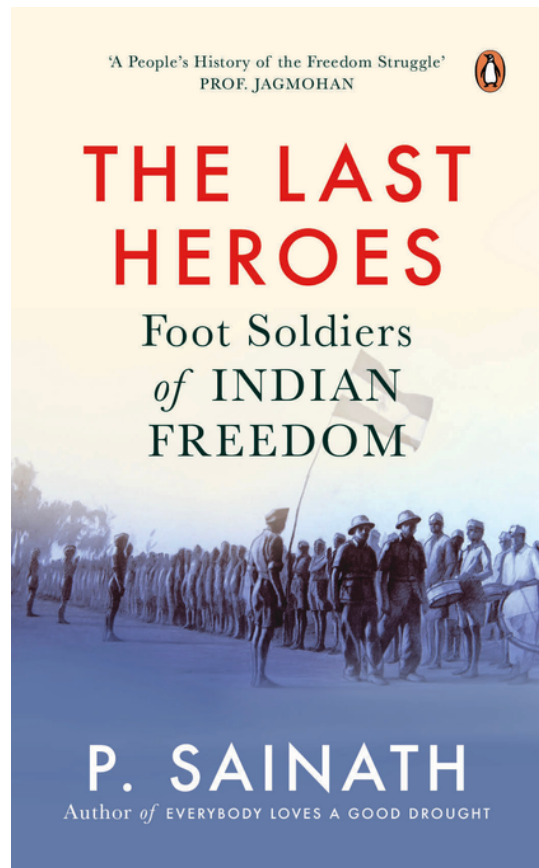
## AN ISLAND'S ELEVEN

From Sathasivam to Sangakkara, Murali to Malinga, Sri Lanka can lay claim to some of the world's most remarkable cricketers—larger-than-life characters who thumbed convention and played the game their own way. More so than anywhere else in the world, Sri Lankan cricket has an identity. On the field of play, Victorian ideals of the past collide with madcap tropical hedonism to create something dizzying. Cricket is Sri Lanka, and Sri Lanka is cricket. We all know the story of the '96 World Cup: how a team of unfancied amateurs rose from obscurity to the top of the world, doing so with such swagger that they changed the way the game was played. Yet the lore of Sri Lankan cricket stretches back much further. *An Island's Eleven* tells this story for the first time, focusing on the characters and moments that have shaped the game forever.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Nicholas Brookes is an English writer who has been based in Colombo since April 2018. He has covered Sri Lankan cricket and its history for international publications including ESPN's *The Cricket Monthly* and Wisden's *The Nightwatchman*.

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## THE LAST HEROES

So who really spearheaded India's Freedom Struggle? Millions of ordinary people—farmers, labourers, homemakers, forest produce gatherers, artisans and others—stood up to the British. People who never went on to be ministers, governors, presidents, or hold other high public office. They had this in common: their opposition to Empire was uncompromising. In *The Last Heroes*, these foot soldiers of Indian freedom tell us their stories. The men, women and children featured in this book are Adivasis, Dalits, OBCs, Brahmins, Muslims, Sikhs and Hindus. They hail from different regions, speak different languages and include atheists and believers, Leftists, Gandhians and Ambedkarites. The post-1947 generations need their stories. To learn what they understood. That freedom and independence are not the same thing. And to learn to make those come together.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Palagummi Sainath is founder-editor of the People's Archive of Rural India (PARI), which is an independent multimedia digital platform, whose reporting mandate is to cover every region and section of rural people. He has been a journalist and reporter for 42 years, covering rural India full-time for 30 of those. He was rural affairs editor of *The Hindu* from 2004 to 2014. Sainath has won over 60 national and international reporting awards and fellowships. These include the Fukuoka Grand Prize 2021, the World Media Summit Award 2014, the Ramon Magsaysay Award in 2007, Amnesty International's Global Human Rights Reporting Prize and the Ramnath Goenka Journalist of the Year Award.

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## LEAPFROG

Are maestros born or made? How can you trick yourself into becoming more productive? How do you develop an attitude that helps you grow? Find the answers to these highly pertinent questions and several more in *Leapfrog*. With its curated stories and research-based insights, the book offers real-world insights into six practices that will help you thrive in your career. Each of the six practices is supported by three pillars which help the reader assimilate and develop the practice into their own lives.

## ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Mukesh Sud, Associate Professor at IIM Ahmedabad, has three decades of professional experience divided between academia and entrepreneurship. An engineer from IIT Delhi, he founded several small-scale industries involved in abrasive blasting and thermal sprayed coatings. Mukesh is a visiting faculty at Ashoka University, Delhi NCR, and the Naropa Fellowship at Leh.

Priyank Narayan is the Founding Director of the Centre for Entrepreneurship at Ashoka University, a leading liberal arts university. He started his career with IBM. He has been an entrepreneur for many years before joining Ashoka University. He is a guest faculty member at IIT Delhi, IIM Ahmedabad, HEC Paris, and Naropa Fellowship, Leh.

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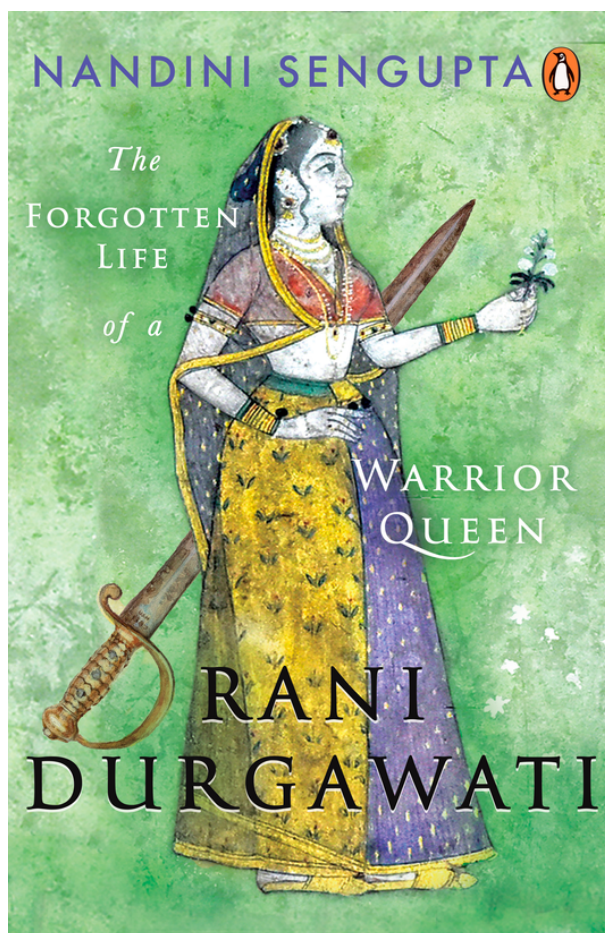
## BRAVEHEARTS OF BHARAT

Exploring the lives, times and works of the fifteen long-forgotten and mostly neglected unsung heroes and heroines of our past, this book brings to light the contribution of the warriors who not only donned armour and burst forth into the battlefield but also kept the flame of hope alive under adverse circumstances. Rajarshi Bhagyachandra Jai Singh of Manipur, Lalitaditya Muktapida of Kashmir, Chand Bibi of Ahmednagar, Lachit Barphukan of Assam, Begum Hazrat Mahal of Awadh, Rani Abbakka Chowta of Ullal, Martanda Varma of Travancore, Rani Rudrama Devi of Warangal, Rani Naiki Devi of Gujarat and Banda Singh Bahadur are some of the 'bravehearts' who fought to uphold the tradition and culture of their land. Pacy and unputdownable, *Bravehearts of Bharat* chronicles the stories of courage, determination and victory, which largely remained untold and therefore unknown for a long time.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bangalore-based historian Vikram Sampath is the author of seven acclaimed books. In 2021, Vikram was elected as fellow to the prestigious Royal Historical Society of the United Kingdom. He was awarded the Sahitya Akademi's first Yuva Puraskar in English literature and the ARSC International Award for excellence in historical research in New York for his book on Gauhar Jaan.

