

Newsletter

Vol. 26 Issue 12 DECEMBER 2025

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Nehru Centre



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Events At a Glance...

Culture Wing

35th Annual Mushaira
An evening of Sher-o-Shayari
for Urdu poetry lovers

Local Poets

Janab Irshad Arsh
Janab Wasif Yaar
Janaab Kashif Sayyed
Dr. (Prof.) Shafi Saghar
Dr. Qasim Imam

Outstation Poets

Mohtarma Shikha Pachouly
Janab Ismail Raaz
Janaab Aziz Nabeel
Dr. Anjum Barabankvi
Janab Govind Gulshan

20th December 2025
7.00 p.m.
Nehru Centre Auditorium

Art Gallery

Indian Master's Retrospective

An exhibition showcasing the
works of Indian Master Painter
Shri Shivaji Tupe

17th December 2025 to
29th December 2025
Nehru Centre Art Gallery

Speeches of the Freedom Movement

13. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi:
Plenary Session of 2nd Round Table Conference
London, 1 December 1931

The British Government had a monopoly on salt production and sale and it had also imposed a uniform salt tax which hurt every Indian. Gandhiji launched a Satyagraha against the salt law and on 12th March, 1930 led a march of 78 selected volunteers from Sabarmati Ashram to Dandi, a coastal village in Surat district, a distance of 241 miles.

When Gandhiji announced the salt satyagraha, nobody, including some of his associates, took it seriously. In fact, Calcutta's British owned newspaper, The Statesman, wrote, "It is difficult not to laugh, and we imagine that will be the mood of most thinking Indians. There is something almost childishly theatrical in challenging in this way the salt monopoly of the government."

On April 5, when Gandhiji and his band of volunteers reached Dandi, journalists from India and abroad had gathered there. To them, Gandhiji said just one sentence, "I want world sympathy in this battle of right against might."

Early next morning, Gandhiji actually committed the breach of the salt law. Thousands were on the beach. Sarojini Naidu, who was present

addressed him as 'Law Breaker'. The response to the satyagraha was beyond imagination. In the words of Jawaharlal Nehru, the satyagraha spread like 'prairie fire'. Throughout India, salt was illegally made and sold.

The British were surprised and shocked by the huge response to the movement and they tried to suppress it. Gandhiji was arrested on 5th April and so was the entire Congress Working Committee. In all, nearly 90,000 Indians were arrested for defying salt laws in 1930.

Eventually, the British realized that negotiation was the only way out. All leaders were released in January, 1931. On February 17, talks began between Gandhiji and Lord Irwin, the Viceroy which ended with an accord signed between the two. It was this accord that paved the way for Gandhiji attending the Second Round Table Conference. The following speech is Gandhiji's final speech at the Conference.

"Prime Minister and friends,

I wish that I could have done without having to speak to you, but I felt that I would not have been just to you or just

to my principles if I did not put in what may be the last word on behalf of the Congress. I live under no illusion. I do not think that anything that I can say this evening can possibly influence the decision of the Cabinet. Probably, the decision has been already taken.

I said at one of the preliminary meetings of the Federal Structure Committee that the Congress claimed to represent over 85 per cent of the population of India, that is to say, the dumb, toiling, semi-starved millions. But I went further: that the Congress claimed also by right of service to represent even the princes, if they would pardon my putting forth that claim, and the landed gentry, the educated class. I wish to repeat that claim and I wish this evening to emphasize that claim.

All the other parties at this meeting represent sectional interests. Congress alone claims to represent the whole of India, all interests. It is no communal organization; it is a determined enemy of communalism in any shape or form. Congress knows no distinction of race, colour or creed; its platform is universal.

And yet here I see that the Congress is treated as one of the parties. I do not mind it; I do not regard it as a calamity for the Congress; but I do regard it as a calamity for the purpose of doing the work for which we have gathered together here.

