



ZEE Jaipur Literature Festival 10@10

#10 Speakers10Weeks

- To celebrate its 10th anniversary, the ZEE Jaipur Literature Festival is announcing 10 speakers every week for 10 weeks every Tuesday at 6.00pm (IST).
- These announcements will reveal the names of some of the world's greatest writers and thinkers set to appear at the Festival in January and will be made from Tuesday 18 October to Tuesday 20 December.
- Make sure you have liked us on Facebook ([JaipurLitFestOfficial](https://www.facebook.com/JaipurLitFestOfficial)) and follow us on Twitter ([@JaipurLitFest](https://twitter.com/JaipurLitFest)) to be the first to know.

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Tuesday 6 December - The eighth ZEE Jaipur Literature Festival 2017 10@10

2017 marks ten years of the Jaipur Literature Festival and its meteoric rise from a small gem of an idea to the world's largest free literary festival, having hosted more than 1300 speakers over the past decade.

Frequently described as 'the greatest literary show on Earth', the ZEE Jaipur Literature Festival 2017 will take place between 19 and 23 January 2017 in its beautiful home at the historic Diggi Palace Hotel in Jaipur.

The Festival expects to welcome over 250 authors, thinkers, politicians, journalists, and popular culture icons to Jaipur this coming January. Equity and democracy run through the Festival's veins, placing some of the world's greatest wordsmiths and intellectuals from all walks of life together on stage.



TEAMWORK ARTS PVT. LTD.

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Today, the eighth set of 10 speakers appearing at the ZEE Jaipur Literature Festival 2017 were announced as:

1. **Javed Akhtar** is an eminent Indian film scriptwriter, lyricist and poet, whose lineage can be traced back to seven generations of renowned Urdu writers, poets and freedom fighters. A respected social commentator and activist admired for his secular, liberal and progressive values, Akhtar has written numerous poems against communalism, social injustice, national integration and for women's rights. He has received five national awards from the Indian government as well as 15 Filmfare Awards, considered India's answer to the Academy Award. Akhtar has also been nominated to the Rajya Sabha by the President of India (2010) and is a recipient of the Padma Bhushan, the third highest civilian award in India. His publications include his first poetry collection *Tarskash*, which has been translated into English, French and a range of Indian regional languages. According to a recent survey done by a publisher's organisation, it is the most sold book of verses in the last 60 years in India. His other books, *Talking Films and Talking Songs*, are hailed as some of the most definitive works on Indian cinema.

2. **Aishwarya Dhanush's** memoir *Standing On An Apple Box* chronicles her childhood memories, the experiences of being the daughter of superstar Rajnikanth and being married to a person who is equally well-known in the industry. In August 2016, Dhanush was appointed as India's UN Women's advocate for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment. In 2012, she won the Newsmaker of the Year Award at the JFA Women Achievers Awards. She has also received the Kalaimamani Award for Dance from the Government of Tamil Nadu. Her memoir chronicles her life's highs and lows.

3. **Manav Kaul** is an author, playwright, actor and director. His plays have been translated into several languages, including English, Marathi and Bengali, and include *Shakar Ke Paanch Daane*, *Park*, *Ilhaam* and most recently *Chuhel*, which opened at Mumbai's Prithvi Festival. His collection of short stories *Teekh Tumhare Peechay* was released earlier this year and was among the top five Hindi books of the year. His second short story collection *Prem Kabootar* is due to be published. Kaul is also a popular Hindi film actor who has won acclaim with his portrayals in films like *Citylights*, *Kai Po Che*, *Wazir* and *Jai Gangaajal*.



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4. **Patrick French** is a British biographer and historian who lives in New Delhi. He is the author of *India, The World Is What It Is*, an authorised biography of Nobel Laureate V.S. Naipaul which won the National Book Critics Circle Award, *Tibet, Liberty or Death* and *Young-husband*. He is currently working on the authorised biography of Doris Lessing.

5. **Mei Fong** is an award-winning writer whose book on China's one-child policy debuted with 'impeccable timing' (*Los Angeles Review of Books*) and explores the unintended consequences of the policy through a narrative-rich story that is 'evocatively rendered and peppered with quirky characters' (*Wall Street Journal*), including a sex-doll salesman and a dating guru. Formerly a *Wall Street Journal* China correspondent, Fong is believed to be the first Malaysian to win a Pulitzer. She is currently a fellow at the New America Foundation.

6. **Anuradha Beniwal** is a former National chess champion who was ranked number two in the country at the age of 7. Her debut book in Hindi, *Aazadi Mera Brand*, recounts her experiences of travelling to ten countries in Europe on a budget of less than Rs 1 lakh. Born in Meham near Rohtak into a middle-class family, Beniwal was home-schooled and after being introduced to chess by her professor father at an early age, participated in many competitions to become world champion. Her writing advocates freedom of women who should be able to take the risk of travelling the world.

7. **Frank Trentmann** is Professor of History at Birkbeck College, University of London. He is the author of the prize-winning *Free Trade Nation: Consumption, Civil Society and Commerce in Modern Britain*. His new book, *Empire of Things: How We Became a World of Consumers, Fifteenth Century to the Twenty-First Century*, was published in 2016 and with several foreign translations set to appear in 2017.

