Freedom in Captivity

Gandhiji turned jail-going in India into an honourable action. Every period that he himself spent behind bars produced a crop of anecdotes. At one time Kaka Kalelkar was his only companion and he narrated an interesting conversation between the jail superintendent and Gandhiji. The former told Gandhiji that he had represented to higher authorities that the ordinary expenses of one hundred and fifty rupees a month were too little for so illustrious a guest of the government. According to Kaka Kalelkar, Gandhiji smiled and said, “But you are not going to get the money from England, you are going to spend out of the pockets of my own people and it is my money you want to spend. I don’t want you to spend more than thirty-five rupees a month. I don’t want you to spend more because it is my money that you spend, it is my country’s money and I don’t want you to waste it.”

The narrator in the book *Talking of Gandhi* says that for Gandhiji there was never any question of inactivity in prison, nor would he allow it for those who were with him. When he was detained with his wife and several companions in the Aga Khan’s palace at Poona in 1942, he had books and newspapers. He started indexing cuttings and told Dr. Sushila Nayyar to make a twenty-four-hour programme and stick to it. In Dr. Sushila Nayyar’s words, “He worked out a programme of studies with me in Sanskrit. He read the whole of the New Testament with me because he said: ‘You may have read it, but you read it with me and it will be more meaningful’. Then while he used to spin I used to read out Bernard Shaw’s plays to him and I remember reading *Joan of Arc* to him and how he enjoyed it, particularly when, at the end, Joan says: ‘Now I am a Saint and I can come back to life if you want me to’ and first of all the parson...
What Nehru said....

Inspite of his unimpressive features, his loin cloth and bare body, there was a royalty and a kingliness in him which compelled a willing obeisance from others. Consciously and deliberately meek and humble, yet he was full of power and authority, and he knew it, and at times he was imperious enough, issuing commands which had to be obeyed… Whether his audience consisted of one person or a thousand, the charm and magnetism of the man passed on to it, and each one had a feeling of communion with the speaker.

…..from Freedom from Fear: Reflections on the Personality and Teachings of Gandhi.
This month that year

Mariner-2: Venus Flyby

In the ‘60s the Americans made an attempt to probe the Planet Venus. They launched a spacecraft called Mariner-1 on 22nd July, 1962 to that end. But the spacecraft was detected to have an error and the mission had to be aborted within 294.50 seconds after the launch. On 27th August, 1962 Mariner-2, the second spacecraft was launched. It was designed to go very close to Venus and it became the first spacecraft to reach any planet beyond Earth. On 14th December, 1962 Mariner-2 was 34,773 km away from Venus. The mission was terminated on 3rd January, 1963. Incidentally, Mariner-2 was the exact replica of its unfortunate predecessor.

The instruments on board Mariner-2 were designed to evaluate the atmosphere of Venus and measure temperature distribution. Mariner-2 carried instruments to determine the interplanetary magnetic field and it measured the flow of charged particles from the Sun.

It is known that on Earth, carbon dioxide and water vapour in the atmosphere trap infrared radiation emitted from the surface. This trapped radiation increases the temperature of both the atmosphere and the surface. This phenomenon is known as the greenhouse effect.

Observations of Venus from ground-based observatories clearly indicated that Venus is covered by a thick atmosphere that contains carbon dioxide. This implied that the greenhouse effect would also exist on Venus, since Venus is closer to the Sun than Earth and its surface would be hotter than that of Earth.

However, the thick cloud cover over Venus would reflect back most of the radiation that it received from the Sun. This, in turn, would mean that the surface of Venus would be relatively cool. Some scientists suspected that the surface of Venus may be cool enough for liquid water to flow. There were also conjectures of the possibility of the existence of life on the surface of Venus in the form of tropical vegetation.

This controversy was resolved after careful analysis of the data sent by Mariner-2. The data revealed that the surface temperature of Venus is close to 400˚C. No liquid water can exist on its surface. Lead, with a melting point of 327.46˚C would be molten on Venus. The data from Mariner-2 also indicated that there is no water vapour in the atmosphere. Venus is far too hostile for any life form, as we understand, to evolve on it. In the words of author Jeffrey Bennett, “If you are looking for the real location of hell, Venus is your best bet in the solar system.” The reason for the high temperature is that the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere generates an extreme greenhouse effect. Scientists speculate that since it is close enough to Earth and roughly similar in size, it could have had an early atmosphere similar to that of Earth, with water vapour condensing into rain and oceans forming on its surface. But as the Sun’s intensity increased with time, the planet could have undergone a ‘runaway greenhouse effect’, resulting in an atmosphere that is today almost entirely composed of carbon dioxide.