I feel that I have to state this claim with some degree of emphasis on behalf of peace, for the sake of



At the Second Round Table Conference

achieving the purpose which is common to all of us, to you Englishmen who sit at this table, and to us, the Indian men and women who also sit at this table. I say so for this reason. Congress is a powerful organization; Congress is an organization which has been accused of running or desiring to run a parallel Government; and in a way I have endorsed the charge. If you could understand the working of the Congress, you would welcome an organization which could run a parallel Government and show that it is possible for an organization, voluntary, without any force at its command, to run the machinery of Government even under adverse circumstances. But no. Although you have invited the Congress, you distrust the Congress. Although you have invited the Congress, you reject its claim to represent the whole of India. Of course, it is possible at this end of the world to dispute that claim, and it is not possible for me to prove this claim; but, all the same, if you find

me asserting that claim, I do so because a tremendous responsibility rests upon my shoulders.

The Congress represents the spirit of rebellion. I know that the word 'rebellion' must not be whispered at a Conference which has been summoned in order to arrive at an agreed solution of India's troubles through negotiation. Speaker after speaker has got up and said that India should achieve her liberty through negotiation and that it will be the greatest glory of Great Britain if she yields to India's demands. But the Congress does not hold that view. The Congress has an alternative which is unpleasant to you.

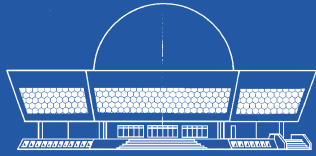
For the sake of liberty, people have fought, people have lost their lives, people have killed and have sought death at the hands of those whom they have sought to oust. The Congress then comes upon the scene and devises a new method not known to history, namely, that of civil disobedience, and the Congress has been following that method up. But again, I am up against a stone wall and I am told that it is a method that no government in the world will tolerate. Well, of course, the Government may not tolerate, no government has tolerated open rebellion. No government may tolerate civil disobedience, but governments have to succumb even to these forces, as the British Government has done before now, even as the great Dutch Government after eight years of trial had to yield to the logic of facts."

... to be continued

What Nehru said....

It is not true that India has ever bowed patiently before the blast or been indifferent to the passage of foreign legions. Always she has resisted them, often successfully, sometimes unsuccessfully, and even when she failed for the time being, she has remembered and prepared herself for the next attempt.

...from Chapter 5, Through the Ages, The Discovery of India



NEHRU PLANETARIUM

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Mobile : 9892890510

STARS & WONDERS OF THE UNIVERSE

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

(MONDAY CLOSED)

Email: managernpmumbai@gmail.com

Astrophysicist Nobel Laureates

2. Martin Ryle: 1974

The Nobel Prize in Physics for 1974 was awarded jointly to Sir Martin Ryle and Antony Hewish "for their pioneering research in radio astrophysics: Ryle for his observations and inventions, in particular of the aperture synthesis technique, and Hewish for his decisive role in the discovery of pulsars."

The aperture-synthesis technique, used primarily in radio astronomy, is used to receive signals from different telescopes and to combine those signals to make an image as if it were made using a single large telescope.

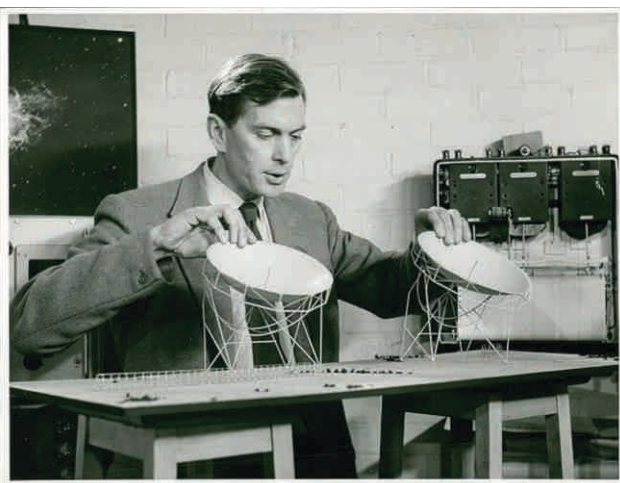
We shall discuss the work done by Professor Antony Hewish in the next month's article.

