

# Newsletter

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Nehru  
Centre



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## Events At a Glance...

### Library

#### Let's Read Together

Parents, bring your children and their friends and read to them from their books or the books from the library.

All of May 2018

10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.

(Monday to Friday,  
1st and 3rd Saturday)

10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.

(2nd and 4th Saturday)

Venue: Nehru Centre Library

### Cultural Wing

#### Kathak Darpan

(Workshop on Kathak Dance by  
Pt. Birju Maharaj)

14th to 18th May 2018

11.00 a.m. to 7.00 p.m. (Daily)

Nehru Centre Auditorium

### Dear Subscribers

You are requested to renew your subscription for the year 2018-2019 (April to March) if not already done, so that the Newsletter can be sent to you without any break.

The cheque should be drawn in favour of Nehru Centre only.

Thanks to the subscribers for their continued co-operation and interest in the Nehru Centre activities.

## Remembering Tagore

May 7, 2018 would mark Rabindranath Tagore's 157th birth anniversary. Some of his thoughts on India appear most relevant even after 77 years of his passing away.

As Rabindranath says in his memoir, *My Life (Jibansmriti)*, "I was born in 1861, an important year in the history of Bengal. Just as we have our places of pilgrimage where the great rivers meet,.... So we have the currents of three movements in the life of India. These currents met about the time I was born."

The first of those three currents were the reforms of Brahmo Samaj, with which Rabindranath's father was deeply connected. "I was born in this atmosphere of new ideals, but ideals which were older than all the other antiquities of which that age was proud."

The second current was the literary upsurge of newly creative writing that began with the novels of Bankimchandra Chattopadhyay which, in Rabindranath's words 'lifted from our language the dead weight of ponderous forms.'

The third current was national which 'began to express our people who were trying to assert their own personality.'

Tagore described India as the world in miniature and said: "India is too vast in its area and too diverse in its races. It is many countries packed in one geographical receptacle. It is just the opposite of what Europe truly is, namely one country made into many. Thus Europe in its culture and growth has had the advantage of the strength of the many, as well as the strength of the one. India on the contrary, being naturally many, yet adventitiously

contd. on page 2

## HOMAGE

Nehru Centre will pay homage to the memory of late Barrister Rajni Patel, founder member and former General Secretary of the Centre, on his 36th Death Anniversary.

All are requested to join.

Date: Thursday, 3rd May 2018

Time: 11.00 a.m.

Venue: Ground Floor

Discovery of India Building

one, has all along suffered from the looseness of its diversity and the feebleness of its unity."

Commenting on India's social organization, Tagore said: "the thing we, in India, have to think of is this – to remove those social customs and ideals which have generated a want of self respect and a complete dependence on those above us, - a state of affairs which has been brought about entirely by the domination in India of the caste system and the blind and lazy habit of relying upon the authority of traditions that are incongruous anachronisms in the present age."

Tagore placed the ideals of humanity above the country and said in an essay written in 1917: "Those of us in India who have come under the delusion that mere political freedom will make us free have accepted their lessons from the West as the gospel truth and lost their faith in humanity. We must remember whatever weakness we cherish in our society will become the source of danger in politics. The same inertia which leads us to our idolatry of dead forms in social institutions will create in our politics prison houses with immovable walls. The narrowness of sympathy which makes it possible for us to impose upon a considerable portion of humanity the galling yoke of inferiority will assert itself in our politics in creating tyranny of injustice."

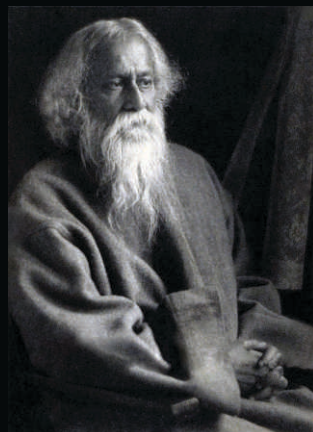
Tagore had very strong views on nation states and nationalism. He said "I am not against one nation in particular, but against the general idea of all nations. What is the nation? It is the aspect of a whole people as an organized power. This organization incessantly keeps up the insistence of the population on becoming strong and efficient. But this strenuous effort after strength and efficiency drains man's energy

from his higher nature where he is self sacrificing and creative. For thereby man's power of sacrifice is diverted from his ultimate object, which is moral, to the maintenance of this organization, which is mechanical. Yet in this he feels all the satisfaction of moral exaltation and therefore becomes supremely dangerous to humanity." No wonder Tagore thought that "nationalism is a great menace." In the words of Ray Monk "Nationalism", for Tagore, "was an unfamiliar and incomprehensible western notion." It was, in Tagore's opinion, "a dangerous and idiotic cult that had not only brought upon Europe the terrible devastation of the First World War, but was also

threatening to destroy all that was great in the ancient Eastern civilizations."

