

Newsletter

Vol. 27 Issue 7 JULY 2026

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Nehru Centre



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Events At a Glance...

LIBRARY

JULY LITERARY MONTH

Book Discussion Burial of Hearts

Friday, 3rd July 2026, 4.30 pm

Poetry Evening

Happy Doctor's Day

Saturday, 4th July 2026,
4.30 pm

Book Discussion

1. God's Own Empire
2. The Phoenix Rises

Friday, 17th July 2026, 4.30 pm

Meet-the-Author

The Girl Who Wouldn't Stay Between the Lines

Saturday, 18th July 2026,
10.30 am

Poetry Evening

Along The Lines of Youth

Saturday, 18th July 2026,
4.30 pm

Venue: **Who Are We Hall**

CULTURE WING

MEGH MALHAR

Friday, 17th July 2026
Shruti Bujarbaruah
Pt. Vijay Koparkar

Saturday, 18th July 2026
Sandeep Ranade
Vidushi Manjiri Alegaonkar

6.45 p.m. (Both days)
Nehru Centre Auditorium

Speeches of the Freedom Movement

19. Jawaharlal Nehru

Freedom Along with Partition

New Delhi, 3 June 1947

On 20 February 1947, Prime Minister Attlee made a statement in the House of Commons which decided the fate of India. He announced that it was the intention of His Majesty's government to take 'necessary steps to effect the transference of power to responsible Indian hands by a date not later than June 1948' and replace Lord Wavell with Lord Mountbatten as Viceroy. After this announcement, the Muslim League put more fire in their Direct Action Plan. Jenkins (governor of Punjab) reported that 'communal tension was acute in almost all districts — and was spreading to villages.'

Ultimately the Congress took a realistic view of the deteriorating situation and in an emergency meeting of the Working Committee on 8 March 1947 demanded the partition of Punjab. Later, Bengal was added. This was virtually conceding to the partition of the country.

Mountbatten replaced Wavell on 24 March 1947. He soon realized that in the circumstances the Cabinet Mission Plan was unworkable and that partition was inevitable. The Congress had already committed itself to partition in their Resolution of March 8. Jawaharlal Nehru's broadcast on 3 June, (extracts of which are reproduced below), did not come as a surprise. On 14 June, the All-India Congress Committee accepted the Mountbatten Plan for the partition of the country.

"Nearly nine months ago, I spoke to you from this place. I told you then that we were on the march and the goal had still to be reached. There were many difficulties and obstacles on the way, and our journey's end might not be near, for that end was not the assumption of office in the Government of India, but the achievement of the full independence of India and the establishment of a cooperative Commonwealth in which all will be equal sharers in opportunity and in all things that give meaning and value to life.

Looking back at this period with its suffering and sorrow for our people,

there is much on the credit side also, for India has advanced nationally and internationally, and is respected today in the councils of the world. In the domestic sphere something substantial has been achieved though the burden on the common man still continues to be terribly heavy and millions lack food and clothes and other necessities of life.

Many vast schemes of development are nearly ready, and yet it is true that most of our dreams about the brave things we were going to accomplish have still to be realised. You know well the difficulties which the country has had to face - economic, political

and communal. These months have been full of tragedy for millions and the burden on those who had the government of the country in their hands has been great indeed. My mind is heavy with the thought of the sufferings of our people in the areas of disturbance, the thousands who are dead and those who have suffered agony worse than death. To their families and to innumerable people who have been uprooted from their homes and rendered destitute, I offer my deep sympathy and assurance that we shall do all in our power to bring relief. We must see to it that such tragedies do not happen again. My great regret has been that during this period owing to excess of work I have been unable to visit the numerous towns and villages of India as I used to do to meet my people and to learn about their troubles.

Today, I speak to you on another historic occasion, when a vital change affecting the future of India is proposed. You have just heard an announcement on behalf of the British Government. This announcement lays down a procedure for self-determination in certain areas of India. It envisages on the one hand the possibility of these areas seceding from India; on the other, it promises a big advance towards complete independence. Such a big change must have the full concurrence of the people before effect can be given to it, for it must always be remembered that the future of India can only be decided by the people of India and not by any outside authority. These proposals will be placed soon before representative Assemblies of the people for consideration. But meanwhile the sands of time run out and decisions cannot await the normal course of events. So, while we must necessarily abide by what the people finally decide we have to come to certain decisions ourselves, and to recommend them to the



Nehru with Mountbatten and Jinnah

people. We have, therefore, decided to accept these proposals and to recommend to our larger committees that they do likewise.

