

# Lajja Taslima Nasreen English

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## LEONIDAS CHRISTENSEN

Lajja Penguin UK

The Story of Felanee is based on real life events. It is a story of courage, of survival, of ethnic conflict and violence that tears people and communities apart in the most brutal, savage way. Set in Assam, which has seen two major agitations that have crippled the economy, this is a story that will shock the reader by its sheer passion, and its brutal honesty. The callousness and utter disregard for human life, the ugly play for power, for electoral gain, the sham and petty hypocrisies, the bloody horror of ethnic violence all lie exposed in this powerful novel written by one of Assam's leading fiction writers. The story revolves around the experiences of one woman: Felanee. Her name means 'thrown away'—so called because as her mother lay dying in the burning riot-torn village, Felanee was thrown into a swamp and left to die. But against all odds, Felanee—and thousands like her—survived. Like the reeds that grow in such profusion along the bank of Assam's rivers, the rootless inhabitants of the refugee camps and makeshift shanties, whose stories form the core of Felanee, are swept along by the wind and thrown onto new hostile terrain but they cling on with tenacity to take root again and again. Published by Zubaan.

French Lover Penguin Books India

'The textual tension between the real and the imaginary nourishes and complicates the narrative ... Shameless exposes the hypocrisies of Kolkata, the distrust and hatred that exists between the [Hindu and Muslim] communities.' -- Ashutosh Bhardwaj, award-winning writer and journalist 'Shameless is a far

more marinated novel than its predecessor ... The emotional seesaw between the creator and her creations gives the plot a cerebral intensity ... Nasreen distils hard-hitting truth through her lived experiences, transforming her individual predicament to strike a universal chord through her deft storytelling.' -- Somak Ghoshal, Livemint 'My name is Suranjan. You don't recognize me? You wrote a novel about me. It was called Lajja.' One day in Calcutta, Taslima suddenly finds herself face to face with Suranjan, the principal character from her controversial novel Lajja. Persecuted in their native Bangladesh, Suranjan and his family have, like Taslima, moved to the city across the border. But is life for a Hindu family from an Islamic nation any better in a country where a majority of the population happens to be Hindu? Leading poor, unmoored lives, exploited and frustrated at every step of the way, and always carrying with them the memories of a scarred communal history, Suranjan and so many others like him seem to lead incomplete lives in their so-called 'safe haven'. Shameless, the explosive sequel to Lajja, is an uncompromising, heart-breaking look at ordinary people's lives in our troubled times.

The Translator Sarup & Sons

Internationally acclaimed Bangladeshi writer Taslima Nasrin brings together for the first time in English a compelling collection of her work written over a period of thirty years. In this powerful selection of essays, Taslima confronts issues of women's oppression and gender inequality, freedom of speech, and religious violence. In bold, pragmatic style, her language of protest challenges the androcentric paradigms that have dictated the female experience for millennia. Taslima unflinchingly questions long held views on marriage, effects of religious rituals on women, prostitution, genital mutilation, divorce, and sexual

assault, among many other crucial issues. Forced into exile after being expelled from Bangladesh for her frank and brave writing, Nasrin has been a heroic and courageous voice throughout the world, with many of her works topping the bestseller lists. Taslima Unbound captures the essence of her life's work and is key for those seeking to gain a deeper understanding of this celebrated feminist writer. Taslima Nasrin has been the recipient of the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship, the UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the promotion of tolerance and non-violence, the Simone de Beauvoir Prize, an honorary doctorate from the American University of Paris, among many other important recognitions. *My Girlhood* Bloomsbury Publishing USA

On 1 November 1984, a day after Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's assassination, a nineteen-year-old student, Raj, travels back from a class trip with his mentor, Professor Singh. As the group disembark at Delhi station a mob surrounds the professor, throws a tire over him, douses him in gasoline, and sets him alight. Years later, after moving to the United States, Raj finds himself compelled to return to India to find his professor's widow, the beautiful and enigmatic Nelly. As the two walk through the misty mountains of Shimla, painful memories emerge, and Raj realizes he must face the truth about his father's role in a genocidal pogrom. But, as they soon discover, the path leads inexorably back to that day at the train station. In this lyrical and haunting exploration of one of the most shocking moments in the history of the Indian nation, Jaspreet Singh has crafted an affecting and important story of memory, collective silences and personal trauma.

