

Durbar Tavleen Singh

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The Sikh Separatist Insurgency in India
Jugdep S Chima 2008-08-01
The "Punjab crisis," a two-decade long armed insurgency that emerged as a violent ethnonationalist movement in the 1980s and gradually transformed into a secessionist struggle, resulted in an estimated 25,000 casualties in Punjab. This ethnonationalist movement, on one hand, ended the perceived notion of looking at Punjab as the model of political stability in independent India and, on the other, raised several lingering socio-political questions which have great effect on Indian politics for decades to come, including the prospects of recurring ethnic insurgencies. The Sikh Separatist Insurgency in India: Political Leadership and Ethnonationalist Movements provides an authoritative political history of the Sikh separatist insurgency in Punjab by focussing on "patterns of political leadership", a previously unexplored explanatory variable. It describes in detail the trends which led to the emergence of the "Punjab crisis", the various dynamics through which the movement sustained itself and the changing nature of "patterns of political leadership" which eventually resulted in its decline in the mid-1990s. Providing a microhistorical analysis of the "Punjab crisis," this book argues that the trajectories of ethnonationalist movements are largely determined by the interaction between self-interested ethnic and state political elites, who not only react to the structural choices they face, but whose purposeful actions and decisions ultimately affect the course of ethnic group-state relations. It consolidates this theoretical proposition through a comparative analysis of four contemporary global ethnonationalist movements--those occurring in Chechnya, Northern Ireland, Kashmir, and Assam. This book will be of interest to students and academics studying political science and history, especially those working on South Asia and the Sikhs, and also for public policy practitioners in multi-ethnic societies. It remains invaluable reading for those interested in the phenomenon of ethnonationalism.

India's Broken Tryst
Tavleen Singh 2016-04-10
Seventy years after Nehru's beautiful midnight speech - 'Long years ago we made a tryst with destiny...' - in Indian cities and villages millions survive on less than the bare minimum. Children are not in classrooms, women have nowhere safe to relieve themselves, and jobless men lie around in a daze. In cities, where initiative should flourish, a merciless state looms large over every common endeavour. The civilization that was India, that grand culture, has not found utterance again. Long years after freedom from the British, why do we remain suppressed? In India's Broken Tryst, bestselling author and popular political columnist Tavleen Singh chronicles the damage done. Here is the story of Surekha, who lives on the pavements of Mumbai's landmark Marine Drive with memories of crushing hunger. Of Ali, the idli seller who is forced out of his honest livelihood by cops and corporators. Of Sahib and Sardar, little boys torn from their mother on the criminal charge of begging. Of those nameless servants who do not have access to toilets even as they service the luxury apartments where Singh lives. From the very poor to the very rich, Tavleen Singh catalogues in bold, eviscerating detail the systematic unmaking of our sense of destiny. Can an Indian dream stretch beyond food and water, literacy, toilets, and in some cases just a document of identification? If not, what destiny?

Sri Lanka
Padma Rao Sundarji 2015-11-03
The thirty-year-long civil war in Sri Lanka which ended in 2009 shook the island-nation. Now there is peace, rapid development - and a new government. But questions remain. What do Tamils and Sinhalese feel about their new country? What are their dreams for the future?Sri Lanka: The New Country is insightful and unusual reportage from the dispassionate eye of a foreign correspondent who covered the bloody conflict for two decades. It is anecdotal narrative at its best: about ordinary Sri Lankans, former Tamil Tigers, meeting LTTE chief V. Prabhakaran, princes, 'secular clergymen', army generals, Tamil Buddhists, Sinhalese Tamils, politicians and sailors wary of ghosts. As the writer traverses Sri Lanka's formerly embattled north and east, internationally stereotypes about the nation are challenged. The book is a tribute to a wonderful people, as they pick up the pieces of their fragmented national identity and get on with building a new country.

