



Asia Education Foundation

Delhi & Agra . India LINKING LATITUDES 2007

ASIA EDUCATION FOUNDATION'S FOURTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
SUNDAY 30 SEPTEMBER – THURSDAY 4 OCTOBER 2007

READING LIST

The following list is provided to support delegates in preparing for Linking Latitudes Conference and for the research that will no doubt follow. It is by no account comprehensive and we hope you will use the discussion group to make further recommendations.

Please note that all prices are as per the Collins online price, and are either available in-store, or can be ordered. Books are a bargain in India, so you may like to save some purchases for when you arrive. India post has a special rate for shipping books, so you can stock up your library even if you don't have room left in your bag!

MODERN INDIA

A CONCISE HISTORY OF MODERN INDIA

Barbara Daly Metcalf & Thomas R. Metcalf, 2002

The second edition of the successful Concise History of Modern India takes a modern look at the institutions of India that have brought social, cultural and economic change. This up to date edition covers the last National Election, exploring the return of Congress from the seemingly entrenched BJP. Metcalf and Metcalf explores the advances in India's technology and subsequent economic boom, while exploring the context of the Indian nation that still grapples with poverty, social inequality and questions of caste and religious identity.

\$43.95

THE IDEA OF INDIA

Sunil Khilnani, 1998

"The Idea of India" was originally published to mark the 50th anniversary of India's independence. As well as looking at modern Indian history it also looks at politics, culture and identity and serves as an introduction to modern Indian history.

\$26.95

INDIA IN SLOW MOTION

Mark Tully and Gillian Wright. 2002

Covering subjects such as Hindu extremism, bonded child labour, Sufi mysticism, the crisis in agriculture, political corruption and the problem of Kashmir, the author paints a picture of India that is at once poignant, funny, startling and humane.

The AEF acknowledges the following sponsors of LL 2007:

Curriculum Corporation (Major), University of Melbourne (Gold), IBM, AEI and Deakin University (Silver) and City of Melbourne, Lonely Planet, Cookie Man and Mind Challenge Ltd (Bronze)

\$33.95

SNAKES AND LADDERS

Gita Mehta, 1998

Gita Mehta is a novelist who has written this book to give her account of what contemporary India is all about. She explores its contradictions: the world's largest democracy, it still practises the caste system, it is a burgeoning economic superpower, yet one of the poorest nations on earth, it has the world's largest film industry and the oldest religions.

\$22.95

IN SPITE OF THE GODS: THE STRANGE RISE OF MODERN INDIA

Edward Luce, 2007

This book received rave reviews in India for its perceptive account of modern India that cuts through stereotypes and broad generalizations. Edward Luce was the South Asia correspondent based in Delhi for the Financial Times between 2001 and 2005, and has used this experience to write an "unsentimental evaluation of contemporary India against the backdrop of its widely expected ascent to great power status in the 21st Century". This well researched book takes into account the many different aspects that make up modern India.

\$55.00

HISTORY

A NEW HISTORY OF INDIA

Stanley Wolpert, 2003

This authoritative account of India's history is popular amongst both academics and general lovers of history. Covering 4000 years in one volume, it is a fast paced history, providing a good overview, with surprising pockets of detail. The revised edition covers the rapidly changing modern India.

Look for previous editions at second hand bookstores.

\$116.95

LAST MUGHAL, THE FALL OF A DYNASTY, DELHI, 1857

William Dalrymple, 2007

In November 1862, a cheap coffin is buried in eerie silence. There are no lamentations or panegyrics, for the British Commissioner in charge has insisted, 'No vesting will remain to distinguish where the last of the Great Mughals rests.' This Mughal is Bahadur Shah Zafar II. This readable account of nineteenth-century India looks at the last days of the Moghuls, and is recommended particularly for those delegates travelling to Rajasthan.

\$26.95

CITY OF DJINNS

William Dalrymple, 1993

In the course of 12 months in Delhi, Dalrymple peels back the successive layers of history, using material and human remains of each of the eight cities of Delhi, interlacing stories with the present and ending with the Delhi creation myth contained in the great Indian epic "The Mahabharata".

This highly engaging allows travellers – both armchair and actual – to get a glimpse of the romance and intrigue of Delhi.

