

# Newsletter

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## Nehru Centre



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### Events At a Glance...

#### Culture Wing

## नीरु माधिव

A manifestation of Vishnu and Krishna featured in Hindu literature with its origin in Oria tradition.

**Naik Mochemadkar Paramparik Dashavatari Loknatya Mandal, Mochemad, Vengurla, Maharashtra**

Dashavatar is an 800-year-old traditional folk theatre of Maharashtra's Konkan region, particularly Sindhudurg, depicting the ten avataars of Lord Vishnu which he attained to restore cosmic order.

It is performed during village festivals (post-paddy harvest to May) and it plays a integral role in the local cultural life.

**Friday, 17th April 2026**

**6.30 p.m.**

**Nehru Centre Auditorium  
(Duration : 3 hours with interval)**

#### Dear Subscribers

You are requested to renew your subscription for the year 2026-2027 so that the Newsletter can be sent to you without any break.

### Speeches of the Freedom Movement

#### 16. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi Quit India

Bombay, 8 August 1942

*On August 8, 1942, Mahatma Gandhi announced the commencement of the Quit India Movement from the Gowalia Tank Maidan in Mumbai. He was speaking at the All India Congress Committee session. The movement aimed to demand an immediate end to British rule, highlighted by Gandhi's iconic 'Do or Die' slogan. Although he was not the best of orators, Gandhi's calm voice always reached the masses who followed him.*

*Reproduced below are some extracts from the historic speech.*

"There was a time when every Mussalman claimed the whole of India as his motherland. During the years that the Ali Brothers were with me, the assumption underlying all their talks and discussions was that India belonged as much to the Mussalmans as to the Hindus. I can testify to the fact that this was their innermost conviction and not a mask; I lived with them for years. I spent days and nights in their company. And I make bold to say that their utterances were the honest expression of their beliefs. Hindu-Muslim unity is not a new thing. It was my life-long aspiration for it that made me offer my fullest co-operation to the Mussalmans in the Khilafat movement. Muslims throughout the country accepted me as their true friend.

It was the spirit of courtesy, dignity and nobility that inspired us in those days. The members of each community vied with one another in accommodating members of sister communities. They respected one

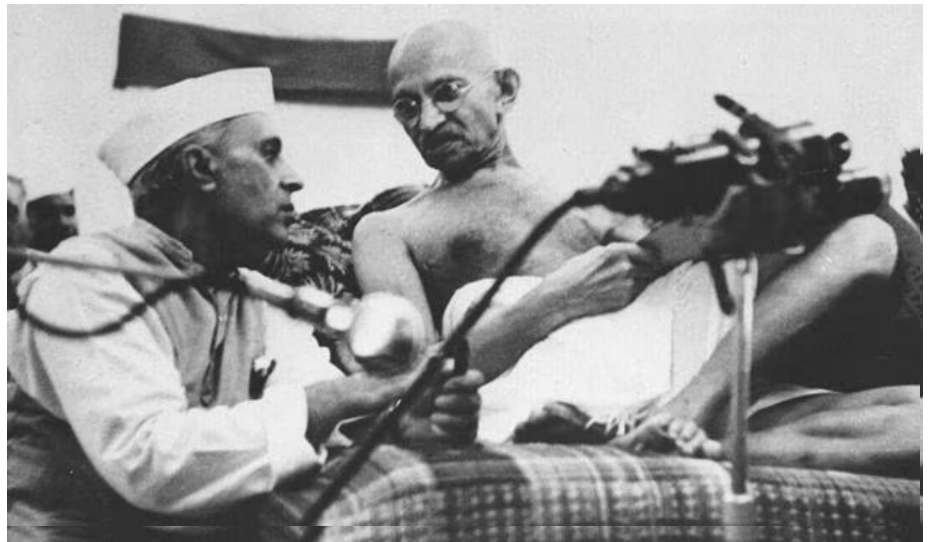
another's religious feelings, and considered it a privilege to do so. Not a trace of suspicion lurked in anybody's heart. I should ask all Mussalmans, including Qaid-e-Azam Jinnah, to recall those glorious days and to find out what has brought us to the present impassè. Qaid-e-Azam Jinnah himself was at one time a Congressman. If today the Congress has incurred his wrath, it is because the canker of suspicion has entered his heart.

If we Hindus and Mussalmans mean to achieve a heart unity, without the slightest mental reservation on the part of either, we must first unite in the effort to be free from the shackles of this Empire. If Pakistan is to be a portion of India, what objection can there be for Mussalmans against joining this struggle for India's freedom? The Hindus and Mussalmans must, therefore, unite in the first instance on the issue of fighting for freedom.

