

Gujarati Sahitya Akademi | e31ca3bf6fa12bcc7a7822f52822dc13

Sunrise on SnowpeaksEng Hem Chandra BaruaEDRISTI CURRENT AFFAIRS Q & A YEARLY 2018Contemporary Gujarati Short StoriesEDRISTI CURRENT AFFAIRS Q & A _ YEARLY 2018Translating IndiaWhen God Is A TravellerEncyclopaedia of Indian LiteratureThe Indian Family in TransitionUNFOLD DIARY OF DOWNDRODDENHistory of Gujarati LiteratureMargaret AtwoodOceanside BluesModern Gujarati PoetryAsian Translation TraditionsDirectory of Publishers and Booksellers in IndiaHandbook of Twentieth-century Literatures of IndiaB.K. ThakoreEncyclopaedia of Indian LiteratureLanguage, Identity, and Power in Modern IndiaFive DecadesThe Language of Organizational StylingSahitya Akademi AwardsRainbow at NoonWho's who of Indian Writers, 1999: A-MGovardhanramDalit TextThe Poetics of DevotionThe Shaping of Modern GujaratThe Growth of the Novel in India, 1950-1980India Who's whoDevotional Literature in South AsiaDalit LiteratureNarasinha Mehta of GujaratInterdisciplinary Alter-natives in Comparative LiteratureTagores Chitra And Aurobindos SavitriA Comparative StudyThe Absorption of Hydrocarbon Gases by Non-aqueous LiquidsNature and Human CommunitiesAhmedabadArt and Aesthetics of Modern Mythopoeia V2

A Major Activity Of The Sahitya Akademi Is The Preparation Of An Encyclopaedia Of Indian Literature. The Venture, Covering Twenty-Two Languages Of India, Is The First Of Its Kind. Written In English, The Encyclopaedia Gives A Comprehensive Idea Of The Growth And Development Of Indian Literature. The Entries On Authors, Books And General Topics Have Been Tabulated By The Concerned Advisory Boards And Finalised

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By A Steering Committee. Hundreds Of Writers All Over The Country Contributed Articles On Various Topics. The Encyclopaedia, Planned As A Six-Volume Project, Has Been Brought Out. The Sahitya Akademi Embarked Upon This Project In Right Earnest In 1984. The Efforts Of The Highly Skilled And Professional Editorial Staff Started Showing Results And The First Volume Was Brought Out In 1987. The Second Volume Was Brought Out In 1988, The Third In 1989, The Fourth In 1991, The Fifth In 1992, And The Sixth Volume In 1994. All The Six Volumes Together Include Approximately 7500 Entries On Various Topics, Literary Trends And Movements, Eminent Authors And Significant Works. The First Three Volume Were Edited By Prof. Amaresh Datta, Fourth And Fifth Volume By Mohan Lal And Sixth Volume By Shri K.C.Dutt.

This text introduces a major poet scarcely known to scholars outside Gujarat in India: Kavi Dayarambhai (1777-1852), and analyses the poet's place in the history of Indian literature.

This Anthology Brings Together Poems Of Over Twenty-Five Poets Of The Twentieth Century. The Book Seeks To Capture The Diversity And Vibrancy Of Modern Gujarati Poetry, Very Little Of Which Has Been Made Available To English Reading Public.

Human culture has always weaved myths around its pattern of existence for multiple purposes. The interplay of religion and social practices have found their own space within the sphere of mythology. It is possible to read mythical texts to probe into the greater picture of human civilization. The contribution of myths towards the shaping of human beliefs, behavioural patterns are evident and assessing them often reveals a plethora of cultural histories unexplored and therefore unacknowledged before. The contribution of mythopoeia towards the construct of human socio-cultural identity has

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been largely accepted. Modern academia has thus taken a strong interest in revisionist literature to understand the hitherto unknown nuances of human civilization. In the edited anthology, Art and Aesthetics of Modern Mythopoeia: Literatures, Myths and Revisionism (Vol-II), like the first volume, an attempt has been made to anthologize the works of a large number of authors who have talked about pertinent issues in the context of myth-making, the latent politics of mythopoeia and has taken into account several under-explored texts that are rich in mythical content. This volume offers a wide range of critical studies involving classical as well as modern myths around the globe.