*Women and Islam in Bangladesh* Penguin UK

Translated by Taslima Nasreen herself, the poems in All About Women reflect the passion which makes her a feminist, a staunch

fighter for women's rights and against religious fundamentalism and oppression against women. They speak for a broad and secular outlook. As she says in one of her poems, 'From now on let religion's other name be humanity'.

The Story of Felanee Penguin Enterprise

This book would have been completed earlier but for events that disrupted millions of lives across India, including those of journalists : the demolition of the Babri Masjid at Ayodhya, by a Hindu mob on 6 December 1992 and the communal riots that followed across the country. In January 1993, the selective massacres of Muslims at Bombay and the devastating revenge bomb blasts there two months later led to extensive travelling and reporting for the New York Times. In addition, there was 'normal reporting' : the Punjab, environmental, economic and political issues such as the billion dollar scam.

Homecoming Open Road + Grove/Atlantic

In The Pleasure Principle – The Amaryllis Book of Erotic Stories, editor G.Sampath brings together fifteen of the finest contemporary fiction writers on a singular thematic platform: erotica. These are tales that explore the glories of romance, eroticism and much more. From homoerotic and transgender to bisexual and straight. This anthology covers a wide variety of erotica. Quite a few of the stories in The Pleasure Principle cover new ground even in 'straight' territory. The irrepressible Taslima Nasrin subtly brings out the unexpected transmutations of online lust when it goes offline; Meena Kandasamy tells us about the sex tapes of our ancient gods, Jaishree Misra's story brings out the yearnings of an elderly widower, while Cyrus Mistry explores the forbidden desires of a middle-aged school teacher – these are just some of the erotic sub-themes explored in the anthology. Other contributors include such distinguished names like Tabish Khair, Amitava Kumar, Shinie Antony, Krishna Shastri Devulapalli, Rupa Bajwa, Amrita Chatterjee, Kankana Basu, Aditya Sharma, Vikram Kapur and Kristen Cosby.

Shameless Penguin Random House India Private Limited

French Lover is the story of Nilanjana, a young Bengali woman from Kolkata who moves to Paris after getting married to Kishanlal, a restaurant owner. Kishanlal's luxurious apartment seems to be a gilded cage for Nilanjana, and she feels stifled within its friendless confines. Her marriage, where she functions as little more than a housekeeper and sex object, is far from

fulfilling and Nilanjana desperately looks for a way out of the boredom and depression that threaten to engulf her. It is at this point that she meets Benoit Dupont, a blond, blue-eyed handsome Frenchman, and is swept off her feet. Benoit introduces Nilanjana to the streets, cafes and art galleries of Paris. In her passionate, sexually liberating relationship with Benoit, she finally begins to have an inkling of her own desires. The relationship ends when Nilanjana realises that Benoit's first priority is himself and not the woman he loves, and that her need for him has ended. But her road to self-discovery has only just begun. Bold in concept and powerful in execution, French Lover is a fascinating glimpse into the workings of a woman's mind as she struggles to come to terms with her identity in a hostile world.

Minaret Hamish Hamilton

First published in 2000. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

**Meatless Days** Penguin UK

Indian English Literature Has Established Its Credentials All Over The World. Still Some Pointed Posers Concerning The Impact Of Multiculturality And The Choice Of English As A Medium On The Warp And Woof Of Indian English Literature Have To Be Confronted And Analysed Threadbare Not Merely In Theory But Also Through The Elucidation Of Some Key Texts From This Perspective. The Present Volume Is Devoted To This Critical Endeavour. The Volume Comprises Scholarly Studies Of The Works Of Kamala Das, Mulk Raj Anand, Raja Rao, Arun Joshi, Amitav Ghosh, Rohinton Mistry, Shobha De, Anita Desai And Arundhati Roy. The Theoretical Framework Pertains To The Multiculturality And The Critical Implications Of The Choice Of Medium In Indian English Literature. An Indispensable Source Of Fresh And Innovative Insight Into Indian English Literature. A Useful Supplement To The Existing Studies Of Indian Literature. A Fresh Perspective For Students, Teachers, Researchers Working In Literary Theory, Fiction Studies, Stylistics And Sociology Of Literature.

