

Press Note:

Apeejay Kolkata Literary Festival 2015 – Day 4

Event: Book launch of ‘Honour and Fidelity – India’s Military Contribution to the Great War, 1914-1918’ by Captain Amarinder Singh

Kolkata, 17th January, 2015: Apeejay Kolkata Literary Festival 2015 hosted the book launch of ‘Honour & Fidelity: India's Military Contribution to the Great War 1914-18’ by **Captain Amarinder Singh** as a part of the session titled ‘*Honour, Fidelity & the Great War.*’ In the book, Captain Singh, a military historian in his own right, has painstakingly retraced the footsteps of the Indian Battalions during the First World War as a fitting commemoration to the centenary of WW1.

Curtains were drawn on this engaging session with a thoroughly researched audiovisual presentation by eminent journalist and author, **Sunanda K Datta-Ray**.

Organized inside the verdant ground of Lascar War Memorial, the session was evocative of the World War 1 chronicles. **General Shankar Roychoudhury**, former Chief of Army Staff presided over the session and also unveiled the book by Captain Singh.

About the author:

Captain Amarinder Singh

Captain Amarinder Singh is an Indian politician. Belonging to the erstwhile royal state of Patiala he is a former Chief Minister of Punjab. At present he is Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the 16th Lok Sabha. He joined the Indian Army in June 1963 after graduating from the National Defence Academy and Indian Military before resigning in early 1965. He rejoined again as hostilities broke out with Pakistan and served as Captain in the 1965 Indo-Pak War. He has written books on war and Sikh history which include *A Ridge Too Far*, *Lest We Forget*, *The Last Sunset: Rise and Fall of Lahore Durbar* and *The Sikhs in Britain: 150 years of Photographs*. His latest book is *Honour and Fidelity: India's Military Contribution to the Great War 1914 to 1918*.

Sunanda K. Datta-Ray

Sunanda K. Datta-Ray is an author and columnist whose last major work, *Looking East to Look West: Lee Kuan Yew's Mission India*, won the Crossword Vodafone award for non-fiction. He has recently published a revised new edition of an earlier work which made history, *Smash and Grab: Annexation of Sikkim*. Another significant book is *Waiting for America: India and the US in the New Millennium*.

About Apeejay Kolkata Literary Festival (AKLF):

Apeejay Kolkata Literary Festival (AKLF) is Kolkata’s pioneering literary festival. Instituted in 2010 by the Apeejay Surrendra Group and its heritage Oxford Bookstore on Park Street, AKLF grows out of the bookstore’s year round involvement with books, writers & publishers. In the

six years since Kolkata saw her first literary festival in AKLF, literary festivals have mushroomed across the country, but AKLF stands apart with its unique identity as the only one with a now 94-year-old bookstore as its nucleus. AKLF offers an atmosphere of warm, welcoming intimacy, favors depth over size, and includes a variety of subjects from history to the environment. AKLF also celebrates Kolkata's magnificent public monuments and heritage sites as settings for Festival events and eminent literati and cultural stalwarts from across India and overseas join the festival scheduled every year in the second week of January. In 2015 AKLF explores literature as part of our tangible and intangible heritage, a theme that runs through several sessions of the festival. AKLF focusses on younger writers, newer voices and fresh audiences in its ongoing attempt to build an audience for books and reading. Prominent personalities attending will be Hanif Kureishi, Naseeruddin Shah, Charles Allen, John Elliott, Mohammed Hanif, Leila Seth, Michael Buckley, Upamanyu Chatterjee, David Davidar, Shekhar Gupta, Shashi Tharoor, Asish Nandy, Ramachandra Guha, Kishwar Desai, Nabaneeta Dev Sen amongst several others. There are some firsts in AKLF 2015. A heritage literary walk, a literary 'adda', a Young Adult litfest for high school students, a bloggers' meet, a children's bookfest crammed with activities, even a standup comic for the college crowd and a leadership training session for young teens on importance of character, karma and individual social responsibility™. Add to that our signature heritage site evenings at The Indian Museum, National Library, Victoria Memorial, Lascar War Memorial, indepth discussions, top of the line authors, thinkers and performers, and you have a literary experience not to be missed. And all absolutely free for Kolkata and her culture-loving audience.

You can follow us on  twitter/[@TheAKLF](https://twitter.com/TheAKLF) and [#AKLF](https://twitter.com/TheAKLF),  Facebook/[apeejaykolkataliteraryfestival](https://www.facebook.com/apeejaykolkataliteraryfestival)

For event videos & pictures Log On to <http://www.aklf.in/>

For media related information, please contact: Perfect Relations

Priyanka 9830615322 | Sramana 9836496930