This book is a historical study of modern Gujarat, India, addressing crucial questions of language, identity, and power. It examines the debates over language among the elite of this region during a period of significant social and political change in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Language debates closely reflect power relations among different sections of society, such as those delineated by nation, ethnicity, region, religion, caste, class, and gender. They are intimately linked with the process in which individuals and groups of people try to define and project themselves in response to changing political, economic, and social environments. Based on rich historical sources, including official records, periodicals, literary texts, memoirs, and private papers, this book vividly shows the impact that colonialism, nationalism, and the process of nation-building had on the ideas of language among different groups, as well as how various ideas of language competed and negotiated with each other. Language, Identity, and Power in Modern India: Gujarat, c.1850-1960 will be of particular interest to students and scholars working on South Asian history and to those interested in issues of language, society, and politics in different parts of the modern world.

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This book is written on Downtrodden

This is the first book in English on Narsinha Mehta, a major figure among the saint-poets of medieval India and the most celebrated bhakti (devotion) poet from Gujarat, whose morning hymns and sacred biography provided a vital source of moral inspiration to Gandhi. It explores how the songs and sacred narratives associated with the saint-poet have been sculpted into a popular source of moral inspiration by performers and audiences.

On Govardhanram Madhavram Tripathi, 1855-1907, Gujarati litterateur and scholar.

This book critiques literary and cultural representations of the Indian family to explore the manner in which the family and its structure are in transition. The papers explore (and expose) how the Indian family, whether in India or in diaspora, needs to be redefined in the current context-in this age of rapid industrialization, globalization (both cultural and economic), and the emergence of new technologies. The family is viewed from a variety of perspectives, as represented in film, theatre, and literature-both English and vernacular. Including reflective pieces by several well-known scholars, this volume offers a holistic understanding of local and global shifts and fissures that shape the family today.

Review of Indic literary works which received the Sahitya Akademi awards; includes profiles of authors; silver jubilee publication of the Sahitya Akademi.

Rabindranath Tagore S Drama Chitra Is Aimed At Reminding Man That The Ultimate Truth Is To Be Found Not At The Physical Level But In The Steady Evolution Of The Self.

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The Illumination Of A Young Princess Mind Lies In The Recognition And Realization That It Is In Truth Alone That True Happiness Resides. Similarly Aurobindo S Epic Savitri Seeks To Narrate The Story Of A Young Princess Who Saves The Life Of Her Husband From Death To Suggest The Ultimate Liberation Of Man From Universal Death. Chitra And Savitri Are Upanishadic Works In The Sense That Their Principal Theme Is The Search For Vidya (Knowledge) That Liberates Man From Avidya (Ignorance), And That Their Main Stylistic Device Is The Conversation Between The Human And Divine Characters. Evolution Thus Becomes The Watchword Of Both Aurobindo And Tagore. The Awakening Of The Self Or Raising The Life And Existence To A Higher Level Of Consciousness Is One Of The Parallel Themes Observed In Chitra And Savitri. Further, The Integral Transformation Of Chitra And Savitri And Their Inner Intuitive Development Has A Much Wider Connotation To Mankind At Large. Chitra And Savitri Are Thus Established As Works Of Self-Discovery. Although There Are Fundamental Differences In Terms Of The Nature Of Chitra And Savitri S Awareness, There Is No Denying The Fact That These Legends From The Mahabharata Are Exquisite Examples Of The Female Aspect Of The Indian Women.

This book discusses Nature and Human Communities in the historical and social background of Asia. Part 1 deals with the problems of coexistence among human beings. Part 2 explores coexistence between human beings and nature. The text focuses on local/regional commitments to solve problems and integrate specialized knowledge. It considers the kinds of relationship between human communities and nature that may lead to a more balanced, sustainable future for both. Avian Influenza poses a looming threat for human and animal health. The old paradigm was that the disease in waterfowl, poultry, pigs and man was caused by separate viruses that stayed within their own niche. Deadly outbreaks have shattered this view. This timely reference

examines such sensitive issues as regulation of low pathogenic and high pathogenic AI, surveillance of waterfowl, live bird markets, and outbreak control in densely populated areas.

