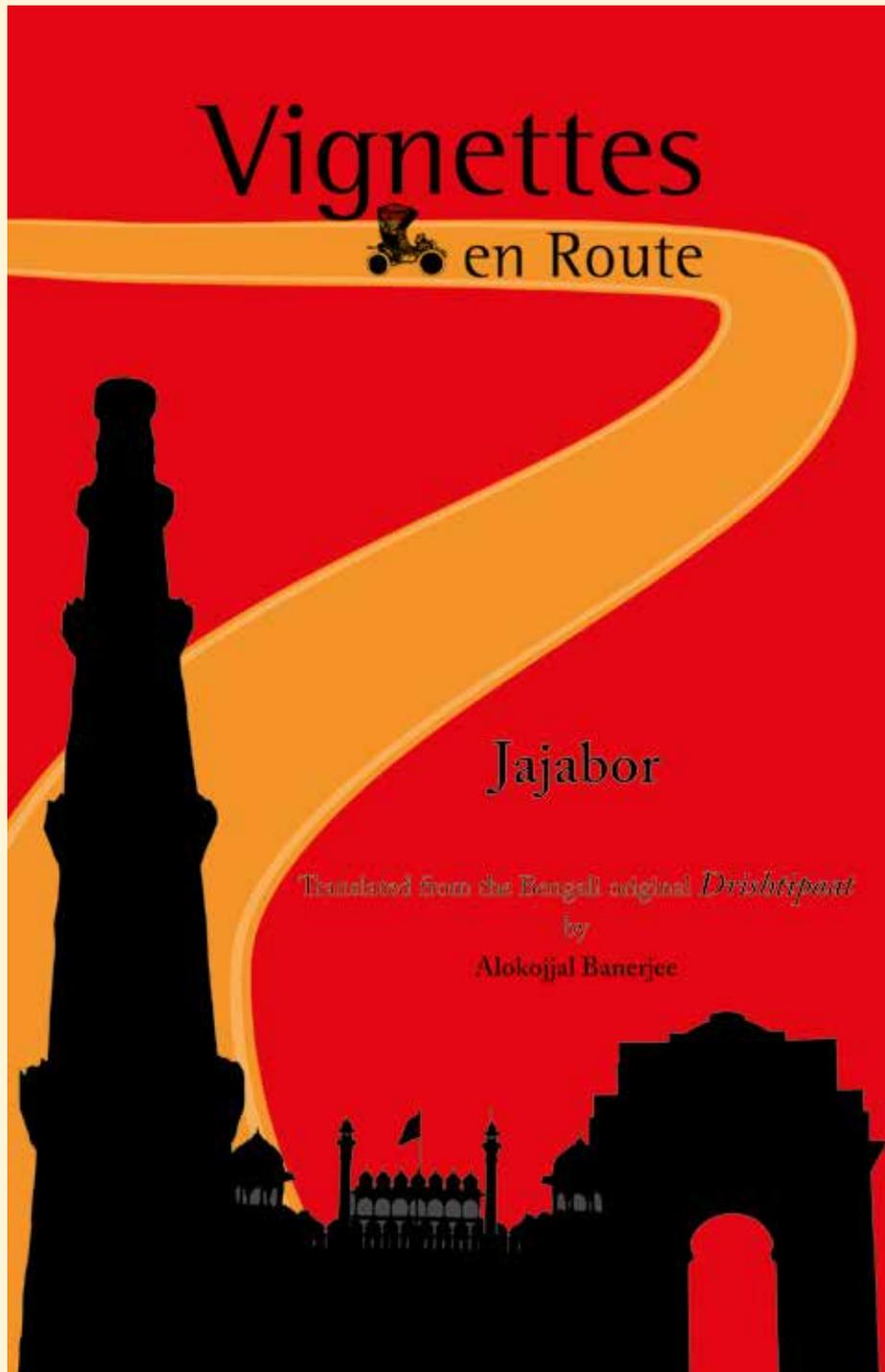


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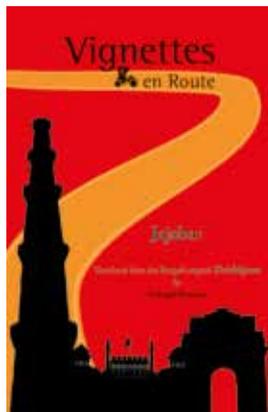
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Title:

Vignettes en Route

Author: Jajabor (*Drishtipaat*)

Translator: Alokajjal Banerjee



Nineteen forty-two, Delhi. A young Bengali England-returned journalist finds himself in the capital as the controversy over the Cripps Mission gathers momentum.

Crafted in the form of an accidental travelogue, collated from the letters of the young man to a lady friend, *Vignettes en Route* (*Drishtipaat*) is a deeply reflective account of the capital city, its complex multi-layered history and myths, with liberal injections of humour and spirit. Peopled with vividly drawn characters, Jajabor's eye for detail has created a fascinating account of Delhi in the 1940s. This remarkable book will charm the reader, and particularly show how Delhi continues to be a city where immigrants come and meet people who are exact replicas of characters born of Jajabor's pen!

Vignettes en Route is an engaging translation of the original Bengali novel *Drishtipaat*.

FICTION

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ISBN: 978-93-81523-04-9

Size: 210mm x 140mm; 184pp

Book print paper

Black and white

Flexiback

About the Author:

Jajabor alias Binay Kumar Mukhopadhyay was born in 1908 and at the age of thirty-eight, shot into literary fame with his very first book *Drishtipaat*, published in 1946. An Information Officer with the Government of India he was based in Delhi and was peripatetic in nature. He followed up *Drishtipaat* with another belles-lettres entitled *Janantik* (1952) and a historical account about the Kashmir strife called *Jhulam Nadir Tirey* (1954). Binay Kumar Mukhopadhyay continued to publish books till the 1980s and passed away in 2002.

Translator Alokajjal Banerjee is the Deputy Municipal Commissioner of Kolkata. His interests range from Vaishnav literature to philosophy and management.

The march towards offices starts at half past nine. At first, it is the run of the attendants. They are turbaned, clad in khaki uniforms, with three or four rounds of red serpentine cummerbund around the waist. A few of them carry in their cummerbunds a small knife with ivory handles inside ornamented sheaths. A mimicry of the castrated guards of the Mughal empire. Those are the attendants to the secretaries or the hon'ble members. They are the major-generals among the ranks of the orderlies. A bundle of files wrapped in a red coarse packaging sits on the carrier of their bicycles, which the sahibs carry home on Saturdays and most of which are returned untouched on Mondays