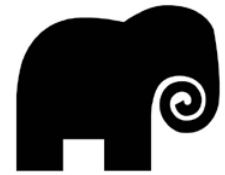


The Book Fair is pleased to welcome several Indian writers this year. Alongside the bestselling Indian/English books, there is also a rich literature from native languages, often unknown outside of India. In 1998 the translation project The Indian Library was founded in order to make important Indian authors available in Swedish translation. Authors who write in Bengali, Tamil, Hindi and English are visiting Göteborg this year – including women prose-writers from three generations, both rebels and groundbreakers.



# Voices from India



## Ambai

Ambai (the pen name for C S Lakshmi) was born in 1944 in Tamil Nadu in southern India. She writes in Tamil and is a well known name in modern Indian literature. A prose writer, Ambai is chiefly a novelist with an eye for details, colours and forms. She writes about women's lives, covering such subjects as love, the lower castes and the longing for freedom. The first of her works to be translated into Swedish, *Flod* [River], is published this autumn. Ambai has also written three books about Indian women musicians, dancers and painters. She lives in Mumbai (Bombay), where she has created an archive of women's history and culture.

Thursday 12.00  
Friday 14.00



## Teji Grover

Poet, who was born in 1955 in the Punjab. She writes in Hindi and her personal voice makes her one of the leading lyricists of her generation. She has spent a lot of time in Sweden and has translated over twenty Swedish poets for an anthology in Hindi, *Barfki kbushboo* [The scent of snow]. This autumn, she publishes a volume of interpretations of Ann Jäderlund's poetry. She has also translated Norwegian writers, including Hamsun. Nowadays she lives in Hoshangabad, by the Narmada river in central India.

Thursday 14.00



## Mahasweta Devi

Mahasweta Devi is one of the most important authors in India today. She was born in 1926, lives in Kolkata (Calcutta) and writes in Bengali. She has produced over a hundred books, chiefly novels and short stories. In her disturbing and sharp, yet at the same time lyrical stories she highlights the exploitation of the native people and lower castes in India. *Branden i hjärtat* [Fire in the heart], a collection of her best known short stories, is newly published in Swedish translation.

Friday 10.00  
& 14.00



## Jeeva Raghunath

A professional storyteller, born in 1956, Raghunath grew up in a family of storytellers. She started telling stories herself at the age of five. Her stories appeal to all ages, and she makes use of both handpuppets and sign language as necessary to add to her stories, which range from Indian folktales to modern stories.

Thursday 16.30



## Anita Nair

Anita Nair is one of the most acclaimed south Indian authors, born in 1966 in Kerala. Intensive and thorough, she writes about conditions for women in modern India. Her sensual and outspoken stories appeal to many readers both in her homeland and internationally. She writes short stories and novels in English, and has published eight books since her debut in 1997. Her latest is the novel *Mistress*. The critically acclaimed *The Ladies' Coupé* is published in Swedish. Anita Nair lives in Bangalore.

Friday 12.00  
& 15.00



## Sandhya Rao

Children's book publisher, writer and translator from Chennai (Madras). Rao has worked as a journalist and is the founder of the children's book publisher Tulika Publishers. She herself writes children's books in both English and Hindi. Rao has translated *Pippi Longstocking* to Hindi.

Thursday 16.30

## Indian seminars at Göteborg Book Fair 2008

### Thursday

- 12.00–12.45 Escape from a cramped existence
- 14.00–14.45 From Henriksdalsringen to Hoshangabad
- 16.30–16.50 A moose in the jungle

### Friday

- 10.00–10.45 Fire in the heart
- 12.00–12.45 Writers' Kerala: Basheer and Anita Nair
- 14.00–14.20 India from the inside
- 15.00–15.20 Women's Kerala
- 16.00–16.45 Hur gör man en chutneyöversättning? (in Swedish)