8. **Raghu Karnad** is a journalist and the author of *Farthest Field: An Indian Story of the Second World War*. The book received the Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar and was shortlisted for the English PEN prize for historical non-fiction in 2016. He has written for *Granta*, the *International New York Times*, the *Financial Times*, *n+1* and *Caravan*, and is an editor-at-large at *theWire.in*.



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9. **Richard Sennett** writes about cities, labour and culture. He is the author of *The Uses of Disorder*, *The Hidden Injuries of Class*, *The Fall of Public Man*, *Authority*, *The Conscience of the Eye* and *Flesh and Stone*. In the mid 1990s, as the work-world of modern capitalism began to alter, Sennett began a project charting its personal consequences for workers. The first of these studies, *The Corrosion of Character*, is an ethnographic account of how middle-level employees make sense of the 'new economy'. The second, *Respect in a World of Inequality*, charts the effects of new ways of working on the welfare state and the third, *The Culture of the New Capitalism*, provides an overview of change. Sennett has also written three novels titled *The Frog Who Dared to Croak*, *An Evening of Brahms* and *Palais Royal*. Most recently, Sennett has explored the positive aspects of labour in *The Craftsman* and *Together: The Rituals, Pleasures and Politics of Cooperation*. The third volume in this trilogy, *The Open City*, was published in 2016.

10. **Franck Thilliez** is a French writer and screenwriter. One of his short stories was recently used as the basis of a modern art exhibition for the Palais de Tokyo in Paris. In 2015, he was the third bestselling French thriller writer and is known for combining cutting-edge science with deep psychological analysis and extraordinary imagination. His book *La Chambre des morts* (*The Room of the Dead*) was made into a film. *Syndrome E* and *Bred to Kill* are the first two volumes of a five-part bestselling series, which also includes three standalones. The latest in the series *Rêver* (*Dreaming*), was published in May 2016 and was met with great success.

Further information on sessions and more speakers appearing at the 10th Jaipur Literature Festival will follow over the coming weeks.

-- ENDS --



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NOTES TO MEDIA PERSONS

Information on **Registration** for the ZEE Jaipur Literature Festival can be found here:

<http://jaipurliteraturefestival.org/registration/>

For **media enquiries** on the ZEE Jaipur Literature Festival, please contact Edelman India:

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About the ZEE Jaipur Literature Festival 2017

The past decade has seen the ZEE Jaipur Literature Festival grow into the world's largest free event of its kind. Having hosted 1300 speakers and welcoming nearly 1.2 million book lovers, the success of JLF has been astonishing and heartwarming.

Celebrating writers from across the globe, the Festival has hosted some of the best regarded and loved names, ranging from Nobel Laureates and Man Booker Prize winners to debut writers such as Amish Tripathi, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Eleanor Catton, Hanif Kureishi, His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama, Ian McEwan, JM Coetzee, Margaret Atwood, Mohammed Hanif, Oprah Winfrey, Orhan Pamuk, Pico Iyer, Salman Rushdie, Stephen Fry, Thomas Piketty, Vikram Seth and Wole Soyinka, as well as renowned Indian language writers such as Girish Karnad, Gulzar, Javed Akhtar, MT Vasudevan Nair, Uday Prakash as well as the late Mahasweta Devi and UR Ananthamurthy.

Writers and Festival Directors Namita Gokhale and William Dalrymple invite authors from across the globe to take part in the five-day programme set against the backdrop of Rajasthan's stunning cultural heritage and the Diggi Palace in the state capital Jaipur.

Equity and democracy run through the Festival's veins, placing some of the world's greatest writers and thinkers from all walks of life together on stage. All events are completely free and there are no reserved spaces; this egalitarian access is a powerful statement in a country where access to such individuals remains the privilege of a few. On top of all this, people are guaranteed to have fun!



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As Time Out said: “It’s settled. The Jaipur Literature Festival is officially the Woodstock, Live 8 and Ibiza of world literature, with an ambience that can best be described as James Joyce meets Monsoon Wedding.”

The ZEE Jaipur Literature Festival is a flagship event of Teamwork Arts, which produces over 25 highly acclaimed performing arts, visual arts and literary festivals across more than 40 cities globally, and is produced by Sanjoy K. Roy.

In 2014, ZEE JLF spread its wings beyond the borders of India with an annual event in May in London. The following year, ZEE JLF headed across the pond to Boulder, Colorado where it hosts a similar event every September.

Website: www.jaipurliteraturefestival.org

About Teamwork Arts

For over 25 years, Teamwork Arts has taken India to the world and brought the world to India.

In countries such as Australia, Canada, Egypt, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Israel, Korea, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, UK and USA, Teamwork produces over 25 highly acclaimed performing arts, visual arts and literary festivals across more than 40 cities.

Teamwork Arts produces one of the world’s largest free literary gatherings, the annual **ZEE Jaipur Literature Festival**, the **Ishara International Puppet Festival** in New Delhi, the annual **Mahindra Excellence in Theatre Awards (META) and Festival**, international festivals **Shared History** in South Africa, **Eye on India** in the United States of America, **India by the Bay** in Hong Kong, **Confluence- Festival of India** in Australia, and many more.

Website: www.teamworkarts.com



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