\$24.99

FREEDOM AT MIDNIGHT

Larry Collins and Dominique Lapierre, 1975

On 14 August 1947 one-fifth of humanity claimed their independence in India only to find that the immediate price of freedom was partition and war, riot and murder. This is the story of the eclipse of the British Raj and its violent transformation into the new India and Pakistan.

The AEF acknowledges the following sponsors of LL 2007:

Curriculum Corporation (Major), University of Melbourne (Gold), IBM, AEI and Deakin University (Silver) and City of Melbourne, Lonely Planet, Cookie Man and Mind Challenge Ltd (Bronze)

June 1997

\$24.95

INDIA: FROM MIDNIGHT TO THE MILLENNIUM

Shashi Tharoor, 1998

Shashi Tharoor is a novelist, whose account of India's history from Independence to 2000 is a readable, if not at times subjective account. His style is engaging, and this book is good for readers who prefer their history to be readable and full of 'flavour'.

\$49.95

THE WONDER THAT WAS INDIA: A SURVEY OF THE CULTURE OF THE INDIAN SUB-CONTINENT BEFORE THE COMING OF THE MUSLIMS

A. L. Basham, 1993

For the true lovers of history, this book has been written by one of the most authoritative historians of India. As the title suggests, it explores India prior to the Mughals arriving.

\$174.95

SOCIETY

INHALING THE MAHATMA

Christopher Kremmer, 2006

A rollicking journey through an ancient culture. Christopher Kremmer returns to India, the country where he spent eight years as a reporter and finds a land undergoing an enormous, sometimes violent change.

\$35.95

EVERYBODY LOVES A GOOD DROUGHT

P. Sainath, 1996

P. Sainath is a freelance journalist that received a fellowship to do a number of studies on Indian poverty. The result is a vignette of stories that explores how the lives of the poorest of the poor. He also looks at some of the attempts to ameliorate their position. This book provides the reader an insight into the conditions of the poor.

\$26.95

THE ARGUMENTATIVE INDIAN

Amartya Sen, 2006

This collection of essays from Nobel prize-winning economist Amartya Sen, argues for the need to look at the argumentative tradition of India to understand the potential for success of India's democracy, the defense of its secular politics, the removal of inequalities related to class, caste, gender and community, and the pursuit of sub-continental peace. It provides an historical account of the argumentative tradition, as well as applying this to the issues of contemporary India.

\$26.95

TRUTH, LOVE AND A LITTLE MALICE

Khushwant Singh, 2002

Born in 1915 in pre-Partition Punjab, Khushwant Singh has been witness to many of the major events in modern Indian history and has known many of the figures that have shaped it. His acerbic wit and talent for social observation has made him a favourite in India and abroad. With candour, he writes of leaders like Nehru and Indira Gandhi, and of everyday people. Look for this book in second hand bookstores, or it can be found easily in India.

\$55.95

THE ALGEBRA OF INFINITE JUSTICE

Arundhati Roy, 2001

The AEF acknowledges the following sponsors of LL 2007:

Curriculum Corporation (Major), University of Melbourne (Gold), IBM, AEI and Deakin University (Silver) and City of Melbourne, Lonely Planet, Cookie Man and Mind Challenge Ltd (Bronze)

This book has become a favourite among social activists. A few weeks after India detonated a thermonuclear device in 1998, Arundhati Roy wrote the essay "The End of Imagination", in which she said: "My world has died. And I write to mourn its passing." This is a collection of her subsequent essays.
\$22.95

INDIA UNBOUND: THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC REVOLUTION FROM INDEPENDENCE TO THE GLOBAL INFORMATION AGE

Gurcharan Das, 2002

The growth of India's economy is one of the great business stories of the past decade. Gurcharan Das, a prominent Indian columnist and former CEO of Procter & Gamble India, offers a fascinating history of India's economic past and a vision of its future. This often one-sided account of the success of the economic reforms of 1991 gives the reader an idea of the booming economy and business from the perspective of one of its most formidable business leaders.

