

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**PRESS AND COMMUNICATION SECTION**



*An Indo-French Moment*

**Romain Rolland Book Prize**

**28 January 2017**

**ZEE Jaipur Literature Festival 2018, Jaipur**

*Presented as a part of*

**BONJOUR INDIA 2017 – 18**

As a part of Bonjour India - incubating dreams, ideas and projects which aim to move the partnership between India and France into the future, **Jaipur** saw the **Romain Rolland Book Prize** being announced at **ZEE Jaipur BookMark / ZEE Jaipur Literature Festival 2018**.

**Romain Rolland Book Prize** aims at awarding the best translation of a French title (francophone area) into any India language, including English. The Indo-French jury has taken into account the qualities of the translation and of the publication itself. The prize aims at encouraging and awarding the efforts made by Indian publishers to bring the best of the Francophone literature, in all its diversity, to the Indian readership. For its first edition, the **Romain Rolland Book Prize** awarded the best work of contemporary and classical fiction.



Romain Rolland Book Prize is supported by **Priti Paul via Apeejay Trust**.

**Dr. Bertrand de Hartingh, General Curator of Bonjour India, Counsellor for Cooperation and Cultural Affairs**, spoke about the **Romain Rolland Book Prize**: “Romain Rolland was a great French novelist, dramatist, and essayist, and through his love of India and his link to Tagore, a symbol of Indo-French literary exchange. We are delighted, through **Bonjour India**, to establish the First Literary Prize award for Indian Publishers and Translators from French to other Indian languages. It is a great initiative that will participate in strengthening the human and intellectual exchange between our two countries .”

Leila Slimani, novelist and French president Emmanuel Macron’s personal emissary for *Francophone* affairs, conferred the prize to the publisher and translator of the award winning title **Main Gumshuda** by **Patrick Modiano** (the publisher was **Pranav Johri**, from Rajpal and Sons, the translation of *Rue des boutiques obscures* into Hindi was by **Monica Singh**), in the presence of the five jury members, during the largest Indian literary festival.

A special mention was given to *Once upon in India*, a translation into English by Sam Miller of *Les aventures (merveilleuses mais authentiques) du Capitaine Corcoran*, by Alfred Assolant.

This first-of-its-kind award will enhance the status of the translator and hopefully encourage more translations from French to Indian languages.

### Details of the event:

**Jaipur:** 28 January 2018 - ZEE Jaipur BookMark 2018 / ZEE Jaipur Literature Festival 2018

### About Bonjour India:

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