

Amita Gokhale in The Times of India: Apr 19, 2012

You would be interacting with Bangladeshi writers Syed Manzoorul Islam and Anisul Hoque at the Maitree Bandhan Literary Festival. What do you have to say about that? I have begun reading Anisul's book, Freedom's Mother and I'm delighted. It tells the story of the mother of a freedom fighter who refused to have boiled rice for 14 years because when her son, who was arrested by the Pakistani army, asked for some boiled rice, she was asked not to feed him. It's got strains of the 1971 Bangladesh war of liberation. I also interested in Syed Manzoorul Islam's works since he writes a lot about art. Interestingly, the bookshop in Delhi where I source my books from, informed me that books of both these authors have been sold out. That just goes on to highlight the popularity of Bangladeshi authors with us Indians.