\$28.95

THE BANDIT QUEEN OF INDIA: AN INDIAN WOMAN'S AMAZING JOURNEY FROM PEASANT TO INTERNATIONAL LEGEND

Phoolan Devi, 1991

Phoolan Devi was born in India to the lowest caste. She endured poverty, survived the humiliation of an abusive marriage, the savage killing of her bandit-lover, and horrifying gang rape. In a three-year campaign that rocked the government, she delivered justice to rape victims and stole from the rich to give to the poor, before negotiating surrender on her own terms. Throughout her years of imprisonment without trial, Phoolan Devi remained a beacon of hope for the poor and the downtrodden. Here is the story of her life through her eyes and in her own voice.

\$26.95

MAKING OF GREAT CINEMA, AN INSIDER'S JOURNEY THROUGH FIFTY YEARS OF FILM HISTORY

B.D. Garga, 2005

Providing an insider's view of Indian and international cinema over the years, this collection of essays discusses the contribution of men behind the screen such as the director, editor, and cinematographer. It profiles some of the greatest masters of Indian cinema, like Himansu Rai

\$92.95

LOOKING FOR THE BIG B

Jessica Hines, 2007

Bombay is mayhem and Bollywood maddening. This book takes a look at the Bombay film industry and the story of a very unlikely friendship. Jessica Hines came to India to write about arguably the biggest Bollywood star, the 'Big B', Amitabh Bachan

\$35.95

TRAVEL

HOLY COW!; AN INDIAN ADVENTURE

Sara Macdonald, 2002

After backpacking her way around India, 21-year-old Sarah Macdonald decided that she hated this land of chaos and contradiction with a passion, and when an airport beggar read her palm and insisted she would come back one day - and for love - she vowed never to return. But twelve years later the prophecy comes true when her partner, ABC's South Asia correspondent, is posted to New Delhi, the most polluted city on earth. Having given up a blossoming radio career in Sydney to follow her new boyfriend to India, it seems like the ultimate sacrifice and it almost kills Sarah - literally. After being cursed by a sadhu smeared in human ashes, she nearly dies from double pneumonia. It's enough to send a rapidly balding atheist on a wild rollercoaster ride through India's many religions in search of the meaning of life and death. From the 'brain enema' of a meditation

The AEF acknowledges the following sponsors of LL 2007:

Curriculum Corporation (Major), University of Melbourne (Gold), IBM, AEI and Deakin University (Silver) and City of Melbourne, Lonely Planet, Cookie Man and Mind Challenge Ltd (Bronze)

retreat in Dharamsala to the biggest Hindu festival on earth on the steps of the Ganges in Varanasi, and with the help of the Dalai Lama, a goddess of healing hugs and a couple of Bollywood stars - among many, many others - Sarah discovers a hell of a lot more.

\$24.95

AN AREA OF DARKNESS, & INDIA

V.S. Naipaul, 2002

In *An Area of Darkness*, this autobiographical travel writing by the Nobel-prize winning author describes his encounter with a force in his life that shocked him into an awareness of a need for self-examination and self-explanation. It has caused some controversy in India and abroad for what some people have argued is a overly critical and pessimistic account. Naipaul has updated his opinions in a more widely welcomed book, *India*. In *India*, he explores his 'close yet oblique' relationship, and provides an in-depth analysis of society in India as he did 25 years earlier.

\$22.95 – *An Area of Darkness*

\$30.95 – *India*

TREASURES OF THE THUNDER DRAGON, A PORTRAIT OF BHUTAN

Queen of Bhutan Ashi Dorji Wangma Wangchuck, 2006

This book provides intimate insights into Bhutanese culture and society, with glimpses of life in Bhutan's villages and hamlets, monasteries and palaces. It is especially relevant for those delegates visiting the Kingdom of the Thunder Dragon as well as for armchair travellers who yearn to experience the magic of Bhutan through their imaginations.

\$35.95

CHASING THE MONSOON

Alexandra Frater, 2005

Alexandra Frater 'chases' the Monsoon as it passes through the Indian. This engaging travelogue reveals the anticipation and eventual relief of the monsoon, as well as its economic and social importance.

\$25.95

LONELY PLANET SLOWLY DOWN THE GANGES

Eric Newby and Wanda Newby, 1983

This is the story of Eric and Wanda Newby's journey down the Ganga, a fascinating account of the history and people who live on its banks. This book would be of interest especially to delegates travelling to Varanasi.