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This Collection Of Essays Is Meant To Be A Survey Of The Novel In Twelve Major Indian Languages During The Period 1950 To 1980. While Seeking To Bring Into Focus The Major Trends And Tendencies That Characterise The Growth Of The Novel In These Languages, The Book Attempts To Explore The Traditions Being Established In Indian Novel Today And The New Directions The Novel Is Likely To Take In Our Languages. Gobinda Prasad Sarma Convincingly Shows How The Assamese Novel Reflects The Assamese Society And How Experimentation With New Techniques Has Widened The Horizons Of Assamese Novel: And K. Sivathamby, Through A Brilliant Analysis Of The Interconnection Between The Societal Factors And Development Of The Novel, Portrays The Rise Of The Tamil Novel To New Heights During The Period. While I. K. Sharma Shows How Hindi Novel Has Passed Imperceptibly From The Wonderland Of Fancy To The Hinterland Of Society And The Borderland Of Psyche , Shyamala A. Narayan Predicts A Bright Future For Indian English Novel On The Basis Of Her Assessment Of Such Writers As Mulk Raj Anand, R. K. Narayan, Raja Rao, Manohar Malgonkar, Anita Desai And Arun Joshi. Jatindra Kumar Nayak Brings Out The Tension In Post-Independent Oriya Novel Between The Idealism Of The Freedom Struggle And The Values Of A Commercial Society; K. M. Tharakan Describes The Rich Complexity Hints At The Possibility Of A Blend Of Post-Modernist And Leftist Trends: And Ila Pathak Shows How In Gujrati The Traditional Novel And The Experimental Novel Are Growing Side By Side. To Lila Ray, Who Traces The Diverse Trends In Bengali Novel, The Most Remarkable Change Is In The

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Political Novel; But To Prabhakar Rao, Who Describes The Wide Range Of Exploration In Telugu Novel, The Telugu Novelist Appears Unable To Rise Above The Mediocre . Narinder Singh Sees Punjabi Novel At The Take -Off Stage But Gives A Word Of Caution Against The Increasing Use Of Colloquial Dialect By The Novelists; Seshagiri Rao Traces The Traditions Established In Kannada Novel By The Writers Of The Navodaya Period, Navya Period And The Progressive Movement. Finally, Balachandra Nemade, In His Inimitable Style, Anatomizes The Positive And Negative Trends In The Growth Of Marathi Novel And Gives A Passionate Call To Revolutionise Criticism And Cure Marathi Of Its Present Poverty Of Taste . This Book Is A Gateway To The Edifice Of Contemporary Indian Novel.

Poems originally written in Gujarati, translation into English and Hindi.

A Major Activity Of The Sahitya Akademi Is The Preparation Of An Encyclopaedia Of Indian Literature. The Venture, Covering Twenty-Two Languages Of India, Is The First Of Its Kind. Written In English, The Encyclopaedia Gives A Comprehensive Idea Of The Growth And Development Of Indian Literature. The Entries On Authors, Books And General Topics Have Been Tabulated By The Concerned Advisory Boards And Finalised By A Steering Committee. Hundreds Of Writers All Over The Country Contributed Articles On Various Topics. The Encyclopaedia, Planned As A Six-Volume Project, Has Been Brought Out. The Sahitya Akademi Embarked Upon This Project In Right Earnest In 1984. The Efforts Of The Highly Skilled And Professional Editorial Staff Started Showing Results And The First Volume Was Brought Out In 1987. The Second Volume Was Brought Out In 1988, The Third In 1989, The Fourth In 1991, The Fifth In 1992, And The Sixth Volume In 1994. All The Six Volumes Together Include Approximately 7500 Entries On Various Topics, Literary Trends And Movements, Eminent Authors And Significant

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Works. The First Three Volume Were Edited By Prof. Amaresh Datta, Fourth And Fifth Volume By Mohan Lal And Sixth Volume By Shri K.C.Dutt.

On the life and works of Balavantaraya Kalyanaraya Thakora, 1869-1952, Gujarati author.

Surveys the many regional literatures of 20th century India.

This book contains the reports given at the Eighth Bhakti Conference' organized in Leuven in August 2000. Forty scholars came to Leuven, hailing from fourteen different countries -- from Japan to the west coast of the United States -- each one bringing his or her expertise and experience. Nearly all the reports are published here. In addition, another twenty scholars sent a report or their list of publications. The result is a fascinating overview of the very wide field that Bhakti studies have become, with a list of 1162 books and articles, and reports about Bengali, Braj, Gujarati, Marathi, Punjabi and Rajasthani literature, lexicography, musicology, Santa literature, Sikhism, Gorakhanath, Kabir, Krishna Bhakti, Lalan Fakir, Mirabai, Ramananda, Surdas, Tulsidas, and many other topics of research. A detailed index makes all this matter easily accessible.

