

2006

**POPULAR
SCIENCE**

BOOKS



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PREFACE

The National Book Trust, India was established by the Government of India with a view to promote books and encourage book-reading. The Trust publishes books for all segments of the society and for all age-groups, in English, Hindi and sixteen other major Indian languages, under different series.

The **Popular Science** series enables the reader to understand the world around him/her and learn not only about the role science and technology play in everyday life, but also how it benefits the individual and the society. Written by experts in the field including scientists, doctors, science communicators, the books in the series take the reader through the adventure of scientific ideas and discoveries. The books foster the development of a free scientific spirit through well-documented analyses and historical accounts. They show how scientific method and knowledge often lead to the questioning and rejection of dogmas and established views.

The books in **Popular Science** series are meant for the lay reader providing information on the progress of science, and emphasising, wherever possible, India's contribution in the field. Generally, the books in this series are illustrated with diagrams and photographs, which superbly complement the text. The text is presented in a lucid and readable style and wherever necessary, with anecdotes and analogies from daily life to facilitate comprehension. An attempt is made to ensure that the information provided is scientifically reliable and authentic, and that the subject is not encased in a straitjacket. Wherever needed, it is broadened and made more interesting and informative by including aspects of related topics.

Besides English, the books in **Popular Science** series are translated and published in other Indian languages and cover a broad range of topics including life sciences, physical sciences, health, environment, astrophysics, etc.

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6

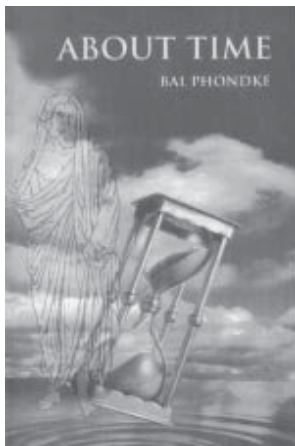
ABOUT TIME

Bal Phondke

215 pp

Rs 70.00

ISBN 81-237-4103-0



Time assumes a mystic, surreal character when one realises that it has no beginning or end. It is eternal. It flows only in one direction, from the past to the future. This book tries to understand Time in its entirety, in a Vikram-Betal story format.

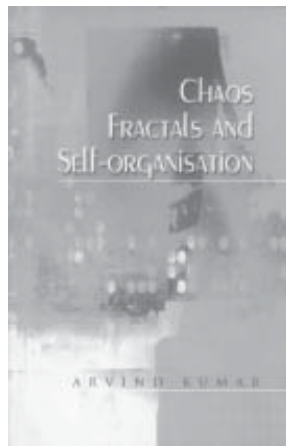
CHAOS, FRACTALS AND SELF-ORGANISATION

Arvind Kumar

186 pp

Rs 50.00

ISBN 81-237-1596-X



The leaking tap in our bathroom exhibits chaos, the bronchial network of our lungs has a fractal structure and all of us are marvellous self-organising systems of Nature. In a lucid and non-technical account, the book explains some of these pioneering ideas that are destined to culminate in a new non-linear science of the next century.

Also in: Asamiya, Hindi & Oriya.

ENERGY

A K Bakhshi

100 pp

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ISBN 81-237-1458-0



The importance of energy in our daily life can never be overemphasised particularly in today's world when fossil fuels are in danger of being depleted. There is practically no activity which does not involve the transfer or transformation of energy. This book discusses its various aspects including the consequences of production and utilisation of energy on our environment.

Also in: Asamiya, Hindi, Marathi, Oriya & Tamil.

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G K Bhide

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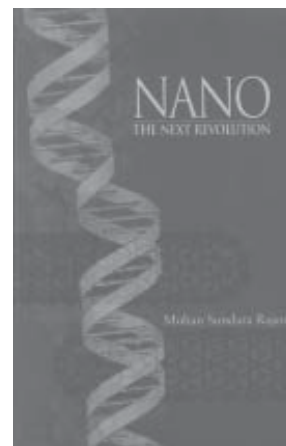
**NANO: THE NEXT REVOLUTION**

Mohar Sundara Rajan

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Rs 75.00

ISBN 81-237-4305-X

**8**

Based on the principle of total internal reflection and transparency of glass, the study of fibre optics is an exciting new field. This book describes how fibrescopes are used in surgery, and as cables by communication experts to carry telephone calls and by engineers for examining machines.

