The Covid-19 pandemic is considered as the most crucial global health calamity of the twenty-first century. It caught the world off guard, leading to lockdowns and restrictions on movement that have had far-reaching consequences. The pandemic has underscored the importance of public health measures and the need for preparedness for future outbreaks.

The introduction of vaccines has been a significant development, offering hope for controlling the spread of the virus. However, the distribution of vaccines has been uneven, with wealthier countries securing more doses than poorer nations. This has raised concerns about global equity and fairness.

The pandemic has also had significant economic impacts, with many businesses and industries遭受ing financial difficulties. There have been widespread job losses and a decline in economic activity. The shift to remote work has had both advantages and disadvantages, with some businesses embracing the flexibility it offers, while others have struggled with the challenges of managing remote teams.

The pandemic has also highlighted the importance of mental health and the need for support for those facing stress and anxiety. There has been a rise in the use of mental health services, with many people seeking professional help.

Overall, the pandemic has had a profound impact on all aspects of life, from healthcare to education, work, and social interactions. The lessons learned from this crisis will be crucial in shaping future policy and preparing for potential future outbreaks.
humankind like a deer in the headlights. Across the globe, the people were unprepared to face this crisis head-on. Apart from enduring the impact of the socio-economic and political crisis, we had to deal with the consequences of staying inside our homes without knowing what the future held for us. The severity of this crisis forced us all to become homebodies. This phase has reminded us that we must strive to find a balance between tradition and modernity, and show you how to raise your child in the digital age. Personal, anecdotal and honest, it highlights the need for a return to our roots to raise a healthy, curious and, empathetic child. Sequence of events that went into the making of the Hindi film Lagaan. The untold story of Hindi cinema’s first superstar Obsessed female fans routinely sent him love letters writing: “I am a hungry child, please feed me food, clothes and crowns. Please hurry up, as it is not safe for me to sit in this house to call you.” Shatrughan Sinha achieved the kind of fame that no film star had ever experienced before—or has since. But having climbed to the pinnacle of success, he then saw it all vanish. And through it all, he remained a fighter till the very end. In this riveting biography, journalist Yasser Usman examines Rajesh Khanna’s dramatic, colourful life in its entirety: from little-known facts about his childhood to the low-down on his relationships and rivalries, from his ambitious hopes to his deep-seated insecurities. What emerges is a tantalizingly written, meticulously researched fascinating chronicle of a charismatic and mercurial man—one who was both loved and feared by those closest to him. It is a story that encapsulates the glittering, seductive, cut-throat world of Bollywood at its best and its worst. Purists of wit and delicious observations, Mrs Funnybones captures the life of the modern woman who embodies a new form of female energy. Her razor-sharp observations of the state of the world and the world of fashion are witty and a delight. Twinkle Khanna’s super-hit column, Mrs Funnybones marks the debut of one of our finest, most original voices. What is it like to be known as Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi’s daughter? Or to have a mother as famous as Sharmila Tagore? Or to be recognized as Saif Ali Khan’s sister? Or as Kareena Kapoor’s sister-in-law? And where do I stand among them? Actor Soha Ali Khan’s debut book is at heart a brilliant collection of personal essays where she recounts her life—deceiving-humour what it was like growing up in one of the most illustrious families of Indian cinema. From her days at Balliol College to life as a celebrity in the times of social media culture and finding love in the most unlikely of places—with refreshing candour and wit. From the heart of a well-known family of Hyderabadi to a single room with the barest necessities, a maan of her memoir with the renowned poet Kaifi Azmi speaks of love and commitment. A marriage of over a hundred years, a life steeped in poetry and progressive politics, continuing involvement with the Indian People’s Theatre Association, the Progressive Writers Association, Prithvi Theatre all of these and more inform this beautifully told tale of love. Shaukat Kaifi’s writing details life in a communist commune, a long career in theatre and film and a life spent bringing up her two children, cinematographer Baba Azmi and actor Shabana Azmi. Nareen Rehman’s deft and fluent translation brings this luminous memoir alive with warmth and empathy. “To say that this is a lovely book would be an understatement. It is an enchanting recollection of the life of a hugely talented and sensitive human being, shared with a great poet.” — Amartya Sen. Published by Zubaan. “No Indian poet, music, religion, and politics come to life in Bodies of Song, a textual and ethnographic work on the oral traditions of Kabir, one of the great fifteenth-century iconoclastic poet of Hindi literature. For the first time, this extraordinary collection of verse by the great saint-poet has been translated into English: Kayasthe — The Poems of Kabir in English. With a foreword by Dr. Khushwant Singh, this volume consists of a detailed introduction, translator’s note, and the full text of the poems.” — Dr. Khushwant Singh

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L.K Advani, Senior Leader, BJP “I would give him sanyam ki saalaah (advice on patience)” – Shurma Swaraj, Minister for External Affairs “I find there’s no chalapossi (sycophancy) in him. Our doors are open 24/7 to him” – Lalu Prasad Yadav, Leader, RJD “If the Bihari Babu is hurt, the whole of Bihar is hurt” – Nitish Kumar, Chief Minister, Bihar “If we had Shatrushaab on our side, we wouldn’t need anybody else on our team” – Nawaz Sharif, Prime Minister, Pakistan

About the Author

Renowned columnist, critic and author Bharathi S Pradhan has edited a variety of magazines and contributed to several publications that include Reader’s Digest, Mid-day, Savvy, Femina and Movie. She continues to be a Sunday columnist with The Telegraph. She lives in Mumbai with Sanjaya, her Chartered Accountant husband and Siddhesh, her son who is currently studying Law. This book questions Saussure as great innovator in linguistics, while his junior colleague Sechehaye is finally given the credit he deserves. Both men’s lives and works are discussed in detail against the backdrop of their day and the issues concerned.