The press release by the Nobel Committee announcing the prize read thus,

"During the last twenty-five years, Martin Ryle has developed new epochmaking telescope constructions and registration principles. With the help of these he has explored the radio sources of the universe and gradually achieved greater and greater accuracy in the determination of direction. Definition is now so good that in the case of visible light it corresponds to an observer on earth being able to see the details of a postage stamp on the moon."



Martin Ryle (1918-1984)



Martin Ryle explained his theory using two models of radio telescopes

Martin Ryle was born on 27 September 1918, in Brighton, England, in a family of academics. His father, John Alfred Ryle, was a British physician and epidemiologist, and his uncle Gilbert Ryle was a Professor of Philosophy at Oxford University.

Martin was the second son of John and Miriam Ryle. Martin, with four siblings, two brothers and two sisters, was initially educated at home by a governess. He and his elder brother also received lessons in carpentry at home. This skill in carpentry helped him nurture his hobby which was sailing. He was a keen sailor and crafted his own sailing ships.

At the age of thirteen, Martin was sent to Bradfield College, a co-educational public school. Here, he developed an interest in radio engineering. He built a radio transmitter and acquired an amateur wireless operator's license to maintain and operate a radio station.

In 1936, Martin enrolled at Christ Church, a constituent college under the University of Oxford, with physics as his major. He retained his interest in radio engineering and, together with his fellow students, set up the university amateur radio station. After he graduated in 1939, he joined the Cavendish Laboratory at Cambridge University and started working with Professor J. A. Ratcliffe's ionospheric research group for his PhD. The group was studying how radio waves were reflected from the ionosphere, the upper atmosphere and it later came to be known as the 'Cambridge Group'. Martin's PhD work, however, was interrupted when World War II began in September 1939. Martin was shifted to the Telecommunications Research Establishment (TRE), which was working on a radar system for the Royal Air Force (RAF). Here, he worked with TRE on designing antennas for airborne radar equipment.

After the war, Martin returned to the Cavendish Laboratory. Prof. Ratcliffe offered him a fellowship to pursue ionospheric work. However, Prof. Ratcliffe soon discovered that Ryle had no interest or enthusiasm for the kind of work offered to him. Prof. Ratcliffe then guided Ryle to an entirely new and challenging problem. From wartime information, Prof. Ratcliffe knew about the apparent jamming of British radar that allowed two German warships to pass through the English Channel undetected. Later, it was discovered that the jamming was not man-made but was a result of the emission of radio waves from the sun. He suggested that Ryle might study the phenomenon.

Many senior scientists did not believe that the sun could emit powerful radio emissions that could jam a radar. It was Ryle's responsibility to find out the facts. He decided that the Cambridge group should develop new observing techniques. He soon became the driving force behind the creation and improvement of astronomical observation of detecting and cataloguing sources emitting radio waves. The Cambridge group used techniques such as interferometry and aperture synthesis for their observations. This paved the way for massive upgrades in the quality and quantity of radio astronomical data. The group successfully published several catalogues of important radio sources. *The Third Cambridge Catalogue of Radio Sources (3C)*, published in 1959, helped lead to the discovery of the first quasi-stellar object (quasar).

Awards and positions followed the success. He was appointed Director of Mullard Radio Astronomy Observatory in 1957 and Professor of Radio Astronomy in 1959. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society (FRS) in 1952 and knighted in 1966. He succeeded Sir Richard Woolley as Astronomer Royal from 1972 to 1982, a prestigious position for any astronomer. In 1974, the Nobel Prize was the ultimate recognition for his pioneering work.

Later, Ryle turned his attention to social and political issues which he thought required his attention. He pursued a passionate and intensive programme on the socially responsible use of science and technology. Through a pamphlet that he published, he warned the world of the horrific dangers of nuclear armaments and their threat of a nuclear holocaust.