However, recent studies indicate that there may be a possibility of life in the upper atmosphere of Venus. This is still to be verified.
Planetarium Events

Paper Chromatography

Chromatography is the process of separating out different parts of chemical mixtures onto an absorbent material that can then be individually analysed as the different parts present in the mixture are caught on the material at different rates.

This process can be easily demonstrated. We would need a strip of blotting paper (called stationary phase), some clean fresh water (called mobile phase) and different types of samples such as sketch pen ink, food colours, gel pens, markers, etc.

Mark a spot on the blotting paper using one of the mixtures which is the sample. Pour some water in a glass and hold the blotting paper over the surface of water in such a way that the paper just touches the water. The ink is our sample to be tested.

Water can be seen rising on the surface of the blotting paper due to capillary action. As it rises, it will carry pigments along with it. Heavier pigments do not travel too far while lighter pigments are carried away along the paper. Mixtures which are heavily pigmented, like permanent markers, do not show any separation whereas sketch pen ink shows many divisions of colours. For heavy pigments one could use solvents such as rubbing alcohol, nail polish remover, turpentine, vinegar, etc.

You can try this experiment by putting marks of various coloured sketch pens or inks or even water colour on blotting paper.

Please do share your experiment with us. We would be happy to add your observation or method on our web pages. Send your observations to nplab2k17@gmail.com.
Anmol Ratnavali
Triveni Rasyatra

Dedicated to the memory of Marathi legendary talents Sudhir Phadke, G. D. Madgulkar & P. L. Deshpande

With its diverse spoken dialects, India has produced several gems in the cultural field. Maharashtra too has nurtured three such talents. They are Sudhir Phadke fondly called Babuji, G. D. Madgulkar fondly called Ga Di Mā and P. L. Deshpande or Pu. La (Bhai), who were born about a century ago. Their contribution to Maharashtra’s literature, music and culture is indeed immense.

Nehru Centre presents a specially designed programme on these gems aptly titled Anmol Ratnavali - Triveni Rasyatra.

Sunday, 16th December 2018, 6.30 p.m.
Nehru Centre Auditorium
Language: Marathi

Entry: Passes will be available on 11th December 2018 from 10.30 a.m. onwards until availability from the ticket counter of Nehru Centre Auditorium.

Review: Sufism - Glimpses of Sufi Tradition

Nehru Centre presented Sufism - Glimpses of Sufi Tradition, a musical evening by Ms. Indira Naik, Mumbai and Mr. Pavan Naik, Ahmednagar on Friday, 26th October 2018. The performing artistes sang sufi music accompanied by tuneful orchestra.

The programme was attended by sufi music lovers and was well appreciated by one and all.

Review: Magic If! (Children’s Play)

As part of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru’s birth anniversary celebrations, Nehru Centre presented a magical entertaining and rib-tickling children’s comedy play “Magic If!”, written and directed by Om Katare and produced by Yatri Theatre Association on 14th November 2018.

The story of a young boy who did not like to study and who was inspired by a genie touched the hearts of the audience to loud applause.
Programmes for December 2018

JITENDRA SINGH BAONI

Jitendra obtained Diploma in Painting and Post Graduate Diploma in Graphics from M.S. University, Baroda. He has over forty shows to his credit. He has also attended many workshops and camps. His paintings are thematic in charcoal on hand-made paper.

Tuesday 4th December to Monday 10th December 2018
(AC Gallery)

CHANDRASHEKAR NANKAR

Chandrashekhar is a self-taught artist. He is a science graduate and his landscapes are on “Incredible India” in acrylic on canvas.

Tuesday 11th December to Monday 17th December 2018
(Circular Gallery)

MANISHA MOHANANI

Manisha has a B.F.A. and M.F.A. in painting. She has many shows to her credit and attended art camps.

Tuesday 18th December to Monday 24th December 2018
(Circular Gallery)

RAJANI JADE

Rajani has completed the National Diploma in Painting from Madhya Pradesh with first class. She has held exhibitions all over India and won prestigious awards. She will display her wood-cuts in this show.

