

*The*

A MONTHLY LITERARY E-MAGAZINE

# Literary Mirror

A Venture of LITERIA Insight

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# Vartika Saxena

Indian Poetess & Artist

Vartika Saxena is a young poetess and artist. Through her blend of art and literature, she is spreading a positive message to the younger generation. Her father is a professor and mother is a housewife in Uttarakhand; India. Apart from writing poems, Ms. Saxena is also an avid dancer and aspires to complete her acting journey. Dreaming big by a girl from a small town and then working towards making them come true is truly worthwhile!

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From the  
**EDITOR'S  
DESK**



Even after getting into the doldrums of the various facades of life, the mere mortals are time and again reminded of the fragility of life. Those fallacies which we are accustomed to sideline in the quest of perfection every time and then surface after a certain point of time. At that time, the time ceases to exist and all other the essentials which were earlier a pre-requisite takes a back seat. We are just aware of the frugal nature of life which makes us in direct confrontation with the callousness of nature which has been somehow a by-product of our own ignorance over a span of time. Amidst the impending catastrophe of COVID-19, when the whole humanity is facing the backlash of quarantine and lockdown, all other aspects seem meaningless. The lives of humans are at the mercy of nature and every other passing second seems a terror in the eyes of the mortals alike. There has been a constant fight for survival amongst the people. In the wake of such calamity, The Literary Mirror dedicates its April Edition to all those who have lost their lives in this deadly health disaster.

**May Almighty provide solace to the serene souls!**

**Nitish Raj | Editor-In-Chief | The Literary Mirror**



## INTERVIEW

**My interest has been in the differences in diversity that never fail to strengthen the spiritual perceptions in me."**

*– Jayanthi Sankar, the author of Dangling Gandhi*

Jayanthi Sankar, born and brought up in India, living in Singapore since 1990, has been creatively active since 1995. This is her first novel after her critically acclaimed short stories collection – *Dangling Gandhi*. She has edited and translated the Global Anthology of 43 contemporary Tamil short stories 'Unwinding'-with contributions from 10 countries has been published in July 2019. She's been published in several magazines and ezines like the indianruminations, museindia, The Wagon, inOpinion. Her short stories have found places in various anthologies including 'the other.' She has been invited to participate in the panels of literary festivals such as (Asia Pacific Writers & Translators) APWT 2018 at Gold coast, Singapore Writers Festival, Seemanchal International Literary festival, ASEAN- India Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Writers Festival. Also a watercolor artist, she has been a freelancer for more than a decade and a half, with three years of experience in journalism.



**Jayanthi Sankar**  
Indian Author

### Q. Why 'Dangling Gandhi'?

**A.** As a simple metaphor and the title of one of the short stories, it fitted well as the title of the collection, perhaps better than what I had originally thought.

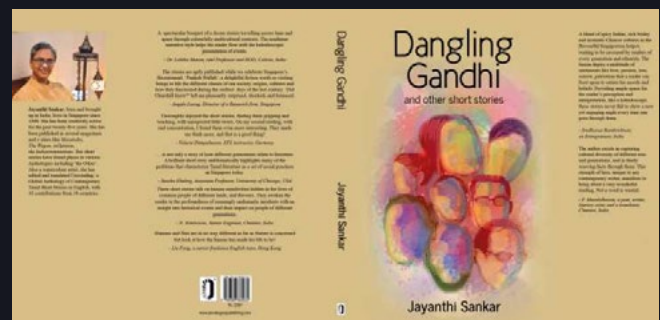
### Q. How much of conceptual research was necessary apart from empirical analysis and personal experiences?

**A.** Most of the stories required only the basic research as these are more of character-driven stories that are truly fictitious in nature and experimental in craft and form. For example, Mani in 'Punkah Wallah' was a character formed from the piece of information I had heard during my mid-teens made about 40% of the substance. When I read both online and in the national library to find out the situation of Singapore during the colonial times, I came across certain sociopolitical incidents during the

era that I'd decided to place my story and that added another 40% and the rest of it came from the social climate that prevailed in South India during the same period.

### Q. War has been the most touched upon historical fiction genre, especially the period of Indian independence is the go-to desi thought, how does *Dangling Gandhi* differ from the other stories about the era?

