

Newsletter

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Nehru Centre



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Events At a Glance...

Library

Celebrate Environment with Poetry on World Environment Day

Ten poets will recite from their own poems on environment and other themes.

Concept and Curation:

Dr. Paramita Mukherjee Mullick

Date: **Monday, 5th June 2023**

Time: **4.30 p.m.**

Venue: **'Who Are We' Hall,
1st Floor**

Discovery of India Building

Culture Wing

Shaam-é-Afsaana

(Urdu Story Telling)

Date: **17th June 2023**

Time: **7.00 pm**

Venue: **Hall of Culture
Ground Floor,**

Discovery of India Building

Dear Subscribers

Please renew your subscription for the year 2023-2024 (April to March) so that the Newsletter can be sent to you without any break.

Please send cheque drawn in favour of 'Nehru Centre' only.

Constituent Assembly Debates

Language for the Union - Part III

The debate on languages continued.

Frank Anthony (Central Provinces)

"Mr. President, Sir, I have proposed that in the draft new Article 301-A, for the words 'Devnagari script' the words 'Roman script' be substituted.

Sir, in speaking on this subject, which unfortunately has become so highly controversial, may I, at the outset, claim that I have no axe to grind. I have been fortunate in that I come from Jubbulpore, a Hindi speaking area. I have also been fortunate in that from an early age I have learnt Hindi in Devnagari script. More than that, I have had to earn my living essentially through the medium of Hindi. The cross-examination of witnesses in criminal cases is generally done in the Central Provinces through the medium of Hindi.

May I say also that I accept that if India is to achieve real unity, a real sense of Indian nationality, then every one of us must accept that we must have a national language. Because I am Indian, because English is my mother tongue, I maintain that English is an Indian language. English is not the prerogative or the monopoly of the Englishman. It has become part of the people in different parts of the world. Although English is my mother tongue and though I claim English an Indian language, I realise that English

cannot, for many reasons, be the national language of this country. But the English language is one of the few good things that the British incidentally, perhaps unthinkingly, gave to this country, and so opened up a treasure house of literature, thought and culture to the Indian people. I cannot understand this attitude of bitterness against English, wanting to efface it and thereby do a deliberate disservice to our people. After all, a knowledge of English which our people have acquired over a period of 200 years is one of the greatest assets which India possesses in the international field. I say this without qualification that India's claim, India's acceptance of leadership in the international field is due largely, if not entirely, to the capacity of our representatives abroad to hold their own, more than hold their own, in speaking English in international forums.

Sir, at one time, there was no doubt in my mind as to what should be the national language. Before this unfortunate controversy was precipitated, I took it as axiomatic that Hindi would be the national language in this country. At that time, I say, I had no particular predilection as regards the script. I have been fortunate in that I know Devnagari script. It is one of the simplest scripts in the world. At that time, before this unfortunate controversy was started, I would have, without qualification, accepted Hindi in

Devnagari script as the national language. But, today, I have moved away from that. I say without offence that those friends of ours who have been ardent protagonists of Hindi have done the cause of Hindi great disservice by their intransigence and their intolerance. The non-Hindi speaking people have interpreted their speeches and their attitude as fanatical intolerance. Before this controversy started, we accepted Hindi as understood, not by a person who claims to be a person endowed with literary polish, but as understood by the man in

Kazi Syed Karimuddin
(Central Provinces and Berar)

“Sir, I would request that till a fresh general election is held and all members of the new House, both Hindus and Muslims, have been returned on the basis of joint electorate, this question may be postponed. The decision taken by that Parliament would be just and proper. In this connection, I also want to say that along with Devnagari script you should agree to keep Urdu script also. You have already agreed

before us has been drafted after much thought. I, therefore, support it generally.