The Way Things Were
Aatish Taseer 2015
Skanda's father, Toby, has died, estranged from Toby's mother and from the India he loved. Skanda is tasked with fulfilling Toby's final wish and returning his ashes to his birthplace. It is a journey that takes him from Manhattan to Delhi, and deep into the story of his family: in particular, to a night three decades earlier, when an act of shocking violence forced his parents' fragile marriage apart. Set at flashpoints in 1975, 1984, 1992 and the present day, The Way Things Were shows how our most deeply personal stories are shaped by ancient history and volatile politics; how the life of a country and the life of an individual are irrevocably entwined. Spanning three generations, it is at once intimate and panoramic, with a thrilling ambition that places it alongside such masterpieces as A Suitable Boy and A Fine Balance.

Jasoda
Kiran Nagarkar 2017-11-25
'Jasoda is as compelling and powerful as Nagarkar's other novels but uniquely itself in the gut-wrenching story it tells of the sordid uses of power, the suffering it causes, and the human spirit that rises above it.' -- Nayantara Sahgal
'Nagarkar's storytelling genius takes us into the abyss of poverty and patriarchy -- source of both inspiration and shame. Jasoda's brutal but transformative journey is the foil to counterfeit historical grandeur. With empathy turned to prose of pure steel, Nagarkar paints a modern Indian heroine.' -- Mitali Saran
'A novel that stops your breath and doesn't let go until you get to the end. Jasoda: mother, murderer or saint? You'll want to put her down. But she won't let you.' -- Manjula Padmanabhan
'No one can spin a yarn with such rollicking exuberance as Kiran Nagarkar, and no one exposes contemporary India's dark underbelly, in all its casual brutality, like him. Jasoda is a tour-de-force of razor-sharp observation and profound compassion, brilliantly realized.' --Ritu Menon
Paar -- 'mirage' country, where it is often impossible to draw the line between reality and illusion -- has been suffering from a decade-long drought. Jasoda is one of the last to leave this 'arise-end of the world' with her children and mother-in-law. Since her husband claims he has important work to do for the local prince, Jasoda must make the journey to the city by the sea on her own. Meanwhile, after years of anonymity, Paar seems poised to take off. Will Jasoda return home with her children? Or stay in the city that's become home for her children? It's taken for granted that epic journeys and epics were possible only during the time of the Mahabharata, the Odyssey, or the Iliad. Even more to the point, the heroes of the epics had to, perforce, be men. The eponymous Jasoda of the novel is about to prove how wrong the assumptions are. Kiran Nagarkar's trenchant narrative traces the journey of a woman of steely resolve and gumption, making her way through an India that is patriarchal, feudal, seldom in the news, and weighed down by dehumanizing poverty.

1991 Sanjaya Baru 2016
Political biography of P.V. Narasimha Rao, 1921-2004, former prime minister of India.
The Indian Empire at War
George Morton-Jack 2018-09-06
'Essential to a proper understanding of the war and of our world of today'
Michael Morpurgo 1.5 million Indians fought with the British in the First World War - from Flanders to the African bush and the deserts of the Islamic world, they saved the Allies from defeat in 1914 and were vital to global victory in 1918. Using previously unpublished veteran interviews, this is their story, told as never before.
Understanding Kashmir and Kashmiris
Christopher Snedden 2015
Examines the strategic and historical circumstances surrounding the British creation and handing over of the Princely State of Jammu and Kashmir, the Maharaja's accession to India, and the unintended consequences of these actions.
Mandate
Vir Sanghvi 2015
This is the first easy-to-read book about recent Indian political history. Pegged on the general elections that shaped today's India, Mandate: Will of the People tells the story of Indian politics in a gripping, pageturning style. Vir Sanghvi, the well-known journalist and TV anchor, draws on his personal experiences and memories as well as scores of interviews to piece together an incisive and candid account of what went on behind the scenes. Peppared with little-known details and insider information, this book tells the stories behind the story and brings alive the men and women behind the headlines. Mandate: Will of the People contains the real story of the declaration of the Emergency, the rise and fall of Sanjay Gandhi, the Punjab insurgencies, the assassination of Indira Gandhi and the bloody riots that followed her death. It tracks the emergence of Rajiv Gandhi, and explains the Bofors scandal that contributed to his defeat. Many of the questions that linger over Indian politics are answered here: how did Narasimha Rao become Prime Minister? Why did he liberalise the economy? What was the Ram Mandir agitation really about? Why didn't Sonia Gandhi agree to be PM? And how did Manmohan Singh's weakness clear the way for Narendra Modi. If you have to read one book about Indian politics - then this is it.