**A.** Half of the stories, set in colonial India, and Malaya talk of ordinary humans and their ordinary lives who normally would've existed away from war-torn or riots regions or those who lived their lives regardless of ways of their rulers or those who would've been affected only indirectly by the significant historical happenings of that particular era. I thought such ordinary people who constituted a larger portion of a population have hardly ever been depicted in any social or political history. It's always either extolling or criticizing groups or individuals.



Book: *Dangling Gandhi*

**Q. There are contemporary stories that alternate with the historical fiction in 'Dangling Gandhi'. Is there any reason for it, or was this an attempt to be relevant to the present generation?**

**A.** As a collection, I sequenced the twelve stories to alternate, primarily to bring a better vibrant reading experience and also to give the young readers a wholesome feel of reading the past and the present.

**Q. Most of your stories figure a male protagonist, how easy/tough was it for you as a woman to tap into a man's psyche?**

**A.** As any fiction writer, I tend to experiment on how my characters would think or should think and some basic and innate psychology that we humans possess can help in that. I have not had much difficulty in this in and out of the fictional space that gives both pain and pleasure. Although unintentionally the collection turned out to be more of male protagonists perhaps also because of the era that I touched saw more Indian migrants who used to be mostly men.

**Q. As you were born in India and have been a Singapore resident for the past 30 years and have experienced many cultures. How does this affect your thinking process?**

**A.** I have observed myself distinctly becoming more and more human and hence almost always unbiased as I got to experience more and more of diversity. My interest has always been in the differences in the diversity that never fails to strengthen the spiritual perceptions in me. I think it has always aided my evolution as a person. I've noticed in innumerable occasions, my acquaintances expressing that they rarely come across a person like me who thinks so lesser of self, who can never judge situations or persons where it might even sound normal to, and I believe wider exposure to various cultures along with reading alone can naturally bring this in one.

**Q. You've brought in a neutral perspective over physical disabilities, and they're not brought in as a bane or a boon to the host or the third person. How was this brought about?**

**A.** I didn't think of taking any stand on the differently-abled people. Just the way I wanted to depict the ordinary lives of ordinary people during extraordinary times, I created characters like Mani and Venu, who live their lives normally like their peers despite their physical shortcomings. It's neither to glorify physical challenge nor to bring any sympathy in the readers but only to show perhaps their inner strengths, more through the feel the readers would get rather than through my words.

**Q. With rising awareness and acceptance of the LGBTQ community and their ideologies, there's still ambiguity in the knowledge or even the definition of Queer, how were you able to tap into that genre through 'Am I a jar'?**

**A.** The story too carries the required abstractness to indicate the same but raises questions in a reader. 'Am I a Jar?' was based on the daughter of my ex-colleague friend. That young girl went through all the confusion in her life in search of the same. Years ago, that girl's mother had shared so much with me that I'd thought of a full-fledged novel first but the short story formed on a fine day.

**Q. How did Allegory being one of the least experimented writing styles, attract you?**

**A.** Normally, I play with the theme and characters in my mind before I start crafting, letting the theme and content choose their form. Different readers can read these stories in different depths. Although the stories are in a simple language, I won't deny that they are layered and require some effort to understand better.



R. Sredhanea

### Interview by R. Sredhanea

Book : Dangling Gandhi  
 Author : Jayanthi Sankar  
 Publisher : Zero Degree publishing  
 Price : ₹220  
 Pages : 154



**F**EATURED

# The True Saviour of Indian Classics - *Piyush Goel*

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**The woods are lovely, dark and deep.  
But I have promises to keep,  
And miles to go before I sleep,  
And miles to go before I sleep.**

---

The words of the immortal Robert Frost have always been an inspiration for the engineer-turned-poet Piyush Goel. Known as the 'Mirror Image Man'; Mr. Goel holds the unique distinction of writing the sacred Bhagwad Gita in mirror image. Talking about the idea, this poet who also holds a diploma in Vastu Shastra, tells that during a Katha on Shreemad Bhagwad Gita in 2003, an instantaneous idea erupted in his mind which motivated him to write.

Mr. Goel says, "It is the first Bhagwad Gita in the world written in mirror image. I wrote the epic in my own handwriting in two languages, Hindi and English. One can read all the 18 chapters and 700 verses in front of a Mirror.". The feat certainly shows the will power of a man who put everything readable in front of a mirror. He has handwritten Mirror Image Books with Pen, Needle, Mehndi Cone, Iron Nail, Fabric Cone Liner, Carbon Paper, Wooden Pen and Ink.