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## RANI DURGAWATI

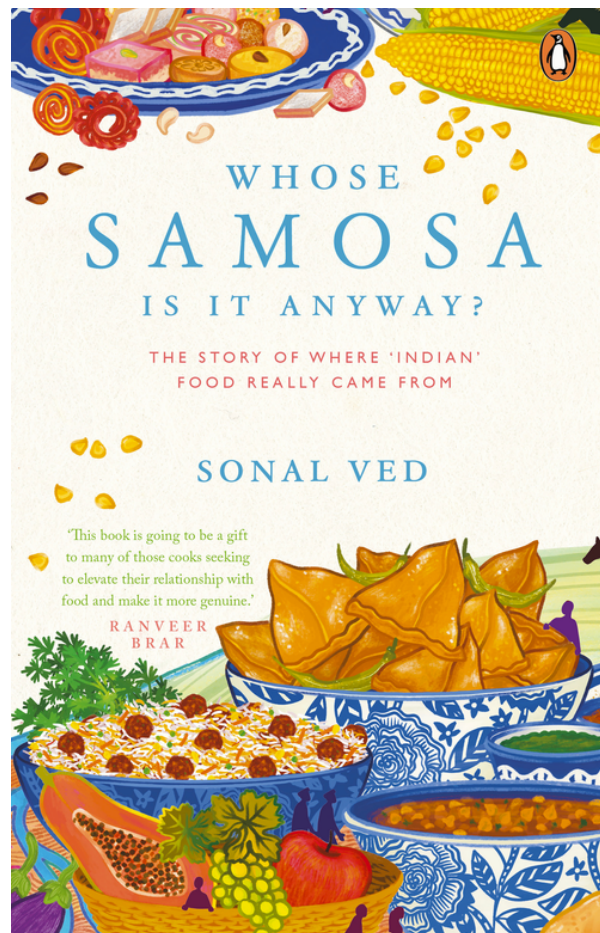
Gond Rani Veerangana Durgawati, queen of the tribal kingdom of Garha Mandla, ruled more than 450 years ago and died fighting for her dharma. A survivor who was not afraid to stand up for her rights, she was a warrior smart enough to use terrain to counter much larger manpower and artillery strength, a devoted mother and a model monarch who looked after her people till her last breath—the fact that she lived in blood-soaked medieval India makes her story even more remarkable.

The feisty and formidable Rani Durgawati lives on in the folk tales and songs of her people. These songs and tales have now been used by Nandini Sengupta to create a meticulously researched and accessibly written biography of a forgotten female hero and one of India's most underrated monarchs.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Nandini Sengupta is a Pondicherry-based journalist and an author of historical fiction and narrative history. Her book credits include the bestselling *The Blue Horse And Other Amazing Animals from Indian History*, the Gupta Empire Trilogy—*The King Within*, *The Poisoned Heart* and *The Ocean's Own* and *The Story of Kalidas: The Gem Among Poets*. *Rani Durgawati* is her first narrative non-fiction biography.

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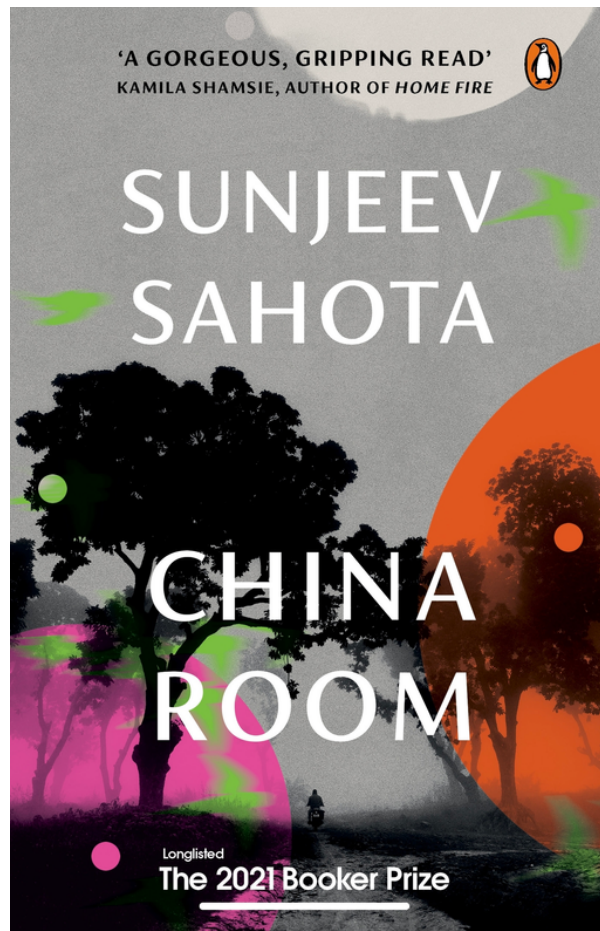
## WHOSE SAMOSA IS IT ANYWAY?

In this book, we accompany Sonal Ved on a journey of taste through the various timelines across the Indian subcontinent. We go from the banks of the Indus in 1900 BC to the great kingdoms of the north many centuries later; from the time of the Mauryans to when the Mughal Sultanate reigned supreme. Meet the Europeans merchants desperate to trade in Indian treasures, be it the deep-blue indigo or the pricey pepper. The author takes us through the food history and traditions from the mountains in Kashmir to the backwaters of Kanyakumari; from the ports of the Bay of Bengal to the shores of the Arabian Sea, where traders and travellers arrived from the world over. And, finally, we find out whose samosa it truly is . . .

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sonal Ved is the group digital editor for *Harper's Bazaar India*, *Cosmopolitan India* and *Brides Today*. She was the first food editor at Vogue India. Her second cookbook *Tiffin* was listed in the *New York Times* as one of the must-have cookbooks for Fall 2018. Her words have appeared in food publications such as *The Guardian*, *Saveur*, *Food52* and *Thrillist*. Apart from writing about food, she has also hosted several cooking shows for Tastemade.