It is the view of some people that they cannot recognise any language as the national language, though they may agree to accept one language as the official language. This, however, gives me much pain. When we regard India as a nation and are trying to make it one, there is no reason why we should call it ‘official language’. We must call it national language. If one language is accepted as the national language, then that would not imply that changes will be made in the languages of various regions. I have, therefore, tabled an amendment, that after five or ten years when a Commission or Committee is set up for promoting Hindi, it should also seek to promote the interest of every provincial language. When every province and every provincial language is developed, our national language will also be developed.

The Hindi speaking areas are in a majority. Hence, Hindi should be adopted as the national language. But the effect of this should not be the extinction of the various provincial languages and their literatures. Every provincial language should be protected.

In the end, I would only say that those who advocate the use of Roman script do not understand the very principles regarding the genesis of the script. The sound of the language, which is used to express it, is formed into the script. When written in Roman script, Hindi is difficult to understand and cannot be pronounced correctly. Hence, I say, the Roman script is totally unacceptable. Hindi written in Devnagari script should be accepted.”

... to be continued



Frank Anthony



Kazi Syed Karimuddin



Lakshminarayan Sahu

the street. What do we find today? A new kind of Hindi which is unfamiliar to the people, a highly Sanskritised Hindi.

I have given this amendment of Hindi in Roman script because I feel that looking at it objectively, if we look at it also in the larger interests of the country, we should accept it. Two million jawans, in the process of three or four years, during the war, were made literate in Hindi through the medium of the Roman script. I believe if we accept the Roman script in Hindi then there would be no difficulty at all in any of the provincial languages also accepting the Roman script. Sir, I feel that I have made out what I regard as a not unreasonable case for the consideration of Hindi in the Roman script being adopted as the national language.”

that English shall stay here for the next 10 or 15 years; then why are you denying the Muslims by banning Urdu. Clause (1) of Draft Article 301 says that the script shall be Devnagari. In U.P. there are thousands of Muslim government employees who are conversant with Urdu only; so, if you make Devnagari as the national language, then it would not be possible for them to remain in service. Unless you give them ten years' time to learn, they would not be able to learn Hindi. That is my request to you.”

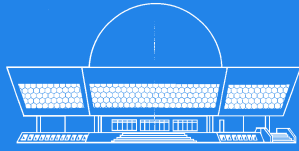
Lakshminarayan Sahu
(Orissa)

“Mr. President, I belong to Utkal, yet I fully agree to the adoption of Hindi as the national language. The resolution

What Nehru said....

There seemed to me something unique about the continuity of a cultural tradition through five thousand years of history, of invasion and upheaval, a tradition which was widespread among the masses and powerfully influenced them... And this panorama of the past gradually merged into the unhappy present... But that vision of five thousand years gave me a new perspective, and the burden of the present seemed to grow lighter.

...from Chapter 3, The Quest, The Discovery of India.



NEHRU PLANETARIUM

Tel: 91-22-24920510
Mobile : 9892890510

SKY SHOW : Biography of the Universe

12 noon (Hindi) 1:30 p.m. (Marathi)
3:00 p.m. (English) 4:30 p.m. (Hindi)

(MONDAY CLOSED)

Tickets will be available online and at the Booking Counter.
Visitors are expected to strictly follow Covid-19 norms.

Email: managernpmumbai@gmail.com

Earth's Atmosphere

The atmosphere of a planet is a spherical zone of gases and vapour between the planet and interplanetary space. Earth's atmosphere is the most dynamic and different from all other planets. Its nature and composition are crucial to life on Earth. Astronomers and space scientists regularly study the atmosphere of the Earth as it helps to understand the atmosphere of other planets and for space exploration. Most of our knowledge of various properties of the atmosphere has come from the weather balloons and satellites sent to study the atmosphere.

Nitrogen (78%) and oxygen (21%) are the main chemical components of Earth's atmosphere. Argon (0.93%), carbon dioxide (0.04%) and traces of neon, helium, methane, krypton, ozone, hydrogen and water vapour make up the rest. In comparison, carbon dioxide is the main component of the atmospheres of Earth's neighbouring planets, Venus and Mars as their atmosphere is devoid of oxygen. The large amount of oxygen in the atmosphere of Earth is due to the biological activity on this planet. The presence of oxygen in the atmosphere of any planet is taken as a good indicator of some form of life on that planet. The quantity of oxygen present in its atmosphere

suggests that some form of life must have appeared on earth three million years ago.

