

Shashi Tharoor - Literary Icon and Statesman

Shashi Tharoor is a complex figure whose works have made an obvious impression on the worlds of literature and politics. His name evokes brilliance, eloquence, and a profound knowledge of the human condition. Tharoor's journey from successful novelist to renowned politician, born on March 9, 1956, in London, illustrates his great devotion to both the written word and the service of his country, India. In this blog post, we will look at Shashi Tharoor's exceptional achievements in literature as well as his political influence.

Shashi Tharoor's Family And Education



[Source: Twitter]

Shashi Tharoor was born in London, United Kingdom, on March 9, 1956. However, his family is from the southern Indian state of Kerala. The Tharoor family, like many others in India, prioritized education. His parents, Chandran Tharoor and Lily Tharoor were both self-motivated individuals who valued education. This parental setting instilled in Shashi the significance of knowledge at a young age.



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[Source: Firstpost]

Shashi Tharoor's early education had a profound impact on his intellectual growth. He went to the Montfort School in Yercaud, Tamil Nadu, where his tutors saw his promise. He eventually enrolled at St. Stephen's College, Delhi University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in history. It was at this point that his talent for arguing and public speaking began to show. Tharoor's ability to express complicated ideas in a simple yet persuasive manner was evident even during his college years.

Shashi Tharoor's Political Journey



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[Source: NDTV]

The United Nations: Shashi Tharoor's political career was defined by his time at the United Nations. He distinguished himself in the international world, holding several high-level roles, including Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information. His speech and diplomatic abilities garnered him significant acclaim on the international scene.

Return to India: Tharoor made the critical decision to return to India and pursue Indian politics in 2009. He ran in and won parliamentary elections, becoming a Member of Parliament. This was the start of his active participation in changing India's political environment.

Advocacy for India: Tharoor has been a prominent champion for India's interests on the world stage as a politician. His talks and publications on climate change, global diplomacy, and India's position in the world have gotten him a lot of attention and respect from worldwide.

Intra-party Politics: Shashi Tharoor has never been without controversy in the Indian political scene. His affiliation with the Indian National Congress (INC) has been fraught with difficulties and ups and downs. However, his dedication to public duty is unshakable.

Policy Initiatives: During his time as an MP, Tharoor has championed several policy ideas. He has continuously used his position to address crucial issues confronting India. From lobbying for gender equality and LGBTQ+ rights to pressing for educational reform and environmental development.



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Shashi Tharoor's Intersection of Literature and Politics



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[Source: Britannica]

The Power of Words: Tharoor's literary background has served him well in his political career. Because of his eloquence and ability to express difficult ideas, he has become a popular speaker and spokesperson for his party. His statements in Parliament and public forums have frequently captivated audiences and influenced public opinion.

Books as Political Statements: Tharoor's writings have served as powerful political messages in addition to being works of literature. His nonfiction works, such as "An Era of Darkness," have challenged prevailing narratives and sparked crucial debates about India's colonial history.

Intellectual Stature: Tharoor stands recognized as an intellectual force in the Indian political arena. His ability to hold substantial arguments and conversations on a wide range of issues, from economics to foreign policy, has gained him the respect of his opponents.

The Quest for Change: Shashi Tharoor has persistently fought for positive change in India through his writings and political involvement. He has utilized his platform to advocate for greater openness, accountability, and inclusive governance, establishing himself as a progressive ideas champion.

List of Books and Works written by Shashi Tharoor

Shashi Tharoor is a widely published author, politician, and former diplomat. Here is a list of books and works written by Shashi Tharoor:

1. The Great Indian Novel (1989)
2. Show Business (1992)
3. Riot: A Love Story (2006)
4. Inglorious Empire: What the British Did To India (2017)
5. An Era of Darkness: The British Empire in India (2016)
6. Pax Indica: India and the World of the 21st Century (2012)
7. The Elephant, the Tiger, and the Cell Phone: Reflections on India in the 21st Century (2007)
8. Bookless in Baghdad (2005)
9. Why I am a Hindu (2018)
10. An Era of Darkness: The British Empire in India (2016)
11. In My Country (2008)
12. The Five Dollar Smile and Other Stories (1990)
13. Remnants of a Separation: A History of the Partition through Material Memory (2017)
14. Why I Am a Hindu - Young India, Timeless Civilisation (2018)
15. The New World Disorder and the Indian Imperative (2020)