Mr. Goel has written Shree Durga Saptshati in Sanskrit apart from Shree Sai Satcharitra in Hindi and English. Not just the holy books but also the various Indian ancient classics have been rewritten time and again. Some of them include Madhushala with needle, Geetanjali with Mehndi Cone, Panchtantra with Carbon Paper apart from his own PiyushVani with Iron Nail.

A firm believer in the positivity, Mr. Goel has published four books of his own. His recent book "Sochna To Padeega Hee" is a collection of 110 motivational quotes and is available on various online platforms.

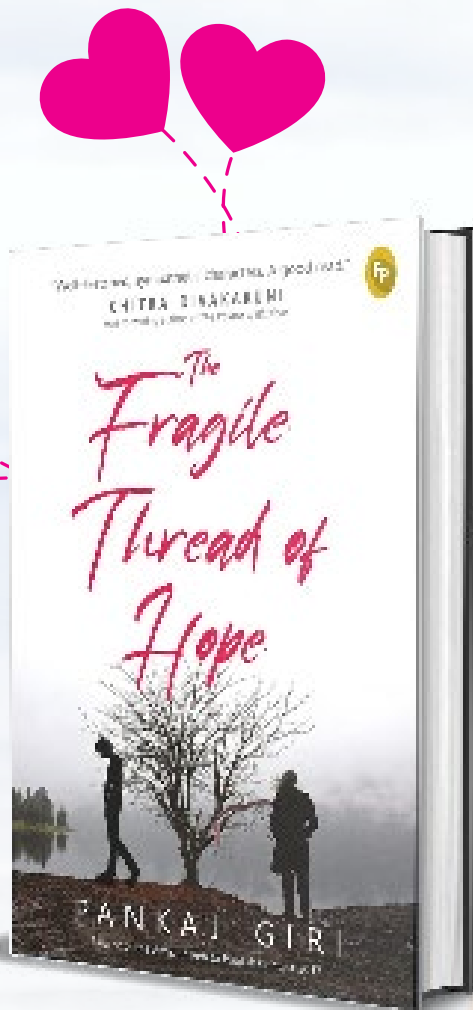


**Piyush Goel**  
Indian Poet

**An technocrat by profession and a poet by passion, Piyush Goel has earmarked his creativity in serving the sacred ancient scriptures of the country. Hailed as Mirror Image Man, Mr. Goel has rewritten various scriptures in the most unorthodox ways.**

# *Emotional ride till the last page*

by Pankaj Giri

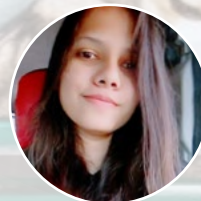


**Pankaj Giri**  
Indian Author

This book based on Gangtok is contemporary fiction and a heart wrenching emotional ride till the page no. 316. The two main characters feel the loss of their loved ones at a very young age as well as the tragedy strikes at the same time. Because of the fear of their tragic past, Fiona and Soham have lost the purpose of their life. Complete strangers help each other to overcome their grief. I love the character of Fiona's mom, a powerful lady, and her story asks the questions to the society. The vocabulary is strong, and the language is lucid. I found little errors but then also writing skills are solid. The cover is eye-catching, and the title is heart hoping. The story is a little bit of lengthy, but overall it's an all-time good read. I will recommend this book to all the readers; it's a tale of love, loss, hope, and faith.

## Book Review by **Hetal aka manali**

Book: Fragile thread of hope  
Author: Pankaj Giri  
Publisher: finger print  
Price: ₹199  
Pages: 317  
Rating: \*\*\*\*\* 5/5



**Hetal aka Manali**  
Indian Reviewer



*Poem***Are We Fortunate?**

---

We are fortunate, people tell me,  
 We are living in the twenty first century.  
 We have advanced, we have progressed .  
 We are living in a time which is best.  
 We have malls, we have theatres.  
 We have multiplexes showing great pictures.  
 We have computers, we have the internet,  
 And we can go to the disco after the sunset.  
 It's a new age, it's a new world  
 Of Kentucky fried chicken and MacDonald.  
 We have money, we have power.  
 Love we can buy or hire a lover.  
 Listening to all this, I felt amused  
 And said my dear friends, "I fully agree with you".  
 We surely are advancing all the time .  
 Virtues and Values we have left behind.  
 Like modern Napoleons we want to conquer more ,  
 Without realizing what lies in store.  
 We will meet Napoleon's fate too  
 If we don't stop advancing towards the Waterloo.