Properties of Earth's Atmosphere

The atmospheric pressure steadily decreases as the distance from the sea level increases. About 99.99997% of Earth's atmosphere lies within the 100 km zone above the mean sea level. This boundary is called the Kármán line. After that, the atmosphere blends into interplanetary space.

The temperatures in the atmosphere of other planets decreases gradually from the surface of the planet to the uppermost part of its atmosphere. The temperature in the Earth's atmosphere first decreases till a height of about 12 km above the surface. It then increases till a height of about 50 km, then starts decreasing again up to a height of about 80 km and then again starts increasing.

Based on these properties, which are governed by the physical process like direct heating by solar radiation, Earth's atmosphere is divided into five spherical zones: troposphere, stratosphere, mesosphere, thermosphere, and exosphere.

The **Troposphere** (from Latin *tropus* meaning 'to turn or change') is the lowest and densest atmospheric zone. It extends from the surface of the Earth to a height of up to 12 km. This zone contains about 75% of Earth's entire atmosphere. Most of Earth's weather activities like wind, rain, snow etc., take place in this zone. During the day, Earth's surface is heated by the sun and this, in turn, heats the air above it. The hot air rises and the cool air above it sinks down to be heated by the hot surface, thus creating a flow of wind. Close to the sea or water bodies, this rising wind carries water molecules leading to clouds and rain. Tropospheric temperatures decrease from an average temperature of 15°C at sea level to approximately 55°C. Most aircrafts fly in this zone and gliders and kites too reach higher altitudes with the help of the rising hot air.

The **Stratosphere** (from Latin *strata* meaning 'layer or sheet') begins above the troposphere and extends up to a height of 50 km. From here, the atmospheric pressure starts dropping down rapidly. The atmospheric pressure at the top of the stratosphere is 1/1000th of the pressure at sea level. This zone contains ozone that plays

a very important role in protecting life on Earth. Radiation from the Sun contains harmful ultraviolet (UV) rays which are absorbed by ozone. The absorption heats up the stratosphere and temperatures increase from about -51°C at the lower level of the stratosphere to -15°C at the top. Some commercial aeroplanes tend to fly in the lower level of the stratosphere.

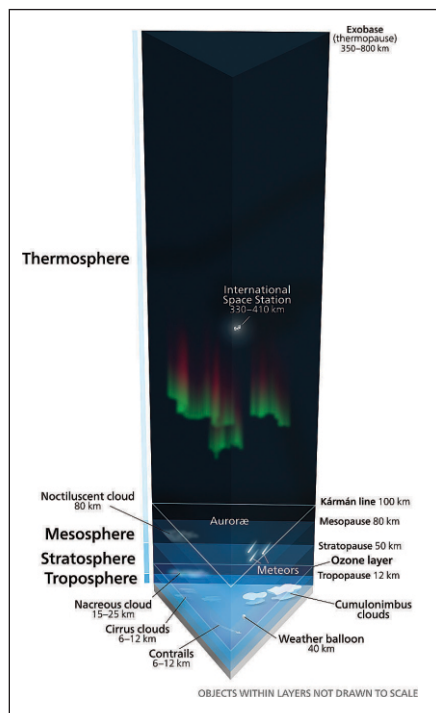
The **Mesosphere** (from Greek *meso* meaning 'middle' or 'intermediate') is the third zone that begins just above the stratosphere and extends to about 80 km. This is the coldest zone of the atmosphere of the Earth as the average temperature here is -15°C . It has also been the most difficult to study. Weather balloons or specially designed aeroplane laboratories do not fly so high and the weather satellites orbit well above this zone. Hence, the mesosphere has been mainly studied using what is called 'sounding rockets' and 'rocket-powered aircraft'.