The Qaid-e-Azam has said that the Muslim League is prepared to take over the rule from the Britishers if they are prepared to hand it over to the Muslim League, for the British took over the Empire from the hands of the Muslims. This, however, will be Muslim raj. The offer made by Maulana Saheb and by me does not imply establishment of Muslim raj or Muslim domination. The Congress does not believe in the domination of any group or any community. It believes in democracy which includes in its orbit Muslims, Hindus, Christians, Parsis, Jews - every one of the communities inhabiting this vast country. If Muslim raj is inevitable, then let it be; but how can we give it the stamp of our assent? How can we agree to the domination of one community over the others?

India is without doubt the homeland of all the Mussalmans inhabiting this country. Every Mussalman should therefore co-operate in the fight for India's freedom. I have said that much greater sacrifices will have to be made this time in the wake of our struggle because of the opposition from the Muslim League and from Englishmen. You have seen the secret circular issued by Sir Frederick Puckle. It is a suicidal course that he has taken. It contains an open incitement to organizations which crop up like mushrooms to combine to fight the Congress. We have thus to deal with an Empire whose ways are crooked. Ours is a straight path which we can tread even with our eyes closed. That is the beauty of satyagraha.

I have travelled all over India as perhaps nobody in the present age has. The voiceless millions of the land saw in me their friend and



**Gandhi and Nehru at Gowalia Tank**

representative, and I identified myself with them to an extent that it was possible for a human being to do. I saw trust in their eyes, which I now want to turn to good account in fighting this Empire upheld on untruth and violence. However gigantic the preparations that the Empire has made, we must get out of its clutches.

The actual struggle does not commence this moment. You have only placed all your powers in my hands. I will now wait upon the Viceroy and plead with him for the acceptance of the Congress demand. That process is likely to take two or three weeks. You may take it from me that I am not going to strike a bargain with the Viceroy for ministries and the like. I am not going to be satisfied with anything short of complete freedom. Maybe, he will propose the abolition of salt tax, the drink evil, etc. But I will say: 'Nothing less than freedom.'

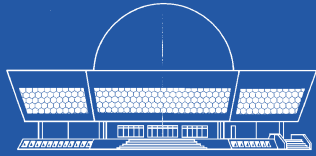
Here is a mantra, a short one, that I give you. You may imprint it on your hearts and let every breath of yours

give expression to it. The mantra is: 'Do or Die.' We shall either free India or die in the attempt; we shall not live to see the perpetuation of our slavery. Every true Congressman or [Congress] woman will join the struggle with an inflexible determination not to remain alive to see the country in bondage and slavery. Let that be your pledge. Keep jails out of your consideration. If the Government keeps me free, I will spare you the trouble of filling the jails. I will not put on the Government the strain of maintaining a large number of prisoners at a time when it is in trouble. Let every man and woman live every moment of his or her life hereafter in the consciousness that he or she eats or lives for achieving freedom and will die, if need be, to attain that goal. Take a pledge with God and your own conscience as witness, that you will no longer rest till freedom is achieved and will be prepared to lay down your lives in the attempt to achieve it. He who loses his life will gain it; he who will seek to save it shall lose it. Freedom is not for the coward or the faint-hearted."

### What Nehru said....

It is not some secret doctrine or esoteric knowledge that has kept India vital and going through these long ages, but a tender humanity, a varied and tolerant culture, and a deep understanding of life and its mysterious ways. Her abundant vitality flows out from age to age in her magnificent literature and art, though we have only a small part of this with us and much lies hidden still.

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



**NEHRU PLANETARIUM**

**Tel: 022-40245413  
Mobile : 9892890510**

## **THE MOON MISSION – INDIA'S JOURNEY TO THE MOON**

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

**(MONDAY CLOSED)**

**Email: [managernpmumbai@gmail.com](mailto:managernpmumbai@gmail.com)**

### **Astrophysicist Nobel Laureates**

#### **6. Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar: 1983**

The Nobel Prize in Physics (1983) was awarded to Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar and William Alfred Fowler, for their work in different branches of astrophysics. The prize was divided equally between them. Chandrasekhar was awarded the prize for "his theoretical studies of the physical processes of importance to the structure and evolution of the stars." (see box)

Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar was born on October 19, 1910, in Lahore, then part of British India (now in Pakistan). He grew up in an intellectually vibrant family that valued education and scholarship. His father C. Subrahmanyan Ayyar, was a government official and his mother Sitalakshmi encouraged his interest in mathematics and science. Chandrasekhar was the nephew of the celebrated physicist C. V. Raman, who received the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1930 for discovering the Raman Effect.



