

Seminar, Book Discussions, Meet the Author
(January, 2020 – March, 2020)

1. Book Discussion on 8th January, 2020:

Title: i.) Instrumental Lives: An Intimate Biography of an Indian Laboratory by Sekhsaria, Pankaj. Oxon: Routledge, 2019 and

ii.) Money, Culture, Class: Elite Women as Modern Subjects by Bhandari, Parul. Oxon: Routledge, 2019

About the Book: These two books explore the everyday expressions of modernity on the Indian subcontinent

Chairman: Professor Saurabh Dube, El Colegio de México, Mexico City.

Discussants: Dr. Simona Sawhney, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT, Delhi;

Dr. Dev Pathak, Department of Sociology, South Asian University, New Delhi; and

Dr. Lipika Kamra, School of Liberal Arts and Humanities, OP Jindal Global University, Sonapat.

2. Book Discussion on 10th February, 2020:

Title: Wasted: the Messy Story of Sanitation in India, a Manifesto for Change by Ankur Bisen. Macmillan, 2019 was discussed on 10th February, 2020. The discussants were

About the Book: The book seeks solutions to the current entangled problems of urban planning, governance and legislation, and institutional and human capacity building.

Discussants: Prof. Awadhendra Sharan, Professor at Centre for Studies of Developing Society;

Shri Nitin Aggarwal CEO and Co-Founder Attero and

Shri Anurag Yadav, Secretary, Urban Development and State Mission Director Swatch Bharat Mission (Urban) in Govt. of Uttar Pradesh

3. Book Discussion on 18th February, 2020:

Title: A Chequered Brilliance: The many lives of V.K. Krishna Menon by Jairam Ramesh. Penguin, 2019

About the Book: This book is a compelling biography of one of India's most controversial and consequential public figures. V.K. Krishna Menon continues to command our attention not just because he was

Jawaharlal Nehru's confidant and soulmate but also for many of his own political and literary accomplishments.

Chairman: Shri M. K. Rasgotra, Former Foreign Secretary.

Discussants: Shri TCA Raghavan, Former High Commissioner of India to Pakistan;
Shri Shivshankar Menon, Former National Security Adviser of India
Shri Jairam Ramesh, Author of the book

4. Book Discussion on 24th February, 2020:

Title: Morarji Desai: A Profile in Courage by Arvinder Singh. Niyogi books, 2019

About the Book: This book captures the quintessence of Morarji Desai, the great leader through the various phases of his long and distinguished career. It provides an in-depth analysis through the various phases of his professional life – as a government officer, as a freedom fighter, as the ‘iron’ Chief Minister of the erstwhile State of Bombay, as Union Finance Minister, Deputy Prime Minister, Opposition Leader and Prime Minister.

Chairman: Shri Soli J. Sorabjee, Former Attorney General of India.

Discussants: Prof. Apoorvanand, Faculty of Arts, Delhi University;
Shri Rahul Singh, Senior Journalist and former Editor of the Indian Express
Shri Arvindar Singh, Author of the Book

5. Book Discussion on 6th March, 2020:

Title: Modern Civilization: A Crisis of Fragmentation by S. C. Malik. New Delhi: D. K. Printworld, 2020

About the Book: Delving deep into the epistemological cum ontological causation of the emergency confronting the being and becoming of man, this book provokes the thoughtful lay reader to a serious engagement with his or her self

Chairman: Prof Aditya Malik, Indologist and Vice Chancellor, KR Mangalam University.

Discussants: Prof Come Carpentier, Writer, Analyst and Convener of World Affairs Editorial Board
Mr Vikram Lal, Senior Architect and Writer

6. Book Discussion on 13th March, 2020:

Title: **Land Lust: Short Stories** by Joginder Singh Paul. Originally in Urdu, this book edited by Sukrita Paul Kumar and Vandana R. Niyogi books, New Delhi, 2019

About the Book: Evocative and crisp, Joginder Paul's stories in Land Lust offer poignant glimpses of the unequal multiracial relations in colonial Kenya. Translated from the original Urdu, they evoke insightful moments of compassion from within the harsh xenophobic environs.

Chairman: Dr. Anvita Abbi, eminent linguist and scholar

Discussants: Shri Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharjee, Eminent Litterateur and Editor;
Ms. Chandana Dutta, translator, editor, writer;
Dr. Sukrita Paul Kumar, editor of the book; and
Ms. Vandana R. Singh, editor of the book