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## CHINA ROOM

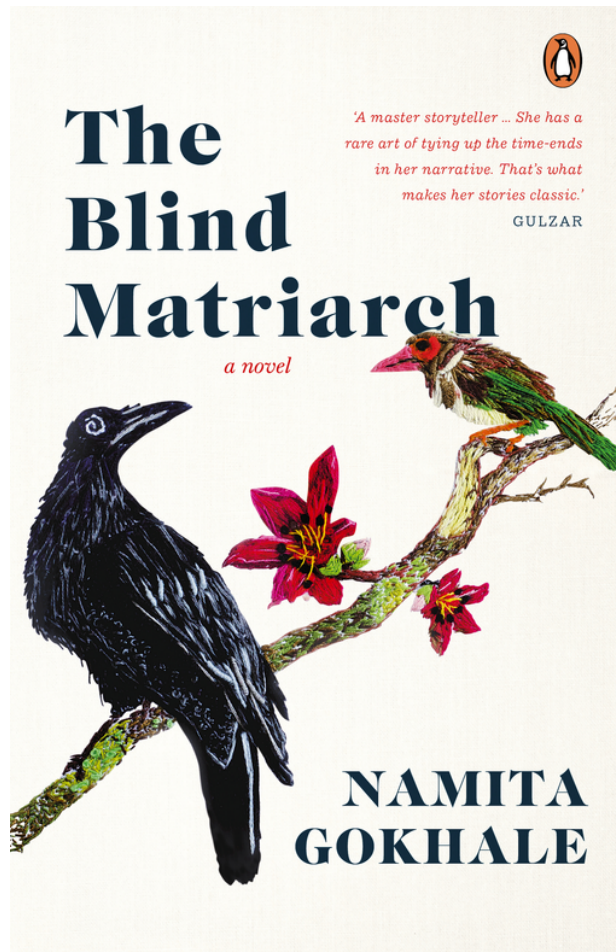
Mehar, a young Punjabi bride in 1929, tries to discover her new husband's identity. She and her sisters-in-law, married to three brothers in a single ceremony, spend their days working in the family's 'china room', sequestered from contact with the men. When Mehar develops a theory as to which of the men is hers, a passion ignites that puts more than one life at risk. In 1999, a young man travels from England to the now-deserted farm, its 'china room' locked and barred. In enforced flight from the traumas of his adolescence—his experiences of addiction, racism and estrangement from the culture of his birth—he spends a summer in painful contemplation and recovery, before finally finding the strength to return home.

A multigenerational novel of love, oppression, trauma and the pursuit of freedom, inspired in part by the author's own family history, *China Room* twines together the stories of a woman and a man separated by more than half a century but united by blood.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sunjeev Sahota is the author of *Ours Are the Streets* and *The Year of the Runaways*, which was shortlisted for the 2015 Man Booker Prize, the International Dylan Thomas Prize and the Sunday Times Young Writer of the Year Award. It won the Encore Prize, the European Union Prize for Literature and the South Bank Sky Arts Award. He was chosen as one of Granta's Best Young British Novelists in 2013. He lives in Sheffield.

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## THE BLIND MATRIARCH

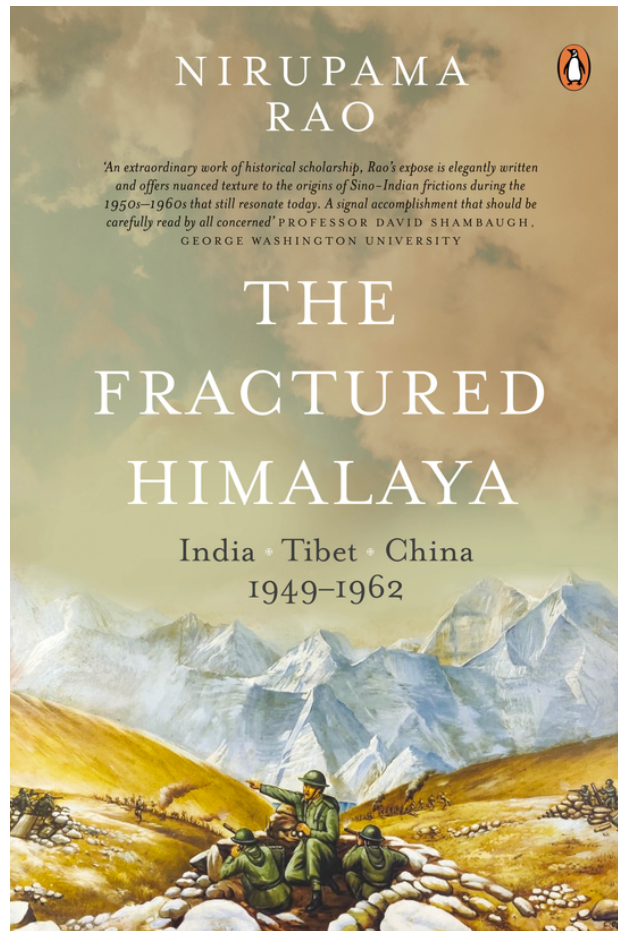
The blind matriarch, Matangi-Ma, lives on the topmost floor of an old house with many stories. Her long-time companion Lali is her emissary to the world. Her three children are by turn overprotective and dismissive of her. Her grandchildren are coming to terms with old secrets and growing pains. Life goes on this way until one day the world comes to a standstill and they all begin to look inward. This assured novel records the different registers in the complex inner life of an extended family. Ebbing and flowing like the waves of a pandemic, the novel is a clear-eyed chronicle of the tragedies of India's encounter with the Coronavirus, the cynicism and despair that accompanied it and the resilience and strength of the human spirit.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Namita Gokhale is an award-winning writer and festival director. She is the author of eleven works of fiction and has written extensively on myth as well as the Himalayan region. She was conferred the Centenary National Award for Literature by the Assam Sahitya Sabha in Guwahati in 2017. She won the Sushila Devi Literature Award for her novel *Things to Leave Behind*, which also received the Best Fiction Jury Award at the Valley of Words Literature Festival 2017, and was on the longlist for the 2018 International Dublin Literary Award. *The Blind Matriarch* is her twentieth book.



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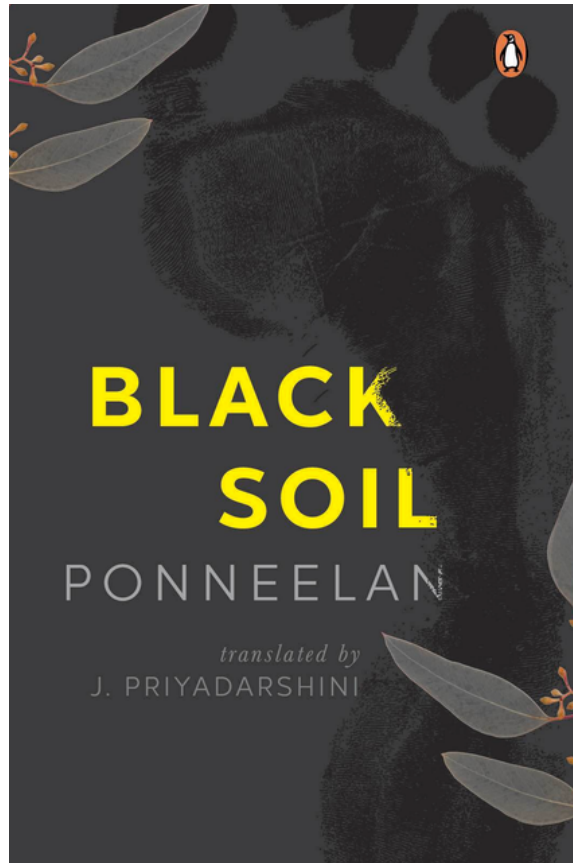
## THE FRACTURED HIMALAYA

Why did India and China go to war in 1962? What propelled Jawaharlal Nehru's 'vision' of China? Why is it necessary to understand the trans-Himalayan power play of India and China in the formative period of their nationhoods? Nirupama Rao, a former Foreign Secretary of India, unknots this intensely complex saga of the early years of the India-China relationship. As a diplomat-practitioner, Rao's telling is based not only on archival material from India, China, Britain and the United States but also on a deep personal knowledge of China, where she served as India's Ambassador.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Nirupama Menon Rao is a former Indian Foreign Secretary (2009-2011) and was Ambassador of India to China (2006-2009) and to the United States (2011-2013). She served as Spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs from 2001 to 2002. During her diplomatic career, she spent significant time working on the bilateral relationship between India and China and specialized on the history and problems concerning the India-China border and the question of Tibet.