What was of primary importance to him was the struggle between the people and the Nation, between ignorance and education, between racial conflict and racial harmony, and between competition and co-operation. His faith that the values of humanity would triumph in this struggle stayed with him until his death in 1941.

Let this small collection of Tagore's thoughts end with a beautiful piece from 'Gitanjali' which contains his most profound thoughts for his country.

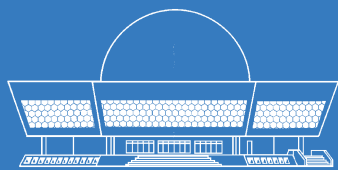


Where the mind is without fear  
and the head is held high;  
Where knowledge is free;  
Where the world has not been broken  
up into fragments by narrow domestic  
walls;  
Where words come out from the depth  
of truth;  
Where tireless striving stretches  
its arms towards perfection;  
Where the clear stream of reason  
has not lost its way into the dreary  
desert sand of dead habit;  
Where the mind is led forward by thee  
into ever widening thought and action –  
Into that heaven of freedom,  
my Father, let my country awake.

### What Nehru said....

Gurudeva was a rare kind of person to be born anywhere. In India he represented a multitude of things. The most dominant impression which one gets about him is that he was one in the long line of the ancient sages and *rishis* whom India has produced from time to time. Yet this tradition did not prevent him in the slightest from being a modern of moderns and making the whole world his field of thought and action.

May 9, 1961



NEHRU PLANETARIUM

## SKY SHOW : 'Biography of the Universe'

### Timings

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

(MONDAY CLOSED)

## Summer Workshops 2018

Nehru Centre, Mumbai is organizing following Workshops for Secondary School students during summer 2018 for students of VII & VIII standards.

**Workshop on wonders of Biotechnology** on Tuesday 8 May 2018. The Workshop will be conducted by Dr. Siddhivinayak Barve, Department of Bio-Technology, V.G. Vaze College, Mulund, Mumbai.

**Workshop on Micro-Biology** on Wednesday 9 May 2018. The workshop will be conducted by Dr. Pramod Ghogare, Department of Microbiology, SIES College, Sion, Mumbai.

**Workshop on Climate Changes** on Thursday, 10 May 2018. The workshop will be conducted by Dr. Nandini Deshmukh, Director, Ecopersona, Mumbai & District Manager, Climate Reality Project (India) Mumbai.

**Workshop on Astronomy** on Friday 11 May 2018. The workshop will be conducted by Arvind Paranjpye, Director, Nehru Planetarium, Mumbai.

**Workshop Joy with Chemistry** on Saturday, 12 May 2018. The workshop will be conducted by Dr. Chitra A. Joshi, Former Lecturer, Dept. of Chemistry, Ram Narayan Ruia College, Matunga, Mumbai - 400019.

**Workshop on Concept Development in Sciences** on Tuesday 15 May 2018. The workshop will be conducted by Dr. (Mrs.) Manasi Rajadhyaksha, Director, Concepts Unlimited Science Education and Research Centre Mumbai.

**Workshop on Joy of Experimentation** on Wednesday 16 May 2018. The workshop will be conducted by Shri C. S. Pulliwar, Education Officer, Nehru Science Centre, Mumbai.

**Workshop on Fun with Physics** on Thursday 17 May 2018. The workshop will be conducted by Dr. Lochan Jolly, Dept. of Electronics & Telecommunication Engineering, Thakur College. Kandivali, Mumbai.

**Workshop on Nurture Nature: An Environmental Awareness** on Friday, 18 May 2018. The workshop will be conducted by Dr. Rajendra Shinde, Department of Botany, St. Xavier's College, Mumbai.

**Workshop on Wonders of Marine Life** on Saturday 19 May 2018. The workshop will be conducted by Dr. Vinay Deshmukh, Former Principal Scientist, Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Versova, Mumbai.

**Science Experimentation Workshop** on Tuesday 22 May 2018. The workshop will be conducted by Mr. Rajiv Vartak, Institute for School Science Education, Mumbai.

**Workshop on Mathematics** on Wednesday 23 May 2018. The workshop will be conducted by Ms. Shweta Naik, Scientific Officer, Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education (HBCSE), TIFR, Mankhurd, Mumbai – 400 085.