Also in: Hindi.

This simple activity book teaches two things, namely, how to make 101 handmade toys which are playthings even today in remote corners of our country and how toys, simple in design and based on science and technology, can be made at home with discarded materials.

Also in: Gujarati, Hindi, Malayalam & Oriya.

This book explains the basics of nanotechnology—the next revolution in our daily lives—its historical development, and the ongoing advances, including the pioneering work done in India.

Physical Sciences ■ Physics

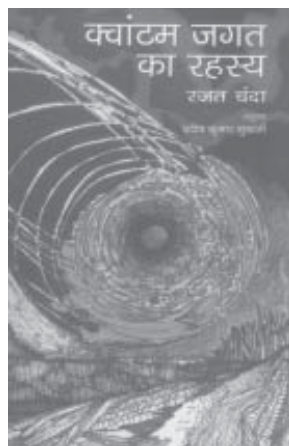
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The book discusses the laws of quantum mechanics, several amazing quantum phenomena and the progress in understanding the connection between the quantum and classical worlds. How the paradoxes arise and how to solve them has been explained in detail, besides highlighting the significance of Bell's theorem.

Also in: Hindi.

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A study of the natural and man-made radiation environment, dramatic discoveries in the field, problems and risks involved in the use of nuclear energy including the possibilities of malfunctioning of nuclear reactors and disposal of radioactive wastes versus its benefits when compared to other sources.

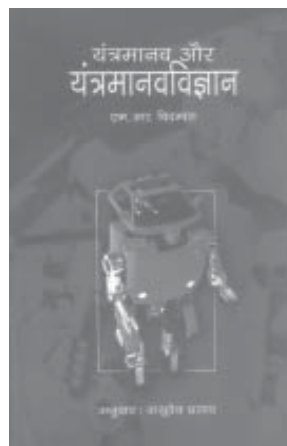
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M R Chidambara

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This small volume describes the robots and also how the New Age will open many new possibilities for their use in home and industry to the benefit of mankind.

Also in: Asamiya & Hindi.

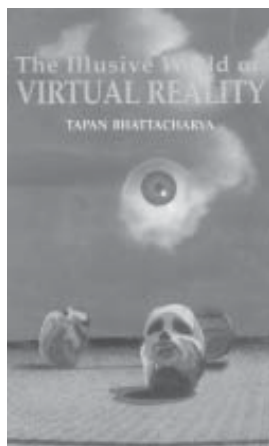
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Also in: Hindi

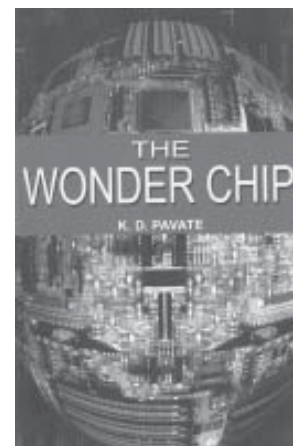
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K D Pavate

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This book attempts to explain the principles of silicon devices, some interesting aspects of their fabrication technology and the spectrum of their applications. It shows how the principles of electronic circuits in communication, computers, information and other systems have undergone a sea change with the advent of the integrated circuits.

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Physical Sciences ■ Chemistry

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Suneel B Athawale
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ISBN 81-237-0679-0

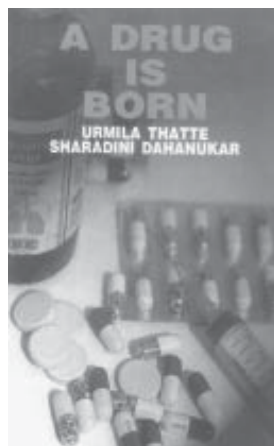


This book, through diagrams and illustrations, introduces the readers to the non-conventional source of energy and explains how wind energy can be converted into mechanical and electrical energy by windmills for supplementing our energy needs.

Also in: Asamiya, Hindi, Marathi, Oriya & Tamil.