\$19.95

PHILOSOPHY AND SPIRITUALITY

HINDUTVA

Jyotirmaya Sharma, 2003

Political philosopher Sharma looks at certain distinctive restatements of Hinduism and Hindu identity in the 19th and 20th centuries to find four influential answers to the questions who is a Hindu, and what Hinduism is. He cites important and influential thinkers such as Maharshi Dayananda Saraswati, Swami Vivekananda, Sri Aurobindo, and V. D. Svarkar. This book will be of interest to readers who would like to know about contemporary Hinduism, and the ideas and beliefs that have shaped modern interpretations.

\$35.95

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A YOGI

Paramahansa Yogananda, 1946

The AEF acknowledges the following sponsors of LL 2007:

Curriculum Corporation (Major), University of Melbourne (Gold), IBM, AEI and Deakin University (Silver) and City of Melbourne, Lonely Planet, Cookie Man and Mind Challenge Ltd (Bronze)

Considered a classic in its field since it was first published in 1946, *Autobiography Of A Yogi* continues to attract countless readers. It provides the story of a man's spiritual journey. A journey that explores his early family life, his meeting with saints, and how he himself became a spiritual leader. This book gives an insight to the meanings attached to life for those seeking spiritual fulfilment in Ashrams around India and the globe. It is therefore of some interest to delegates visiting Rishikesh, where it can be picked up very cheaply.

\$12.95

INDIA MY LOVE

Osho, 2002

Osho is a philosopher and mystic, popular in both India and abroad. He has an extraordinary gift for storytelling, adores India as a bridegroom adores his bride and he brings a unique freshness to the tales of India's golden past. He introduces us to beggars and kings, lovers and warriors, artists and scholars who come alive on the page, animating an enchanted landscape that even today intrigues and attracts the seeker and adventurer within us all. With 42 color photographs, *India My Love* seeks to convey the ineffable mystery of this magical land.

\$55.95

EDUCATION

BEGINNINGS OF LEARNING

Krishnamurti

Krishnamurti, is a popular philosopher with a keen interest in education. He has founded schools in India, the USA and England to further his beliefs. He presents lively and often intimate exchanges on practical and philosophical issues in the interests of teaching children to meet educational demands without conforming to conventional values.

\$24.95

AWAKENING OF INTELLIGENCE

Krishnamurti

This work provides a wide-ranging introduction to the philosophy of Krishnamurti. Krishnamurti examines such issues as the role of the teacher and tradition, the need for awareness of "cosmic consciousness", the problem of good and evil, and methods of help for different levels of seekers

\$30.95

IGNITED MINDS

Abdul A.P.J. Kalam, 2002

This book by the current President of India raises questions about why despite India's resources, skills and talents, India is not 'shining' as brightly as it should. In his pilgrimage around the country, APJ Kalam met with thousands of school children, teachers, scientists, saints and seers asking this question. The result is an inspirational book intended to 'ignite the minds' of young Indians.

\$23.95

INDIA EDUCATION REPORT

R. Govinda, 2002

The "India Education Report" attempts to capture the current scenario of basic education in India. The report, which consists of a series of critical reviews, presents an analytical overview of the situation in quantitative and qualitative terms, identifying current policies, programmes and issues.

\$53.95

BASTIONS OF THE BELIEVERS, MADRASAS AND ISLAMIC EDUCATION IN INDIA

Yoginder Sikand, 2006

The AEF acknowledges the following sponsors of LL 2007:

Curriculum Corporation (Major), University of Melbourne (Gold), IBM, AEI and Deakin University (Silver) and City of Melbourne, Lonely Planet, Cookie Man and Mind Challenge Ltd (Bronze)

Provides an objective examination of the role of madrasas. Focussing on the madrasas of India, this work seeks to interrogate sensationalist and stereotypical images of the madrasas by highlighting their diversity and the complex social roles that they play in the lives of many Muslims.
\$31.95

THE CRISIS OF ELEMENTARY EDUCATION IN INDIA

Ravi Kumar, 2006

The right to education is the single most important development agenda in India today. This volume elaborates on the issues that characterize the crisis in elementary education. Bringing together diverse perspectives and analyses from academics, activists, and administrators, the articles in this volume cover basic issues of Policy Legal obligation Economic implications
\$137.95

INDIAN WRITERS OF FICTION, AND FICTION SET IN INDIA

CHETAN BHAGAT

ONE NIGHT @T THE CALL CENTRE

Chetan Bhagat gained popularity with the young, Indian middle class for his first novel Five Point Someone – What not to do at IIT based in an IIT (Indian Institute of Technology – the aspiration of millions of Indian Youths). His second novel is also based on the young and hip, this time of those working in a call centre. The style is easy and light, and while not great literature, give an insight into the young middle class in India.