*Duration: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.*

*Venue: Hall of Quest, Nehru Planetarium, Worli, Mumbai 400018*

*Admission to the Workshop is free (On a first-cum-first basis)*

For participation and further details contact Mr. Sanjay R. Dalvi, Office Assistant, Nehru Planetarium, Dr. Annie Besant Road, Worli, Mumbai 400 018, (Tel No. 24964676-80).

# This month that year

Today almost every one, interested in science or not, have heard of Albert Einstein. It was not so exactly 100 years ago. What made Einstein famous overnight was one observational exercise made during the total solar eclipse on 23rd May 1919.

Issac Newton, who first wrote down the laws of gravity, in 1704 published a book titled 'Opticks' in which he analyzed the fundamental nature of light. In the book, he discussed various properties of light based on observations he made. At the end, he lists out 31 queries which were at the boundaries of physics at that time.

The very first query was "Do not bodies act upon light at a distance. And by their action bend its Rays; and is not this action [caetris paribus] strongest at the least distance?" Or in other words he is wondering will a ray of light passing by a massive object change its direction.

Nearly 200 years later, in 1915 Einstein published his general theory of relativity. It was the beginning of the era of modern cosmology.

One of the result of this theory was that rays of light can bend under the influence of gravity. Calculations showed that it is almost impossible to test this effect as the effect is far too small to be measured.

Frank Watson Dyson, Astronomer Royal of Britain came up with a perfect answer to resolve the issue. He argued that the path of light of stars passing close to the sun should bend if Einstein's theory is correct. A ray of light passing close to the edge of the sun would bend by an angle of 1.75 arc seconds. One arc second is an angle that a 50 paise coin (about 20 mm in diameter) subtends at a distance of 2 km.

It was no secret to anyone that when the Sun is completely blocked by the Moon stars are seen in the sky. Dyson suggested taking a picture of Sun during a total solar eclipse that would also register a few stars right behind the Sun. If indeed the gravity of Sun would bend the light then the positions of stars would be seen displaced compared to the picture taken of the same field of stars in the night a few months earlier or later.

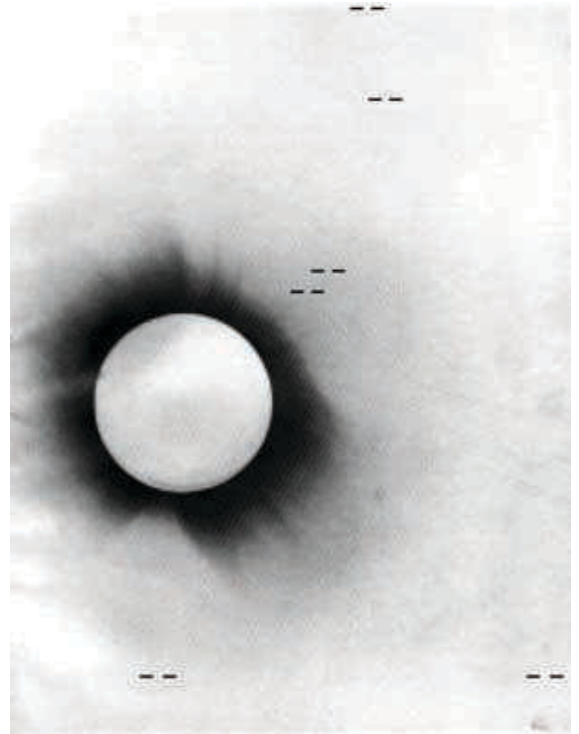
A total solar eclipse was predicted to take place on 23rd May, 1919. The track of totality passed over South America, Atlantic Ocean and South Africa. Interestingly, during this eclipse the Sun was in the direction of relatively dense field of stars, close to Hyades star cluster.

Arthur Eddington who led an expedition to Principe, a remote island off the west of coast of Africa. He sent one team to Sobral, Brazil.

Once observations were analyzed, he announced that results were as predicted. It was big media sensation that overnight made Einstein a global celebrity.

It is said that when his assistant asked how he would have felt had the expedition failed, Einstein is said to have quipped, "Then I would feel sorry for the dear Lord. The theory is correct anyway."

*Acknowledgement/Source - the material for the article was supplemented from internet.*



The image of the sun taken during the total solar eclipse. The stars measured are marked by two dash lines.



# Cultural Wing

## Kathak Darpan



## A Workshop on Kathak

Pandit Birju Maharaj, the renowned dancer and teacher par excellence, will conduct a Workshop on Kathak dance forms for the students of this classical art from May 14, 2018 to May 18, 2018, both days inclusive.