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## BLACK SOIL

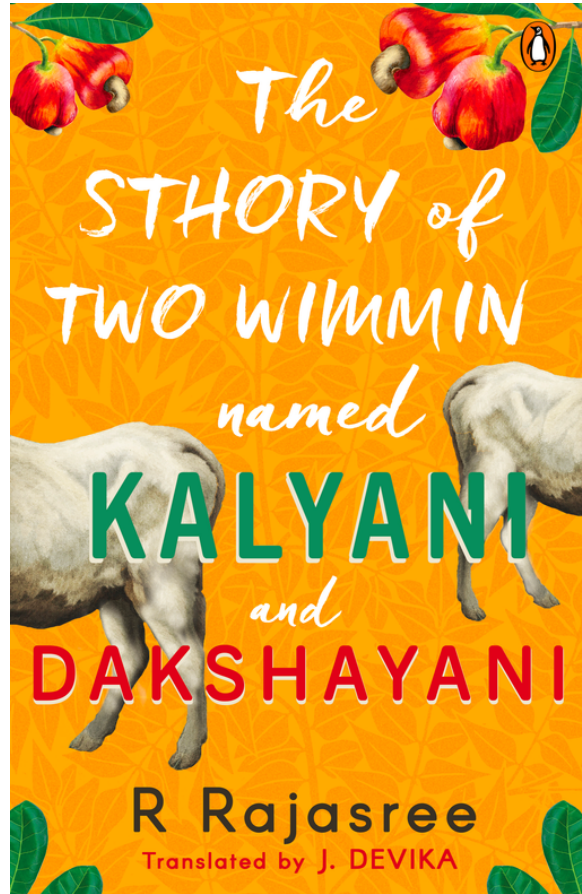
Kannappan is posted in Perumalpuram as the new schoolteacher. The village lies in the black soil region of Tamil Nadu where the river Tamirabarani flows. He's an outsider in this village, with Veerayyan, a local farmer, as his only guide and friend. Once settled in his role, Kannappan observes the everyday brutality faced by the farmers at the hands of the sadistic, all-powerful landlord—the Master. Through his gentle yet probing conversations with the villagers, Kannappan tries his best to show the villagers a better way of life. The farmers who had begun protesting the excesses meted out to them by the upper-caste landlord soon find an ally in Kannappan. Now translated for the first time, *Black Soil* lays bare the atrocities faced by the farmers and the human cost of building a better tomorrow.

## ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Ponneelan is a Tamil writer renowned for his novels, short story collections, biographies, critical essays and translations. His novel *Pudhiya Dharisanangal* won the 1994 Sahitya Akademi Award for Tamil. His other major novel was *Marupakkam*, considered as his lifetime achievement. It delves into the complexities of the Mandaikkadu riot of his region. *Karisal* was his debut novel, published in 1976. Forty-five years later, it continues to remain in print in Tamil.

Priyadarshini, granddaughter of Ponneelan, grew up in an atmosphere of literature and litterateur. Her grandfather's library of books and the writers and political leaders who visited him shaped her childhood and growing up in many ways.

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## THE STORY OF TWO WIMMIN

### NAMED KALYANI AND DAKSHAYANI

*The Story of Two Wimmin Named Kalyani and Dakshayani* is an enchanting and intimate portrait of the friendship shared by two women. The story moves fluidly through time, space and various characters. Rajasree's cleverly crafted narrator takes readers on this journey, pausing and playing the various scenes, while observing Kalyani and Dakshayani's world. Through her retelling, the narrator pokes fun at society, and even the reader. The geography, food, dialect, and Yakshis and sprites of Kerala come alive in Rajasree's beautifully crafted tale, enabled by Devika's magnificent and careful translation.

### ABOUT THE AUTHORS

R. Rajasree presently teaches at the Government Brennan College at Thalassery. She has a PhD in Malayalam and her early writing includes books on detective fiction and on the construction of female protagonists in Malayalam. Her first novel, *Kalyaanikum Daakshayanikum Ennu Peraaya Randu Sthreekalute Kata* was published in 2019. It has won major literary awards in Malayalam, notably the Kerala Sahitya Akademi award for the best novel in 2021.

J. Devika is a researcher and translator at the Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. She has translated the literary writings of K.R. Meera, Sarah Joseph, Unni R, Ambikasutan Mangad, Lalithambika Antharjanam and others.

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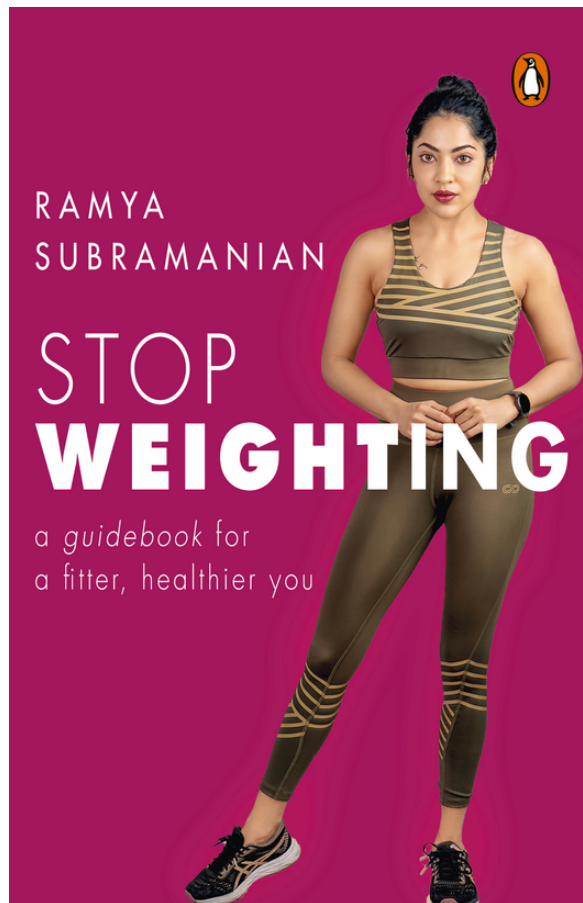
## DR CUTERUS

The thing between our legs, whether the vagina or the penis, often leave us with many feelings and concerns. Is it long enough? Why is it so hairy? What's oozing? Why's it bleeding, or why is it not? The words vagina, vulva, uterus, clitoris, labia tend to confound and embarrass people. Maybe even you, dear reader? And it is this hesitancy combined with societal shame that prevents us to seek the kind of scientific knowledge everyone must have to lead a healthy, sexually active and, most importantly, happy life. This is where this book comes in—a one-stop guide to everything that's 'down there' that you have wondered about. No matter what your concern, Dr Cuterus has got you covered.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr Tanaya Narendra is an internationally educated doctor, embryologist, scientist, and a University of Oxford alumna, who is very interested in public medical education. Her Instagram handle has nearly a million followers, and she's also known as the 'Millennial Doctor'. She's been covered by many publications and her presence and influence only continue to grow.