\$23.95

RUSKIN BOND

Primarily writes for children. He is located in Mussoorie, in the Himalayan foothills, and often his stories are set in these surroundings. His books are available everywhere in India.

VIKRAM CHANDRA

LOVE AND LONGING IN BOMBAY

Six stories which paint a picture of bustling Bombay's ghosts, passions, feuds and mysteries, whilst also exploring timeless questions of the human spirit. The stories are narrated by an elusive civil servant who, on six successive nights, recounts an extraordinary tale in a smoky Bombay bar.

\$22.95

AMIT CHAUDHURI

A NEW WORLD

Divorced writer Jayojit is taking his son Bonny back to Calcutta for the summer holidays, to stay with his elderly parents. This story details the lives of his parents, entrenched in the unquestioning roles of their past, and of Jayojit's marriage, now sharply severed in two.

\$18.95

DAVID DAVIDAR

THE HOUSE OF BLUE MANGOES

"A gripping family chronicle, "The House of Blue Mangoes" spans nearly half a century and three generations of the Dorai family as they search for their place in a rapidly changing society. The novel brings vividly to life a small corner of India, while offering a stark indictment of colonialism and reflecting with great poignancy on the inexorable social transformations of the subcontinent."

\$24.95

KIRAN DESAI

THE INHERITANCE OF LOSS

The AEF acknowledges the following sponsors of LL 2007:

Curriculum Corporation (Major), University of Melbourne (Gold), IBM, AEI and Deakin University (Silver) and City of Melbourne, Lonely Planet, Cookie Man and Mind Challenge Ltd (Bronze)

The Inheritance of Loss won the Booker Prize in 2006. It is set in Kalimpong, in the Himalayan Foothills near Darjeeling in the 1980s, it revolves around a retired judge, and his relationship with his Grand-daughter. It explores a life lived between the past and the present.

\$14.95

**AMITAV GHOSH
IN AN ANTIQUE LAND**

In the 1980s the author moved into a converted chicken coop on the roof of a house in a village in Egypt. This is the story of his decade of intimacy with the village. Mixing conversation and research, imagination and scholarship, it is also a history of the relationship between Egypt and India.

\$24.95

**HERMANN HESSE
SIDDHARTHA**

Siddhartha is an allegorical novel by Hermann Hesse which deals with the spiritual journey of an Indian man called Siddhartha during the time of the Buddha. It is beautifully written and remains a classic.

\$12.95

**RUDYARD KIPLING
KIM**

The story of Kim occurs on the backdrop of the 'Great Game' (the political conflict between Britain and Russia in Central Asia). Kim is an orphaned beggar, who befriends a Tibetan Lama who is on a quest to free himself from the 'Wheel of Life' (cycle of life and death).

\$10.95

**GITA MEHTA
RAJ**

The story of one woman and her nation, this novel tells the history of modern India in the years leading up to independence. Jaya Singh is born into the old, princely India and stands as a living symbol of the changes the continent struggles to make to bring itself in line with the 20th century. It includes interesting historical information about the lives of the Princes and their estates during their last years of reign, including their often, contradictory relationship with the British administration.

\$26.95

KARMA COLA

In 'Karma Cola' the Gita Mehta trains her "journalistic eye on jaded sadhus and beatific acid burnouts, the Bhagwan and Allen Ginsberg, guilt-tripping English girls and a guru who teaches gullible tourists how to view their previous incarnations"

\$22.95

**PANKAJ MISHRA
AN END TO SUFFERING**

The Buddha, his life and legacy -- refracted through one man's search for identity and one nation's experience of independence An accomplished history of the Buddha, An End to Suffering is also a deeply personal story -- the story of Pankaj Mishra's search for meaning, for truth and peace in the modern world and, specifically, in post-colonial, independent India.