**- Written by**  
**Harinder Cheema, Poetess, India**

**About the Poetess**

**H**arinder Nadar Cheema is An Indian Poetess, An Author, A Motivational Speaker, She has been awarded "Author of The Year 2019 and "The Title Voice Of Indian Literature" She's Author of the book "The Temple Stop"

# FICTION

Story

## Reverse Wax Museum

"Pablo, have u finished your food?" – yelled Mary Pearl Kongsain, the name itself is enough. Mary, the daunting principle of a posh High School in central Kolkata is often taken for a ride by this amazingly sharp and supremely agile fair, well built and handsome five year old Pablo ,her apple of eye, her son. "Look if you don't finish we are not going to the Wax Museum – I am telling you...", yet another time Mary yelled. On the other side, Pablo is mesmerized by the cobweb across the ceiling of his room and is deeply engrossed in witnessing the spider weaving the cobweb. So the very symmetrical distribution of the strings, equidistant from the central axis and the path traversed by the spider to weave the web is same on both sides. All of a sudden only to dismantle his respite and awe ,Pablo's mother shakes him finally and said; "Get ready quickly – we need to leave now.". After seeing the wax museum we need to go to Smitha aunty's place and then to market and then back home .

"So stop thinking now and get ready – Fast Pablo – I am counting".

Mr Kongsein is an easy guy, seeing Mary to be highly hyper and annoyed by the sloth exhibited by Pablo, he readily got up and made Pablo wear the new shirt and blue jeans , combed his hair quickly and presented this deeply engrossed guy in front of Mary.

" Mom, I am ready , lets go!"- smiled Pablo. Peter Kongsain, Pablo's Father is an investment banker and is matured enough to handle the ifs and buts , the do's & dont's of life. He effortlessly manages the overall well being of the family which revolves around Pablo and his aggressive counterpart Mary. He is the fulcrum of their family and balances both sides quite at ease. While Mary is jittery and worried about the delay to reach the wax museum , Peter in his very own relaxing style took his new car out of the garage , took Mary on his side and Pablo at the back, checked drinking water in the car, tyre condition, pushed the clutch, maneuvered the gear , slowly released the clutch , pressed the accelerator and HUSHHHH..... Barring few instances of the inevitable traffic signals Peter's car reached the destination of Wax Museum 10 mins before the estimated time of arrival. So this is a short description of Peter and his poise – always in full command of any situation and events. Pablo has heard a lot about the Wax Museum from his friends. He is quite excited about coming here in one of the lazy holiday afternoon. He has heard that this place beholds the wax statues of all the glittering and distinguished celebrities people crave to meet. This concept was taken from Madame Tussauds. Fine arts and craftsmanship was exhibited by the painters and artists who make the wax statues. More than the statues, artistic detailing is interesting to watch and more interesting is the moods of the personas these craftsmen capture- Explicit work of art . Pablo was awestruck to begin with the " Mother Teresa's " wax statue. Pablo had read in newspaper , saw in documentary films that this great soul has devoted her entire life to humanity without asking anything in return. Pablo wonders that he has been quite familiar with the stooping down posture of the distinguished lady with hands folded and greeting "Namaste" to the masses. Pablo touched mother's attire to sense something but the status didn't move. It just casted the static smile and greeted Pablo as it greeted the other people. In the museum , Pablo felt there are two aspects to be looked at, the displayed and not displayed. The people visiting the museum also somehow join to be a part of the antique and rich experience. The mount of hype and enthusiasm displayed for taking selfies with each statue is quite interesting. Almost everyone wants to be framed in the common canvas with all wax statues. The merriment portrayed while posing seems like the wax statue is real. With statues if this

is the situation Pablo wondered what they will do with the originals. While Pablo was engrossed in these deep thoughts of human behavior, Peter and Mary were busy taking photos of each other. Mary was delighted to encounter the wax statue of her hearthrob, Tom Cruise posing "Top Gun" pose and took various clicks at various angles with the sensational guy ( don't think she remembered that it was a statue and not the true Tom) . A question was bothering Pablo and he leaned at Mary and asked, "Mom , can u hear me? I want to ask a question."

"Yes Pablo just tell me r u enjoying? See there is Batman & Super man also for you to pose – come I will click ur snaps.", quickly completed Mary.

"Mom can you see what I am seeing, I am seeing all the statues are quite sad. It seems they are very tired and wants to go to sleep." – Pablo iterated.