It is with no joy in my heart that I commend these proposals to you. Though I have no doubt in my mind that this is the right course, for generations we have dreamt and struggled for a free and independent united India. The proposals to allow certain parts to secede, if they so will, is painful for any of us to contemplate. Nevertheless, I am convinced that our present decision is the right one even from the larger viewpoint. The united India that we have laboured for was not one of compulsion and coercion, but a free and willing association of a free people. It may be that in this way we shall reach that united India sooner than otherwise and that she will have a stronger and more secure foundation. We are little men serving great causes, but because the cause is great, something of that greatness falls upon us also. Mighty forces are at work in the world today and in India, and I have no doubt that we are ushering in a period of greatness for India. On this historic occasion, each one of us must pray that he might be guided aright in the service of the motherland and of humanity at large.

We stand on a watershed dividing the past from the future. Let us bury that past in so far as it is dead and forget all bitterness and recrimination. Let there be moderation in speech and writing. Let there be strength and perseverance in adhering to the cause and the ideals we have at heart. Let us face the future not with easy optimism or with any complacency or weakness, but with confidence and a firm faith in India.

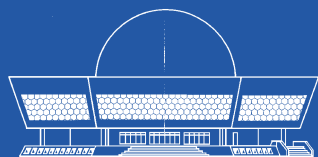
On this, the eve of great changes in India we have to make a fresh start with clear vision and a firm mind, with steadfastness and tolerance and a stout heart. We should not wish ill to anyone, but think always of every Indian as our brother and comrade. Inevitably, on every occasion of crisis and difficulty, we think of our great leader, Mahatma Gandhi, who has led us unfalteringly for over a generation through darkness and sorrow, to the threshold of our freedom. To him we once more pay our homage. His blessing and wise counsel will happily be with us in the momentous years to come as always. With firm faith in our future, I appeal to you to cooperate in the great task ahead and to march together to the haven of freedom for all in India.

Jai Hind."

What Nehru said....

A people, comprising all stages of cultural development, represent in themselves and in their thoughts, beliefs, and activities, different ages of the past leading up to the present.

... 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: managnpmumbai@gmail.com

Astrophysicist Nobel Laureates

9. Joseph H. Taylor Jr., and Russell A. Hulse.: 1993

Joseph H. Taylor Jr. and Russell A. Hulse jointly received the Nobel Prize in Physics 1993 'for the discovery of a new type of pulsar, a discovery that has opened up new possibilities for the study of gravitation'. The prize was divided equally between them. According to Albert Einstein's General Theory of Relativity, accelerating massive bodies should produce gravitational waves — ripples in spacetime that travel outward at the speed of light. Einstein himself doubted whether these waves would ever be detected because they are extraordinarily weak. However, the works of Taylor and Hulse provided one of the strongest confirmations of Einstein's theory.

In last month's newsletter, we discussed the science of this discovery and the life of Russell A. Hulse. In this issue, we bring you a note on Taylor's work.

Joseph Hooton Taylor Jr., better known as Joe Taylor, was born on March 29, 1941, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA. He grew up in a family that encouraged curiosity, learning, and practical skills. His parents encouraged independent thinking and deeply valued education. This atmosphere helped him develop the patience and concentration that would later become essential in his scientific research.

His father, Joseph Hooton Taylor Sr., was interested in technology and electronics, and the young Joe inherited this fascination at an early age. As a child, Taylor spent hours experimenting with radios and electronic circuits. He was especially fascinated by communication systems and enjoyed assembling amateur radio equipment. These early experiences developed both his technical abilities and his love for scientific exploration.

As a student, Taylor showed remarkable aptitude in mathematics and physics. He attended Haverford College, a respected liberal arts institution in Pennsylvania, where he studied physics. Haverford had a strong academic environment that emphasised critical thinking and close interaction between students and teachers. Taylor benefited greatly from this culture and formed lasting friendships with fellow students who shared his scientific interests.

The 1960s were an exciting period in astrophysics. Radio astronomy was rapidly developing, and astronomers were discovering strange and mysterious cosmic radio sources. During this period, Taylor became deeply interested in radio observations of the universe. He received a B.A. in physics from Haverford College in 1963. He then joined Harvard University, where he earned his Ph.D. in astronomy in 1968.