The Durbar
Mortimer Menpes 2017-08-22

Operation Blue Star
K. S. Brar 1993
Operation Blue Star Is One Of The Most Controversial, Hotly-Debated Military Operations In The World And A Turning Point In Contemporary Indian History. This Is An Account By The Army Officer Who Led It -- Touchingly Honest, Often Anguished, Minutely Detailed. It Hides Nothing -- Not The Unexpected Reverses Suffered By The Army, Nor Its Miscalculations, Nor The Grit And Determination Of The Militants It Was Assigned To Flush Out.

Truth About Punjab
Gurdarshan Singh Dhillon 1996
The need to prepare a clear and comprehensive document on the Punjab problem has been felt by the Sikh community for a very long time. With the release of this White Paper, the S.G.P.C. has fulfilled this long-felt need of the community. It takes cognizance of all aspects of the problem--historical, socio-economic, political and ideological.

Curfewed Night
Basharat Peer 2011-11-20
Basharat Peer was a teenager when the separatist movement exploded in Kashmir in 1989. Over the following years countless young men, seduced by the romance of the militant, fuelled by feelings of injustice, crossed over the line of Control to train in Pakistani army camps. Peer was sent off to boarding school in Allgarrh to keep out of trouble. He finished college and became a journalist in Delhi. But Kashmir-angrier, more violent, more hopeless-was never far away. In 2003, the young journalist left his job and returned to his homeland to search out the stories and the people which had haunted him. In *Curfewed Night* he draws a harrowing portrait of Kashmir and its people. Here are stories of a young man's initiation into a Pakistani training camp, a mother who watches her son forced to hold an exploding bomb; a poet who finds religion when his entire family is killed. Of politicians living in refurbished torture chambers and former militants dreaming of discotheques; of idyllic villages rigged with landmines, temples which have become army bunkers, and ancient sufi shrines decapitated in bomb blasts. And here is finally the old story of the return home--and the discovery that there may not be any redemption in it. Lyrical, spare, gutwrenching and intimate, *Curfewed Night* is a stunning book and an unforgettable portrait of Kashmir in war.

The *Emergency*
Coomi Kapoor 2016-06-15
A searing indictment of the suspension of democracy In June 1975, a state of Emergency was declared, where civil liberties were suspended and the press muzzled. In the dark days that followed, Coomi Kapoor, then a young journalist, personally experienced the full fury of the establishment. Meanwhile, Indira Gandhi, her son Sanjay and his coterie unleashed a reign of terror that saw forced sterilizations, brutal evictions in the thousands, and wanton imprisonment of many, including Opposition leaders. This gripping eyewitness account vividly recreates the drama, the horror, as well as the heroism of a few during those nineteen months when democracy was derailed.

Durbar
Tavleen Singh 2013
Memoirs of a journalist about Indian political realities and her association with Rajiv Gandhi,1944-1991, former prime minister of India.