"Pablo just enjoy, don't think!" – ushered Peter who was so far busy taking selfies and feeling good about himself .

All of a sudden to Pablo's surprise, Pablo faced some resistance moving his hands and legs, he wanted to run to Mary but he saw Mary also was standstill. Pablo tried his best to move his hand but it was getting solidified and within a few minutes Pablo was standstill, all his body parts were fixed and converted to wax. Pablo could not understand what was happening, in order to shout he vigorously tried to open his mouth but nothing was moving. He found himself , Mary, Peter and all other visitors converted to wax statues and was standstill. The spotlights fired on them and there seemed to be no way to come out. Pablo was choked. While Pablo could see all of the moving bodies converted to wax, he discovered a change in the surrounding.

What is this? What is happening? Pablo said to himself. He saw the wax statues were getting melted and the real heroes were alive. They were moving their arms & body and roaming around Pablo and other visitors who have become wax statues. Pablo was totally jinxed. He was not able to understand the strange exchange of concepts. He saw Tom Cruise, Britney Spears, Sachin Tendulkar, Rabindranath Tagore loitering around aimlessly within the wax statues of them and others. Their individual styles , gestures have taken a back seat . They seem to be mesmerized with the wax statues including that of Pablo, Peter and Mary and seem to enjoy their break free time. Pablo was hearing a few intellectual exchanging notes among themselves and taking selfies with the statues and was being equally thrilled and excited to be a part of the reverse Wax Museum. The saga was not destined to be continued for long though. With a sudden thud and push , Pablo suddenly found himself leaning on the table of the cafeteria beside the museum and heard the yelling of Mary.

"Pablo...Get up, we need to go home now , our visit is over.". Pablo went home, followed the due course of activity and finally went to bed. But the instance of reverse wax museum kept him thinking on and on. The hypothesis was coming and going in his mind just like the swirls created when a water particle drops in the water filled tub. It create waves and then settles, again another synchronic wave and settles. Days passed, months passed and years passed by! The final school ANNUAL DAY has arrived and Pablo already was at the 10th standard and was the brightest kid in his school. He by that time had mastered in oration, writing , swimming and was a confident & hardworking son of Mary and Peter. In the formal closing of the school Annual Day function father Alter declared that Pablo will narrate a speech on one of

his favourite topics and that could be anything Pablo wishes . Pablo , the smart guy went up to the stage, looked at the huge audience of aspiring parents and started, "My Favourite topic is Wax Museum." -then went on effortlessly describing the strange experience of a little boy in wax museum.

He paused and started again, "I wonder how I was dreaming the reverse concept, I wonder what triggered such a bizarre dream. But when I thought about it at length the analogy struck in my mind. Every one of us deserves a fair chance of being themselves, not to be taught, not to be directed, not to be ordered and not to be moulded. When we do something extraordinary due to our relentless perseverance we also somehow start feeling that we are superior, we have some power that the guy next door does not have, hence we start publicizing ourselves, start putting banners, hoarding and allure big business tycoons to sponsor us, our deeds, our creations in films, novels, studies etc. In all these hustle and bustle one basic thing we often forget rather overlook and undertreat and that is "Who made us famous?". We forget that it is the common people, the guy next door who made us famous. They are purchasing the creations we are proud of and hence our number game increases. They are the ones who go to theatres to see our films, they are ones who take immense toil travelling in local train to reach the spot where our performance is staged, they are the ones who go fanatic taking a single click with us by our side, they are the ones who we cast a plastic smile and wear the power turban when we meet them in street. So shouldn't they be given a chance to pose as statues and we look to them, live their pains for a moment, think a little more on their daily grind and say, hey! Look, I want to pose with the guy who took my autograph a couple of days back? With that note followed by pin drop silence, the auditorium of the Annual Day function filled with the sounds of the clapping hands, tears and emotions.