A DRUG IS BORN

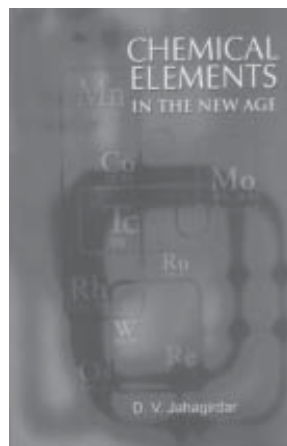
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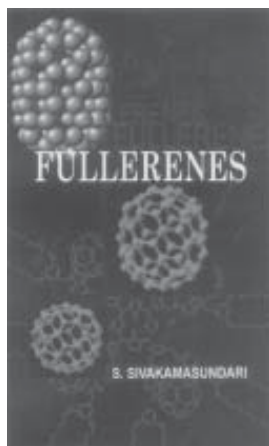
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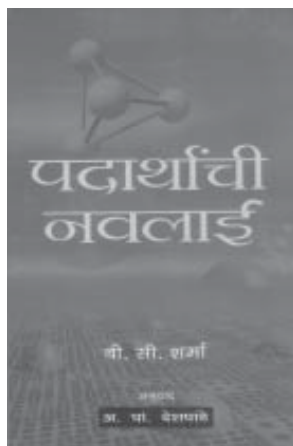
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A new form of carbon, totally different from the well-known diamond and graphite was discovered and popularly called buckyballs. These Buckminster fullerenes have hollow, cage-like shape. This profusely illustrated book describes their discovery, reactions and formation, along with their applications.

This book describes the new materials developed by manipulating metals, ceramics and plastics—the composites—which are now being used in space travel, communication of information and replacing damaged parts of the human body.

Also in: Asamiya & Marathi.

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Also in: Bangla, Hindi, Marathi & Tamil.

Physical Sciences ■ Chemistry

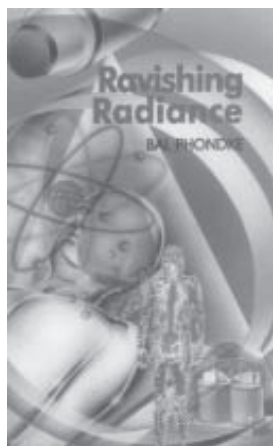
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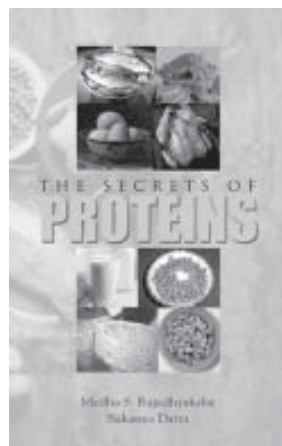
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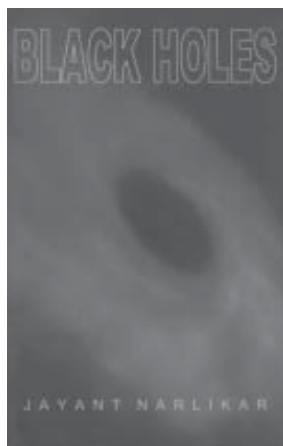
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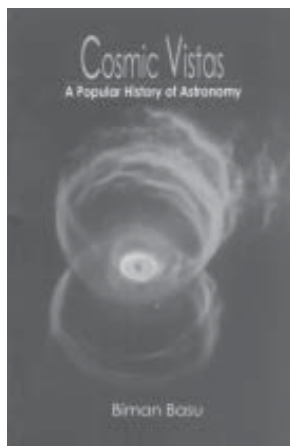
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The star-filled sky has

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fascinated mankind since prehistoric times. Today we know about the true nature of stars and their mind-boggling distances from us. This profusely illustrated book familiarises us with the constellations and helps in identifying individual stars with the help of star maps and diagrams.

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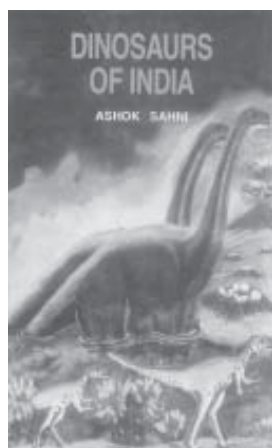
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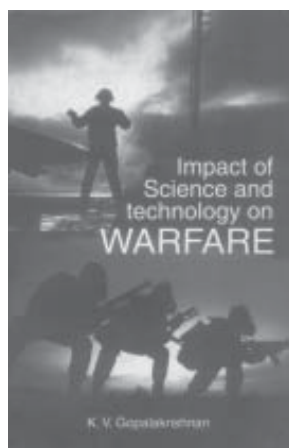
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Biographical sketches of some of the great inventors who displayed tenacity of purpose by hard work and confidence in their abilities before achieving recognition for their discoveries.