India: The Life of Indira Nehru Gandhi
Katherine Frank 2010-07-08
The definitive and first non-partisan biography of one of the most formidable political figures of the twentieth century (voted Woman of the Millennium in a BBC poll, 2000)

The Accidental Prime Minister
Sanjaya Baru 2015-07-05
When The Accidental Prime Minister was published in 2014, it created a storm and became the publishing sensation of the year. The Prime Minister's Office called the book a work of 'fiction', the press hailed it as a revelatory account of Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's first term in UPA. Written by Singh's media adviser and trusted aide, the book describes Singh's often troubled relations with his ministers, his cautious equation with Sonia Gandhi and how he handled the big crises from managing the Left to pushing through the nuclear deal. Insightful, acute and packed with political anecdotes, The Accidental Prime Minister is one of the great insider accounts of Indian political life.

1984 Pav Singh 2017
This shocking exposé of a true-life Orwellian plot of nightmarish proportions reveals the chilling events of November 1984 following Indira Gandhi's assassination, and the cover-up by the Indian Government. For over three days, armed mobs systematically butchered, torched and raped members of the Sikh community in Delhi and other places, unchecked. The sheer scale of the killings exceeded the combined civilian death tolls of other conflicts such as Tiananmen Square and 9/11. In Delhi alone 3,000 people were killed. Thirty-three years on, the full extent of what took place has yet to be fully acknowledged. Based on victim testimonies and official accounts, this book exposes how the largest mass crime against humanity in India's modern history was perpetrated by politicians and covered up with the help of the police, judiciary and media. A book that posits fundamental questions, it will shake you to the core.

Half - Lion
Vinay Sitapati 2016-06-27
When P.V. Narasimha Rao became the unlikely prime minister of India in 1991, he inherited a nation adrift, violent insurgencies, and economic crisis. Despite being unloved by his people, mistrusted by his party, and ruling under the shadow of 10 Janpath, Rao transformed the economy and ushered India into the global arena. With exclusive access to Rao's never-before-seen personal papers and diaries, this definitive biography provides new revelations on the Indian economy, nuclear programme, foreign policy and the Babri Masjid. Tracing his early life from a small town in Telangana through his years in power, and finally, his humiliation in retirement, it never loses sight of the inner man, his difficult childhood, his corruption and love affairs, and his lingering loneliness. Meticulously researched and brutally honest, this landmark political biography is a must-read for anyone interested in knowing about the man responsible for transforming India.

Kashmir
Tavleen Singh 1995

Truth, Love and a Little Malice
Khushwant Singh 2003
Khuswant on Khuswant is irresistible... such is his skill as a writer, simple, lucid, unpretentious. This book has been well worth the wait. India today
Lollipop Street
Tavleen Singh 1999
The intriguing title of this book derives from a crowded stretch of the highway from Mumbai's airport into the city where a series of concrete lollipops have been constructed to serve as advertising billboards; a wasted aesthetic gesture;and an expensive one;to make in an expanse of slum. Our politicians have a gift for the useless gesture, and these lollipops serve as a metaphor for many others that have been offered to gullible voters since independence. Thus politicians have come and gone offering promises of drinking water, schools, health facilities, jobs and numerous other things to justify their election to power, but all they have left behind are collapsing foundation stones as markers to their intentions. In Lollipop Street, a series of hard-hitting and sometimes hilarious profiles of the leaders of contemporary India, Tavleen Singh explodes the myths that surround many of them and highlights the achievements of a few who may actually make a difference. There are profiles here of prime ministers, chief ministers and others who have been or are in power, as also of icons from areas outside politics. Among those profiled are Inder Kumar Gujral, George Fernandes and Rabri Devi. There are also Amitabh Bachchan, Shah Rukh Khan, M.F. Husain, Amjad Ali Khan, Adil Godrej and a host of other achievers in the arts, entertainment and the business world;people, the author avers, who are truly in touch with the spirit of the nation. It is they who have shown that India will survive despite the bumbling efforts of its leaders. yIn the many years I have spent as a political journalist I have travelled often from one end of the country to another, from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, as the phrase

