

Newsletter

Vol. 18 Issue 1 JANUARY 2017

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Nehru
Centre



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Events At a Glance...

Art Gallery

INDIAN MASTERS' RETROSPECTIVE
Showcasing the works of Master Painter,
Shri Abdul Aziz Raiba

On view till Sunday, 1st January 2017
AC Gallery

Library

Olive & Jay: Beach Bungle: Workshop in two sessions
Written by Swapna Mirashi &
Illustrated by Sudakshini Ghosh

Date: Saturday, 7th January 2017
Time: Session 1: 11.00 a.m. to 1.00 pm
Session 2: 3.00 p.m. to 5.00 pm
Venue: Hall of Harmony

Book Events

Who stole my calories?
Written by Madhuri Ruia

Date: Saturday, 21st January, 2017
Time: 4.30 p.m. Venue: Hall of Harmony

Charles Freer Andrews:
A crusader for human rights
Written by Mary Thomas

Date: Monday, 23rd January, 2017
Time: 4.30 p.m. Venue: 'Who Are We' Hall

RSVP for all events required:
aratidesai@nehru-centre.org

Cultural Wing

Discovery of India - A Dance Ballet

Tuesday, 10th January 2017, 6.30 pm
Venue: Nehru Centre Auditorium

TALKING ABOUT BOOKS

Shashi Tharoor's book "*An Era of Darkness: The British Empire in India*" was discussed at Nehru Centre on 9th November, 2016.

Professor Mala Pandurang, Vice Principal and Head of the Department of English, Dr. BMN College, Mumbai and Professor Michelle Philip, Vice Principal and Head of the Department of English, Wilson College, Mumbai gave their expert reviews about the book.

Following are some excerpts from the discussion.

Prof. Mala Pandurang said that the book has its roots in the Oxford Union debates where Tharoor was invited to speak on the proposition "Britain owes Repatriation to her Former Colonies". The video was seen by 3.5 million viewers and it went viral on the Internet. The popularity of the speech surprised Tharoor himself and in the introduction to the book, he wonders as to why there has been such a response to it. He suggests that it may be because there has been an inert truth which the book seems to unearth.

Prof. Pandurang further said that anybody who had seen the visual rendering of the debate, would no doubt, be impressed by Tharoor's skillful oratory powers, his articulation, his amazing grip over facts and his ability to recite figures. These are the skills that get reflected in the text and narrative of the book too. She also pointed out that in the book, he shares that he and his friend and publisher Mr. David Davidar saw the possibility of the speech being published into a book. Tharoor acknowledges his team of researchers at the end of the book and Prof. Pandurang thinks that is quite gracious of him because by acknowledging them it becomes a collective and collaborative effort. While the authorship of the text is Tharoor's, the actual presentation of the information is attributed to a larger team of people. What he does is a lengthy craft to bring the narrative to life by skillfully intervening facts with wit, humour and a lot of sarcasm.

Prof. Pandurang said that once one had read the book, one might feel that there is nothing new as such in the book. But there is a lot of information that is being presented in a way that makes it interesting to

contd. on page 2

return to and refer to what we might already be quite familiar with. She said that what holds her interest is that although she is not a student of colonial history of the Indian sub-continent, she does not profess to be a scholar of Indian history, and her interest is in the British Empire elsewhere - the African Continent, the book still appealed to her for its greater researched content. She said that she teaches post-colonial literature as well as post-colonial theory and this is the theory that examines the experience of colonialism and its aftermath and impact on a country. She mentioned about an African writer Chinua Achebe who described British rule as "One long night of slavery". She stated that the colonial imposition in India and the sub-continent was not as severe as it was in Africa and elsewhere and to some extent Tharoor's book made her reconsider the statement that it was 'pretty severe'. She said that Achebe also made a famous statement when he called upon the African reader and she quoted Achebe who said "Africa's post-colonial disposition is the result of a people who have lost the habit of ruling themselves. A meaningful solution will require the goodwill and concerted efforts on the part of all those who share the weight of Africa's historical burden." She thinks that Tharoor is perhaps asking Indian readers to do the same and he titles the text "An Era of Darkness" and very surgically dissects any misconception that the British Rule in India was one of enlightenment. Rather he sees it as "unmitigated disaster redeemed by the benign benevolence of the British rule". Tharoor keeps on saying over and over again that he is writing the book, as a response to apologies of the Empire who legitimize colonial rule as having left behind a legacy of freedom of speech, the press and Parliamentary democracy, which were the supposed benefits of

British rule according to the British. Therefore the book is a series of counter arguments against those who say that the British left behind a legacy for us to acknowledge. What we have, therefore, is a detailed account of the East India Company followed by the Raj and its impact on Indian society. We have an entire chapter that talks about how we had a thriving textile and shipping industry, how we had a steel industry and how all these were systematically destroyed for the purpose of economic and commercial profit. Therefore, the book is perhaps not really about the repatriation. He says also that it was not possible to place a monetary value for all that India had suffered during the British rule, but he says that the book expresses a need to remind the British that they need to atone for the past.

