India in Mind

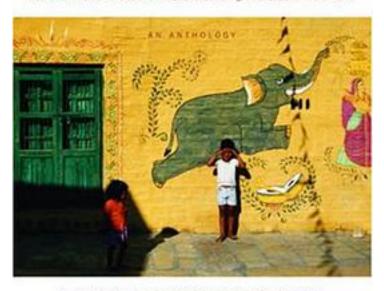
FROM GEORGE ORWELL TO BRUCE CHATWIN AND PAUL BOWLES TO RUTH PRAWER JHABYALA, TWO CENTURIES OF WRITERS OBSERVE—AND CELEBRATE—A LEGENDARY CIVILIZATION

INDIA IN MIND

EDITED AND WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY

Pankaj Mishra

Author of The Romantics and An End to Suffering: The Buddha in the World



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Ever since Herodotus reported that it was home to gold-digging ants, travelers have been intrigued by India in all its beguiling complexity. This superb anthology gives us some of the best fiction, nonfiction, and poetry that has been written about the world's second most populous nation over the past two centuries.

From Mark Twain's puzzled fascination with Indian castes and customs, to Allen Ginsberg's awe at the country's spiritual and natural splendors, or from J. R. Ackerley's delightful recollections of his visits with an eccentric gay Maharajah, to Gore Vidal's unforgettable scene in his novel Creation, in which his character finally meets the Buddha and is bewildered—all twenty-five selections in India in Mind reveal a place that evokes, in the traveler, reactions ranging from fear and perplexity to astonishment and wonder. Edited and with an introduction and chapter notes by the award-winning novelist Pankaj Mishra, India in Mind is a marvel of sympathy, sensitivity, and perception, not to mention outstanding writing.

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