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goes, and everywhere I have gone I have seen some version of Lollipop Street. Speedbreakers where no roads exist. Hoardings urging people to have only one child in villages where most of the inhabitants are illiterate. Signposts stuck in wastelands declaring them children's parks. Boards sticking out of lakes announcing that the fencing around them has been built by the Forest Department. Who cares who builds the fences if the lakes remain polluted? But these are the sort of questions nobody asks.y

Editor Unplugged
Vinod Mehta 2015-12-23
Editor Unplugged recounts Vinod Mehta's experiences in the corridors of power in Delhi, taking forward the story of Lucknow Boy. His views on Narendra Modi, Arvind Kejriwal and the Nehru-Gandhi dynasty, and his decoding of the significant changes ushered in by the 2014 Lok Sabha elections, are expressed with his characteristic sharp insights, wit and wisdom. So too are his analyses of the sweeping changes taking place in the print and TV media, and his pen portraits of personalities such as Ratan Tata, Niira Radia, Khushwant Singh, Sachin Tendulkar and Arundhati Roy. Peppered with anecdotes and gossip, every page of this honest, lively and irreverent book is both illuminating and entertaining.

The *Kaobys* of RAW: *Down Memory Lane*
B. Raman

Amritsar
Mark Tully 1985

Durbar
Tavleen Singh 2012
Memoirs of a journalist about Indian political realities and her association with Rajiv Gandhi,1944-1991, former prime minister of India.

Messiah
Modi
Tavleen Singh 2020-02-03
One of India's most influential columnists, and one not averse to controversy, Tavleen Singh was among the few mainstream 'Delhi' voices to see the Narendra Modi wave coming in 2014. In *Messiah* Modi, she details her early support for Modi the candidate, followed by a helpless disenchantment with Modi the PM and the cabinet he headed. She tells the story of his first term as it unfolded. From lynchings to demonetization up to Article 370, she gives an intimate account of her subject. In the 2019 verdict, and her own inability to get it right, she sees that she and her ilk have been swept to the margins of India; the masses of India speak in one voice, and that voice chants 'Modi'. And yet, there is a marked difference between her enthusiasm of 2014 and her acceptance of 2019 as she examines whether Modi delivered on the promises he made in his first term. Is he the messiah so many hoped he would be? This is Tavleen Singh's frank and forthright reckoning of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The House of Scindias: A Saga of Power, Politics and Intrigue
Rasheed Kidwai 2021-06-07
Weeks before India announced a total lockdown to combat the Covid-19 pandemic in March 2020, the drama and governance coup in Madhya Pradesh political theatre was already speaking. Jyotiraditya Scindia dumped the Congress overnight for the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) bringing down the former from power in the state. Many saw the return of the prodigal grandson as the reunion of the political dynasty of Scindias under BJP's catch-all umbrella. Jostling to spill over, along with priceless jewels in the treasury of Jai Vilas palace - the Scindias' royal abode in Gwalior - are many carefully buried secrets. Some are best hidden away, such as the Gwalior monarchs' controversial role during the revolt of 1857. Others need to be kept out of sight for diplomatic causes, such as the Rajmata's excessive dependency on her 'Rasputin' and the resultant mistrust of her only son, Madhavrao. One of the bigger questions is the palace alleged and under-probed role in Mahatma Gandhi's assassination. It is perhaps because of these unsolved mysteries that curiosity about the Scindias - a family that has given India many a salesperson across party lines - continues to dominate India's public imagination. With political intrigue, palace conspiracies, cut-throat rivalry and an ugly public feud, betrayals and property wars fought in courts, and siblings that do not look eye to eye, the Scindias make tantalizing headlines. With a wealth of information about the Gwalior royals, The House of Scindias is their most definitive and revealing biography.