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Physical Sciences ■ History

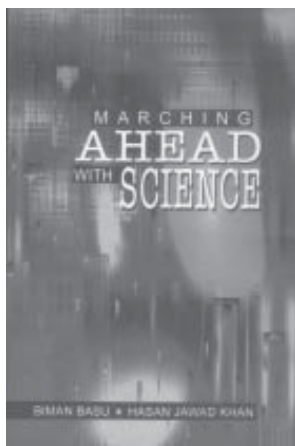
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When India gained Independence in 1947, it had no worthwhile infrastructure for the development of science and technology, nor did it have a sound industrial base. Yet six decades later, it is now a major technological power with the capability to design, build and launch its own satellites, nuclear power plants and supercomputers. The book presents an overview of our achievements.

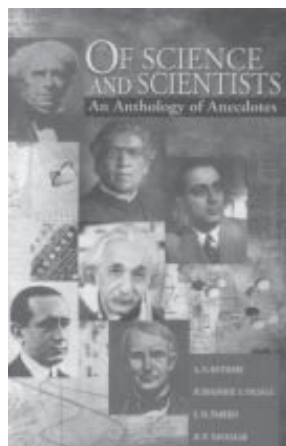
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Physical Sciences ■ History**THE STORY OF MAN**

Biman Basu

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**18**

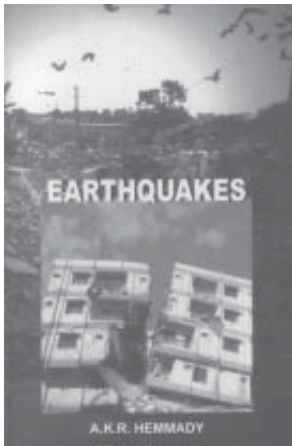
The story of man's evolution from the lowly tree-dwelling ape has all the ingredients of a thriller. As new clues emerge from fossil evidence, the story takes dramatic twists and turns, before a clear picture emerges. It traces how our distant ancestors gave up a life on the trees and learnt to walk on two feet, use tools and fire, and talk as we do now.

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Earth Sciences ■ Geology ■ Oceanography

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A K R Hemmady
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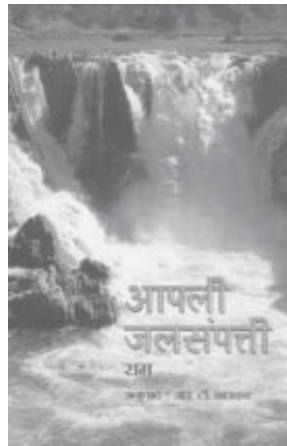


This revised edition presents a geologist's perception of earthquakes, their cause (plate tectonics), methodology of investigation, instruments used, prediction, precautions and economic implications. Few basic principles related to the design of earthquake-resistant structures, Bhuj earthquake and the controversy over the Tehri dam and reservoir-induced seismicity have also been briefly dealt with.

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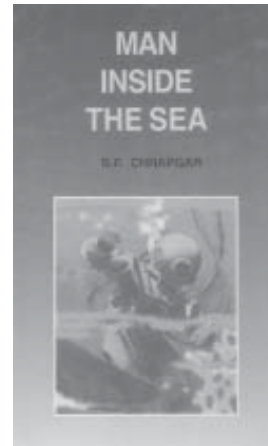


This book provides information on India's water resources derived largely from rainfall, which is generous but uneven in its distribution over time and place. This necessitates the need for gigantic projects for the control, storage and transfer of the available supply.

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Also in: Asamiya.

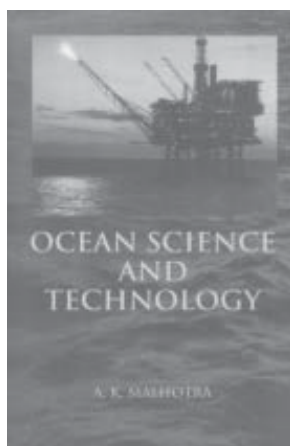
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Community participation in natural resource management, which is linked to sustainable development of natural and human-managed ecosystems, has been discussed in the book with concern for sustainable livelihood of rural societies in the short-term and sustainable development of the region, as part of a long-term plan.