**- Written by**  
**Sumana Dutta Choudhary**  
**Author, India**

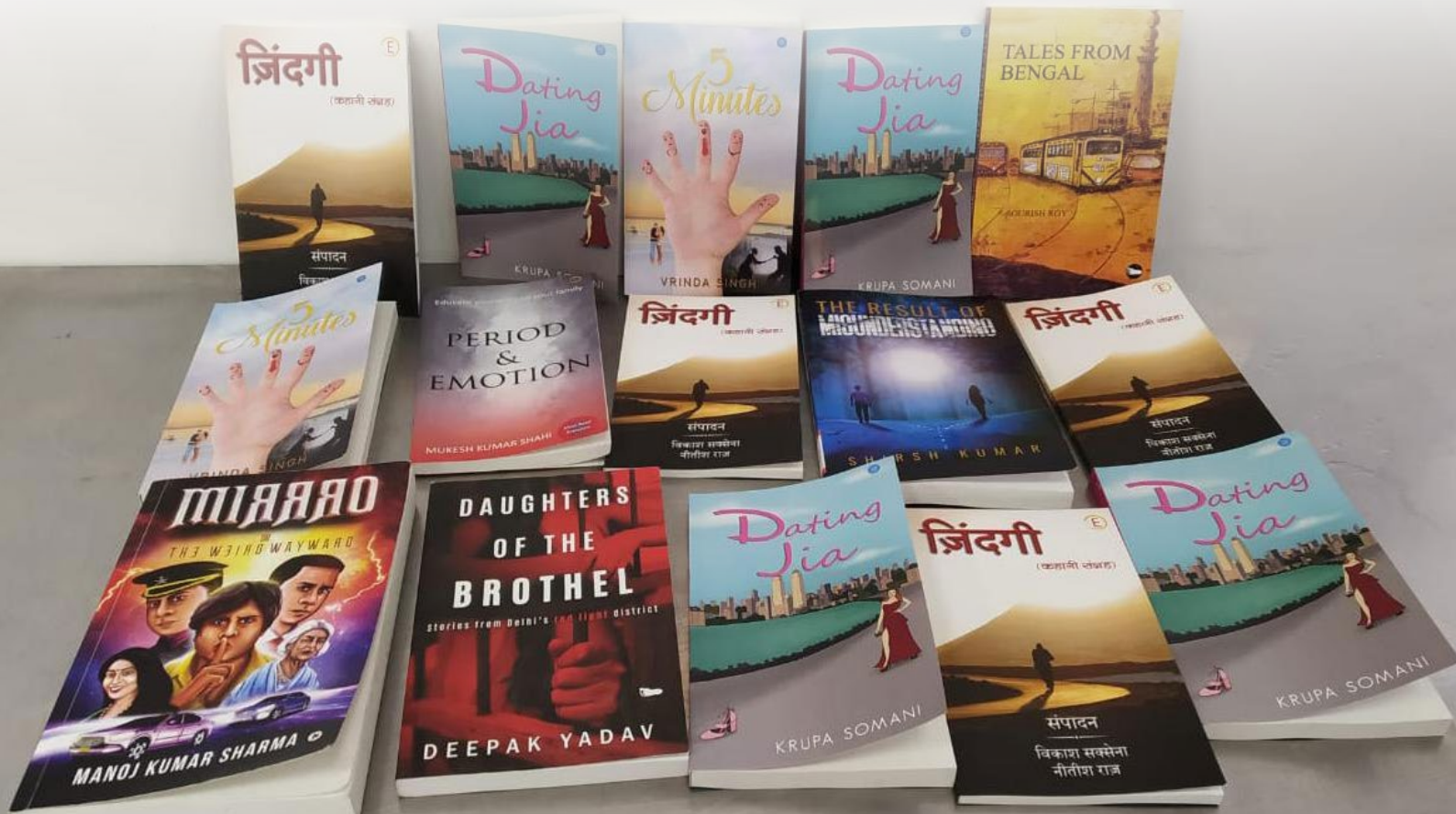


**Sumana Dutta Choudhary**  
Indian Author

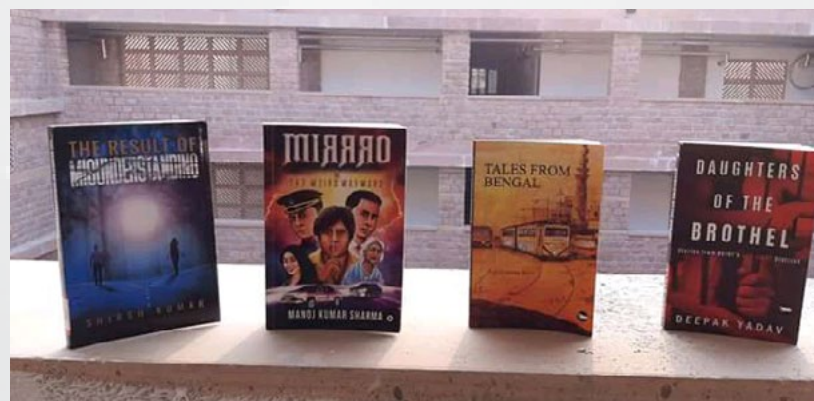
Sumana is a rare combination of creative thinking with a strong scientific professional background. Writing fiction short stories with a purpose has been her greatest passion. A Biochemical engineer by profession and working in a renowned healthcare company Sumana enjoys writing short stories on myriad subjects which connects readers to the foundation of human existence. She has been independently contributing series of stories in her blogsite . Writing fiction short stories with a purpose has been her greatest passion.