What we know about this zone is that most of the meteors (shooting stars) burn out on entering it and noctilucent clouds* (night-shining clouds) occasionally form. These clouds are also known as polar mesospheric clouds.

The **Thermosphere** (from Greek *thermo* or 'warm') is the fourth zone of Earth's atmosphere. This zone is completely cloudless and free of water vapour. It begins above the mesosphere and extends to about 700 km above ground level. In this zone, the temperature rises from a lower level to the upper level. The increase in the temperature is caused by the absorption of

ultraviolet light and X-rays emitted from the sun and other celestial bodies. Most of the artificial satellites are placed in this zone. The International Space Station orbits at the lower level of the thermosphere, between 350 and 420 km above ground level. Some orbiting observatories to study X-rays are placed above this zone.

The **Exosphere** (from Greek *exo* or 'outer') as its name suggests is the highest zone of the atmosphere. It contains particles of hydrogen and helium. The density of these two gases is so low here that the atoms of hydrogen and helium rarely collide. This zone starts at the upper level of the thermosphere but its end is not very well defined. Many scientists put the limit to 10,000 km.



Earth's atmosphere

The exosphere is so far from the surface of the Earth that weather phenomena do not take place in this region. The northern and southern lights (*aurora borealis* and *aurora australis*) occur in this zone. As this zone is void of material, it offers the

least resistance to any object passing through it. Therefore, many artificial satellites are placed here to study UV/X-rays from the Sun and other celestial objects.

Within the above mentioned five zones, there are secondary zones with specific properties.

Between 50 to 1000 km above sea level lies the **ionosphere**. In this zone, the ionization of particles takes place on the side that faces the sun, hence the name. This zone helps in the propagation of radio transmission. The process of ionization stops at the side facing away from the Sun.

The **mesopause** lies between the mesosphere and the thermosphere. It is a zone of minimum temperature between the mesosphere and the thermosphere. The temperature here can be as low as -100°C . This zone has also been studied to observe global climate change associated with changes in the presence of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

Stratopause is an approximately 7 km zone between the stratosphere and the mesosphere. It lies between 48-55 km above sea level. The temperature here is about 2.5°C . Interestingly, the stratosphere has also been observed on other planets and on those moons of planets which have observable atmospheres.

* Noctilucent clouds are made of ice crystals that form on fine dust particles from meteors. These clouds can only form when temperatures are incredibly low and when there's water available to form ice crystals.

Culture Wing



Shaam-é-Afsana

The short story has been a part of Urdu literature for little over a century. During this period, it has seen some major phases including the early Romantic period, Progressive writing, Modernist writing, and the current phase. Although a number of writers wrote short stories during the first phase, it actually became a regular part of Urdu literature through the writings of Munshi Premchand. His notable short stories include *Kafan* and *Poos ki Raat*. With the publication of *Angaare*, a collection of works by many writers towards the end of the life of Premchand, it reached out to the common man. Writers like Ghulam Abbas, Saadat Hasan Manto, Rajinder Singh Bedi, Krishan Chander and Ismat Chughtai turned it into a major genre of Urdu literature.

The Culture Wing of Nehru Centre takes great pleasure in inviting lovers of Urdu literature to an evening of Urdu story-telling - Shaam-é-Afsana.

Shaam-é-Afsana will feature
Ishtiyaq Saeed & Wasim Aqueel Shah

Critical appreciation
Mohammed Rafi Abdul Khaliq Ansari



Ishtiyaq Saeed



Wasim Shah



Mohd. Rafi Ansari

Saturday, 17th June 2023, 7.00 p.m.
Hall of Culture

Entry: Free for all Urdu literature lovers on first-come, first-served basis

Review: Yaad Aaye Woh Zamana

On 28th April 2023, Nehru Centre paid a musical tribute to the talented composers, late Shri Khayyam and late Shri Madan Mohan.