**S. Chandrasekhar**

Chandrasekhar's early education took place at home until the age of twelve, after which he attended school in Madras (now Chennai). He later joined Presidency College, University of Madras, where he studied physics. Chandrasekhar married Lalitha Doraiswamy, who was a year junior to him in college in 1936.

As an undergraduate, he demonstrated remarkable intellectual ability and published his first research paper while still a student. His academic excellence earned him a government scholarship to pursue higher studies at the University of Cambridge in England.

In 1930, at the age of nineteen, Chandrasekhar embarked on a voyage from India to England to begin his studies at Cambridge. During this voyage, he worked on the physics of dense stars known as white dwarfs. (see box) He calculated that if the mass of a star exceeds 1.44 times the mass of the sun, then a white dwarf star cannot remain stable. This value became known as the Chandrasekhar Limit. However, stars exceeding this mass cannot remain white dwarfs; they must collapse further, eventually becoming neutron stars or black holes, often accompanied by powerful supernova explosions.

This idea initially met strong opposition, particularly from the prominent British astronomer Arthur Eddington, who publicly criticised Chandrasekhar's conclusions, considering them physically implausible. For many years, the theory remained controversial. Eventually, however, later discoveries in astrophysics confirmed Chandrasekhar's predictions, establishing them as a cornerstone of stellar evolution theory.

This also became a turning point in Chandrasekhar's career. After completing his PhD at Cambridge in 1937, he moved to the United States to join the University of Chicago. In 1953, Chandrasekhar became a U.S. citizen. But he maintained strong intellectual ties with India and the international scientific community. His career at the University of Chicago lasted nearly five decades, during which he trained numerous students and produced a remarkable body of scientific work.

Unlike many scientists who focus on a single topic, Chandrasekhar worked systematically on different areas of theoretical astrophysics during different phases of his career. His research contributions include stellar structure and evolution, including the Chandrasekhar Limit; radiative transfer, which explains how energy moves through stellar atmospheres;

stellar dynamics; the gravitational interactions of stars in galaxies; hydrodynamic and hydromagnetic stability; general relativity and the black hole theory. Each period of research often culminated in a comprehensive book summarising the field.

Chandrasekhar was not only a brilliant researcher but also an inspiring teacher. Known for his meticulous preparation and clarity of thought, he delivered lectures that were mathematically rigorous yet elegant. Many of his students later became leading scientists. In the mid-1940s, Chandrasekhar travelled 150 km to teach a class of only two students, Tsung-Dao Lee and Chen-Ning Yang, at Yerkes Observatory, both of whom later received the Nobel Prize in 1957. Lee was 30, and Yang was 35, one of the youngest recipients of the Nobel Prize.

Chandrasekhar served as the editor of *The Astrophysical Journal* for nearly two decades, transforming it into one of the world's leading journals in astronomy and astrophysics. His editorial leadership helped shape the direction of astrophysical research during a crucial period of growth in the field.

Over the course of his career he received numerous other honours, including The Gold Medal of the Royal Astronomical Society (1953), The Royal Medal of the Royal Society (1962) and The Copley Medal of the Royal Society (1984). In recognition of his contributions, NASA later named its orbiting X-ray observatory the Chandra X-ray Observatory, ensuring that his name remains permanently associated with the exploration of the high-energy universe. He was affectionately called "Chandra" by his friends, colleagues and students.



**Lalitha and Chandra at the dedication ceremony for McDonald Observatory in 1939.** (Photo credit - Elwood M. Payne, UChicago Photographic Archive, apf1-01661, University of Chicago Library)

Throughout his life, he was known for his disciplined work habits, humility, and deep appreciation for the beauty of science. He believed that scientific research was driven not only by curiosity but also by aesthetic elegance. His later writings explored the relationship between science, art, and philosophy, reflecting his broad intellectual interests. Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar passed away on August 21, 1995, in Chicago at the age of 84. By the time of his death, his ideas had become central to astrophysics. Concepts such as neutron stars, black holes, and supernova explosions—now standard in astronomy—owe much to his pioneering theoretical work.

## STELLAR EVOLUTION

Stars form within cold ( $-260\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $-70\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) dark clouds of gas and dust, referred to as the interstellar medium (ISM) scattered throughout our galaxy. An ISM consists of about 70% hydrogen and 28% helium. Astronomers call the remaining 2% dust. The dust consists of a complex mixture of atoms, ions, molecules and solid, microscopic dust particles (carbon, silicates, ices). These are very large clouds, a few light-years across. Sometimes a cloud, or part of it, condenses due to gravity. The condensation leads to an increase in temperature and gravity. As gravity increases, the neighbouring part of the cloud is 'pulled in'. This is called gravitational collapse.