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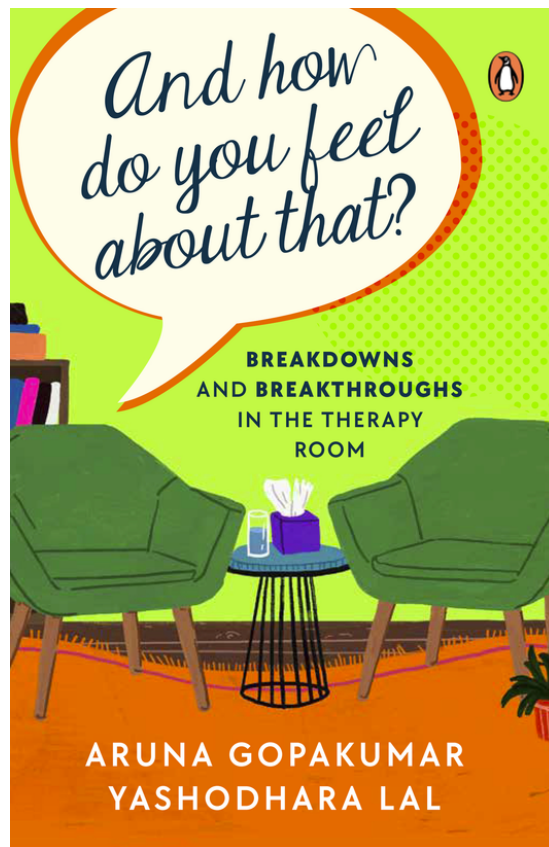
## STOP WEIGHTING

Digging into stories, mistakes and life lessons, this book draws from the highs and lows of Ramya's personal fitness journey with the hope that it will help others to lay the groundwork for their own. Ramya, the confident superstar and influencer of today, was once a naive and self-conscious teenager, who suffered bullying and body shaming. She began a long and tortuous journey to become 'thin'. Ludicrous crash diets, intense workouts at the gym and an all-pervading sense of inferiority afflicted her for nearly a decade until she decided to take back control over her life. Today, Ramya is healthier and happier than she has ever been. In *Stop Weighting*, we find out how she achieved this. She busts the myths around fitness and helps readers establish safe and sustainable methods to become healthier without false promises or crazy diets.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ramya Subramanian is a film actor, health coach, YouTuber, social media influencer and former television anchor based in Chennai. She is a household name in Tamil television, having hosted wildly popular shows like Jodi No. 1 and Super Singer for over a decade. Her foray into films began with OK Kanmani in 2015, directed by the legendary Mani Ratnam. Ramya is a well-known name in the health and fitness space, with a hugely popular YouTube channel, 'Stay Fit with Ramya'. With over 3.5 million followers across her social media channels, she is also the brand ambassador for the leading UK sports nutrition brand, Myprotein.

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## AND HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THAT?

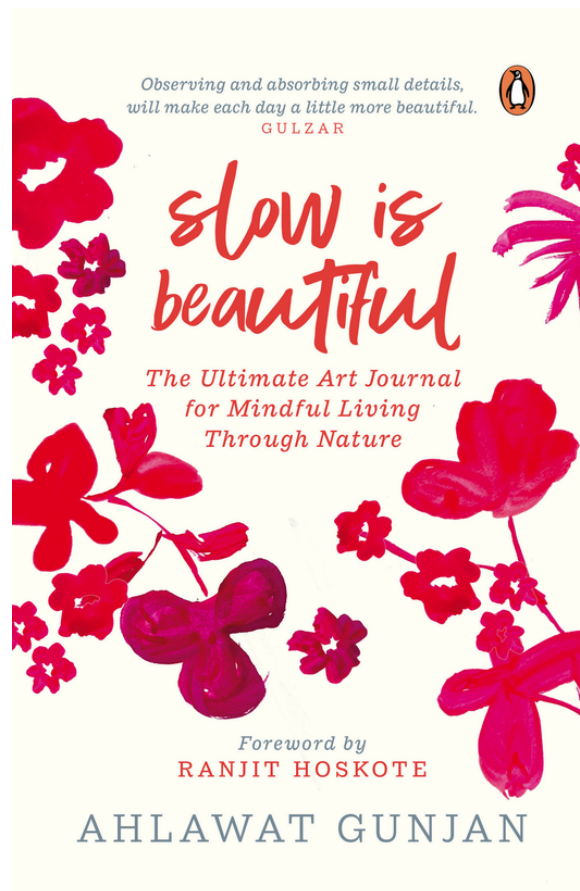
Ever wondered what REALLY happens in the therapy room? Too many myths abound regarding therapy. That it's for the weak; it should be the last resort; it is 'just listening'—and so on. This book busts those myths and shows you how therapy actually works. Two therapists share fascinating stories from their own practice. You'll meet the woman who sends secret messages to her husband during arguments; the teenager whose life is revealed in the tale of a lonely bear; the fierce gay young man impatient to change the world; and many more. Written with warmth, simplicity, honesty and lightness, this book imparts an understanding of the possibilities that open up in dialogue. Like therapy itself, this book is for everyone open-minded and curious about living an aware, fulfilled life.

## ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Aruna Gopakumar is a psychotherapist, certified transactional analyst and an MCC (ICF). She is the current president of the South Asian Association of Transactional Analysts. As a provisional teaching and supervision transactional analyst, Aruna is passionately engaged in long-term training of aspiring transactional analysts, taking them through the rigorous journey of becoming competent, ethical professionals.

Yashodhara Lal is a bestselling author and a practising coach and therapist. She holds a Diploma in Transactional Analysis therapy and is certified in Erickson Solution Focussed Coaching. After almost two decades in the corporate world, leading marketing across organizations like Unilever and Dyson, she has dedicated herself to the world of wellness: her coaching and therapy practice is called Allsomeness.

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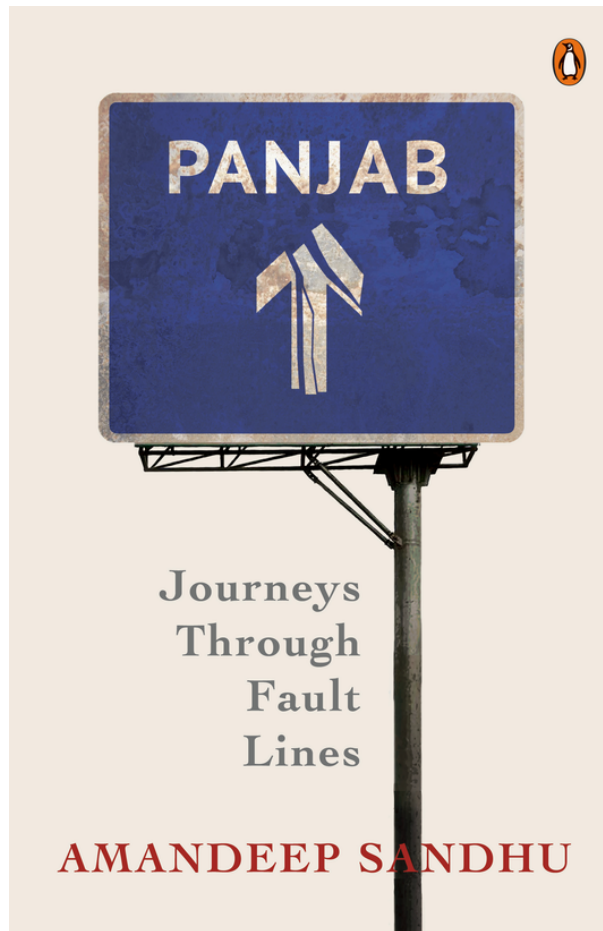
## SLOW IS BEAUTIFUL