The Encyclopaedia Which Brings Together An Array Of Experts, Gives A Perspective On The Fascinating Journey Of Hindi Cinema From The Turn Of The Last Century To Becoming A Leader In The World Of Celluloid. The instant New York Times bestseller and companion book to the PBS series “Absolutely brilliant . . . A necessary and moving work.” —Eddie S. Glaude, Jr., author of Begin Again “Engaging . . . In Gates’ telling, the Black church shines bright even as the nation itself moves uncertainly through the gloaming, seeking justice on earth—as it is in heaven.” —Jon Meacham, New York Times Book Review From the New York Times bestselling author of Stony the Road and one of our most important voices on the African American experience comes a powerful new history of the Black church as a foundation of Black life and a driving force in the larger freedom struggle in America. For the young Henry Louis Gates, Jr., growing up in a small, residentially segregated West Virginia town, the church was a center of gravity—an intimate place where voices rose up in song and neighbors gathered to celebrate life’s blessings and offer comfort amidst its trials and tribulations. In this tender and expansive reckoning with the meaning of the Black Church in America, Gates takes us on a journey spanning more than five centuries, from the intersection of Christianity and the transatlantic slave trade to today’s political landscape. At road’s end, and after Gates’ distinctive meditation on the churches of his childhood, we emerge with a new understanding of the importance of African American religion to the larger national narrative—as a center of resistance to slavery and white supremacy, as a magnet for political mobilization, as an incubator of musical and oratorical talent that would transform the culture, and as a crucible for working through the Black community’s most critical personal and social issues. In a country that has historically afforded its citizens from the African diaspora tragically few safe spaces, the Black Church has always been more than a sanctuary. This fact was never lost on white supremacists: from the earliest days of slavery, when enslaved people were allowed to worship at all, their meager churches were subject to surveillance and destruction. Long after slavery’s formal eradication, church burnings and bombings by anti-Black racists continued, a hallmark of the violent effort to suppress the African American struggle for freedom. The past often isn’t even past—Dylann Roof committed his slaughter in the Mother Emanuel AME Church 193 years after it was first burned down by white citizens of Charleston, South Carolina, following a thwarted slave rebellion. But as Gates brilliantly shows, the Black church has never been only one thing. Its story lies at the heart of the Black political struggle, and it has produced many of the Black community’s most notable leaders. At the same time, some churches and denominations have eschewed political engagement and exemplified practices of exclusion and intolerance that have caused polarization and pain. Those tensions remain today, as a rising generation demands freedom and dignity for all within and beyond their communities, regardless of race, sex, or gender. Still, as a source of faith and refuge, spiritual sustenance and struggle against society’s darkest forces, the Black church has been central, as this enthralling history makes vividly clear. Anupama Chopra’s The Front Row hosted some of the biggest names from Bollywood, Hollywood, Bollywood and world cinema. There were candid, intelligent discussions on stardom, craft, fame, relationships, work-life balance and much more. The Front Row broke the mould of the celebrity chat show, reflecting instead the thoughtful, straight-talking nature of the host herself. It brought to bear on the conversations Chopra’s own deep understanding of cinema and of the world behind it. This book is a selection of the very best of The Front Row. From Salman Khan to Madhuri Dixit, Priyanka Chopra to Nicole Kidman, Raju Hirani to Rohit Shetty, they are all here. The insightful discussions range from the Rs 100-crore club, supporting actors and villains in Hindi cinema, to the making of some of the most celebrated movies in recent times. While Ang Lee talks about surrendering to the movie god, Aamir Bachchan discusses what it is like to be called God. If Aamir Khan owns up to how Satyamev Jayate changed him as a person, Shah Rukh Khan talks about what it is like to be ‘just an employee of the Shah Rukh Khan myth’.

Johnny Depp reacts to Tim Burton’s verse about him - ‘There was a young man, people thought he was handsome, so he tied up his face and held it to ransom’ - Martin Scorsese wrestles with the question of how a filmmaker can combine artistic integrity with commercial success, and Spielberg announces how he wouldn’t know how to make a Martin Scorsese movie' and how that makes him sad. Engaging, penetrating and great fun, The Front Row: Conversations on Cinema is essential reading for all movie buffs. Mani Ratnam’s Nayakan among Time’s ‘100 Best Movies Ever’, and Roja launched A.R. Rahman. This book, unique to Indian cinema, illuminates the genius of the man behind these and eighteen other masterly films. For the first time ever, Mani Ratnam opens up here, to Baradwaj Rangan, about his art, as well as his life before films. In these freewheeling conversations—candid, witty, pensive, and sometimes combative—many aspects of his films are explored. Ratnam elaborates in a personal vein on his choice of themes, from the knottiness in urban relationships (Agni Natchatiram) to the rents in the national fabric (Bombay); his directing of children (Anjali); his artful use of songs; his innovative use of lighting; as also his making of films in Hindi and other languages. There are fond recollections of collaborations with stalwarts like Balu Mahendra, P.C. Sreeram, T.Hotta Tharani and Gulzar, among many others. And delectable behind-the-scenes stories—from the contrasting working styles of the legendary composer Ilaiyaraaja and Rahman to the unexpected dimensions Kamal Haasan brought to the filming of Nayakan to what Raavan was like when originally conceived. In short, like Mani Ratnam’s films, Conversations surprises, entertains and stimulates. With Rangan’s personal and impassioned introduction setting the Tamil and national context of the films, and with posters, script pages and numerous stills, this book is a sumptuous treat for serious lovers of cinema as well as the casual moviegoer looking for a peek behind the process.

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