The Pleasure Principle Steerforth Italia

When the Barbri Mosque at Ayodhya, India, was destroyed by Hindu fundamentalists on December 6, 1992, fierce mob reprisals took place against the Hindu minority in Muslim Bangladesh. These incidents form the backdrop for Dr. Taslima Nasrin's explosive and courageous book, "Shame", describing the

nightmarish fate of one family within her country's small Hindu community.

**Shame** books catalog

A New York Times Notable Book: "Aboulela's lovely, brief story encompasses worlds of melancholy and gulfs between cultures" (Kirkus Reviews, starred review). American readers were introduced to the award-winning Sudanese author Leila Aboulela with Minaret, a delicate tale of a privileged young African Muslim woman adjusting to her new life as a maid in London. Now, for the first time in North America, we step back to her extraordinarily assured debut about a widowed Muslim mother living in Aberdeen who falls in love with a Scottish secular academic. Sammar is a Sudanese widow working as an Arabic translator at a Scottish university. Since the sudden death of her husband, her young son has gone to live with family in Khartoum, leaving Sammar alone in cold, gray Aberdeen, grieving and isolated. But when she begins to translate for Rae, a Scottish Islamic scholar, the two develop a deep friendship that awakens in Sammar all the longing for life she has repressed. As Rae and Sammar fall in love, she knows they will have to address his lack of faith in all that Sammar holds sacred. An exquisitely crafted meditation on love, both human and divine, The Translator is ultimately the story of one woman's courage to stay true to her beliefs, herself, and her newfound love. "A story of love and faith all the more moving for the restraint with which it is written." —J. M. Coetzee

When Devil Married God Penguin UK

The blind matriarch, Matangi-Ma, lives on the topmost floor of an old house with many stories. From her eyrie, she hovers unseeingly over the lives of her family. Her long-time companion Lali is her emissary to the world. Her three children are by turn overprotective and dismissive of her. Her grandchildren are coming to terms with old secrets and growing pains. Life goes on this way until one day the world comes to a standstill—and they all begin to look inward. This assured novel records the different registers in the complex inner life of an extended family. Like the nation itself, the strict hierarchy of the joint-family home can be dysfunctional, and yet it is this home that often provides unexpected relief and succour to the vulnerable within its walls. As certainties dissolve, endings lead to new beginnings. Structured with the warp of memory and the weft of conjoined lives, the narrative follows middle India, even as it records the

struggles for individual growth, with successive generations trying to break out of the stranglehold of the all-encompassing Indian family. Ebbing and flowing like the waves of a pandemic, the novel is a clear-eyed chronicle of the tragedies of India's encounter with the Coronavirus, the cynicism and despair that accompanied it, and the resilience and strength of the human spirit.

Lajja Prometheus Books

French Lover is the story of Nilanjana, a young Bengali woman from Kolkata who moves to Paris after getting married to Kishanlal, a restaurant owner. Kishanlal's luxurious apartment seems to be a gilded cage for Nilanjana, and she feels stifled within its friendless confines. Her marriage, where she functions as little more than a housekeeper and sex object, is far from fulfilling and Nilanjana desperately looks for a way out of the boredom and depression that threaten to engulf her. It is at this point that she meets Benoir Dupont, a blond, blue-eyed handsome Frenchman, and is swept off her feet. Benoir introduces Nilanjana to the streets, cafes and art galleries of Paris. In her passionate, sexually liberating relationship with Benoir, she finally begins to have an inkling of her own desires. The relationship ends when Nilanjana realises that Benoir's first priority is himself and not the woman he loves, and that her need for him has ended. But her road to self-discovery has only just begun. Bold in concept and powerful in execution, French Lover is a fascinating glimpse into the workings of a woman's mind as she struggles to come to terms with her identity in a hostile world.

*The Blind Matriarch* Open Road + Grove/Atlantic

This work of research by Taj Hashmi puts the issue of women's position in society in historical as well as Islamic perspectives to relate it to the objective conditions in Bangladesh. In eight illuminating chapters, he narrates how Quranic edicts about women have through the ages been misinterpreted by the power elites and the mullahs to suppress women. Even NGOs are not immune from exploiting them. Hope, according to the author, lies in the literacy and economic self-reliance of the Bangladeshi women.