Venue:  
Nehru Centre Auditorium

## Review: Rudaad-e-Ghazal (A Presentation of Ghazals in Urdu)

Rudaad-e-Ghazal programme, which was held on 20th April 2018, was a great success.



## Programmes for May 2018

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### SANJUKTA BARIK



Painting by Sanjukta Barik

**Sanjukta** is a self-taught artist, painting for last 20 years. Her paintings are on various subjects in acrylic & oil on canvas.

**Tuesday 1st May to  
Monday 7th May 2018  
( AC Gallery )**

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### “Ganga - The Holy River” by KALPANA DAVE



Painting by Kalpana Dave

**Kalpana** is a self-taught artist. Her paintings and still lifes are in oils and mix media. She has exhibited her works in Mumbai and Gujarat.

**Tuesday 1st May to  
Monday 7th May 2018  
( Circular Gallery )**

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**CHANDAN BAITALIK  
RATAN KUMAR  
ARDHENDU SARKAR  
SOURAV PAL  
DIPANKAR PAL  
SHEIKH H. RAHMAN  
BISWARUP CHOWDHURY**

**Chandan** received B. V. A. Degree with 1st class from Kolkata. He has many shows to his credit. His



Painting by Chandan Baitalik

paintings are figurative and landscapes in water colours.

**Ratan** obtained Ph.D. in Art from Varanasi; M.F.A. in Ceramic & Pottery from Banaras Hindu University. He has had many solo & group shows in India and abroad and has won awards. His artworks are in ceramics.

**Ardhendu** completed his art education from Rabindra Bharati University with First class First and Gold Medal. His figurative compositions are in tempera with dry pigment.

**Sourav** received B.F.A. in Art & Craft from Kolkata with Scholarship. He has participated in many group shows in India. His paintings are figurative with compositions in mix media on paper.

**Dipankar** passed Visual Arts from Kolkata. His paintings touch significant role of a woman - 'Motherhood' with symbolic representations. His paintings are in acrylic on silver board.

**Sheikh** is a photographer from Kolkata. His photographs in black & white and colour are portraits on various topics.

**Biswarup** is a self-taught artist guided by eminent artist Shri Ganesh

**Haloi.** His paintings are in water colours on paper.

**Tuesday 8th May to  
Monday 14th May 2018  
( AC Gallery )**

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### KAILAS KALE



Painting by Kailash Kale

**Kailas** completed A.T.D.; A.M. and B.Ed. in Art from Aurangabad. His abstract paintings are in acrylic on canvas.

**Tuesday 8th May to  
Monday 14th May 2018  
( Circular Gallery )**

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### SANJAY KUMBHAR



Painting by Sanjay Kumbhar

**Sanjay** received Diploma in Applied Art and A.T.D. from Kalaniketan Mahavidyalaya and Art Masters from Dalvi's Art Institute, Kolhapur. His paintings are landscapes in water colours and portraits in charcoal.

**Tuesday 15th May to  
Monday 21st May 2018  
( AC Gallery )**



**DHANASHRI LONKAR  
VAISHALI WAGH**



Painting by Dhanashri Lonkar

**Dhanashri** completed G.D.A. and Dip.Ed from Pune. She has had many shows in Pune. Her landscapes and figurative paintings are in acrylic on canvas.

**Vaishali** did her Masters in Textile Designing from Pune. Textile has been the forte of her work. She creates wonderful art pieces using Resist Dyeing, Hand Painting, Block Printing and also in various Weaving Techniques. She has many exhibitions to her credit.

**Tuesday 15th May to  
Monday 21st May 2018  
( Circular Gallery )**

**BIPIN SONI  
KAVITA SONI  
DHAIVAT SONI**

**Bipin** is a self-taught artist from Bhuj-Kutch, Gujarat. He is a Master of religious paintings with gold leaf. He has exhibited extensively in India and abroad. He has won many prestigious awards. His paintings are in acrylic and oils.

**Kavita** is also a self-taught artist. She has had many shows in Gujarat. She teaches art to young artists. Her paintings are figurative realistic in acrylic.