In 1982, Ryle said, "At times one feels that one should almost have a car sticker saying 'Stop Science Now' because we're getting cleverer and cleverer, but we do not increase the wisdom to go with it. "Our cleverness has grown prodigiously – but not our wisdom," he wrote in 1983.

Ryle died at the age of 66 on 14 October 1984 in Cambridge.

Ryle lived during an epic period of scientific history. He made a technical and scientific contribution that was of lasting and inestimable benefit to the new subject of radio astronomy.

He was celebrated on a first class stamp issued in 2009 as part of an 'Eminent Britons' set.

Sir Bernard Lovell, a British physicist and radio astronomer, wrote in Ryle's obituary in the *Quarterly Journal of the Royal Astronomical Society* (1985), "... This was exactly the kind of new field of exploration with possibilities for the development of new equipment and techniques that appealed to Ryle."

PUBLIC LECTURE



The Black-Hole Hunters: A decade of gravitational-wave astronomy
by **Prof Nils Andersson**, Applied Mathematics at the University of Southampton, UK.

Date & Time: **Saturday, 18th December 2025, 6.15 p.m.**
Venue: **Sky Theatre, Nehru Planetarium**



Nehru Centre

Presents

35th مُشَایرہ

Since the past five to six centuries, Mushairas have been a part of the rich Urdu literary legacy. They have preserved the beauty of Urdu poetry and also fostered a sense of community and shared heritage.

The Annual Mushaira of Nehru Centre will be held on
Saturday, 20th December 2025.

The following poets from across the country will participate.

Local Poets

Janab Irshad Arsh, Mumbai
Janaab Kashif Sayyed, Bhiwandi
Janab Wasif Yaar, Mumbai
Dr. (Prof.) Shafi Saghar, Mumbai
Dr. Qasim Imam, Mumbai

Sadarat

Janab Govind Gulshan

Outstation Poets

Mohtarma Shikha Pachouly, Pune
Janab Ismail Raaz, Amravati
Janaab Aziz Nabeel, Qatar
Dr. Anjum Barabankvi, Bhopal
Janab Govind Gulshan, Ghaziabad

Nizamat

Dr. Qasim Imam

Saturday, 20th December 2025
7.00 p.m.
Nehru Centre Auditorium

Entry: Free Entrance Cards will be available from Monday,
15th December 2025 from 10.30 a.m. until availability from the
booking counter of Nehru Centre Auditorium

DEEPKALA FOUNDATION

This is a Mumbai-based art foundation. It has medical professionals as members and promotes artists globally.

**Tuesday 2nd December 2025
to Monday 8th December 2025
(AC Gallery)**

**PROF. MANGAL GOGTE
GANDHALI SHAH
MRUDULA LELE
POONAM JUVALE
CHITRA VAIDYA**



Mrudula Lele

This group of five women artists will display their work in watercolour, oil and acrylic. All are students of the renowned artist, late Shri M. K. Kelkar.

**Tuesday 2nd December 2025
to Monday 8th December 2025
(Circular Gallery)**

RAM KUMBHAR

Ram is a well-known sculptor from Mumbai. He works in mixed media such as brass, steel, fiber glass and copper.

**Tuesday 9th December 2025
to Monday 15th December 2025
(AC Gallery)**

ADISHWAR KUMAR JAIN

Adishwar is a self-taught artist and does collage paintings. His paintings are mainly landscape, nature, forts, castles, real-life and architectural structures.

**Tuesday 9th December 2025
to Monday 15th December 2025
(Circular Gallery)**

NISHIKANT MHATRE

Nishikant is a photographer and he has won many awards for his work in India and abroad.

**Tuesday 16th December 2025
to Monday 22nd December 2025
(Circular Gallery)**



Nishikant Mhatre

**ARVIND SAWANT and
OTHERS**

This group of six artists will exhibit their artworks in mix media.

**Tuesday 23rd December 2025
to Monday 29th December 2025
(Circular Gallery)**

INDIAN MASTER'S RETROSPECTIVE SHOW

Shri SHIVAJI TUPE



Nehru Centre Art Gallery will present its 31st Indian Master's show on the works of late Shri Shivaji Tupe from Nashik.