India's Broken Tryst
Tavleen Singh 2016-03-10
An indictment of India's political class by a veteran journalist Seventy years after Nehru's beautiful midnight speech -- 'Long years ago we made a tryst with destiny...' -- in Indian cities and villages millions survive on less than the bare minimum. Children are not in classrooms, women have nowhere safe to relieve themselves, and jobless men lie around in a daze. In cities, where initiative should flourish, a merciless state looms large over every common endeavour. The civilization that was India, that grand culture, has not found utterance again. Long years after freedom from the British, why do we remain suppressed?In India's Broken Tryst, bestselling author and popular political columnist Tavleen Singh chronicles the damage done. Here is the story of Surekha, who lives on the pavements of Mumbai's landmark Marine Drive with memories of crushing hunger. Of Ali, the idli seller who is forced out of his honest livelihood by cops and corporators. Of Sahib and Sardar, little boys torn from their mother on the criminal charge of begging. Of those nameless servants who do not have access to toilets even as they service the luxury apartments where Singh lives. From the very poor to the very rich, Tavleen Singh catalogues in bold, eviscerating detail the systematic unmaking of our sense of destiny. Can an Indian dream stretch beyond food and water, literacy, toilets, and in some cases just a document of identification? If not, what destiny?

Indianoomix
Vivek Dehejia 2015-03-06
A quirky look at India using popular economics Why does the stock exchange dip during a lunar eclipse? Why don't cars with safety features lead to fewer injuries? Why did Nehru ignore the Chinese threat in the lead-up to the 1962 war? Why is it that a stranger might risk his life to save yours on one day, and a street full of passers-by might casually watch you bleed to death on another? Why did pollsters wrongly predict a BJP victory in 2004, and what was the real reason for their defeat? And why is India's Independence Day not, in fact, on the day on which it's celebrated? In pithy, sparkling, bite-sized chapters, economists Vivek Dehejia and Rupa Subramanya tackle these seeming mysteries and unearth the real reasons why 'we are like this only'. The answers are entertaining and surprising at every turn, and reveal a picture of modern India as never seen before.

Beyond The Lines: An Autobiography
Kuldip Nayar 2012-08-10
A veteran journalist and former member of Parliament, Kuldip Nayar is India's most well known and widely syndicated journalist. He was born in Sialkot in 1923 and educated at Lahore University before migrating to Delhi with his family at he time of Partition. He began his career in the Urdu newspaper Anjam and after a spell in the USA worked as information officer of Lal Bahadur Shastri and Govind Ballabh Pant. He eventually became Resident Editor of the Statesman and managing editor of the Indian news agency UNI. He corresponded for the Times for twenty-five years and later served as Indian high commissioner to the UK during the V.P. Singh government. His stand for press freedom during the Emergency, when he was detained; his commitment to better relations between India and Pakistan, and his role as a human rights activist have won him respect and affection in both countries. Author of more than a dozen books, his weekly columns are read across South Asia.

2014 Rajdeep Sardesai 2015-05-22
With a new prologue 'Splendid . . . anyone who wants to understand Indian politics or think they do should read it' --Indian Express
'Delightfully written . . . he has a sharp eye for details, especially the actions of political leaders' -- India Today
'Captures the drama of 2014 and the men who powered it'--Open
'Holds you to your seat, often on the edge . . . A procession of India's colourful political characters--Lalu Yadav, Amit Shah, Rahul Gandhi, Narendra Modi and many more come intimately close through the author's accounts' --The Hindu
'Candid and forthright . . . and deliciously indiscreet' --Hindustan Times
'A racy narrative that goes beyond recording immediate political history' --Teheika
The 2014 Indian general elections has been regarded as the most important elections in Indian history since 1977. It saw the decimation of the ruling Congress party, a spectacular victory for the BJP and a new style of campaigning that broke every rule in the political game. But how and why? In his riveting book, Rajdeep Sardesai tracks the story of this pivotal election through all the key players and the big news stories. Beginning with 2012, when Narendra Modi won the state elections in Gujarat for a third time but set his sights on a bigger prize, to the scandals that crippled Manmohan Singh and UPA-II, and moving to the back-room strategies of Team Modi, the extraordinary missteps of Rahul Gandhi and the political dramas of election year, he draws a panoramic picture of the year that changed India.

