

Kovalam Lit Fest 2016 a non-fiction special

Our correspondent

New Delhi: October 6: Kovalam Literary Festival, South India's pioneering literary event which started in 2008, will hold its 8th edition at the VJT Hall, in Trivandrum city on 22 October.

"This year's event will be a non-fiction special, with 26 year old scholar Manu Pillai's 700 page history of the Travancore Royal Family, leading the list," Binoo.K. John founder director of the festival told IANS. "Klf has become an anticipated event in Trivandrum," John said.

The Ivory Throne: Chronicles of the House of Travancore, "swirls through Kerala history like a dervish, possessed by the intention of telling a magnificent story and telling it marvellously well," according to a review in New Indian Express. At the festival Manu Pillai will be in conversation with novelist Shreekumar Varma, himself a member of the Travancore family.

Other writers in the list released today are Raghu Karnad author of The Farthest Field, a first world war memoir, Rohini Mohan author of the sensational best selling 'Seasons of Trouble': Life amid the ruins of Sri Lanka's Civil War, Bishwanath Ghosh travel writer and author of Chai Chai and Lekshmy Rajeev author of Attukal Amma' on the famous Trivandrum temple. The lead lecture will be by the Magsaysay award winner and Carnatic vocalist T.M. Krishna who is also the author of A Southern Music.

Well known novelist M.Mukundan will deliver a lecture on the future of the novel.

Incidentally The Curry Coast: Travels in Malabar 500 years after Vasco da Gama (1997), authored by the festival director John, and which has just been republished by Delhi-based Speaking Tiger will be released at the event.

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