Shri Shivaji Tupe holds a prominent place as a landscape artist in the pantheon of post-independence Indian artists. He started his professional work around 1960 and traversed the length and breadth of India in search of subjects for his paintings. In doing so, he visited Rajasthan, Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh etc. Here he studied nature, architecture, bazaars and temples and made them the subject of his paintings. He sought to capture the atmosphere, the colours and the diversity of the regions he visited. His work scaled new heights of artistic excellence, aided by intensive practice in sketching and drawing, compositions and experimenting with colours. Shri Tupe began his exploration of landscapes along the banks of the Godavari river, and the environs of Nashik.

**Tuesday 17th December to
Monday 29th December 2025**

**Nehru Centre Art Gallery (AC)
11.00 a.m. to 7.00 p.m.**

Our Instagram link: [nehru_centre_artgallery](https://www.instagram.com/nehru_centre_artgallery)

UNEP - Champions of the Earth Awards

5. Wang Wenbiao – China – 2017



Wang Wenbiao is the President and founder of China's largest private green industries enterprise, Elion Resources Group. He has spent thirty years working in the Kubuqi Desert which is the seventh largest desert located in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, China. For his work, Wang Wenbiao won a Lifetime Achievement award for his leadership in the 'green industry' in the year 2017. With him at the helm, Elion Resources Group converted 66,000 hectares of desert land into a lush, green oasis and developed a forest belt to protect the Yellow River while also mitigating the threat of sandstorms to China's capital, Beijing.

Wang purchased the Hangjinqi Saltworks in the middle of the Kubuqi desert in 1988. But he soon realized that the saltwork's financial woes and livelihood problem in the region was due to the desert and the sand from there interfering with the production and making it difficult to transport products. He then partnered with local communities and the government to combat this desertification. Today nearly two-thirds of the desert has been greened. The local communities have jobs and the environment has turned pleasant. The United Nations Environment Programme Research estimates that this project will have a net value of \$1.8 billion dollars in fifty years. This shows that private industry can make profits while also contributing to sustainable development and solving environmental issues.

Wang Wenbiao has spent most of his life fighting desertification. In Wang's own words, "My only goal in life is to combat desertification for a greener world, with more lush mountains and clear water, which I always value as silver and gold mountains. I will not quit this combat until desertification is eliminated from our world ... I will continue to follow President Xi's ecological philosophy that 'Green is golden' and share what we have learned with other countries and regions along the Belt and Road and beyond."

Wang has received many awards for his efforts in saving the environment. In 2008, he won the China Charity Award and in 2012, he won the title 'Chinese Model Worker in Green Work' for the second time.

In the same year he received the 'Environment and Development' award from the United Nations. Wang now hopes to share Elion Resources Group's experiences and methods with other countries, particularly those along the Belt and Road initiative.

**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 /
 2013 / 2014

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 Discovery of India Building,
 Nehru Centre, Worli, Mumbai - 400 018.

Nehru Centre Library

for all things literary

**New Arrivals: Books**

Sr. No.	Title	Author/s
1.	The Nehru Years: An international history of Indian non-alignment	Swapna Nayudu Kona
2.	The Chief Minister and the Spy: An unlikely friendship	A. S. Dulat
3.	Shattered Lands: Five partitions and the making of modern India	Sam Dalrymple
4.	The Brahmastra Unleashed: A first person account of how the Mumbai underworld was annihilated	D. Sivanandhan
5.	My Head for a Tree: The extraordinary story of the Bishnoi, the world's first eco-warriors	Martin J. Goodman
6.	The Undying Light: A personal history of independent India	Gopalkrishna Gandhi
7.	Nalanda: How it changed the world	Abhay K.
8.	The New Icon: Savarkar and the facts	Arun Shourie
9.	Submerged Worlds and Other Amazing Stories of India's Mighty Rivers	Vaishali Shroff
10.	My Truth: Autobiography of Narmadashankar Dave	Narmadashankar Dave



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