A Feast of Vultures
Josy Joseph 2016-07-10
'Every day, millions of people -- the rich, the poor and the many foreign visitors -- are hunting for ways to get their business done in modern India. If they search in the right places and offer the appropriate price, there is always a facilitator who can get the job done. This book is a sneak preview of those searches, the middlemen who do those jobs, and the many opportunities that the fast-growing economy offers.' Josy Joseph draws upon two decades as an investigative journalist to expose a problem so pervasive that we do not have the words to speak of it. The story is big: that of treacherous business rivalries, of how some industrial houses practically own the country, of the shadowy men who run the nation's politics. The story is small: a village needs a road and a hospital, a graveyard needs a wall, people need toilets. A Feast of Vultures is an unprecedented, multiple-level inquiry into modern India, and the picture it reveals is both explosive and frightening. Within these covers is unimpeachable evidence against some of the country's biggest business houses and political figures, and the reopening of major scandals that have shaped its political narratives. Through hard-nosed investigations and the meticulous gathering of documentary evidence, Joseph clinically examines and irrefutably documents the non-reportable. It is a troubling narrative, but also a call to action and a cry for change. A tour de force through the wildly beating heart of post-socialist India, the book is a must-read for anyone interested in understanding the large, unwieldy truth about this nation.

On Leaders and Icons
Kuldip Nayar 2019-01-10
A legendary journalist's close encounters and candid profiles of the powerful, the famous, the glamorous and the rich--from Nehru, Jinnah and Sheikh Abdullah to Meena Kumari, Indira Gandhi and Narendra Modi. In this frank and freewheeling narrative, Kuldip Nayar recounts his experiences of meeting many of the men and women who shaped the destiny of pre- and post-Independence India, revealing hitherto unknown aspects of their personalities and shedding light on many key events in the country. Was Nehru a secret dynast who had only his daughter, Indira Gandhi in mind as his successor? What role did Nayar himself play in Lal Bahadur Shastri's election as prime minister after Nehru's death? Why did Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan--revered as the Frontier Gandhi--refer to Indians as 'baniyas'? And who did Zulfikar Ali Bhutto think should be the prime minister of the entire subcontinent--India, Pakistan and Bangladesh? Interspersed with these political reminiscences are delightful accounts of Meena Kumari's encounter with Shastri on the sets of Pakeezah, and Faiz Ahmed Faiz's flawless recitation of his great poetry even after consuming a full bottle of Black Dog whiskey. Nayar does not fight shy of expressing his opinions--be it a comparison of JRD and Ratan Tata, advice for Narendra Modi, or reflections on the shape of Indo-Pak relations had Mahatma Gandhi and Mohammed Ali Jinnah lived longer. In this absorbing and entertaining book--which he finished only weeks before he passed away--Kuldip Nayar writes in the grand old tradition of journalists who were not afraid to tell it like it is.

The Punjab Story
Amrajit Kaur 2012-08-10
6 June 1984: The Indian Army storms the Golden Temple in Amritsar. Called Operation Bluestar, the historic and unprecedented event ended the growing spectre of terrorism perpetrated by the extremist Sikh leader Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale and his followers once and for all. But it left in its wake unsolved political questions that continued to threaten Punjab's stability for years to come. How, in a brief span of three years, did India's dynamic frontier state become a national problem? Who was to blame: the central government for allowing the crisis to drift despite warnings, or the long-drawn-out Akali agitation, or the notorious gang of militants who transformed a holy shrine into a sanctuary for terrorists? First published two months after Operation Bluestar, The Punjab Story pieces together the complex Punjab jigsaw through the eyes of some of India's most eminent public figures and journalists. Writing with the passion and conviction of those who were involved with the drama, they present a wide-ranging perspective on the past, present and future of the Punjab tangle; and the truth of many of their conclusions having been borne out by time.