Earth Sciences ■ Environment

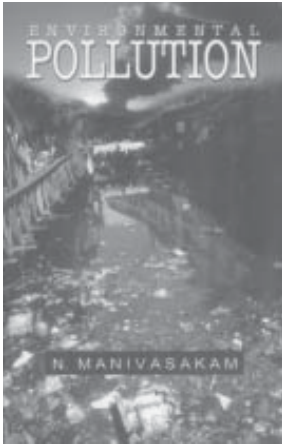
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N Manivasakam

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At a time when environmental pollution is increasing day by day, this book, while discussing the general nature of pollution, examines in detail some of the major areas of pollution like air, water and soil, including thermal radiation and noise pollution and their deleterious impact on man and environment alike.

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P A Menon

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Also in: Asamiya, Kannada & Tamil.

Earth Sciences ■ Environment

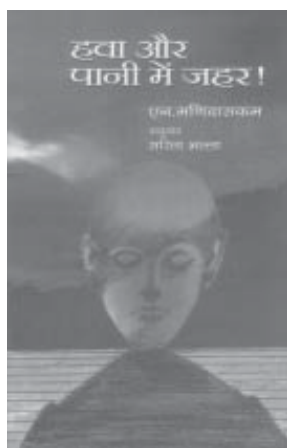
**WE BREATHE AND
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N Manivasakam

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Beginning with the general nature of pollution, the book discusses the major areas of pollution like air, water and soil and how thermal radiation and noise pollution are casting a deleterious impact on man and his environment, posing a danger to all living beings.

*Also in: Asamiya, Hindi,
Kannada, Marathi & Punjabi.*

Life Sciences ■ Biology

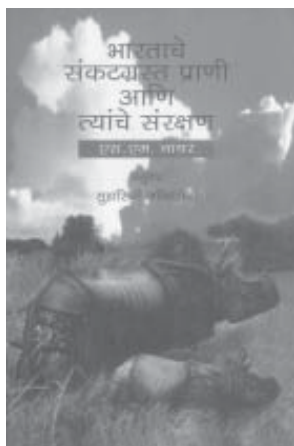
ENDANGERED ANIMALS OF INDIA AND THEIR CONSERVATION

S M Nair

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Public awareness about our rich wildlife, the factors affecting the survival of the species and an understanding of how we can contribute to their well-being are the keys to successful conservation. This edition provides basic information on the rare and endangered animals of India and their conservation.

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Sunil K Pandya

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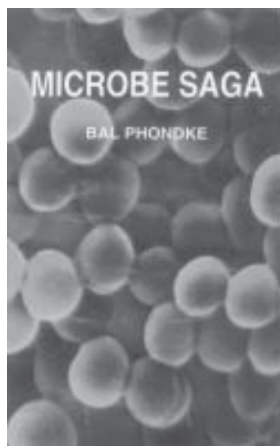
**MICROBE SAGA**

Bal Phondke

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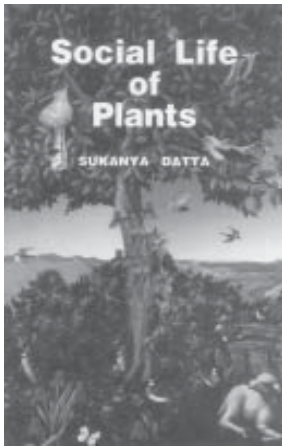
This volume focusses on the roots of human behaviour and explains why diverse individuals behave differently under the same circumstances. It describes how our genetic make-up, the environment in which we are brought up, intelligence, perception, memory, learning, imagination and various innate drives force us to act and react as we do.

Invisible but not insignificant, microbes are the oldest and simplest life forms on earth. This book highlights their crucial role in bread, beer, cheese, wine, pharmaceuticals and pesticide manufacturing units as also in bioremediation and recycling of wastes.

In the fascinating world of animals though communication is not like humans, they manage to convey their feelings through varied postures, use of chemicals, vocalisation etc. This book is a wealth of information on social life of animals—how crocodiles guide their young to water, the male penguin incubates the eggs, and many more interesting details.