Some lilting melodies composed by the duo were sung by Shri Anil Bajpai, Shri Rana Chatterjee, Ms. Mistu Bardhan and Ms. Ananya Bhowmick. The tuneful band of musicians was conducted by the inimitable Shri Ajay Madan. Shri Sandeep Panchwatkar compered the programme and shared a lot of important information about the life and works of Shri Khayyam and Shri Madan Mohan.

A packed-to-capacity auditorium reverberated with applause from the audience after each song and a standing ovation at the end of the show.

Below are some glimpses.



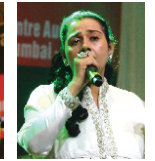
Rana Chatterjee



Ananya Bhowmick



Anil Bajpai



Mistu Bardhan



HARIT MEHTA



Harit makes sculptures from iron scrap. His abstract compositions too are colourful and soothing.

**Tuesday 30th May 2023 to
Monday 5th June 2023
(AC Gallery)**

ABHIJIT CHAUBAL



Abhijit has designed brochures, folders, ads and he also has many wall murals to his credit.

**Tuesday 30th May 2023 to
Monday 5th June 2023
(Circular Gallery)**

NISHIKANT PALANDE

Nishikant has received many prestigious awards for his portraits in mixed media.

**Tuesday 6th June 2023 to
Monday 12th June 2023
(AC Gallery)**

**A. SRINIVASA RAO
KONDA SRINIVASA RAO**



A. Srinivasa Rao Konda Srinivasa Rao

This pair of artists who hail from Andhra Pradesh, will display their works on nature in acrylic and water colours.

**Tuesday 6th June 2023 to
Monday 12th June 2023
(Circular Gallery)**

ARABINDA SAMANTA

Spirituality is the main theme of Arabinda's paintings in acrylic on canvas.

**Tuesday 13th June 2023 to
Monday 19th June 2023
(AC Gallery)**

ABOLI GURJAR

Aboli is an architect and a painter. She likes water colours and also does digital art on canvas.

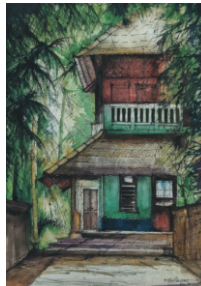
**Tuesday 13th June 2023 to
Monday 19th June 2023
(Circular Gallery)**

'CHATAK' 2023
A Monsoon Show of Professional Artists



... and the first drop
of rain arrived to quench
the thirst of the Chatak
(a legendary bird)

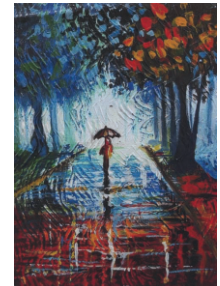
The 29th year of 'CHATAK' will be organised by Nehru Centre Art Gallery. Forty artists from all over Maharashtra will participate and showcase works in various styles and mediums. Art lovers can view different styles of paintings and sculptures all under one roof.



Mandar Oraskar



Chandrakant Tajbije



Priyanshi Shah



Dr. Prachi Dingankar



Hariram Phad

**Thursday 22nd June 2023 to Monday 30th June 2023
(Both Galleries)**

RAMSAR WETLAND SITES IN INDIA

5. Goa

The Nanda Lake which is located in the village Cacora of Quepem Taluka in South Goa District is notified as a wetland under Wetland (Conservation & Management) Rules 2017. A large part of the area is a stretch of freshwater marshes that lie adjacent to one of the major rivulets of the Zuari River. It is filled with water by intervention within the river channel that is adjacent to the marsh, called a sluice gate, which when closed fills the entire marsh with water. This enables the locals to store the water during the off-monsoon season. This water is utilized to cultivate paddy downstream of the lake and supports fishing and recreation. During the monsoons, the sluice gate is opened and the water is released which changes the lake into a marshland. During this time, the marshland is also utilized to grow paddy. This lake is also responsible for taking up large amounts of monsoon rains that protect the surrounding catchment and downstream low-lying areas from floods.