We could return later to the issue of atonement as it is a moral question. There is also a lot of debate about who has to take the responsibility of apologizing and obviously Tharoor thinks that the British still have to take the responsibility because of historical reasons.

While summarizing her talk, Prof. Mala Pandurang spoke about how Tharoor unleashes a multi-pronged attack on British legacy. There is a description of the East India Company, how it is a private monopoly which had hundreds of young Britons who got immensely rich and therefore rather than the British giving India a gift in any form, it was a kind of wealth that the

young Britons took with them when they went back.

Young men in their 20s were administering the areas of the European nations. Interestingly, Tharoor traces the roots of the current day corruption back to the idea of the British creating a middle class way - the middle men who could be bribed in order to seek favours from those who were in power. He points out that the benefits of the Empire which we talk about - the Civil Service, railways, language, tea, cricket - they were all designed to serve the British interests and if we got anything out of them, that was just incidental.

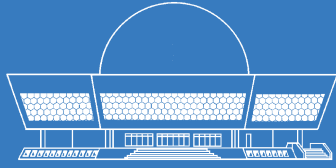
They were not really here to serve Indian interests in any way and the section that Prof. Pandurang found most interesting was the one on 'Empires of the Mind' where he focused on literature and education and spoke in detail about how the English language was imposed on the Indians. The Indian Civil Services are referred to by Tharoor as the 'un-Indian civil service'. He says that they 'ruled 19th century India with unshakeable self-confidence, buttressed by protocol, alcohol and lot of gall.'

Prof. Pandurang concluded by saying that the book 'An Era of Darkness: The British Empire in India' is an outstanding book in which Tharoor has in his own words, 'taken all the arguments conventionally made in favour of Empire and systematically countered them.'

What Nehru said...

"If our agricultural production is of positive instead of deficit qualities, not only would foreign exchange be saved but we would have a stable agricultural basis on which to build our industry and defence efforts. The fact that we produce enough in our agriculture is as important as guns."

January 18, 1963



NEHRU PLANETARIUM

SKY SHOW : 'Edge of Darkness'

Timings

12 noon (Hindi) 1:30 pm Marathi)
3:00 pm (English) 4:30 pm Hindi)

(MONDAY CLOSED)

SPACE SCIENCE LECTURE by Dr. Jaydeep Mukherjee

Dr. Jaydeep Mukherjee, Director, NASA Florida Space Grant Consortium, Florida Space Institute, Florida, USA delivered a Space Science Lecture on "International Space Station: Earth Orbiting Humanity's Home" on Wednesday, 30 November 2016 at 6 pm. in the Sky Theater of Nehru Planetarium, Nehru Centre, Dr. Annie Besant Road, Worli, Mumbai 400018. We bring you the summary of the talk.



Dr. Jaydeep Mukherjee

Dr. Jaydeep Mukherjee said that the International Space Station (ISS) is the most complex international scientific and engineering project in the history and the largest structure humans have ever put into space. The ISS serves as a microgravity and space environment research laboratory in which crew members conduct experiments in biology, human biology, physics, astronomy, meteorology, and other fields. An international partnership of space agencies in 15 countries provide and operate the elements of the ISS. It has been visited by astronauts from 18 countries and still counting.

Building the ISS in space is like trying to change a spark plug or hang a shelf, wearing roller skates and two pairs of ski gloves with all your tools, screws and materials tethered to your body so they don't drop. Living and working on the ISS is like building one room of a house, moving in a family of three and asking them to finish building the house while working full time from home.

The space station flies at an average altitude of 248 miles (400 kilometers) above Earth. It circles the globe every 90 minutes at a speed of about 17,500 mph (28,000 kph). Astronauts and cosmonauts witness around 15 sunrises and 15 sunsets every day. Air resistance causes the ISS to lose up to 5 cm/s (0.1 mph) of velocity and 100 meters (330 ft) of altitude each day. So every once in awhile they need to boost its orbit back to where it should be. There are two ways to do this ... either by using an on board thruster in the Zvezda Module, or the engines of a spacecraft docked with the ISS.