The cultural universe of urban, English-speaking middle class in India shows signs of growing inclusiveness as far as English is concerned. This phenomenon manifests itself in increasing forms of bilingualism (combination of English and one Indian language) in everyday forms of speech - advertisement jingles, bilingual movies, signboards, and of course conversations. It is also evident in the startling prominence of Indian Writing in English and somewhat less visibly, but steadily rising, activity of English translation

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from Indian languages. Since the eighties this has led to a frenetic activity around English translation in India's academic and literary circles. Kothari makes this very current phenomenon her chief concern in Translating India. The study covers aspects such as the production, reception and marketability of English translation. Through an unusually multi-disciplinary approach, this study situates English translation in India amidst local and global debates on translation, representation and authenticity. The case of Gujarati - a case study of a relatively marginalized language - is a unique addition that demonstrates the micro-issues involved in translation and the politics of language. Rita Kothari teaches English at St. Xavier's College, Ahmedabad (Gujarat), where she runs a translation research centre on behalf of Katha. She has published widely on literary sociology, postcolonialism and translation issues. Kothari is one of the leading translators from Gujarat. Her first book (a collaboration with Suguna Ramanathan) was on English translation of Gujarati poetry (Modern Gujarati Poetry: A Selection, Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, 1998). Her English translation of the path-breaking Gujarati Dalit novel Angaliyat is in press (The Stepchild, Oxford University Press). She is currently working on an English translation of Gujarati short stories by women of Gujarat, a study of the nineteenth-century narratives of Gujarat, and is also engaged in a project on the Sindhi identity in India.

This Revised And Enlarged Edition Of The Directory Of Publishers And Booksellers In India Contains Much Larger Number Of Addresses Of Publishers And Booksellers. Further, Much More Information Has Been Given About Them And Their Field Of Operation. The Directory Includes Postal Addresses, Phone Numbers, Fax Numbers, Email Addresses And Websites, Wherever Available, Of More Than Eight Thousand Leading Indian Publishers, Wholesalers, Booksellers, Importers And Exporters. It Is Hoped That The Directory In Its Present Form Would Be Highly Useful For Publishers And

Booksellers In Mailing Their Publicity Material. The Directory Would Be Of Great Value For Librarians For Getting Information About Publishers And Booksellers In India For Their Procurement Of Books. The Directory Would Also Be Useful For Those Who Provide Materials And Services For Publishers And Booksellers E.G. Paper Manufacturers & Distributors, Computers (Software & Hardware) Suppliers, Packaging Machinery & Materials Suppliers, Printers & Binders, Epabx-Manufacturers & Distributors, Office Furniture And Equipment And Photocopy Machines Suppliers, Slotted Angle Racks Manufacturers And Suppliers, Etc.

This book, companion to the much-acclaimed Dalit Literatures in India, examines questions of aesthetics and literary representation in a wide range of Dalit literary texts. It looks at how Dalit literature, born from the struggle against social and political injustice, invokes the rich and complex legacy of oral, folk and performative traditions of marginalised voices. The essays and interviews systematically explore a range of literary forms, from autobiographies, memoirs and other testimonial narratives, to poems, novels or short stories, foregrounding the diversity of Dalit creation. Showcasing the interplay between the aesthetic and political for a genre of writing that has 'change' as its goal, the volume aims to make Dalit writing more accessible to a wider public, for the Dalit voices to be heard and understood. The volume also shows how the genre has revolutionised the concept of what literature is supposed to mean and define. Effervescent first-person accounts, socially militant activism and sharp critiques of a little-explored literary terrain make this essential reading for scholars and researchers of social exclusion and discrimination studies, literature (especially comparative literature), translation studies, politics, human rights and culture studies.

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Arundhathi Subramaniam's poems explore ambivalences - the desire for adventure and anchorage, expansion and containment, vulnerability and strength, freedom and belonging, withdrawal and engagement, language as exciting resource and as desperate refuge. These are poems of wonder and precarious elation, and all the roadblocks and rewards on the long dangerous route to recovering what it is to be alive and human. Winner of the inaugural Khushwant Singh Poetry Prize and shortlisted for the 2014 T.S. Eliot Prize, When God Is a Traveller is a remarkable book of poetry.

The ways in which commercial organizations and service providers 'style' themselves - creating the image they wish to portray to their potential consumers - is a long-established area of research in the fields of sociology and business studies. However language also plays an important role in organizational styling, something which until now has been largely overlooked in the literature. This is the first book-length study of the linguistics of organizational styling, looking at the language and semiotic resources used by holiday resorts, pharmaceutical companies, restaurants and insurance companies in order to project their identities, and style themselves. It discusses in detail a number of case studies and presents an innovative take on the notion of style, as well as bringing together work from linguistics, business studies and sociology. This interdisciplinary book will be of interest to scholars and advanced students in sociolinguistics, and scholars of sociology and business studies.