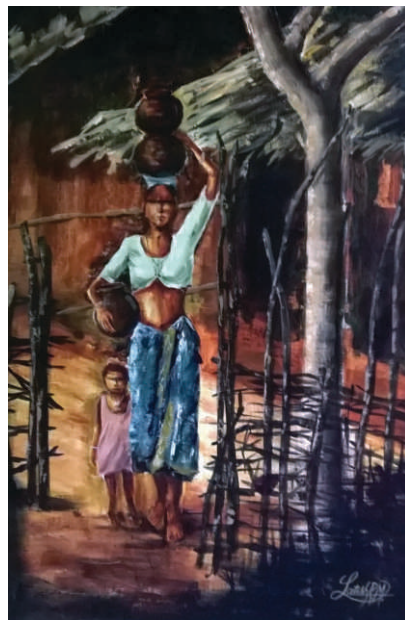
**Dhaivat** has learnt 3D Animation and Architectural visualization. He does photography and short films also.



Painting by Bipin Soni

**Tuesday 22nd May to  
Monday 28th May 2018  
( AC Gallery )**

**SATISH MODKHARKAR**



Painting by Satish Modkharkar

**Satish** has completed G.D. Art in painting from Alibaug. His paintings are figurative on rural people in acrylic on canvas.

**Tuesday 22nd May to  
Monday 28th May 2018  
( Circular Gallery )**

**R. SOLOMON**

**R. Solomon** obtained B.F.A. and M.F.A. in Painting from Chennai. He has won National Award in "Nehru Yuvagendra Youth Festival",



Painting by R. Solomon

Chennai. He has had many shows in Mumbai and Chennai and won awards. He does landscapes in acrylic on canvas distinctive style.

**Tuesday 29th May to  
Monday 4th June 2018  
( AC Gallery )**

**SANJAY MHATRE  
PALLAVI PATHAK  
JYOTI MALIK**

**Sanjay** has received B.A. and A.M. in Art from J. J. School of Art, Mumbai. He has won many awards during his academic career. His paintings are in acrylic on canvas.

**Pallavi** is a self-taught artist. Her paintings and landscapes are in acrylic on canvas.

**Jyoti** has Diploma in Photography & Fashion Designing. Her paintings are figurative, specially Indian women in their various moods in acrylic on canvas.

**Tuesday 29th May to  
Monday 4th June 2018  
( Circular Gallery )**

NEHRU CENTRE PUBLICATIONS

MUMBAI PAST & PRESENT \* WITNESS TO HISTORY

\* REMEMBERING EINSTEIN \*

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9. HAREN DAS / 10. PROF. P. A. DHOND

11. COLLECTOR'S PRIDE / 12. K. B. KULKARNI

13. VINAYAK S. MASOJI

14. SAMAKALEEN (Contemporary Five Artists)

VINAYAKRAO WAGH \* RAJARAM PANVALKAR

KRISHNAJI KETKAR \* DATTAJIROO DALVI

\* GOVIND MALADKAR

15. NAGESH B. SABANNAVAR

16. NARAYAN L. SONAVADEKAR

17. "GURU-SHISHYA"

BABA GAJBAR & GANPATRAO WADANGEKAR

18. D. G. KULKARNI (DIZI)

19. MILLENNIUM SHOW

(A Century of Art from Maharashtra)

20. BALAJI TALIM & HARISH TALIM

21. S. L. HALDANKAR & G. S. HALDANKAR

22. VINAYAKRAO P. KARMARKAR

23. GOPALRAO DEUSKAR

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Rabindranath Tagore was born on 7th May 1861. Here is a list of suggested readings on his works.

Sr. No.	Title	Author /s
1.	The religion of man: being the Hibbert lectures for 1930	Rabindranath Tagore
2.	Towards universal man	Rabindranath Tagore
3.	My pictures: a collection of paintings	Rabindranath Tagore
4.	Personality: lectures delivered in America	Rabindranath Tagore
5.	The Mahatma and the Poet: letters and debates between Gandhi and Tagore, 1915-1941	Sabyasachi Bhattacharya
6.	Gandhi vs Tagore	Shailesh Parekh
7.	Rabindranath Tagore, his mystico-religious philosophy	Bhupendra Nath
8.	Red oleanders: a drama in one act	Rabindranath Tagore
9.	Filming fiction: Tagore, Premchand, and Ray	M. Asaduddin and Anuradha Ghosh
10.	Rabindranath Tagore: an illustrated life	Uma Dasgupta



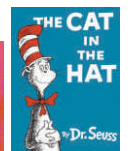
**Let's Read Together**  
All of May 2018

Parents, bring your children and their friends and read to them from their books or the books from the library. Refer to the library catalogue for details about children's books.



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10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. (2nd and 4th Saturday)



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- : [www.facebook.com/NehruCentreLibrary](http://www.facebook.com/NehruCentreLibrary)
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