# Exciting Masterpieces on Display



Find the bunch of exciting masterpieces which got displayed during IGNUS 20, the Socio-Cultural event of IIT Jodhpur. The books which covered various themes not just raise a charm amongst the IITians but also to the students from all around the country. Period & Emotion by Mukesh Kr. Shahi, Mirro@The Weird Wayward by Manoj Kumar Sharma, The Result of Misunderstanding by Shirsh Srivastava, Daughters of the Brothel by Deepak Yadav, Alfaaz-e-Mahi by Manju (Mahi Rai) Tales From Bengal by Sourish Roy.



# IN THE SEASON OF PILGRIMAGE

My heart is missing your great house  
 On your hounrable holy land  
 From here I smell the scent  
 Of musk in its dust and sand  
 Oh Allah call me to come  
 Give me a chance to cry to hymn  
 Descend me in your sacred place  
 To gain the forgiveness and purify  
 My heart to shine my face  
 My heart will run before may legs chase  
 Oh Allah I need your tenderness  
 Your mercy,your protection and forgiveness  
 I'm alone without you  
 I have lost ,who save me who??  
 Without your mercy  
 What can I do??  
 I was dreaming,but now I know, I know.  
 I miss you ya Muhammad  
 Peace be upon you  
 Peace be upon you  
 Ya Habib Allah  
 Ya Nabi Allah  
 May Allah grant me your intercession  
 After my following your path, your messian  
 There is no God but Allah  
 And Muhammad is the messenger of Allah  
 Labik ya Allah  
 Labik ya Allah  
 Assuplication of my heart  
 As a child during the moment of birth,  
 Crying, scared from the start,  
 From this point,from this part,  
 The earth was created  
 And my sins must not be repeated,  
 I will do the best  
 Cause my life is my serious test,  
 We run sometimes to stop,  
 We go down thinking we are on the top,  
 Who collects us from dust like the lop,  
 Who guilds our souls to rise us to the top,  
 The question is here,  
 The answer still there,  
 In the holy land of bakkah,  
 The answer should be near,  
 The answer will be near.

- *Written by*

**Rasha Al-Hussaini, Poetess, Egypt**

## About the Poetess



**R**asha Al-Hussaini, an Arts graduate by qualification has been a faculty at Al-Azhar University of Cairo. Her artistic quotient has been quite evident in the various forms of art which includes a novel, poetry collection and a poetic drama.

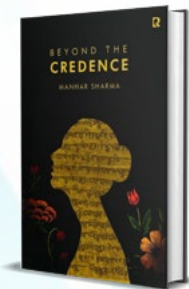
# Books of the Month



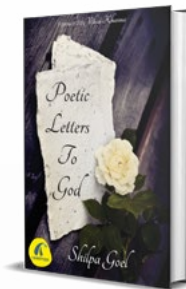
**Book** : Sirf Tum Hi  
**Author** : Peeyush Umarav  
**Publisher** : Bookclinic Publishing  
**Price** : ₹149  
**Pages** : 92



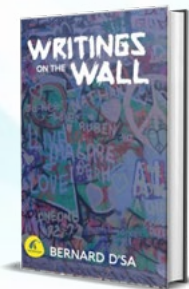
**Book** : A Steaming Cup Of Tea  
**Author** : Krusha Sahjwani Malkani  
**Publisher** : Amazon Kindle Edition  
**Prize** : ₹49  
**Pages** : 49



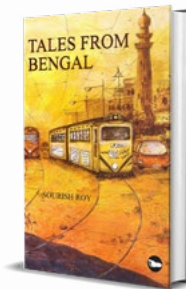
**Book** : Beyond The Credence  
**Author** : Manhar Sharma  
**Publisher** : Rumour Publication  
**Price** : ₹159  
**Pages** : 150