Gravity is a constant force on Earth. It cannot be completely controlled or removed in experiments. It dominates and masks other forces in processes. The ISS provides a laboratory environment to control this force. Research on the ISS includes Biological Sciences and Biotechnology, Human Research, Physical Sciences, Earth and Space Science, Technology Demonstrations, and Education.

Some of the research presented in this talk include, Protein Crystallization in Space, Growing plants on the ISS, effects of space flight on humans (spine elongation, central fluid shift, dizziness and nausea, vision, and radiation) and series of experiments mounted externally on the ISS that investigates the effects of long-term exposure of materials to the harsh space environment.

More than 1,760 research investigations from researchers in more than 83 countries have been conducted to date on the ISS. ISS educational activities on orbit have reached more than 42 million students across the globe.

STAR CHART FOR JANUARY 2017

Use the Chart :

Early month : 10 p.m.
Middle month : 9 p.m.
Late month : 8 p.m.

As the New Year begins we still have Mars, with its reddish hue and Venus, dazzling white right above the western horizon after it gets dark. The Moon joins them in the first week of the month. Thin lunar crescent can be seen right below the two planets on the 1st of Jan 2017. Next day on 2nd the Moon can be seen right above Venus. Then on 3rd it will be above Mars.

As Moon continues its journey on the celestial sphere, on 9th Jan it will occult (or eclipse) Aldebaran (Rohini). For the observers in Mumbai the disappearance will take place when the Sun would still be above the horizon. The reappearance will be at 7:20 p.m.

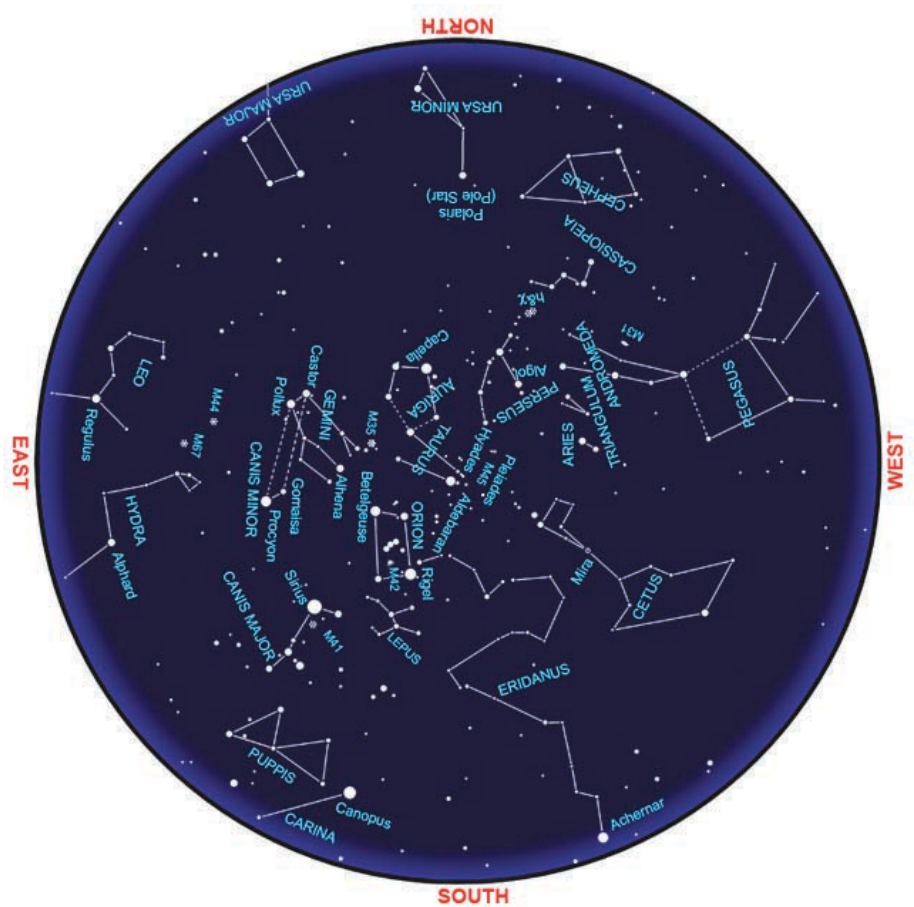
Regulus (Magha) will be within 1° N of Moon after midnight of 14th and both can be seen together above western horizon before sunrise.