The temperature increases steadily as the cloud continues to collapse. At a temperature of about 15 million Kelvin, a process called thermonuclear fusion begins, in which hydrogen atoms fuse to form helium and release energy as radiation. At some point, the radiation becomes so large that it prevents the cloud from collapsing. And a star is born.

By the early 1930s, scientists had concluded that, after converting all of their hydrogen to helium, stars lose energy and contract under the influence of their own gravity. These stars are known as white dwarf stars.

# Culture Wing

**Nehru Centre**  आयोजित

## नील माधव

लोकनाट्य परंपरेतील दशावतार खेळ



**सादरकर्ते:** नाईक मोचेमाडकर पारंपारिक दशावतारी लोकनाट्य मंडळ, मोचेमाड, वेंगुर्ले

Nehru Centre presents a musical drama in Dashavataar form - नील माधव

It is a manifestation of Vishnu and Krishna featured in Hindu literature, with its origin in Odia tradition.

Dashavataar is an 800-year-old traditional folk theatre of Maharashtra's Konkan region, particularly Sindhudurg, depicting the ten avataars of Lord Vishnu which he attained to restore cosmic order. Performed during village festivals (post-paddy harvest to May) these extempore plays are integral to local cultural life.

**Date: Friday, 17th April 2026, 6.30 p.m.**

**Duration: 3 hrs with interval**

**Venue: Nehru Centre Auditorium**

**Entry: Free Entrance Cards will be available from Friday, 10th April 2026 from 10.30 am onwards until availability from the ticket counter of Nehru Centre Auditorium on first-come-first serve basis.**

**ASHISH MONDAL  
JIBAN BISWAS**



Ashish Mondal

Jiban Biswas

Ashish practises contemporary art. His work draws deeply on the search for inner energy,

Jiban works in acrylic on canvas.

**Tuesday 31st March 2026  
to Monday 6th April 2026  
(AC Gallery)**

**DINKAR PAWAR  
MANJIRI RAUT  
BHUSHAN UDGIKAR  
AMOL PAWAR  
RAVI STUL**

This group of five artists will display their landscape paintings in various mediums.

**Tuesday 31st March 2026  
to Monday 6th April 2026  
(Circular Gallery)**

**TRAPTI PORWAL  
SAMIKSHA RATHORE  
JHUMUK DAS  
NIDHI CHOPRA  
NEETU GAIKWAD**

This group of five artists will display their paintings and sculptures in various mediums.

**Tuesday 7th April 2026  
to Monday 13th April 2026  
(AC Gallery)**

**STUDY CAMP (NASHIK)**

The 31st Study Camp organized by Nehru Centre Art Gallery took place in Nashik from 11th to 17th January 2026. Art college students from Mumbai took part. They made on-the-spot paintings at various locations in and around Nashik, Rachana Nagarkar, a well-known artist guided the students and also painted along with them. These water colour paintings on Nashik will be on display.

**Tuesday 14th April 2026 to Monday 20th April 2026 (AC Gallery)**

**SACHIN BHANGADE  
KISHOR KAWAD**



Sachin Bhangade

Sachin's paints are in water colour, acrylic and charcoal mediums.

Kishor paints in acrylic on canvas.

**Tuesday 7th April 2026  
to Monday 13th April 2026  
(Circular Gallery)**

**RAJ MAJI  
KOYEL MAJI  
JAGDISH MOHANTY**



Koyel Maji



Jagdish Mohanty

This group of three young artists will display their works in fluid colour and strokes through paintings.

**Tuesday 14th April 2026  
to Monday 20th April 2026  
(Circular Gallery)**

**MODEL ART  
EDUCATION SOCIETY**

This is the annual show of the Model Art Education Society where they will display artworks done by their students.

**Tuesday 21st April 2026  
to Monday 27th April 2026  
(AC Gallery)**

**ADWAIT BANDEKAR**

Advait experiments in new forms through abstract art and will showcase the same.

**Tuesday 21st April 2026  
to Monday 27th April 2026  
(Circular Gallery)**

**SHANKAR KENDALE**

Shankar works in water colour, oil on canvas, pastel and charcoal.