Taylor in the lab at the University of Massachusetts

At Harvard, Taylor worked with leading scientists and became part of a growing international community of radio astronomers. His colleagues admired his quiet determination, technical skill, and ability to solve difficult observational problems.

After a brief research position at Harvard, Taylor went to the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, eventually becoming Professor of Astronomy and Associate Director of the Five College Radio Astronomy Observatory.

In 1974, while working at the Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico with his graduate student Russell Alan Hulse, Taylor discovered a remarkable pulsar known as PSR B1913+16. Unlike ordinary pulsars, this object was part of a binary system — two neutron stars orbiting each other. The discovery immediately attracted the attention of academics, eventually leading the duo to win the Nobel Prize. It may be noted that they were the first Nobel laureates from the University of Massachusetts.

The friendship of Hulse and Taylor was one of the defining scientific friendships. It began in the early 1970s, when he began working with graduate student Russell Alan Hulse, who was a doctoral student at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Together, they carried out observations using the giant Arecibo Radio Observatory in Puerto Rico.

Apart from his Nobel-winning research, Taylor made many other contributions to radio astronomy and pulsar science. He helped develop advanced observational techniques and worked extensively on pulsar timing methods. His research also contributed to studies of interstellar matter, galactic structure, and tests of fundamental physics.

Taylor spent much of his academic career at Princeton University, where he inspired generations of students and researchers. Friends and collaborators often described him as approachable, generous with students, and deeply committed to scientific accuracy. Despite the fame associated with the Nobel Prize, he remained known for his approachable

personality and dedication to teaching. One of Taylor's lasting contributions lies in demonstrating how careful observation can reveal profound truths about the universe. Pulsars, once mysterious radio signals, became precise tools for testing the laws of nature. Through patience, technical skill, and scientific insight, Taylor transformed these exotic objects into laboratories for modern physics.



Joseph H. Taylor Jr. showing his Nobel Medal after the Nobel Prize award ceremony in the Stockholm Concert Hall on 10 December 1993

Nobel research done at UM

By KELLY SPANG
Collegian Staff

Two former members of the University of Massachusetts physics and astronomy department won the 1993 Nobel Prize in Physics for their discovery of binary pulsars.

Professor Joseph Taylor, Jr. and his graduate student at the time, Russell Hulse, are the first Nobel laureates to have done their research at the University.

Research accompanying Hulse's dissertation enabled the two to discover the first binary pulsar 21,000 light years from the earth. The 145-page dissertation titled "A High Sensitivity Pulsar Search" was published in 1975 in *Astrophysical Journal Letters*.

A binary pulsar is a pair of neutron stars that rotate rapidly and generate a radio pulse.

"This orbiting object, the binary pulsar, turned up and we recognized it rather quickly that because of the unique situation," Taylor said in a 1978 press release, "One star orbiting another star - we would be able to make very accurate measurements of the length of orbit time."

Taylor and Hulse's work supports Albert Einstein's 1916 theories on the nature of relativity and the existence of gravitational waves.

Their discovery is also important to enable astronomers to make measurements of the mass of materials in a pulsar.

The first pulsar, a neutron star which emits radio waves at regular intervals, was discovered in 1967 in Cambridge, England. Taylor and Hulse's research expanded on this discovery when they found pulsars to be linked together.

Taylor left the University of Massachusetts in 1980 for Princeton University, where he continued his research in radio astronomy. In 1985 he was awarded an honorary doctorate from the University of Chicago for his research in relativity. Taylor is currently still a professor of physics at Princeton.

Upon the completion of his degree at UMass, Hulse held a post-doctoral position at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory in Charlottesville, Va. He currently works at Princeton.

Both men were honored in May at a special convocation in which Hulse and Taylor presented brief lectures and were awarded honorary degrees.

Area state senators and representatives used the scientists' award as an opportunity to stress the need for more consistent funding to state higher education institutions.

"While the state's investment in the University laid the groundwork for the Nobel prize-winning research," said a letter signed by 12 legislators, including Rep. Ellen Story, D-Amherst and Sen. Stan Rosenberg, D-Amherst. "The lack of consistent state funding for our public colleges and universities has ultimately cost Massachusetts talented researchers like Taylor, Hulse, and others," the letter said.