Jupiter (Guru) that rises soon after the local midnight is at west of Spica (Chitra), one of the brightest stars in the sky. Jupiter is closing on to Spica. On 1st of February it will be less than 4 degrees from the star.

On the night of 18th the Moon passes within 3° N of Jupiter. Later in the morning (of 19th Jan) we have a good chance to see Mercury (Budh) before sunrise above the eastern horizon. Mercury is at its Greatest Western Elongation of 24.1°.

On 24th January, Saturn (Shani) and Moon can be seen together before the sunrise. Saturn will be about 3° S of Moon.

Again on 31st January Mars, Venus and Moon will be together after sunset above western horizon.



The map shows slightly more sky than that will be visible from a given location. Thus the map can be used elsewhere in India at 21:00 hrs Indian Time. Hold the chart vertically before your eye and turn it until the geographical direction you are facing shows at the bottom of the chart.

Phases of the Moon (timings in IST hh:mm)			
First Quarter (Shukla Paksha Ashtami)	Full Moon (Poornima)	Last Quarter (Krishna Paksha Ashtami)	New Moon (Amavasya)
6 Jan., 01:17	12 Jan., 17:04	20 Jan., 03:44	28 Jan., 05:37

(Disclaimer: The Indian names of the stars and planet, given in parenthesis for the purpose to remind the reader that India has a rich astronomical tradition. We do not subscribe to astrology.)

Cultural Wing

Discovery of India

*Insaaniyat Ka Zakheera
(The Humanity)*

A Dance Ballet

Nehru Centre is happy to present as part of its monthly programme - "Discovery of India - Insaaniyat Ka Zakheera (The Humanity)", dance ballet on humanity based on historical facts of our glorious past.

Written, Concept & Design:

Shri L. A. Kazi

Director, Culture,
Nehru Centre

Music:

Shri Narayan Muni

Choreography & Sanskrit Shlokas:

Dr. Sandhya Purecha

Vocal:

Shri Sanjeev Chimmalgi

Commentary:

Ms. Sarita Sethi

Visuals:

Ms. Ketki Kelkar

Music Recorded at:

Audiogenics Studio, Prabhadevi

Date: Tuesday, 10th January 2017

Time: 6.30 pm

Venue: Nehru Centre Auditorium

Entry: Entrance Cards will be available on Saturday, 7th January 2017 from 10.30 am until availability of entrance cards from the Ticket Counter of the Nehru Centre Auditorium.

Review

Nehru Centre's

28th Mushaira

اردو تہذیب کا حسین منظر نامہ



Janab I. M. Kadri inaugurating the Mushaira along with Janab Mateen Amrohvi, Prof. Shehpar Rasool, Janab Shamim Tariq and Janab L. A. Kazi



Janab Shamim Tariq conducting (Nizam) the Mushaira. Also on the dais are local and outstation participants.



Dr. Mumtaz Munawar reciting her ghazal at the Mushaira



Lovers of Urdu poetry had gathered in large number to enjoy the Mushaira



Prof. Shafi Shaikh enthraling the audience at the Mushaira



Janab Mateen Amrohvi presiding (Sadarat) over the Mushaira

Nehru Centre's 28th Mushaira was held on 17th December 2016 at the Nehru Centre Auditorium. It was inaugurated by Janab I. M. Kadri, General Secretary, Nehru Centre alongwith Janab Mateen Amrohvi, Prof. Shehpar Rasool and Janab Shamim Tariq.

Eminent Local and Outstation Poets enthralled the audience with their choicest of ghazals and nazms. The Mushaira was a grand success.

Programmes for January 2017

AKSHAYA THOMBRE



Painting by Akshaya Thombre

Akshaya has completed Textile Designing. She does calligraphy on various mediums and teaches calligraphy at Achyut Palav School of Calligraphy.

**Tuesday 3rd January to
Monday 9th January 2017
(AC Gallery)**

A. VASUDEVAN

A Vasudevan has secured B.F.A. and M.F.A. in Painting from Government College of Fine Arts, Chennai. He has had many solo and group shows and won awards. His works are thematic in water colours and pencils.

