

A comprehensive and vividly illustrated research-based coffee table book titled

PUNE

A CITY OF MANY SHADES AND COLOURS

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First edition : 2021

Book size : 12"x12", finished : 12"x24" open

Pages : 348 + end pages + plc, colour : 4+4

Rare visuals : 864 like paintings, b&w photos, line sketches, maps, documents etc.

Paper : plc & jacket : 170 gsm matt art paper

Text : 100 gsm renaissance, end pages : 190 gsm renaissance

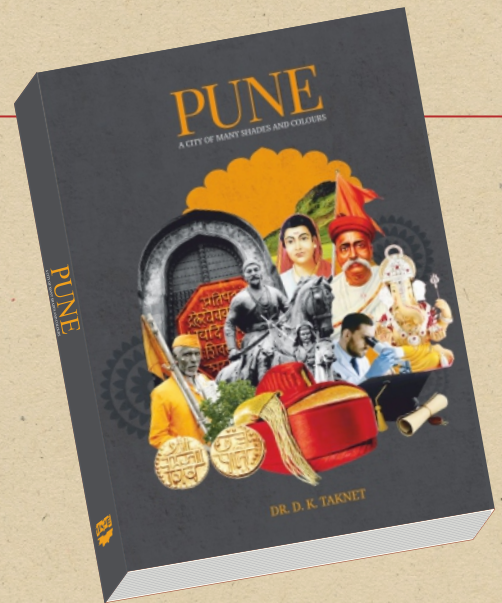
Fabrication plc : matt lamination & raised uv

Jacket : matt lamination & raised uv

As a nation, we have reason to be justifiably proud of how Pune has developed as a city over the centuries. It sets many hearts aflutter with a vision of grandeur, and valour. The city's inherent historic charm has always been a major source of attraction. A small nondescript agricultural settlement in the eighth century, it had grown to become the political epicentre of the Maratha Empire. Pune has enjoyed a distinguished place on the timeline of India from prehistoric times, with its struggle against Muslim domination and the creation of the Maratha Empire under the visionary leadership of Chhatrapati Shivaji and subsequently the Peshwas. It has witnessed seismic cultural, administrative and economic transformation brought about by the arrival of the British.

Later, as Pune modernised, new administrative, civic, and water supply systems were established. Post-Independence, there has been rapid industrial growth and expansion of the city while retaining much of its traditional charm and culture. The city has played a seminal role in the freedom movement and, above all, in Pune's contemporary growth trajectory as a centre of arts, crafts, music, education, commerce, trade, and industry. Modern Pune is a cosmopolitan city awash with many opportunities. It is known as the knowledge city, an IT hub, a motor city, and is a fine blend of antiquity and modernity with a rich cultural heritage.

Although a relatively small city compared to India's major metropolises, Pune is writ disproportionately large in the Indian psyche and imagination. Each road and alleyway echoes memories of eminent social reformers, political leaders, scientists, dramatists, artists, culturists, educationists, businessmen and sports personalities whose ideas, actions or leadership have inspired the country as a whole. This lavishly illustrated book has 348 pages, redolent with 864 rare visuals selected from archives around the world. It provides a fascinating and colourful panoramic view of the city through the ages. This art book focuses on the colourful history of Pune, and its lesser-known events, facts and wonderful people with their variegated activities, and is remarkable and endlessly engrossing. The author presents a comprehensive picture of the city, bringing to light many hitherto unexplored facts that will interest those with a penchant for urban histories. For anyone interested in a carefully researched, beautifully designed and abundantly illustrated artistic account of Pune city, this art book is an ideal companion.



■ OPINIONS, VIEWS AND REVIEWS

The pages of this art book present a wonderfully illustrated panorama of Pune through the ages. My warm congratulations to Dr D.K.Taknet and his team of research associates for providing such a treat to the eyes and food for the soul.

UDDHAV BALASAHEB THACKERAY, Chief Minister of Maharashtra

The great vision and ceaseless efforts of Dr D.K.Taknet and his research associates, are praiseworthy. Their sincere and dedicated endeavours backed by thorough and extensive research has made this great city shine in its glory with brilliance. They have done justice to the city's greatness by highlighting its most significant facets through lucid content and rare visuals.

SHARAD PAWAR, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha)

One can gather deeper insights into the charming mix of cultural heritage and contemporary modernization of the city in this book. The author has impeccably immortalized the glory and beauty of Pune by both, documenting authentically and depicting lucidly the rich history, glorious knowledge traditions and path-breaking social reforms of the city."

Dr VINAY SAHASRABUDDHE, President, Indian Council for Cultural Relations & MP

This coffee table book is well produced and carefully documented with rare visuals, which provides valuable information on every aspect of life.

MURLIDHAR MOHOL, Mayor, Pune

I, on behalf of Pune city, thank you for producing such a wonderful book...This superb book makes Pune come alive and is a fantastic store of information, much of which, I was completely unaware.

BIBEK DEBROY, Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister

The book is most remarkable, since it captures the memorable heritage of Pune, while also creating a wonderful pictorial narrative of the modern urbanisation and growth. So it gives a perspective of the beautiful confluence of antiquity and modernity...There is a comprehensive collection of these makers of Pune, which is so valuable...The book is not just a must read or must see publication, but should be possessed as an invaluable gift.

Dr RAGHUNATH MASHELKAR, FRS, National Research Professor

This book not only captures the magic and beauty of the city through its many images over time and history, it also provides a deep and sensitive insight into its history, culture and changing characteristics. Dr Taknet captures it all. Eloquently.

PRITISH NANDY, Journalist, parliamentarian, media and television personality

An art piece which provides a deep insight into the evolution of this city through the ages. The book through the rich text and sketches offers the reader a wonderful learning experience of vivid facts of this city. I congratulate and applaud the efforts of Dr D.K. Taknet and his research team, and IIME, Jaipur... giving justice to the city's illustrious glory and richness. This book is a perfect blend of text and rare visuals.

Dr N.R. KARMALKAR, Vice-Chancellor, SP Pune University

The present work approaches Pune from all possible perspectives — historical, cultural, social, political, religious and economic; that too academically and artistically. It does not miss any period whether ancient, medieval or modern. It has, so to say, unlocked the treasures called Pune. The choice of painting and photographs along with sufficient explanatory content deserves compliment.

SADANAND MORE, Chairman, Maharashtra State Board of Literature and Culture

I complement Dr D K Taknet for this outstanding book chronicling the rich heritage and history of Pune. The book also captures the transformation of the city of Pune from being the cultural capital of India to a modern metropolis with a vibrant industrial and technology ecosystem.

BABA KALYANI, Chairman & MD, Bharat Forge Ltd.

Dr Taknet has done a wonderful job capturing myriad of colours and shades of our Pune city...He has brought out the fact that Pune is a wonderful contrast carefully balancing the old and new, ancient and modern, traditional past along with the evolving future. The book is replete with images, through historical, architectural, political and geographical documentation. Dr Taknet takes you on an illustrative journey which undoubtedly is a testament of his extensive research done. To an outsider, the book is a mine of information about the city and its proud heritage.

DEEPAK CHHABRIA, Executive Chairman, Finolex Cables Limited