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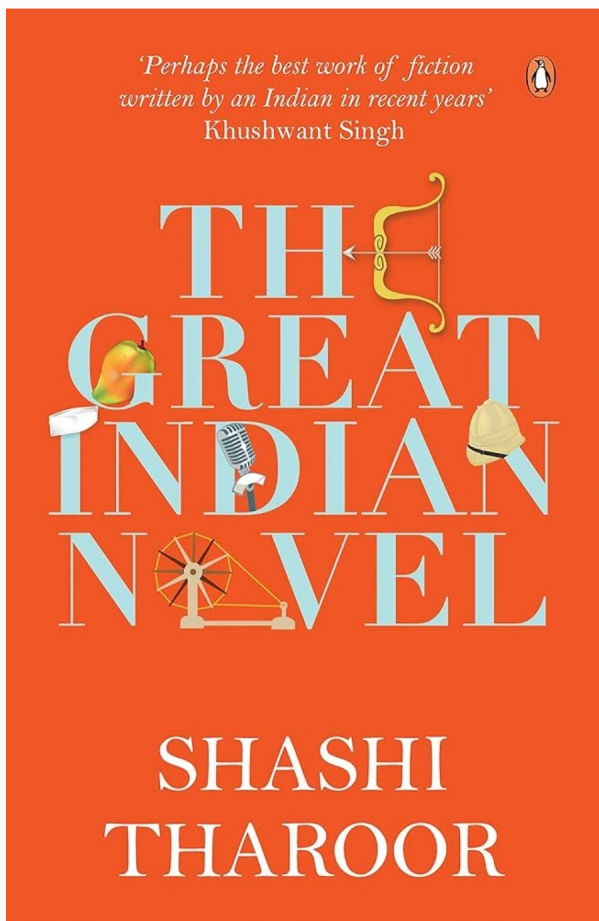


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Shashi Tharoor's literary works range from politics and history to fiction and non-fiction. It sheds light on his contributions to both Indian and global literature. Some of his famous works are listed here:

The Great Indian Novel (1989): This is one of Shashi Tharoor's most recognized works, and is a grand effort that expertly mixes Indian mythology. This satirical novel combines aspects from the Indian epic Mahabharata into a current, political story. It offers a unique viewpoint on India's post-independence journey.



[Source: Amazon]

Inglorious Empire What the British Did to India (2016): It is a forceful critique of British colonial rule in India. It shows the Indian population's economic exploitation, cultural oppression, and personal despair during the colonial era. Tharoor's laborious research and lyrical writing in this book won him considerable praise.



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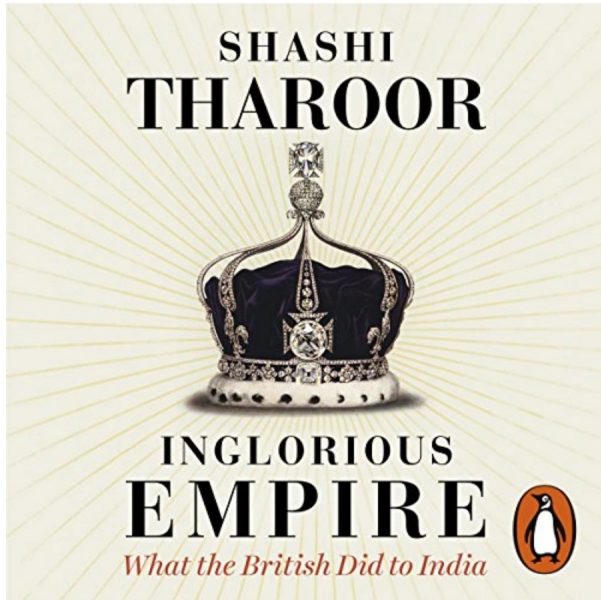


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[Source: Amazon]

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Pax Indica: India and the World of the 21st Century" (2012): Tharoor's book "India and the World of the Twenty-First Century" (2012) discusses India's place in the global geopolitical landscape. He investigates the country's ability to impact international affairs. It offers insights into how India's history informs its foreign policy in the modern world.





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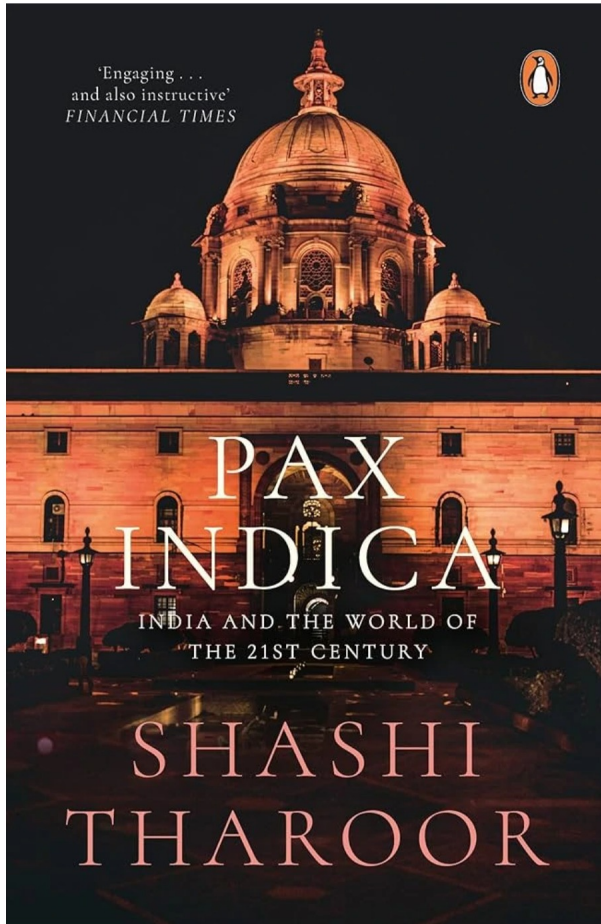


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[Source: Amazon]

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Riot: A Love Story (2006) and Show Business (1992): Shashi Tharoor has written fiction in addition to his political and historical writings. His works demonstrate his storytelling prowess and explore a wide range of themes and genres. "Riot" is a love story set against the backdrop of communal rioting.