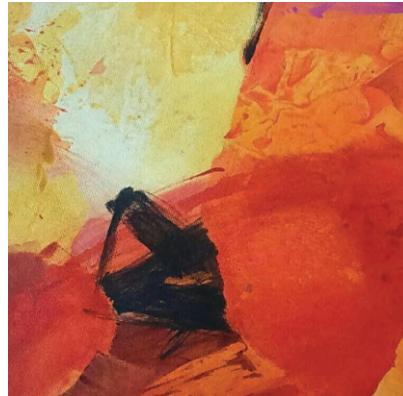
**Tuesday 3rd January to
Monday 9th January 2017
(Circular Gallery)**

**NANDKUMAR KULAYE .
AMIT KUMAR .
DNYANESHWAR INGLE**

Nandkumar secured Dip.Ed. and G.D.A. in Sculpture & Modelling from Sir J. J. School of Art, Mumbai. He has exhibited his

sculptures in many noteworthy exhibitions. He has received awards for his sculptures.

Amit Kumar has completed B.F.A. and M.F.A. from Patna University. He has exhibition his mix media paintings extensively in India and won awards. He also has attend many camps and workshops.



Painting by Dnyaneshwar Ingle

Dnyaneshwar obtained B.F.A. from Sir J. J. School of Art, Mumbai. He has had many solo and group shows and won prestigious awards. His paintings are abstract in acrylic on canvas and mix media.

**Tuesday 10th January to
Monday 16th January 2017
(AC Gallery)**

**RAJESHWAR NYALAPALLI .
APPAM RAGHAVENDRA .
KONDA SHRINIVAS RAO**

Rajeshwar obtained B.F.A. and M.V.A. from Hyderabad. He has to his credit over 60 shows and participated on State and National level shows. He has won International awards for his figurative paintings in acrylic on canvas.

Appam hails from Telangana. He attained B.F.A. and M.F.A. in Painting from Hyderabad. He has had many shows, attended art camps and won many awards. His paintings

are figurative in distinct style in acrylic and oils.



Painting by Konda Shrinivas Rao

Konda studied in Hyderabad. He worked in Ramoji Film City, Hyderabad. Over 50 exhibitions are to his credit and won prestigious awards and Gold medals for his works. His paintings are in bold colour in oils and acrylic on canvas.

**Tuesday 10th January to
Monday 16th January 2017
(Circular Gallery)**

ANANT DERE



Painting by Anant Dere

Anant secured A.T.D.; G.D.A. and M.F.A. in Fine Art, specializing in Illustration from Pune and Aurangabad. He designs book covers and illustrations for many magazines and news papers in Pune. His figurative compositions are in acrylic on canvas.

**Tuesday 17th January to
Monday 23rd January 2017
(AC Gallery)**

SAMRUDDHA PUREKAR



Painting by Samruddha Purekar

Samruddha has completed B.V.A.; G.D.A. and M.V.A. in Painting with First Class, specializing in Portraiture. She has participated in major State Art exhibitions and won many awards. Her portrait paintings are in oil, acrylic, water colour and pencil.

**Tuesday 17th January to
Monday 23rd January 2017
(Circular Gallery)**

**VINAY SANE .
PRADIP SARKAR .
PARTHA PRATIM DAS .
BHALCHANDRA MANDKE**



Painting by Vinay Sane

Vinay is a self-taught artist by profession he is B. Tech and M.Tech from I.I.T., Mumbai. He has had many exhibitions of his abstract paintings in India and one at Singapore.

Pradip has Diploma in Fine Arts from British Institute, Mumbai. He has many group and solo exhibitions to his credit. His paintings are figurative in different style in acrylic on canvas.

Partha graduated in Fine Arts from Kala Bhavan, Shantiniketan, West Bengal. He did Post Graduation in Animation Film from N.I.D., Ahmedabad. He has many noteworthy exhibitions to his credit and won many awards on International level for his Animation Films. His short films are nominated

for International Film Festival at Spain, Brazil and Japan. His painting in oil and acrylic on canvas depict sub-conscious mind and dreams of human being.

Bhalchandra obtained G.D.A. in Fine Art from Pune. He has had many solo and group shows in India and won many awards. His abstract paintings are in oil, acrylic and mix media on canvas.