*Slow is Beautiful* is an invitation to embark on a journey through mindfulness and cut through the clutter and noise of the world around you. Under the guidance of artist and visual designer Ahlawat Gunjan, you'll learn to see, observe, reflect and practise using artistic techniques developed through years of training to re-ignite a lost instinct. This beautiful collector's edition prepares you to welcome a new artistic vision into your lives by building a relationship with form, colour and composition in a uniquely accessible way. Each of the sixty easy-to-use prompts in this book is an essential step highlighted by vibrant ink and watercolour paintings inspired from nature, created and curated by the artist himself to motivate readers to draw, erase, paint, experiment, create and, most importantly, embrace their mistakes.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Multiple award-winning designer, self-taught painter, TEDx speaker, design educator—Ahlawat Gunjan wears many hats. A graduate of the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad, he has a master's degree in graphic design from The Glasgow School of Art, UK. Trained at Lars Mullers Switzerland and Faber & Faber, UK, Ahlawat has worked closely with Penguin, Faber and Faber, Hachette, Little Brown, Hodder, Random House, Quercus, Hurst, Scribe AUS, Pantheon and Knopf Doubleday USA. Currently, he is Head of Design at Penguin Random House India and spends his free time painting. His paintings have been showcased in solo shows in New Delhi and Dehradun.

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## PANJAB

In 2015, Amandeep Sandhu began an investigation that was meant to resolve the ‘hole in his heart’, his ‘emptiness about matters Panjab’. For three years, he crisscrossed the state and discovered a land that was nothing like the one he had imagined and not like the one in the stories he had heard. Present-day Panjab prides itself on legends of its military and valorous past even as it struggles with daily horrors. The Green Revolution has wreaked ecological havoc in the state, and a decade and a half of militancy has destabilised its economy and governance. Sikhism is in crisis, its gatekeepers brooking no dissent and giving little spiritual guidance. And Panjab has yet to recover from the loss of its other half, now in Pakistan. This revised edition includes a chapter on the 2020–21 farmers’ struggle which proved beyond doubt that the old spirit of the land with its undercurrent of resistance to power and hegemony still beats away.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Amandeep Sandhu was born in Rourkela, Odisha. He completed his Master’s in English Literature from the University of Hyderabad. He worked as a journalist and later as a technical writer. His first two books were autobiographical fiction: *Sepia Leaves* and *Roll of Honour*. For the past few years, he has written for the media and contributed to anthologies.



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PENGUIN CLASSICS

MAHMUD GAMI  
*Yusuf's Fragrance*  
*Poems of Mahmud Gami*

## YUSUF'S FRAGRANCE

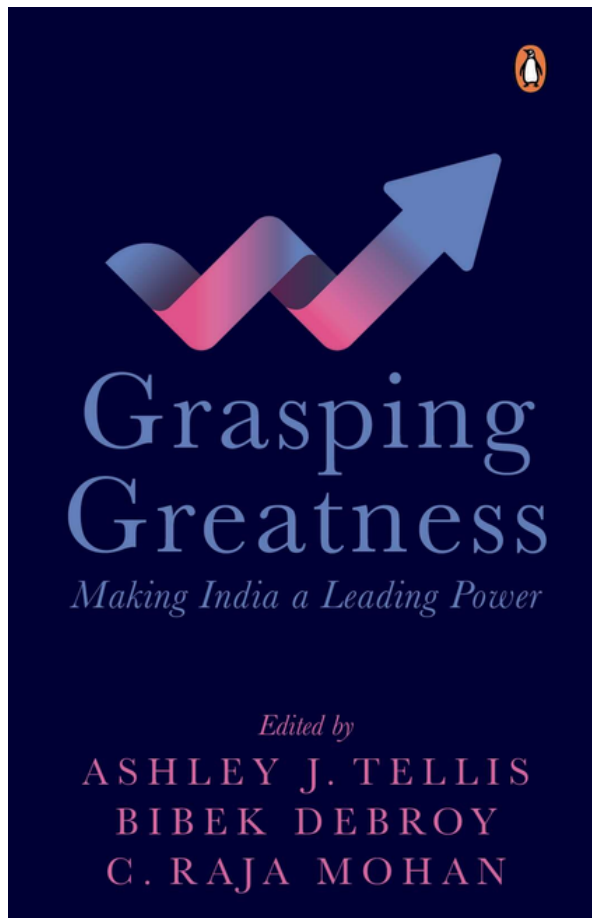
*Yusuf's Fragrance* is both a celebration of Mahmud Gāmi's oeuvre and an homage to his stature as a poet. Covering a wide range of topics, the introduction offers an in-depth survey of Gāmi's place in the Kashmiri literary tradition, while the elegant and modern translations of his poems touch upon a variety of themes such as love, both physical and metaphysical, joy, envy, sorrow, betrayal, forgiveness, fear and death.

## ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Mahmud Gāmi stands out among the Kashmiri poets as a pioneer in introducing the Persian genres of the ghazal, nazm, masnavi and nāt into Kashmiri. Not only is he the first truly prolific poet of the language, but much of his poetry is also remarkable for its beauty of expression and depth of thought. His vatsuns (lyrical poems) and masnavis (narrative poems) such as 'Yusuf Zulaykha', 'Khusrau Shīrīn', 'Layla Majnun' and 'Sheikh San'ān' have rightly been acclaimed as significant contributions to Kashmiri poetry.

Mufti Mudasir Farooqi is a faculty member of the Department of English, University of Kashmir. Proficient in English, Kashmiri, Urdu, Persian and Arabic, he has made academic contributions to several areas such as literary theory and criticism, postmodern drama, Kashmir's history and literature, Indo-Persian literature and Islamic studies.

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## GRASPING GREATNESS

*Grasping Greatness* explores the various ways in which the push for a greater role for India in world affairs could possibly be achieved. It elaborates on the economic, diplomatic and state capacity requirements that this role would entail. Eminent thinkers like Rakesh Mohan, Surjit Bhalla, Arjun Subramanian, Ila Patnaik and others present the nature of the task at hand and the routes that could be taken to achieve it.

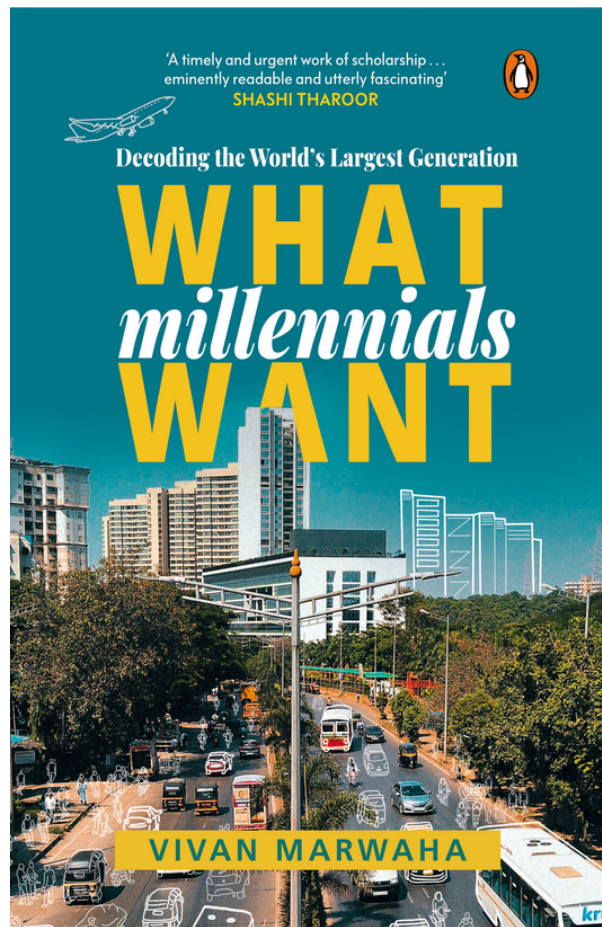
### ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Ashley J. Tellis holds the Tata Chair for Strategic Affairs and is a senior fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington, D.C.