SOCIAL LIFE OF PLANTS

Sukanya Datta
99 pp
Rs 45.00
ISBN 81-237-2938-3



Plants, like humans, form alliances with other plants and animals, wage war against enemies, employ mercenaries and use subtle strategies for survival. This book explains the interesting social life of the plant world.

GENE PLAY

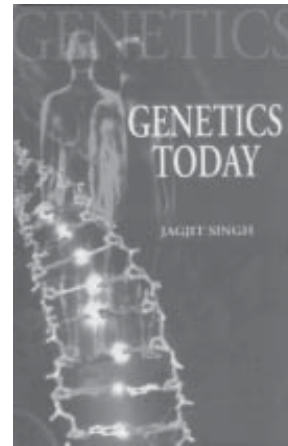
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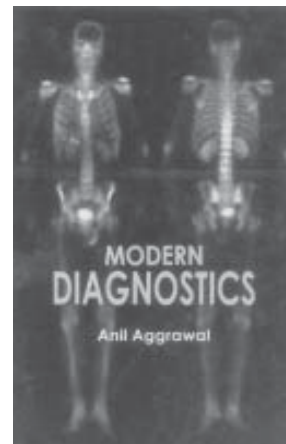
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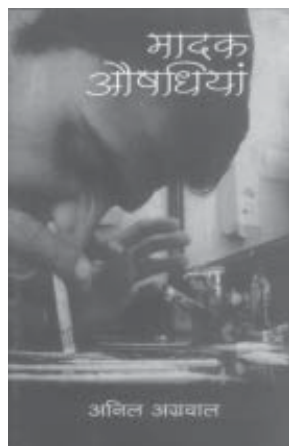
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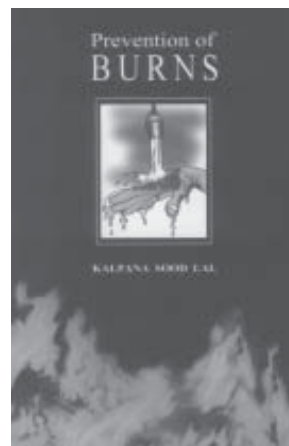
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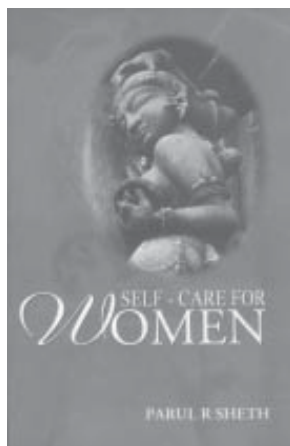
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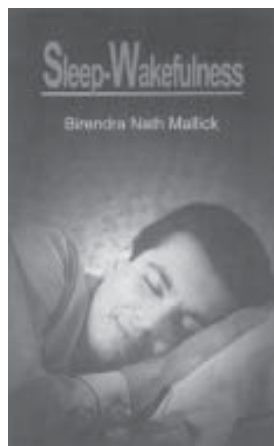
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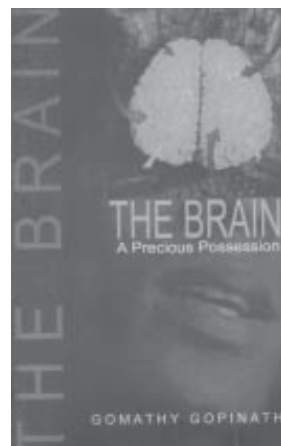
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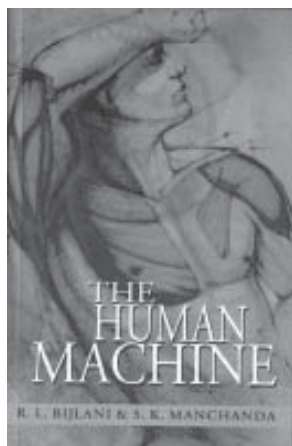


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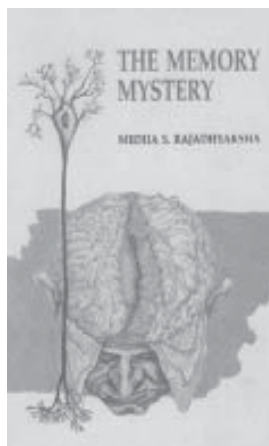