**Tuesday 24th January to
Monday 30th January 2017
(AC Gallery)**

Indian Masters' Retrospective | Shri Abdul Aziz Raiba | B: 20.07.1922 D: 15.04.2016



Shri I. M. Kadri inaugurating the exhibition by lighting the traditional lamp. Also seen with him are Shri Shakib Raiba and Shri Najeeb Raiba



Shri I. M. Kadri, General Secretary, Nehru Centre and Smt. Bakul Patel, Jt. Secretary, Nehru Centre admiring the paintings of Shri A. A. Raiba during the exhibition



Shri I. M. Kadri released the catalogue on Shri A. A. Raiba. Seen with him are Shri S. K. Kulkarni, Director, Finance & Admin., Nehru Centre, Shri Najeeb Raiba and Shri Shriram Khadilkar



Shri I. M. Kadri addressing the audience at the catalogue release function of Shri A. A. Raiba during the Indian Masters' Retrospective exhibition

The 24th edition of the Indian Masters Retrospective was organized by showcasing the works of the Master Painter Shri A. A. Raiba. The exhibition was inaugurated on 15th December 2017 by Shri I. M. Kadri, General Secretary, Nehru Centre. He also released a catalogue on Shri A. A. Raiba published by Nehru Centre, on this occasion. Also present on the occasion was Smt. Bakul Patel, Jt. Secretary, Nehru Centre. The event was attended by a large number of artists and art lovers.

The exhibition will be open from 16th December 2016 till 1st January 2017 for the art lovers.

NEHRU CENTRE PUBLICATIONS

MUMBAI PAST & PRESENT * WITNESS TO HISTORY

* REMEMBERING EINSTEIN *

INDIAN ASTRONOMY A Source Book

EXPLORING THE UNIVERSE: The Planetarium Way

SCIENCE IN INDIA: PAST & PRESENT

DISCOVERY OF INDIA Abridged and illustrated

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8. HAREN DAS / 9. PROF. P. A. DHOND

10. COLLECTOR'S PRIDE / 11. K. B. KULKARNI

12. VINAYAK S. MASOJI

13. SAMAKALEEN (Contemporary Five Artists)

VINAYAKRAO WAGH * RAJARAM PANVALKAR

KRISHNAJI KETKAR * DATTAJIRAO DALVI

* GOVIND MALADKAR

14. NAGESH B. SABANNAVAR

15. NARAYAN L. SONAVADEKAR

16. "GURU-SHISHYA"

BABA GAJBAR & GANPATRAO WADANGEKAR

17. D. G. KULKARNI (DIZI)

18. MILLENNIUM SHOW

(A Century of Art from Maharashtra)

19. BALAJI TALIM & HARISH TALIM

20. S. L. HALDANKAR & G. S. HALDANKAR

21. VINAYAKRAO P. KARMARKAR

22. GOPALRAO DEUSKAR

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Olive & Jay: Beach Bungle: Workshop in two sessions

Written by Swapna Mirashi & Illustrated by Sudakshini Ghosh

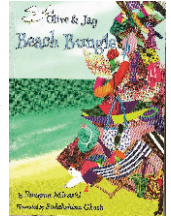
Theme: 'Getting all we need is important. Getting all we want is impossible. If we stop chasing the impossible, we can focus on the important.'

Synopsis: Olive & Jay are seagull siblings from the children's book Beach Bungle. During a fun play on the beach, Jay's first ever beach play day, Olive helps her younger brother Jay learn a big lesson in growing up:

'Don't wanna want want, when you need something....

Just get what you need and keep off the greed.

Pop the want bubble and stay out of trouble.'



Swapna Mirashi is an expert in financial literacy for children and young adults. Having lived in various parts in India and in Sydney, Australia, she is now based in Singapore



Sudakshini Ghosh is a veteran artist who works across mediums ranging from the traditional - pencil, oil, bronze - to the unconventional - coffee and graphic art. Having lived in Mumbai, Singapore, UK and US, she is now based in Kolkata.

Session I

Wonder More. Want Less!

A fun learn workshop on Need vs Wants for children 6 - 9 years

Time: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Date: Saturday, 7th January, 2017
Venue: Hall of Harmony

Session II

Helping Children Make Wise Choices - Now

Interactive talk for parents of children younger than 9 years

Time: 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Book Events



Who stole my calories?

Written by Madhuri Ruia

Meet the author and hear her talk about her new health and fitness novel, with some interesting nutrition tips.

Date: Saturday, 21st January, 2017

Time: 4.30 p.m. Venue: Hall of Harmony



Charles Freer Andrews:

A crusader for human rights

Written by Mary Thomas

The author will be in conversation with

Dr. Usha Thakkar and Shri Yogesh Kamdar

Date: Monday, 23rd January, 2017

Time: 4.30 p.m. Venue: 'Who Are We' Hall

RSVP for all events required: aratidesai@nehru-centre.org

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1st, 3rd & 5th Saturdays
from 10 am to 6 pm
2nd & 4th Saturday
from 10 am to 2 pm

Closed on Sundays and
public holidays

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