Political and Incorrect: The Real India, Warts and All
Tavleen Singh 2014-10-15
Tavleen Singh began writing her weekly column in The Indian Express in 1987. It was history as First draft, written not in hindsight but as events unfolded. The column captured the country's mood every week. Debating the latest development with a reporter's eye and a columnist's insistence, Singh called out various political dispensations on their ill-conceived schemes and often too their scheming. Between 1987 and 2007, much as India changed, it also remained the same. The persistence of malnutrition, the systemic slackness in primary education, unsafe water and insufficient health care - Singh stayed with these matters even as they went out of fashion when liberalized, urbanizing India made rapid strides. In Political and Incorrect, Tavleen Singh brings the politician and the bureaucrat to the page with the same mix of wise, wry scrutiny as the terrible options they foist on India's poorest people. The shambles of infrastructure are described with the same vigour as a raucous political rally. Through Singh's clear lens, the aloof, arrogant leader is as familiar as the man next door, and the issues at stake accessible and clear. This expansive compendium captures neatly twenty years of India as they unfolded.

Independent Kashmir
Christopher Snedden 2021-06-01
Many disenchantd Kashmiris continue to demand independence or freedom from India. Written by a leading authority on Kashmir's troubled past, this book revisits the topic of independence for the region (also known as Jammu and Kashmir, or J&K), and explores exactly why this aspiration has never been fulfilled. In a rare India-Pakistan agreement, they concur that neither J&K, nor any part of it, can be independent. Charting a complex history and intense geo-political rivalry from Maharaja Hari Singh's leadership in the mid-1920s to the present, this book offers an essential insight into the disputes that have shaped the region. As tensions continue to rise following government-imposed COVID-19 lockdowns, Snedden asks a vital question: what might independence look like and just how realistic is this aspiration?

I Am a Troll
Swati Chaturvedi 2016
Indian social media is awash with right-wing trolls who incite online communal tension and abuse anyone who questions them. But who are they? How are they organized? In this explosive investigation, conducted over two years, Swati Chaturvedi finally lifts the veil over this murky subject

Great Women Of India
Madhvi Kapur
"Presented here are some intriguing life stories of outstanding women who have brought about commendable changes by their determination and their will power. In this series, you will find people as different as politicians, reformers, revolutionaries and artists - women whose lives have left an indelible imprint on our world. Table of Content . . . 01. The Formative Years 02. A New Home for Annie 03. Finding her Soulmate 04. Losing Faith in God 05. Changing Priorities 06. Summons from the Court 07. Setting Sail for India 08. Fighting for a Cause 09. Reaching out to People 10. Social Activities 11. The Retreat"

Durbar
Tavleen Singh 2017-06-29
Tavleen Singh's acclaimed and bestselling memoir begins in the summer of 1975 when, not yet twenty-five, she started working as a junior reporter in the Statesman in New Delhi. Within five weeks, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi declared the Emergency, and soon reckless policies said to be authored by her younger son were unleashed on India's citizens. In 1984, following Indira Gandhi's assassination, Rajiv Gandhi became Prime Minister, fortified by a huge mandate from a nation desperate for change. But, belying its hopes, the young leader chose for himself a group of advisors, friends and acolytes just as unaware as him of the ground realities of a complex nation. It was the beginning of a political culture of favouritism and ineptitude that would take hold at the highest levels of government, stunting India's ambitions and frustrating its people for years to come. A sharp account of these turbulent years, Durbar describes the Nehruvian era of Singh's childhood, the Emergency of her youth and the political shifts that followed, bringing with them insurgencies, massacres, and crises internal and external. This remarkable memoir, vivid with the colour of election campaigns and society dinners, low conspiracies and high corruption, reminds us of this truth: that if India is to achieve a better future, the past cannot be ignored or forgotten.