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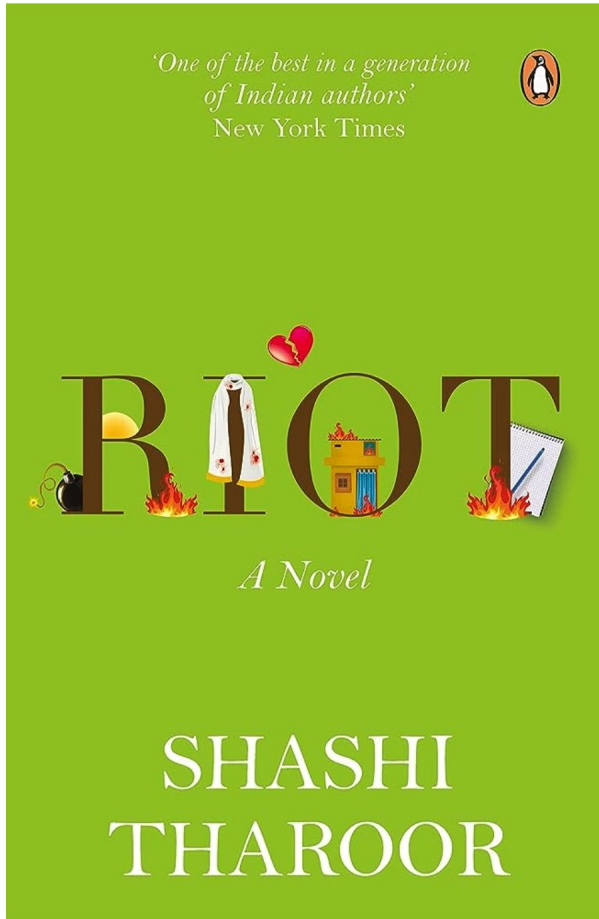


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[Source: Amazon]

An Era of Darkness: The British Empire in India (2016): The passion and philosophical depth of Tharoor's works are well-known. In this book, he argues that the British Empire had an overwhelmingly negative impact on India.





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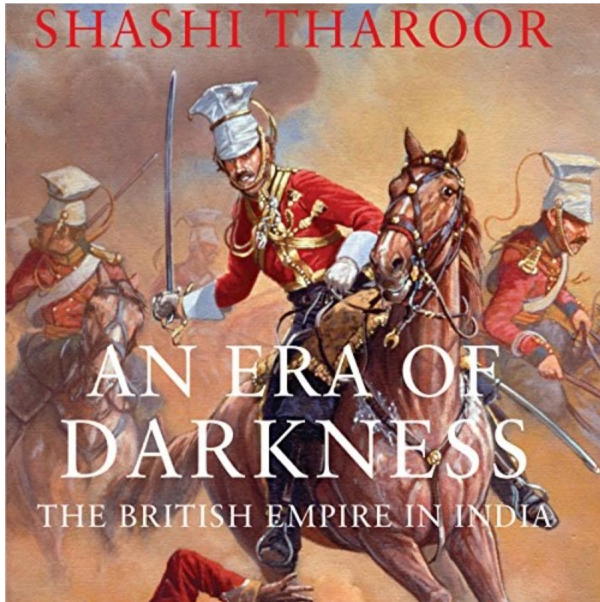


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[Source: Amazon]

Shashi Tharoor's Criticism and Controversies

Controversial Statements: Tharoor's fiery personality and daring words have occasionally gotten him in trouble. He has suffered backlash for his comments on social media and in public, with critics accusing him of elitism and detachment from the majority.

Legal Battles: Tharoor has also been involved in legal squabbles, including a high-profile dispute involving his wife, Sunanda Pushkar's, death. The matter drew widespread media attention and investigation, resulting in ongoing judicial actions.

In conclusion, Shashi Tharoor's past and present have been a unique weaving of literature and politics. He has enhanced the world with his words as a literary genius, providing insights into India's complicated history, civilization, and culture. He has used his knowledge, charisma, and enthusiasm as a statesman to serve his country and fight for reform on both the national and global levels.

Despite scandals and hurdles along the way, Shashi Tharoor's unwavering commitment to his principles, his country, and the power of the written word continues to inspire millions. His reputation as a prolific author and powerful politician will live on, leaving an indelible imprint on India's intellectual and political landscape.

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