\$24.95

The AEF acknowledges the following sponsors of LL 2007:

Curriculum Corporation (Major), University of Melbourne (Gold), IBM, AEI and Deakin University (Silver) and City of Melbourne, Lonely Planet, Cookie Man and Mind Challenge Ltd (Bronze)

BUTTER CHICKEN IN LUDHIANA

A travel book about small-town India, where the village and the city, the folk and the kitsch, and the comic and the violent threaten to converge.

\$29.95

ROHINTON MISTRY**A FINE BALANCE**

Set in mid-1970s India, a subtle and compelling narrative about four unlikely characters who come together in circumstances no one could have foreseen soon after the government declares a 'State of Internal Emergency'. It is a breathtaking achievement: panoramic yet humane, intensely political yet rich with local delight. It provides readers a glimpse of the lives of the poor, during one of India's most challenging political periods since independence.

\$24.95

KAMAL JHA RAJ**THE BLUE BEDSPREAD**

Laying bare the lives at the heart of an Indian city, "The Blue Bedspread" opens as an old man is asked to collect his sister's baby from the hospital in Calcutta where his sister has just died.

ARUNDHATI ROY**THE GOD OF SMALL THINGS**

"The God of Small Things is set in the state of Kerala. Armed only with the invincible innocence of children, the twins Rahel and Esthappen fashion a childhood for themselves in the shade of the wreck that is their family. When their English cousin and her mother arrive on a Christmas visit, the twins learn that Things Can Change in a Day. That lives can twist into new, ugly shapes, even cease forever. The brilliantly plotted story uncoils with an agonizing sense of foreboding and inevitability. Yet nothing prepares you for what lies at the heart of it."

\$26.95

SALMAN RUSHDIE**MIDNIGHT'S CHILDREN**

Winner of the Booker of Bookers. "Saleem Sinai was born at midnight, the midnight of India's independence, and found himself handcuffed to history by the coincidence. He is one of 1,001 children born at the midnight hour, each of them endowed with an extraordinary talent. This is a family saga set against the background of the India of the 20th century, tracing its history through a journey of fantasy"

\$24.95

THE MOOR'S LAST SIGH

"What do we do when the world's walls - its family structures, its value-systems - crumble? The central character of this novel, 'Moor' Zogoiby, only son of a wealthy, artistic-bohemian Bombay family, finds himself in such a moment of crisis. His mother, an emotional despot, worships beauty, but Moor is ugly, he has a deformed hand." This booked set in the South of India, is recommended for those delegates embarking on the 'Spice Tour'.

\$24.95

KHUSHWANT SINGH**BURIAL AT SEA**

"After Nehru, Victor Jai Bhagwan is Mahatma Gandhi's favourite Indian--a brilliant young man with the temperament of a leader and fiercely committed to his country. Though Victor adores and respects Gandhi, he disagrees with the Mahatma's vision for the future of India. He returns from university in England determined to bring the benefits of modern industry to the subcontinent, and within a few years of India's independence, becomes the country's biggest tycoon. But this is not

The AEF acknowledges the following sponsors of LL 2007:

Curriculum Corporation (Major), University of Melbourne (Gold), IBM, AEI and Deakin University (Silver) and City of Melbourne, Lonely Planet, Cookie Man and Mind Challenge Ltd (Bronze)

the only ideal of Gandhi's that he defies: facing a midlife crisis, he falls passionately in love with a tantric god-woman who introduces him to the pleasures of unbridled sexuality, but also becomes the reason for his downfall.”

\$28.95

RABINDRANATH TAGORE

GITANJALI

Rabindranath Tagore, was one of the most important writers in 20th-century Indian literature. Among his expansive and impressive body of work, "Gitanjali" is regarded as one of his greatest achievements, and has been a perennial bestseller since it was first published in paperback in 1971

\$14.95

The AEF acknowledges the following sponsors of LL 2007:

Curriculum Corporation (Major), University of Melbourne (Gold), IBM, AEI and Deakin University (Silver) and City of Melbourne, Lonely Planet, Cookie Man and Mind Challenge Ltd (Bronze)