A Probing Look Beyond Hindutva To Get To The Heart Of Gujarat. Many Aspects Of Modern Gujarati Society And Polity Appear Puzzling. A Society Which For Centuries Absorbed Diverse People Today Appears Insular And Parochial, And While It Is One Of The Most Prosperous States In India, A Quarter Of Its Population Lives Below The

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Poverty Line. Drawing On Academic And Scholarly Sources, Autobiographies, Letters, Literature And Folksongs, Achyut Yagnik And Suchitra Sheth Attempt To Understand And Explain These Paradoxes. They Trace The History Of Gujarat From The Time Of The Indus Valley Civilization, When Gujarati Society Came To Be A Synthesis Of Diverse Peoples And Cultures, To The State S Encounters With The Turks, Marathas And The Portuguese, Which Sowed The Seeds Of Communal Disharmony. Taking A Closer Look At The Nineteenth And Twentieth Centuries, The Authors Explore The Political Tensions, Social Dynamics And Economic Forces That Contributed To Making The State What It Is Today: The Impact Of The British Policies; The Process Of Industrialization And Urbanization, And The Rise Of The Middle Class; The Emergence Of The Idea Of Swadeshi ; The Coming Of Gandhi And His Attempts To Transform Society And Politics By Bringing Together Diverse Gujarati Cultural Sources; And The Series Of Communal Riots That Rocked Gujarat Even As The State Was Consumed By Nationalist Fervour. With Independence And Statehood, The Government Encouraged A New Model Of Development, Which Marginalized Dalits, Adivasis And Minorities Even Further. This Was Accompanied By The Emergence Of Identity Politics Based On The Hindutva Ideology, And Violence In Multiple Forms Became Increasingly Visible, Overshadowing Gujarat S Image As One Of The Most Industrialized, Urbanized And Globalized Societies In India. The Authors Conclude That This Trajectory Of Gujarat S Modern History Has Been Propelled By Its Powerful Middle Class And Future Directions Would Depend On How This Section Of Society Resolves Global Local Tensions And How They Make Their Peace With The Past.

On the completion of fiftieth year of Sahitya Akademi.

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The End-Century Edition Of The Who'S Who Of Indian Writers, Is An Invaluable Work Of Reference For Writers, Publishers, Readers And Students Of Literary History. For Ease Of Use, The Entries Are Arranged Alphabetically By Surname Or Part Of The Name Preferred By The Writers Themselves. A Large Number Of Cross- References Are Provided To Facilitate The Location And Identification Of The Writers.

Authors Shannon Hengen and Ashley Thomson have assembled a reference guide that covers all of the works written by the acclaimed Canadian author Margaret Atwood since 1988, including her novels Cat's Eye, The Robber Bride, Alias Grace, and the 2000 Booker Prize winner, The Blind Assassin. Rather than just including Atwood's books, this guide includes all of Atwood's works, including articles, short stories, letters, and individual poetry. Adaptations of Atwood's works are also included, as are some of her more public quotations. Secondary entries (i.e. interviews, scholarly resources, and reviews) are first sorted by type, and then arranged alphabetically by author, to allow greater ease of navigation. The individual chapters are organized chronologically, with each subdivided into seven categories: Atwood's Works, Adaptations, Quotations, Interviews, Scholarly Resources, Reviews of Atwood's Works, and Reviews of Adaptations of Atwood's Works. The book also includes a chapter entitled 'Atwood on the Web,' as well as extensive author and subject indexes. This new bibliography significantly enhances access to Atwood material, a feature that will be welcomed by university, public, and school librarians. Margaret Atwood: A Reference Guide 1988-2005 will appeal not only to Atwood scholars, but to students and fans of one of Canada's greatest writers.

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A timeless journey to self-realisation.. By Sahitya Akademi Award winning author, Dhiruben Patel When a sannyasi turns his back on worldly life, he is said to have transcended the trammels of mundane existence. But what of the sannyasi who turns his back on renuciation itself? Rainbow at Noon describes the life of shan, who is able to navigate his soul out of the world and back into it, only to realize the place for the self is in the self. Here is the story of a sannyasi who returns to his home in Mumbai and how he is treated by the world. It is a brilliant account of the inner turmoil of every man who wishes to rise above himself. Lucidity and succinctness characterise Raj Supe's translation of Dhiruben's original Gujarati. The lay reader is quickly drawn into the story of ishan and his family and is easily able to assimilate what could otherwise have been abstruse and profound text. Rainbow at Noon can be read over and over again without losing its novelty, as new layers reveal themselves. It is like a little jewel that retains its lustre forever.