Tuesday 25th December to Monday 31st December 2018
(Circular Gallery)
Review: **BAL-DISHA**

Art works created by specially abled children

To celebrate Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru’s birth anniversary, the Nehru Centre Art Gallery had organized an exhibition of children’s art works. This year ‘Bal-Disha’ had art works by specially abled children and was held from 13th November to 19th November 2018.

The exhibition was inaugurated by Shri I. M. Kadri, General Secretary, Nehru Centre.

Over sixty children from various schools participated in this show. The exhibition received tremendous response from the art lovers and people from all walks of life.

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**Indian Master's Retrospective**

**INDIAN MASTER PAINTER ‘SHIAVAX CHAVDA’ (1914 - 1990)**

Shiavax Chavda was one of the pioneers of Indian modern art. He was born in 1914 in Navsari, Gujarat and completed his art education from Sir J. J. School of Art, Mumbai.

Later in 1935 he studied at the Slade School, London, under Professor Randolph Schwabe and Vladimir Polunin. He learnt stage designing from Leon Bakst, the great Russian stage designer. He also studied at the Academie-de la Grande Chaumiere, Paris in 1937. From 1937 to 1939, he studied at St. Martin School of Art, London.

Chavda had his first solo show in 1945 in Mumbai, after which he exhibited internationally in Indonesia, Singapore, London, Paris and Switzerland. His works featured in the UNESCO International exhibition in 1946 and 1951 in Paris.

He was selected as one of the noted nine eminent artists of India by Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi in 1956 and was offered Fellowship by the Akademi. In 1990, he received the “Artist of the Year” award from the Maharashtra State Government. He also won numerous prestigious awards in India and abroad.

We at Nehru Centre Art Gallery are proud to present our 26th Indian Masters’ Show with the works of an eminent artist like Shiavax Chavda.

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**Thursday, 20th December 2018 to Sunday, 6th January 2019**

Nehru Centre Art Gallery

Time: 11.00 am to 7.00 pm
BOOK OF THE MONTH
A. A. RAIBA
Indian Master Painter
(Art Catalogue)
Year: 2016
Rs. 300/-

PUBLICATIONS

- Books on Sale
  - NEHRU REVISITED
  - INDIA'S DEFENCE PREPAREDNESS
  - NEHRU AND INDIAN CONSTITUTIONALISM
  - INTERNAL SECURITY IN INDIA
  - CONSTITUTIONALISM AND DEMOCRACY IN SOUTH ASIA
  - 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. RAJA RAVI VARMA / 2. A. A. RAIBA
  3. DEENANATH DALAL / 4. J. B. DIKSHIT
  5. R. K. LAXMAN / 6. MARIO DE MIRANDA
  7. G. N. JADHAV
  8. ART HERITAGE OF MAHARASHTRA
  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)
  15. VINAYAKRAO WAGHI * RAJARAM PANVALKAR
  16. KRISHNAJI KETKAR * DATTAJIRAO DALVI * GOVIND MALADKAR
  17. "GURU-SHISHYA"
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  - Book Stall, Ground floor, Discovery of India Building,
  - NEHRU CENTRE, Worli, Mumbai - 400 018.

New Arrivals: Books

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BOOK EVENTS

TALK AND DISCUSSION ON THE BOOK
Choices: Inside the making of India's foreign policy

Speakers
Mrs. Meena Menon, Mr. Anurag Anand, Mr. Aditya Shankar Hazarika

Thursday, 13th December 2018
4.30 p.m.
‘Who Are We’ Hall

WORKSHOP ON PARENTING ON BOOK

Written by
Dr. Swati Lodha
and
Ms. Swaraa Lodha

A tongue-in-cheek take on things parents should and should not do.
It talks about various beliefs, behaviour and biases held by most parents that make them annoying and difficult.

Saturday, 15th December 2018
11.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
Hall of Harmony

Published by Nehru Centre,
Discovery of India Building, Dr. A. B. Road, Worli, Mumbai - 400 018.

Printed at M/s PRINTCOM, Shop No. 3, Pandurang Budhkar Marg,
Gopal Nagar, Worli, Mumbai - 400 030.

Website: www.nehru-centre.org
Email: editor@nehru-centre.org
Editor: Arati N. Desai
Design & Layout: Imtiaz Kalu

Nehru Centre Newsletter - December 2018