Bibek Debroy is a renowned economist, scholar and translator. He has worked in universities, research institutes and for the government. He has widely published books, papers and articles on economics.

C. Raja Mohan is Head of Strategic Studies and Distinguished Fellow at the Observer Research Foundation in New Delhi. Earlier he was a Professor of South Asian Studies at the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi and the Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. Dr. Mohan served as the Diplomatic Editor and the Washington Correspondent of *The Hindu* and the Strategic Affairs Editor of *The Indian Express*. He was a member of India's National Security Advisory Board.

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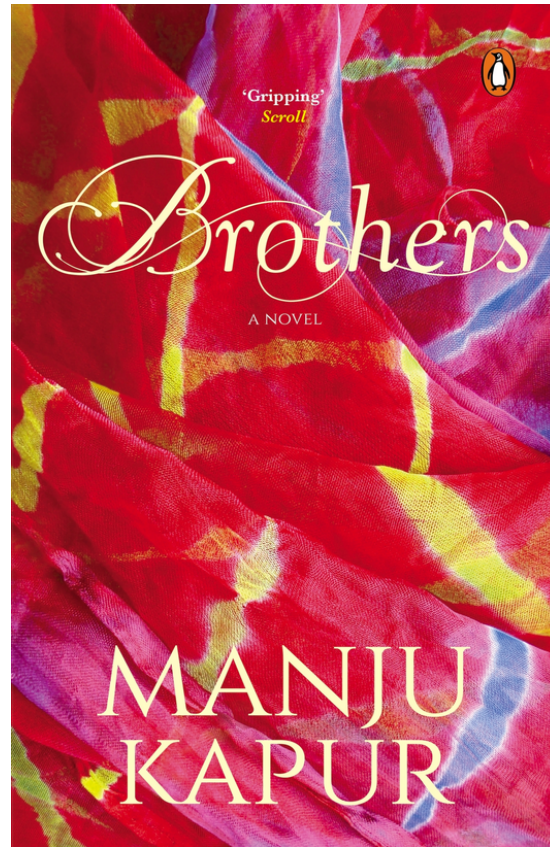
## WHAT MILLENNIALS WANT

India is one of the youngest countries in the world and the generation of millennials make up for over 400 million people. This is the largest generation of people in the world. That means that the choices and trajectory of this generation have pivotal consequences on local, regional, and global politics and economics. So the important question is: What do Indian millennials want? What are their economic aspirations and their social views? Most importantly, what makes them tick? In *What Millennials Want*, Vivan Marwaha documents the aspirations and anxieties of these young people scattered across more than 30,000 kilometers in 13 Indian states. Combining an expansive dataset along with personal anecdotes, he narrates an intimate biography of India's millennials, investigating their attitudes towards sex, marriage, employment, religion, and politics.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Vivan Marwaha is a user researcher who works on technology projects in emerging markets. A millennial himself, he cares deeply about understanding India and its future through its youth. He has lived and worked in New Delhi, Los Angeles, Washington DC, and Buenos Aires and has written for the *Washington Post*, *New Statesman*, *Mint*, and *Times of India*, among other publications.

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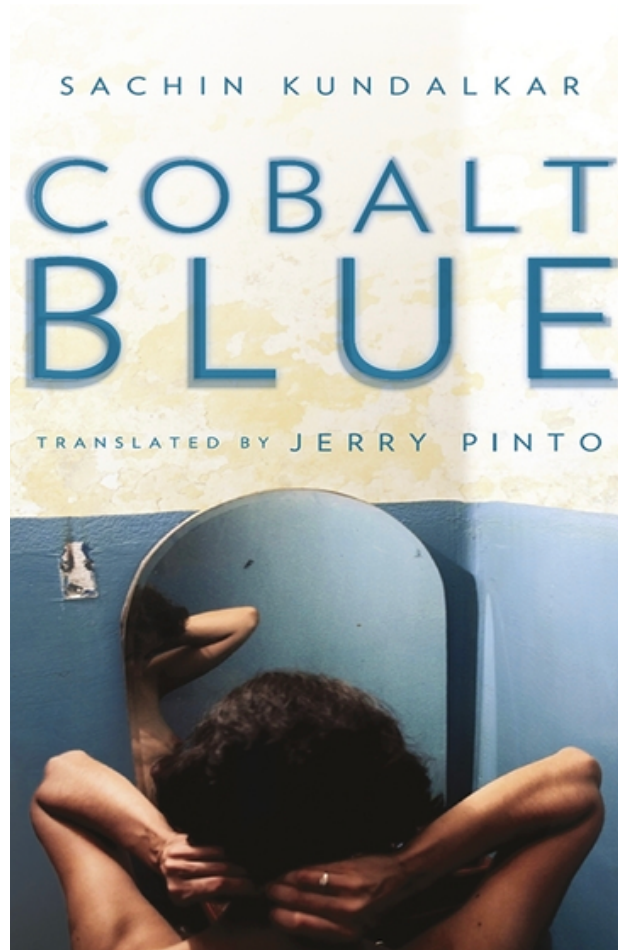
## BROTHERS

The story of Tapti Gaina is intimately linked with the lives of two men, her husband and his brother. Exploring caste, student politics, the freedom struggle and the Emergency, *Brothers* traces the history of the Gaina family, beginning with their village origins across the emerging metropolis of Ajmer and ending at the height of political power in Jaipur. It is a masterful portrayal of ambition, desire, betrayal and anguish, enacted against the shifting terrain of family dynamics.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Manju Kapur is the author of five novels. Her first, *Difficult Daughters*, won the Commonwealth Writers' Prize for Best First Book (Eurasia Section). *The Immigrant* was shortlisted for the DSC Prize for South Asian Literature.

