DC BOOKS

Rights List 2018

- MY STORY
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DC BOOKS
Established in the year 1974 by DC Kizhakemuri (freedom fighter, social activist, publisher and recipient of Padma Bhushan), DC Books is the largest Indian language publisher in the country, with an annual publishing count of approximately 1,500 titles including reprints. The first publishing house to acquire an ISO certification, DC Books has always held quality content as a cornerstone of its foundation. A strong editorial team has been the hallmark of DC Books, focussing on experimenting with new formations in literature, and identifying works and topics that go beyond mainstream and established avenues. DC Books has made significant efforts to map literature through fields of politics, culture and art of several sections of society. Rather than a publishing company DC Books works at the junction of cultural and social strands of society. Over the years books published by DC Books have won many accolades including the Jnanapith Awards, Akademi Awards and many more. A publisher with high standards of production, the organization figures prominently in the annual national awards constituted by the Federation of Indian Publishers.

DC Kizhakemuri Foundation, formed as a tribute to the founder, intervenes in socio-cultural activities. Kerala Literature Festival - the 2nd largest Lit Fest in India held annually on the beaches of Kozhikode is a rare platform for writers and thinkers around the world to meet, discuss and debate issues of common concern in these traumatic times when the very fundamental right of expression is being challenged.
The writer, born in 1942 in Mahe, is in the best Indian cultural tradition. As Mahe had long been a French enclave, the influence of French culture is patent in Mukundan’s works.

His first novel, ‘Mayyazhipuzhayude Theerangalil’ (On the Banks of River Mayyazhi) is created in the backdrop of Mahe’s cultural traditions. ‘Daivathinte Vikruthikal’ (Mischiefs of God) narrates the story of a French citizen staying in Mahe. His later works incorporate the changes like modernism in Kerala society. ‘Haridvaaril Manimuzhangunnu’, Aadityanum Raadhayum Mattu Chilarum’ (Aadithyan, Radha and Others), ‘Aavilayile Sooryodayam’, ‘Oru Dalit Yuvathiyyude Kadanakatha’ (The Sad Story of A Dalit Woman), ‘Kesavante Vilaapangal’ (Kesanvanan’s Lamentations), ‘Nrittam’ (Dance), ‘Delhi’, ‘Delhi Gaadhakal’ (Delhi Stories) are the other important works. ‘Kesavante Vilaapangal’, which incorporates the story of the Chief Minister of Kerala, who headed the first Communist ministry in the world, elected through a democratic poll, and ‘Oru Dalit Yuvathiyyude Kadanakatha’, which tells the story of a woman, belonging to the Dalit community, who has been persecuted and sidelined for long, have caused animated political discussions.

He is recipient of many national and international awards including Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres from the French Government, Sahitya Akademi Award and the prestigious Cross Word Award.
Francis Itty Cora, A 15-th century pepper merchant from Kerala, is a larger-than-life figure-founder of a mysterious secret cult, a key figure in Italian Renaissance, responsible for setting up secret Hypatian schools of mathematics, a man of legendary sexual powers, and much more. The author deftly weaves real-life historical and contemporary events and characters into an intriguing plot that moves back and forth between the distant and not-so-distant past and present, traversing continents in the process. At one level a racy thriller with the stock-in-trade surprise denouement, Francis Itty Cora is a more layered book that at a deeper level contests established history to offer provocative alternative readings and challenges taboos of every kind-social, emotional, and ethical.
The word ‘Chorasaastram’ means the science of theft. The protagonist of the novel is a thief. There is no name to the thief or his family members. Thief, Lady Thief, Elder Child Thief and Small Child Thief they form the family.’ He is not. the best of thief but a small time robber. One day he fell to the trap set by a scientist philosopher who wanted to test his dose of Science of Robbery. Poor thief who fell to histrap was so happy to acquire the new offerings which are the principles of good robbery, tricks to open locks with a look etc. It is the adventures of the thief with the new knowledge and how he learn the philosophy of robbery and of life forms the Story of Chorasaastram. In this process we will meet few more characters like Sofia Maria, a widow who expects and fear a thief (or even a ‘Jaaran’) a young boy who try to learn the tricks of robbery before becoming a police, A ‘Dravida’ king from a coin but not many. The novel is very small to the like of we can call it as a novella, with mere 108 pages. Then, after reading the novel we will realize even with such short pages a novel can be written.

