

RELEASE DATE AUGUST 2011

ISBN: 978-81-89738-11-2

CRAFT

₹495 | £9.99 | \$17 FB

In the Shadows

UNKNOWN CRAFTSMEN OF BENGAL

Payal Mohanka

Photographs: Leena Kejriwal

Published by

NIYOGI BOOKS

Fine publishing within reach

NIYOGI BOOKS PRIVATE LIMITED

Block D, Building No. 77, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase-1, New Delhi-110020, INDIA

Phone: 011 26816301, 26818960, Email: niyogibooks@gmail.com, Website: www.niyogibooksindia.com

KOLKATA OFFICE & BOOKSTORE

12/1A, 1st Floor, Bankim Chatterjee Street, Kolkata - 700073, West Bengal, INDIA

Phone: 033 22410001, Email: niyogibooks.kol@gmail.com

Title:

In the Shadows

UNKNOWN CRAFTSMEN OF BENGAL

Author: Payal Mohanka

Photographs: Leena Kejriwal

CRAFT

₹495 | £9.99 / \$17

ISBN: 978-81-89738-11-2

Size: 216mm x 178mm; 108pp

Art paper (matt)

All colour; 62 photographs

Flexiback

Each time I manoeuvred my way down a pencil-thin track, a whole new world opened up—light-makers in a dimly lit workshed creating mesmerising tableaux with thousands of twinkling bulbs; deft fingers weaving strands of human hair, to give shape to a creation of cascading curls that would do a sophisticated city hairstylist proud

The book chronicles the lives, craft and future of people living in six rural areas of West Bengal where the economy is driven by rather unusual professions. One cluster of craftsmen churns out wigs, others make lights, polo balls, boats, shuttlecocks and jeans. Following the original process which has been passed down generations, these craftsmen keep alive old family traditions.

In the Shadows: Unknown Craftsmen of Bengal celebrates the indomitable spirit of enterprise of our rural craftsmen while gently reminding us that each time a craftsman passes away, the craft moves a step closer to extinction.



About the Author:

Payal Mohanka started her career as a journalist with *The Illustrated Weekly of India* before reporting for BBC and CNBC India. She made a documentary on Chandernagor, a former French colony, and on Mother Teresa, which was selected for the Philadelphia Documentary Film Festival and screened at the Nehru Centre in London.

Leena Kejriwal is one of India's foremost creative photographers. She has had solo and numerous group exhibitions both in India and abroad.