Going Global Penguin UK

This groundbreaking book throws open a window on a world unknown to most Westerners. Taslima Nasrin revisits her early

years — from her auspicious birth on a Muslim holy day to the threshold of womanhood at fourteen — in a small rural village during the years East Pakistan became Bangladesh. Set against the background of the fight for independence, Nasrin's earliest memories alternate between scenes of violence and flight and images of innocent pleasures of childhood in her extended family. A precocious child, Nasrin's acute awareness of the injustice and suffering endured by her mother and other Muslim women cause her to turn from the Koran in early adolescence, and to begin a journey to redefine her world. Her growing awareness of the class discriminations, gender disparities, and growing religious orthodoxy and intolerance in her family and her rural village parallel the broader social and cultural upheaval emerging in the new nation, and foreshadow the growth of a feminist dissident courageous enough to defy the fundamentalist Muslim clerics. "Nasrin's voice is the voice of humanism everywhere."-- Wole Soyinka "I am sure you have become tired of being called 'the female Salman Rushdie' . . . but please know that there are many people in many countries working to . . . defend you against those who would cheerfully see you dead. . . . In the West, there are too many eloquent apologists working to convince people of the fiction that women are not discriminated against in Muslim countries or that, if they are, it has nothing to do with religion."-- Excerpt from an open letter from Salman Rushdie to Taslima Nasrin

The Book on Trial Harper Collins

An insider's account of the personalities and policies that shaped Indian diplomacy Former foreign secretary, Maharajakrishna Rasgotra joined India's external affairs ministry when Jawaharlal Nehru, Girija Shankar Bajpai, Sardar Patel were—with a mix of pragmatism and hope—creating the foreign policy of the newly independent nation. This was taking place as the Cold War slid into the subcontinent and complex relationships with India's neighbours—China, Pakistan and Nepal—were taking shape. Looking back on those crucial years with a discerning eye for the interplay of personalities—Nehru, Krishna Menon, or S. Radhakrishnan, for instance—Rasgotra assesses their influence on events and their impact on the evolution of Indian diplomacy. For over three decades Rasgotra's assignments took him to Nepal, Britain and France, among other countries, as well as twice to the United States. His account of Nixon and Kissinger, and the

mix of truculence and persuasion in their dealings with Mrs Gandhi in the run up to the 1971 Bangladesh war, sheds new light on the events of that time. His tenure as foreign secretary covered a period of great change and A Life in Diplomacy provides a ringside view of the beginnings of ethnic violence in Sri Lanka, the last years of the Cold War, the negotiations on the formation of SAARC, Mrs Gandhi's assassination and the Bhopal gas disaster. This is a compelling, authoritative account of a personal and professional journey; a reflective look at the leaders, events and forces that formed relations between India and the world over fifty years.

Feminism: A Very Short Introduction Manjul Publishing

'My name is Suranjan. You don't recognize me? You wrote a novel about me. It was called Lajja.' One day in Calcutta, Taslima suddenly finds herself face to face with Suranjan, the principal character from her controversial novel Lajja. Persecuted in their native Bangladesh, Suranjan and his family have, like Taslima, moved to the city across the border. But is life for a Hindu family from an Islamic nation any better in a country where a majority of the population happens to be Hindu? Leading poor, unmoored lives, exploited and frustrated at every step of the way, and always carrying with them the memories of a scarred communal history, Suranjan and so many others like him seem to lead incomplete lives in their so-called 'safe haven'. Shameless, the explosive sequel to Lajja, is an uncompromising, heart-breaking look at ordinary people's lives in our troubled times.

**SHAMELESS** India Viking

Taslima Nasrin is known for her powerful writing on women's rights and uncompromising criticism of religious fundamentalism. This defiance on her part had led to the ban on the Bengali original of this book by the Left Front in West Bengal as well as the Government of Bangladesh in 2003. While the West Bengal government lifted the injunction after the ban was struck down by the Calcutta High Court in 2005, Nasrin was eventually driven out of Kolkata and forced to expunge passages from the book, besides facing a four-million-dollar defamation lawsuit. Bold and evocative, Split: A Life opens a window to the experiences and works of one of the bravest writers of our times.

French Lover PT LKiS Pelangi Aksara

Autobiography of a Bengali authoress from Bangladesh.