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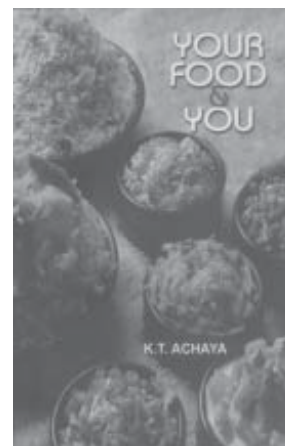


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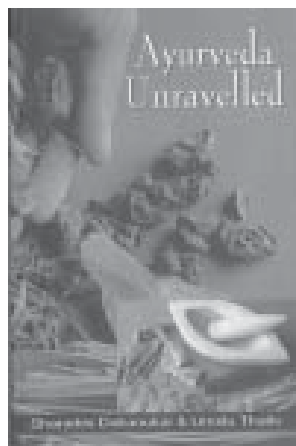
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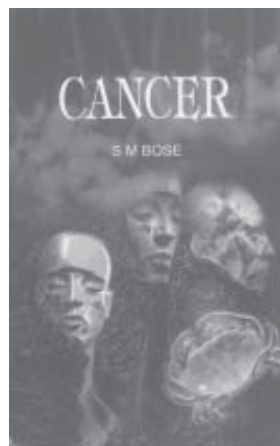
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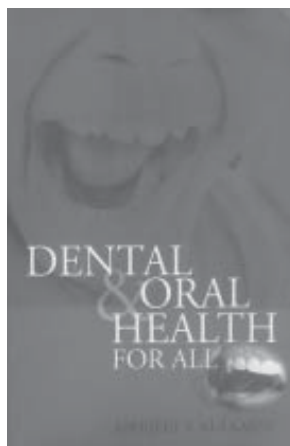
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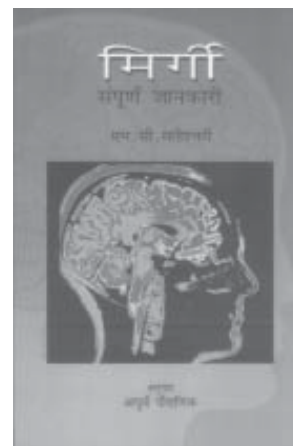
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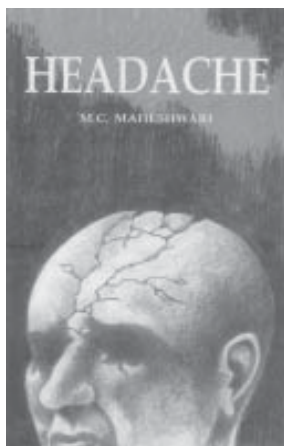
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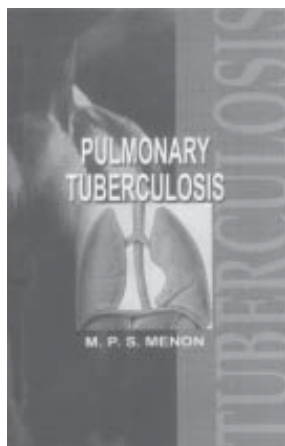
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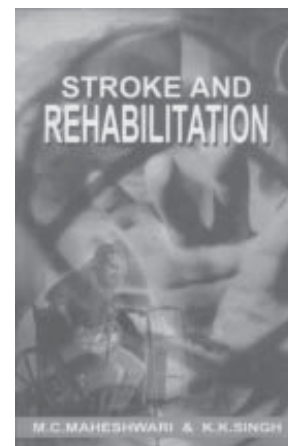
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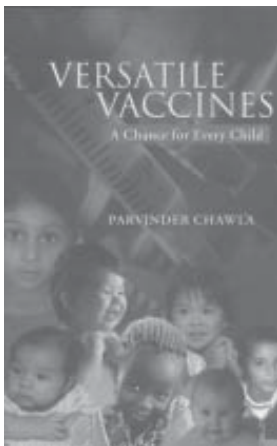
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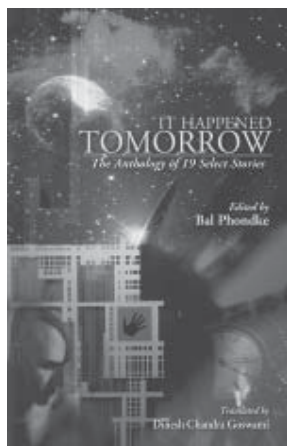
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