Joseph H. Taylor, Jr. and Russell A. Hulse received the 1993 Nobel Prize in physics for research conducted at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

A newspaper report announcing the award of the Nobel Prize

The story of Joseph Hooton Taylor Jr. is a reminder that astronomy is not only about observing distant stars and galaxies but also about understanding the fundamental forces that govern the cosmos. His work connected radio astronomy, stellar evolution, and Einstein's theory of gravity in a powerful and elegant way.

Today, pulsar astronomy continues to flourish. Modern observatories and gravitational-wave detectors build upon the foundations laid by scientists like Taylor. The study of neutron stars remains one of the most exciting areas of astrophysics, helping researchers probe matter under extreme conditions and explore the nature of spacetime itself.

Megh Malhar



**A two-day festival
of vocal classical music
based on Malhar and
other monsoon ragas**

Friday, 17th July 2026, 6.45 p.m.



Shruti Bujarbaruah

Shruti Bujarbaruah is an Indian classical vocalist from Assam, now based in Mumbai. Her soulful voice and expressive *gayaki* breathe life into Hindustani classical, semi-classical, devotional, Marathi *abhangas* and Assamese music - each note a whisper from the heart, resonating with timeless emotion.

She is a disciple of Pt. Vijay Koparkar for several years. She is currently assimilating nuances of Jaipur Gharana under the guidance of Vidushi Pratima Tilak.

Accompanists:
Rohit Deo - Tabla
Varad Sohani - Harmonium



Pt. Vijay Koparkar

Vidyadhar Koparkar popularly known as Pt. Vijay Koparkar is a Hindustani classical singer. He is a disciple of Pt. Dr. Vasantrao Deshpande and Pt. Jitendra Abhisheki. He sings *khayal, tarana, thumri, tappa, dadra, bhajan, abhang and natyageet* among other genres.

He has received several honours including a scholarship given by Master Sudhir Phadke through 'Surashree Pratishthan' from 1983 to 1990 and 'Pandit Ramkrishna Vaze Puraskar' by Gandharva Mahamandal.

Accompanists:
Vivek Bhalariao - Tabla
Rahul Gole - Harmonium

Compere: Ms. Shruti Ranade

Saturday, 18th July 2026, 6.45 p.m.



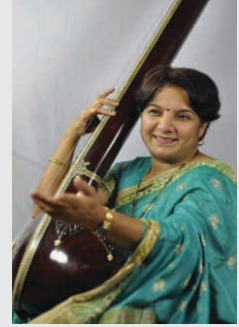
Sandeep Ranade

Sandeep Ranade (alias 'Naadrang') is an Indian classical singer and software engineer from Pune. His composition about corona virus '*Na Carona Karo*' was shared extensively on social media. In 2021 he won an Apple Design Award for innovation of the application *NaadSadhana*.

After his stint at Microsoft and Google he returned to Pune to focus on music, to teach and build a start-up.

He has performed in musical concerts and accompanied Pandit Jasraj twice at the Sawai Gandharva Sangeet Mahotsav.

Accompanists:
Jagamitra Lingade - Tabla
Abhinav Ravande - Harmonium



Vidushi Manjiri Alegaonkar

Vidushi Manjiri Alegaonkar received rigorous training of Jaipur-Atroli Gayaki from late Wamanraoji Deshpande, a well-known musicologist. She was also trained by Pt. Babanrao Haldankar of Agra Gharana. She is receiving training from Pandit M. S. Kanetkar.

She is a Top Grade artiste of Akashwani and Doordarshan. She received the 'Kumar Gandharva Award' at the hands of Bharat Ratna Pt. Bhimsen Joshi.

'Swarananda Pratishthan', Pune has also honoured her with the 'Manik Verma Puraskar'.

Accompanists:
Ajit Kimbahune - Tabla
Saurav Dandekar - Harmonium

Compere: Mrs. Uttara Mone

Venue: Nehru Centre Auditorium

Entry : Free Entrance Cards will be available from Monday 13th July 2026 from 10.30 a.m. until availability from the booking counter of the Nehru Centre Auditorium.

NC Culture Wing
 nehrucentreculturewing
 WhatsApp: 9324857186

Chatak, the legendary bird, eagerly awaits the first rains to quench his thirst. Similarly, our Chatak show displays the works of young student and professional artists who are keen to showcase their talent.

This year we held the Chatak monsoon show from 23rd June to 29th June 2026. We had received nearly 482 applications from all over India and 73 artists both professional and students were selected by a committee of artists.