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## COBALT BLUE

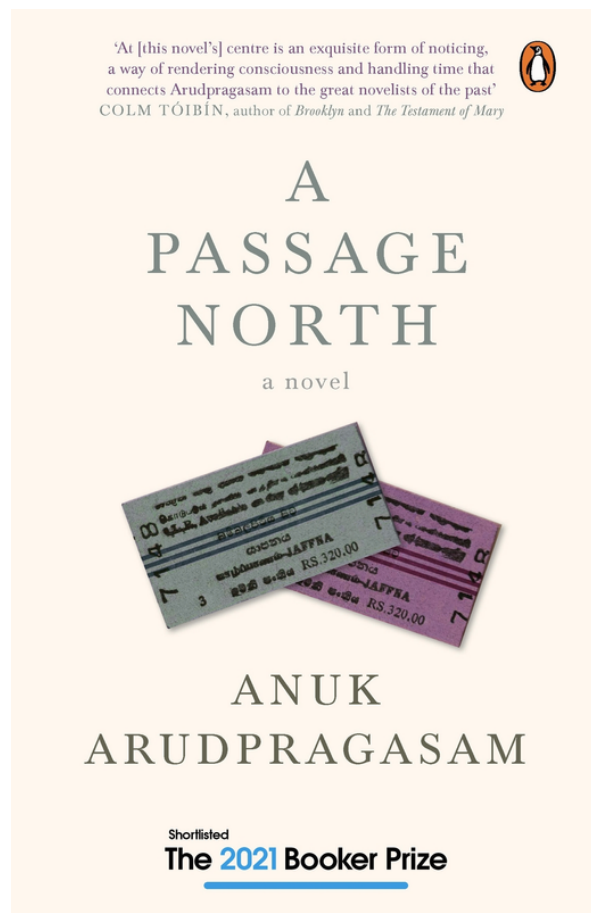
A paying guest seems like a win-win proposition to the Joshi family. He's ready with the rent, he's willing to lend a hand when he can and he's happy to listen to Mrs Joshi on the imminent collapse of our culture. But he's also a man of mystery. He has no last name. He has no family, no friends, no history and no plans for the future. The siblings Tanay and Anuja are smitten by him. He overturns their lives and when he vanishes, he breaks their hearts. Elegantly wrought and exquisitely spare, *Cobalt Blue* is a tale of rapturous love and fierce heartbreak told with tenderness and unsparing clarity.

## ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Sachin Kundalkar is a novelist, playwright and film-maker. He has written and directed four feature films. He won the National Award for the Best Screenplay for the film *Gandha* in 2008.

Jerry Pinto's debut novel, *Em and the Big Hoom*, won the Hindu Literary Prize. He also won the National Award for *Helen: The Life and Times of an H-Bomb*. He tweets as mahimkajerry.

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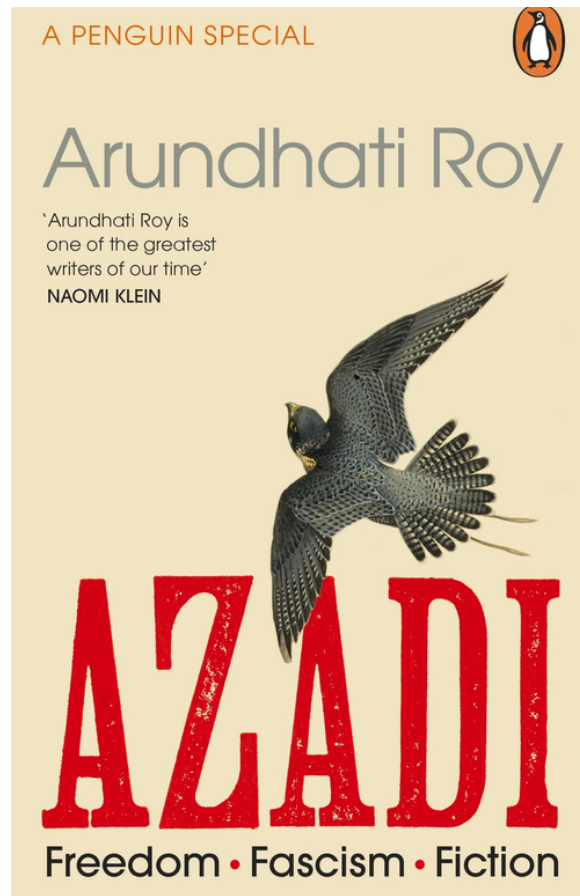
## A PASSAGE NORTH

Long-listed for the Booker Prize 2021, *A Passage North* begins with a message from out of the blue: a telephone call informing Krishan that his grandmother's caretaker, Rani, has died under unexpected circumstances—found at the bottom of a well in her village in the north, her neck broken by the fall. The news arrives on the heels of an email from Anjum, an impassioned yet aloof activist whom Krishnan fell in love with years before while living in Delhi, stirring old memories and desires from a world he left behind. As Krishan makes the long journey by train from Colombo into the war-torn Northern Province for Rani's funeral, so begins an astonishing passage into the innermost reaches of a country. At once a powerful meditation on absence and longing as well as an unsparing account of the legacy of Sri Lanka's thirty-year civil war, this procession to a pyre 'at the end of the earth' lays bare the imprints of an island's past and the unattainable distances between who we are and what we seek.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Anuk Arudpragasam was born in Colombo, Sri Lanka. At the age of eighteen, he moved to the United States, where he attended Stanford and Columbia Universities. His first novel, *The Story of a Brief Marriage*, was translated into six languages, won the DSC Prize for South Asian Literature and was shortlisted for the Dylan Thomas Prize. He currently divides his time between Sri Lanka and India.

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## AZADI

The chant of ‘Azadi!’—Urdu for ‘Freedom!’—is the slogan of the freedom struggle in Kashmir against what the Kashmiris see as Indian Occupation. Ironically, it also became the chant of millions on the streets of India against the project of Hindu nationalism. Even as Arundhati Roy began to ask what lay between these two calls for freedom—a chasm or a bridge?—the streets fell silent. Not only in India, but all over the world. COVID-19 brought with it another, more terrible, understanding of Azadi, making a nonsense of international borders, incarcerating whole populations and bringing the modern world to a halt like nothing else ever could. In this series of electrifying essays, Arundhati Roy challenges us to reflect on the meaning of freedom in a world of growing authoritarianism.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Arundhati Roy is the author of *The God of Small Things*, which won the Booker Prize in 1997, and *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness*, which was longlisted for the Man Booker Prize in 2017. Both novels have been translated into more than forty languages. *My Seditious Heart*, published in 2019, collects the work of a two-decade period during which Roy devoted herself to the political essay as a way of opening up space for justice, rights and freedoms in an increasingly hostile environment.

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### ENGLISH/APOCALYPSO (Flip-Book)

**ENGLISH:** Many of the poems in *English* are set in New York City around the events of September 11, 2001. In the faux prologue poem ‘About the Author’, the narrator finds himself ‘on Sixth, watching ruin, with / a handful of rain and a prophecy’: a citizen of no country except the republic that gives the book its title, the Republic of English. Here, English is more than a language. It is a river of the world.

**APOCALYPSO:** Jeet Thayil’s first full-length collection, *Apocalypse*, is a gritty, intense exploration of love and its secular limits. Song-like rhythms offer Biblical imagery and a lyric view of the wild side. Detached, tough, and vulnerable at the same time, the raw, intimate poems in this collection point towards the work that would follow. They examine and lay bare the mystery of love—its heartbreak and exaltation, and its redemptive, enduring power.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jeet Thayil worked as a journalist for twenty-one years, in Bombay, Bangalore, Hong Kong and New York City. In 2005 he began to write fiction. The first instalment of his Bombay Trilogy, *Narcopolis*, was shortlisted for the Booker Prize and became an unlikely bestseller. His book of poems *These Errors Are Correct* won the Sahitya Akademi Award and his musical collaborations include the opera *Babur* in London. His essays, poetry and short fiction have appeared in the *New York Review of Books*, *Granta*, *TLS*, *Esquire*, *The London Magazine*, *The Guardian* and *Alexander*, among others. He is the editor of *The Penguin Book of Indian Poets*.