Nanda Lake

Nanda Lake sustains a spectacular congregation of waterbirds and waders within the Western Ghats Biological Diversity Hotspot. This is a unique lake as it is not very deep but has a significantly large extent of area coverage under water where marine creatures thrive. Notable faunal species include Black-headed ibis (*Threskiornis melanocephalus*), Common kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*), Wire-tailed swallow (*Hirundo smithii*), Bronze-winged jacana (*Metopidius indicus*), Intermediate egret (*Ardea intermedia*), Red-wattled lapwing (*Vanellus indicus*), Little cormorant (*Microcarbo niger*), Lesser whistling duck (*Dendrocygna javanica*), Jungle myna (*Acridotheres fuscus*), Clamorous reed warbler (*Acrocephalus stentoreus*), Common sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucos*), Common iora (*Aegithina tiphia*), Purple heron (*Ardea purpurea*), Indian bustard almost extinct (*Ardeotis nigriceps*) and Greater coucal (*Centropus sinensis*) which help in maintaining the biodiversity of the region.



Common Kingfisher

The coconut plantations on traditional bunds create a scenic lining to the entire lake-supported landscape. Some other plants and trees are Kokum (*Garcinia indica*), Jackfruit (*Artocarpus heterophyllus*), Crown flower (*Calotropis gigantea*), Wild guava (*Careya arborea*), Elephant's Palm (*Caryota urens*), Golden shower tree (*Cassia fistula*), Mountain pomegranate (*Catunaregam spinosa*), Hottentot fern (*Cyclosorus interruptus*), Cluster fig (*Ficus racemosa*), Flame lily (*Gloriosa superba*), Indian Muraina Grass (*Ischaemum ciliare*), Gaub tree (*Diospyros malabarica*).



Coconut Plantation

The Nanda Lake was declared as a Ramsar Wetland Site on 8th June 2022. World Wetland Day was celebrated this year on February 4 at the lake where the National Save Wetlands campaign was launched.

NEHRU CENTRE PUBLICATIONS

Books for Sale

Nehru Revisited
India's Defence Preparedness
Nehru and Indian Constitutionalism
Internal Security in India
Constitutionalism and Democracy
in South Asia
मुंबई: काल आणि आज
Mumbai: Past and Present
India and Central Asia
Witness to History
India-Russia Relations
India-China Relations
Remembering Einstein
Challenges to Democracy in India
Rule of Law in a Free Society
Science in India
Exploring The Universe

Colourful art catalogues for sale

- (1) GOPALRAO DEUSKAR (1995)
 - (2) VINAYAKRAO KARMARKAR (1996)
 - (3) MITTER BEDI (1997)
 - (4) S. L. & G. S. HALDANKAR (1998)
 - (5) BALAJI & HARISH TALIM (1999)
 - (6) D. G. KULKARNI (DIZI) (2001)
 - (7) NARAYAN L. SONAVADEKAR (2003)
 - (8) NAGESH B. SABANAVAR (2004)
 - (9) SAMAKALEEN (2005)
 - (10) VINAYAK S. MASOJI (2006)
- and many more...

ART FUSION catalogues

2007 / 2008 / 2009 / 2010 / 2011 / 2012 /
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New Arrivals: Books

Sr. No.	Title	Author/s
1.	The mastery of Hindustan: Triumphs & travails of Madhavrao Peshwa	Uday S. Kulkarni
2.	The extraordinary epoch of Nanasaheb Peshwa	Uday S. Kulkarni
3.	The era of Bajirao	Uday S. Kulkarni
4.	Build, don't talk: Things you wish you were taught in school	Raj Shamani

Celebrate Environment with Poetry on World Environment Day

@ the Nehru Centre Library

Ten poets will recite from their own poems
on environment and other themes

Concept and Curation:
Dr. Paramita Mukherjee Mullick

Date : **Monday, 5th June 2023**

Time : **4.30 p.m.**

Venue: **Who Are We Hall,**
1st Floor, Discovery of India Building, Nehru Centre,
Dr Annie Besant Road, Worli, Mumbai - 400018.

To register, email: nehrucenlib@gmail.com



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