Chatak has evolved into a national show as artists from Madhya Pradesh, Indore, Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Hyderabad and Goa participate in it.

Senior artists, art lovers and art students were present in good numbers and the show received tremendous response.



**32nd
CHATAK
MONSOON
SHOW 2026**

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



GLIMPSES OF THE PRINTMAKING WORKSHOP

(April 6-10 2026)



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is

TEMPORARILY CLOSED

FOR

MAINTENANCE WORK

from

30th JUNE to 02nd AUGUST 2026

**Nehru
Centre**

Art Gallery

Art Gallery Office shifted to
VIP Hall

FOLLOW US AT : [nehru_centre_artgallery](#)

[Nehru Centre Art Gallery](#)

3. Tradition of Vedic Chanting

The Vedas comprise a vast corpus of Sanskrit poetry, philosophical dialogue, myth, and ritual incantations developed and composed by Aryans over 3,500 years ago. Regarded by Hindus as the primary source of knowledge and the sacred foundation of their religion, the Vedas embody one of the world's oldest surviving cultural traditions. The Tradition of Vedic Chanting was inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2008 under the category of oral literature. UNESCO declared the chanting of Vedas in India to be an outstanding example of heritage and a form of cultural expression. The Vedic heritage embraces a multitude of texts and interpretations collected in four Vedas, referred to as 'books of knowledge' even though they have been



Priests chanting Vedic mantras



A priest teaching children Vedic chanting

transmitted orally. The four Vedas are Rigveda, Samaveda, Yajurveda and Atharvaveda. The Rig Veda is an anthology of sacred hymns, the Sama Veda features musical arrangements of hymns from the Rig Veda and other sources, the Yajur Veda abounds in prayers and sacrificial formulae used by priests and the Atharva Veda includes incantations and spells. Expressed in Vedic language derived from classical Sanskrit, the verses of Vedas were traditionally chanted during sacred rituals. The value of this tradition lies not only in the rich content of its oral literature but also in the ingenious techniques used by the Brahmin priests in preserving the texts. Practitioners are trained since childhood in the complex recitation techniques that are based on tonal accents which is a unique manner of pronouncing each letter and specific speech combinations.

Today, only thirteen Vedic recitation branches survive.

Further Reading at the Nehru Centre Library:

- Rig Veda: A scientific and intellectual analysis of the hymns by J.K. Trikha, Somaiya Publications, 1981, Call No. 294.12/Tri, Barcode: 534
- Hymns from the Vedas: Original text and English translation with introduction and notes by Abhinash Chandra Bose, Asia Publication House, 1966, Call No. 294.1/Bos, Barcode: 1010
- Hymns of the Rig-veda in the Samhita and Pada texts by F. Max Muller, Chowkhamba Sanskrit Series Office, 1965, Call No. 294.12/Max, Barcode: 3856 & 3857
- Sam-Veda Samhita: A collection of ancient Hindu hymns of the Sam-Veda by Ralph T.H. Griffith, Cosmo Publications, 2010, Call No. 294.13/Gri, Barcode: 2326

**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
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 India-China Relations
 Remembering Einstein
 Challenges to Democracy in India
 Rule of Law in a Free Society
 Science in India
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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)
- and many more

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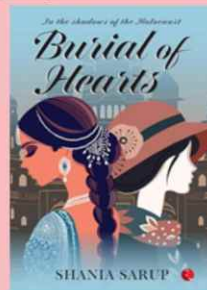
Available at:
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Nehru Centre Library

for all things literary



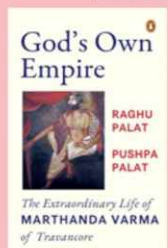
July Literary Month

Book/Panel Discussion

Friday, 3rd July 2026
 @ 4.30 p.m.

Poetry Evening

Saturday, 4th July 2026
 @ 4.30 p.m.

Book Discussion

Friday, 17th July 2026
 @ 4.30 p.m.

Meet-the-Author

Saturday, 18th July 2026
 @ 10.30 a.m.

**Poetry Evening**

Saturday,
 18th July 2026
 @ 4.30 p.m.

Open to All

Registration mandatory
nehrucenlibrary@gmail.com

Venue for All Events
 'Who Are We' Hall, 1st Floor
 Discovery of India Building



nehru-centre.org/library.html



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10.00 a.m. to 5.45 p.m.
On all working days



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