**Tuesday 28th April 2026  
to Monday 4th May 2026  
(AC Gallery)**

**SIDDHARTH KARMAKAR  
(KALA CONNECT)**

Kala Connect is a vibrant platform celebrating art, creativity and emerging talent from across India.

**Tuesday 28th April 2026  
to Monday 4th May 2026  
(Circular Gallery)**

Our Instagram link: [nehru\\_centre\\_artgallery](https://www.instagram.com/nehru_centre_artgallery)

## UNEP - Champions of the Earth Awards

### 9. Jacques Rogge – Belgium - 2007



Jacques Rogge (1942-2021) was a Belgian athlete and physician who served as President of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) from 2001 till 2013. He died in the year 2021. He was awarded the UNEP Champions of the Earth Lifetime Achievement Award in 2007 for his dedication to incorporate environmental sustainability into the Olympic Movement. He perpetuated a policy that sought to provide greater resources to sustainable development in and through sports at national, regional and international levels, particularly at the Olympic Games. This policy enshrined in the Olympic Charter is an important development as it strives to promote Olympic Games which respect the environment and meets the standards of sustainable development. Furthermore, it aims to promote awareness and educates the members of the Olympic family and sports practitioners of the importance of a healthy environment for sustainable development.

Rogge studied sports medicine and earned his medical degree in Great Britain before returning to Belgium to work as an orthopaedic surgeon in Deinze. He also lectured at the Free University in Brussels and University of Ghent. He was a 16-time national champion in rugby and one-time world champion in yachting. After retiring from competitions, Rogge got involved with the Belgian Olympic Committee and in 1991 he joined the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and became its President in July 2001. After taking the helm of the IOC, Rogge introduced stringent environmental requirements for cities bidding to host the Olympic Games. As a result, no bid was considered without a comprehensive environmental programme. He encouraged organizers of Olympic Games to fulfill their environmental pledges and commitments. Under his Presidency, the Torino Games was hailed as the greenest games and considered an innovative model for future green games. In addition, he also endorsed the continuation of the IOC Biennial World Conference for Sport and Environment and regional seminars for the same. Under his leadership, the World Conference became one of the most recognizable events on sport and environment. Even today it continues to draw stakeholders from all sectors of the sporting world to discuss their role and contributions to sustainable development.

Jacques Rogge received numerous awards and honours for his contribution to sports, diplomacy and the Olympic Movement. He was awarded the Gold Olympic Order in 2013 by his successor Thomas Bach upon his retirement from the IOC presidency. Some other awards that he received were the Jean Borotra Trophy in 2017, Beppe Croce Trophy in 2007 and the FIFA Presidential Award in 2013.

**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)
  - (4) S. L. & G. S. HALDANKAR (1998)
  - (5) BALAJI & HARISH TALIM (1999)
  - (6) D. G. KULKARNI (DIZI) (2001)
  - (7) NARAYAN L. SONAFADEKAR (2003)
  - (8) NAGESH B. SABANNAVAR (2004)
  - (9) SAMAKALEEN (2005)
  - (10) VINAYAK S. MASOJI (2006)
  - (11) K. B. KULKARNI (2007)
  - (12) COLLECTOR'S PRIDE (2007)
  - (13) P. A. DHOND (2008)
  - (14) HAREN DAS (2009)
  - (16) G. N. JADHAV (2011)
  - (17) J. B. DIKSHIT (2014)
  - (18) DEENANATH DALAL (2015)
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Sr. No.	Title	Author/s
1.	Our Living Constitution: A concise introduction & commentary	<b>Shashi Tharoor</b>
2.	Commanded by Destiny: A General's rise from soldier to statesman	<b>Gen. S. M. Shriganesh</b>
3.	An Undocumented Wonder: The making of the great Indian elections	<b>S. Y. Quraishi</b>
4.	Song of India: A study of the National Anthem	<b>Rudrangshu Mukherjee</b>
5.	Mother Mary comes to Me	<b>Arundhati Roy</b>
6.	Echoes & Eloquences: The life and cinema of Gulzar	<b>Saibal Chatterjee</b>
7.	Mohan and Muhammad: Gandhi, Jinnah and the break-up of British India	<b>Meghnad Desai</b>
8.	Becoming a Mountain: Himalayan journeys in search of the sacred and the sublime	<b>Stephen Alter</b>
9.	A Glimpse of my Life: An autobiography of an Indian revolutionary Ram Prasad 'Bismil'	<b>Awadhesh Tripathi</b>
10.	M. S. Swaminathan: The man who fed India	<b>Priyambada Jayakumar</b>



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**10.00 a.m. to 5.45 p.m.**

**On all working days**



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