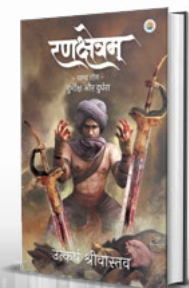
**Book** : Letters To God  
**Author** : Shilpa Goel  
**Publisher** : Raindrops Publisher  
**Price** : ₹200  
**Pages** : 154



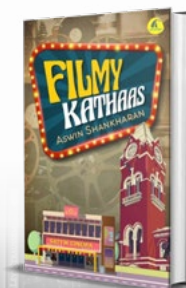
**Book** : Writings In The Wall  
**Author** : Bernard D'sa  
**Publisher** : Raindrops Publishers  
**Price** : ₹399  
**Pages** : 128



**Book** : Tales From Bengal  
**Author** : Sourish Roy  
**Publisher** : Bigfoot Publication Pvt. Ltd.  
**Price** : ₹199  
**Pages** : 113



**Book** : Rankshetram Part III  
**Author** : Utkarsh Srivastava  
**Publisher** : Anjuman Prakashan  
**Price** : ₹150  
**Pages** : 296



**Book** : Filmy Kathaas  
**Author** : Aswin Shankharan  
**Publisher** : Raindrops Publishers  
**Price** : ₹199  
**Pages** : 433


**E**VENT

## Mata Sundri College for Women, DU, celebrates Annual College Fest 'SAARANG' with Sufi Singer and Poet Satinder Sartaj Live in Performance

**M**ata Sundri College for Women, DU celebrated 'Saarang', the annual college festival on 24th and 25th February, 2020 under the aegis of President, DSGMC S. Manjinder Singh Sirsa; General Secretary, DSGMC, S. Harmeet Singh Kalka; Governing Body Chairman, Padma Shree S. Vikramjit Singh Sahni; Member Governing Body Dr. Rawail Singh, Member Governing Body, S. Prithipal Singh Sahney; Principal of college, Dr. Harpreet Kaur, and the Convener of festival Dr Suprita Jha.

The two day celebration saw the participation of more than 500 students from DU and other universities as Jamia Milia Islamia, Guru Gobind Singh Indraprasth University etc. The motto of the fest was making learning festive and there were many competitions for students keeping in mind their academic, spiritual, artistic and performative interests. Events such as Quiz Competition, Sanskrit Shlo-kavriti and Vaartah, and Debate competition which helped students sharpen their awareness of contemporary topics in various fields of knowledge. The topics of all these competitions were chosen to expose students to the most current questions facing our society, such as our responsibilities while using social media in the age

of Information Technology and women empowerment. Guru Nanak Paper Reading with its theme "Guru Nanak Ji as the Redeemer of Humanity" helped to tie all knowledge to spiritual ethos. Saarang 2020 was mindful about the environmental responsibility that is owed by all to their future generations. Events such as Eco-Innovation were held to encourage students to come up with innovative solutions to the obstacles to sustainable development. Indian traditions of song and dance were encouraged with events like Thirak, Mehfil-e-Ghazal and Sur Sarita. Creativity and art combined with social messages formed the basis of competitions such as Nukkad Natak and Rangoli, and the fields of marketing and information technology found platforms in Ad-o-Mania and Coding Competition. To cap the festive learning, the college welcomed the renowned Sufi singer and poet, Satinder Sartaj for the Grand Finale of the festival. The concert was a huge success with students and staff singing along with the folk music that was redolent of traditional Punjabi culture, landscape and ways of life. Accompanied by his team, Sartaj produced a jubilant atmosphere for his audience, interspersed with reflective shayyari, and was appreciated particularly for his famous

song 'Sai'. Many fans who had long awaited the opportunity were able to meet the singer onstage and offer him their gifts such as portraits, bouquets, etc, which the singer graciously and gratefully accepted.



## Literature getting overshadowed by *Corona*

Literature has always been a torch-bearer but the current calamity of Coronavirus has acted as a blot. Various literary events which actively works in spreading positive message have come to a halt. Every authors have been urging us to remain safe and stay inside.







# Nidhi Sehgal

Indian Poetess

**Nidhi Sehgal**; a devoted mom dons multiple hats as a writer, poetess, reviewer and editor. Brought up in a small town of Uttar Pradesh, she is enjoying her marital life in the City of Taj Mahal, i.e. Agra. Writing being her passion is an everlasting dream for her. She has recently published; Nivita, her debut collection of Hindi poems.

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