Language of this novel is simple and straight. It is a book on philosophy of life and humanity.
The Graddha Mullick family got the position of an executioner as a legacy which the family marks-out from four hundred years ago. Mullick is the only family who has witnessed many incidences which makes a note in the Indian history. Chetna Mullick belongs to such a family. Chetna’s father Phanibhushan, who too followed the family work of execution, has hanged more than 450 convicts till death. To continue this family legacy, there is no male member in the family. At this scenario, twenty-two-year old Chetna is appointed as the first woman executioner in the country as the successor to her father. Though Chetna takes the service as executioner; a shocking turn of events results in a murder with in the family—a savage crime that could result in Chetna having to hang a Graddha Mullick. The lurid pleasures of voyeurism and the brutal ironies of violence are kept in agile balance as the drama of Chetna’s life hurtles to its inevitable climax.
Benyamin

Indian Novelist and short story writer. Benyamin has written extensively on a variety of issues, including the experiences of migrant labour in the Gulf States. Originally written in his native Malayalam, many of his works have been translated into other languages. He is from Kulanada, near Pandalam in Kerala State. Benyamin is the only writer who openly declared that Indians, who come home with perfumes and other bounties, are really fated to lead a hard and cruel life. In his first novel, ‘Aadujeevitham’, he narrates the lamentations of Indians in a desert world. ‘Akapporinte 20 Nasrani Varsangal’, ‘Abhisagin’, ‘Pravachakanmaarude Randaam Pusthakam’ are the other notable works of Benyamin. ‘Aadujeevitham’ has won Kerala Sahitya Akademi Award.

The story is set in Diego Garcia, a tropical island in the Indian Ocean. It revolves around the central character, Christie Anthraper; the youngest descendant of the Anthraper clan. The story starts in an interesting way with the author receiving a part of the manuscript of the novel written by Christie. The manuscript narrates the incidents in the life of Christie, how he witnesses the murder of his classmate Senthil and later finds out, to his surprise, that the authorities are trying to cover it up as a natural death. Meanwhile Christie’s girl friend also dies in an accident and he decides to go to her hometown to meet her mourning parents. But little did he know what was in store for him! What happened to Christie Anthraper? Who was Senthil and why was he killed? Why were the authorities trying to pass it off as a death due to ‘Cardiac arrest’? Was Mervin’s death really an accident? The book tries to find out answers for all these questions. Well received by the readers and critics, Manjaveyil Maranangal is a trend setting novel in the history of Malayalam literature.
First published in Malayalam in 1973, My Story, Kamala Das’s sensational autobiography, shocked readers with its total disregard for mindless convections and its fearless articulation of a subject still considered taboo. Depicting the author’s intensely personal experiences in her passage to womanhood and shedding light on the hypocrisies that informed traditional society, this memoir was far ahead of its time and is now acknowledged as a bonafide masterpiece.
Autobiographies are common but when it comes from a notorious thief it paves way for the extraordinary. This makes a sincere and raw account of his unbelievable life offering an arresting reading. It probes into the psyche of a criminal, right from the days of childhood. Deprivation, neglect and discrimination contribute to the making of the thief and the police and jail authorities make him irredeemable. The account comes with a warning - Once branded a thief, it is for life.

The reader is taken on a detour of the darker side of society and the underworld where the most inhuman cruelties, both physical and mental, are inflicted on the thief. The thief does not forget to confess to the humanitarian attitude of some policemen and some judges. His accounts of corrupt judges are revealing. The book contains graphic details of the nexus between policemen and criminals. Maniyan Pilla candidly narrates his innumerable risky robberies and the variety of his tricks is amazing. Truth sounds stranger than fiction.

His efforts to reform and lead a normal life are shattered by the cruel fate on several occasions. The autobiography brings out the greatness of Maniyan Pilla’s mother and wife, and throughout the book he sings paeans about them and the devotion of his son.
“I am 51 years old. And I would like to continue to be a sex worker”, this candid and un regretted opening statement of Nalini Jameela’s autobiography, in Malayalam, ‘Njan Lymgikathozhilali-Nalini Jameelayude Athmakatha,’ at once throws a challenge at society’s double standards – harsh on prostitutes and soft on the clients. Nalini Jameela, who is the coordinator of the Kerala Sex Worker’s Forum, reveals her sordid story with no trace of compunction.

Nalini’s account is a fierce presentation of the domestic sphere as violently patriarchal. She lays out an interesting and powerful narration of the patriarchal oppression faced by women through her own – experience as a middle class Ezhava woman who became a sex worker because of poverty. Nalini born into a typical middle class family near Amballoor. she did not have the privilege to gain elementary education and was pulled out of school in class three. Her mother’s lack of employment forced Nalini, at the age of nine to pursue a job in nearby clay mine. Multiple times she faced degrees of sexual harassment. She first stepped into sex work at the age of 29 to feed her two children. She became an active member of the sex worker’s forum. With the help of a social worker Maithreyain, she was able to participate in video workshop took place in Thailand. There she was given a camera and training and her first eight minute documentary One day in the life of a sex worker evolves. In 2003, she was commissioned to do a second one, A peep into the life of the silenced.
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