It Is A Fictional Work By Dhruv Bhatt, In The Form Of Memoirs Of A Young Civil Engineer Deputed To Survey An Arid Coastal Part Of Saurashtra. The Novel Has At Its Centre The Quest For A Fine Balance Between A Traditional, Non-Scientific, Faith-Driven Society And Cynical, Profit Driven Economy. Weaving Together The Characters, Real And Imaginary, Events And Legends From The Folklore Of The Region, Dhruv Bhatt Has Imparted His Own Sensitivity To The Leading Characters And At The Same Time Narrated A Gripping Story.

Translation Studies, one of the fastest developing fields in the humanities since the early 1980s, has so far been Euro-centric both in its theoretical explorations and in its historical grounding. One of the major reasons for this is the unavailability of reliable data and systematic analysis of translation activities in non-European cultures. While a

number of scholars in the Western tradition of translation studies have become increasingly aware of this bias and its problems, practically indicates that the burden of addressing such deficiencies and imbalances should be on the shoulders of scholars who are conversant with the non-Western translation traditions and capable of engaging in much-needed basic research. This book brings together eleven scholars with expertise in different Asian translation traditions, who highlight language and cultural environments as well as perceptions and modes of operation often different from those in the Western tradition. Their contributions enhance our understanding of the various elements that influence the transfer of knowledge across cultures and provide invaluable data for the study of translation as a force for cultural development and cultural planning. Contributors include Eva Hung, Judy Wakabayashi, Lawrence Wong, Yoshihiro Osawa, Teresa Hyun, Keith Taylor, Rita Kothari, Doris Jedamski, Raniela Barbaza and Bill Cummings.

Interdisciplinary Alternatives in Comparative Literature examines the directions taken by Comparative Literature in recent years and maps the shifts in paradigms that are in process. Alternative discourses of Comparative Literature are explored in the volume with reference to the ongoing debates on World Literature, contemporary interpretations of the canon, the dialectic of resistance embodied in cultural productions of the region and the contestations implicit in the oral and performative traditions. The nineteen essays in the five sections of the volume also discuss the challenges and opportunities provided by the emergence of areas like Culture Studies, Postcolonial Studies, Gender Studies, Translation Studies, etc. The essays emphasize the need to transform Comparative Literature into a discipline capable of coping with the crisis in humanities in the twenty-first century, based on the multilingual, multicultural experiences of countries like India.

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Founded in 1411 by Sultan Ahmed Shah on the banks of the river Sabarmati, Ahmedabad is today India's seventh largest city and also one of the subcontinent's few medieval cities which continues to be prosperous and important. Soon after it was established, the royal city of Ahmedabad became the commercial and cultural capital of Gujarat. When the Mughal Empire annexed Gujarat in 1572, Ahmedabad lost its political pre-eminence, but continued to flourish as a great trading centre connecting the silk route with the spice route. Briefly under the Marathas in the eighteenth century, Ahmedabad experienced a dimming of its fortunes, but with the beginning of British control from the early nineteenth century the city reasserted its mercantile ethos, even as it began questioning age-old social hierarchies. The opening of the first textile mill in 1861 was a turning point and by the end of the century Ahmedabad was known as the Manchester of the East. When Gandhi returned to India from South Africa in 1915, looking for a place where he could establish 'an institution for the whole of India', it was Ahmedabad he chose. With the setting up of his Sabarmati Ashram, the great manufacturing centre also became a centre for new awakening. It became the political hub of India, radiating the message of freedom struggle based on truth and non-violence. After Independence, it emerged as one of the fastest-growing cities of India and in the 1960s Ahmedabadis pioneered institutions of higher education and research in new fields such as space sciences, management, design and architecture. Yet, through the centuries, Ahmedabad's prosperity has been punctuated by natural disasters and social discord, from famines and earthquakes to caste and religious violence. Ahmedabadis have tried to respond to these, trying to meld economic progress with a new culture of social harmony. Coinciding with the 600th anniversary of the founding of Ahmedabad, this broad brush history highlights socio-economic patterns that emphasize Indo-Islamic and Indo-European synthesis and continuity, bringing the focus back to the pluralistic heritage of this medieval city. Evocative profiles of

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Ahmedabadi merchants, industrialists, poets and saints along with descriptions and illustrations of the city's art and architecture bring alive the city and its citizens.

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