

Mukul Deva: When Life Came Calling

ePaper Exclusive, National October 30, 2016, DW Editor



It's a thriller that uses human trafficking and organ trading as the backdrop. I love this series. Mukul Deva

Mukul Deva who hails from La Martiniere College Lucknow has just written his 15th book, POUND OF FLESH, which has hit the stands in the Indian sub-continent. In an exclusive interview to Ajit Chak he talks about his life – which is as full of twists and turns as his thrillers.

- Mukul Deva is today known as a very successful fiction author but what do you see yourself as – writer, coach, mentor, keynote speaker, facilitator or entrepreneur?

Actually I see myself as all of those, since I enjoy each one of these diverse aspects of my life, and I put in my best into all of them. However, if you want me to choose any one thing, then at this point in my life I see myself basically as a Change Maker, as someone who helps others to discover their strengths and passions, and then live up to them. My experience of having worked with over 8500 people in over 13 countries has taught me that all of us are born with multi-potentialities.

- It has been a long journey from La Martiniere Lucknow to being an entrepreneur and fiction writer with companies in India and Singapore?

When I look back at everything, I think the transitions have been logical and seamless. My decision to join the army largely came about since I dropped school early, and like all youngsters, thirsted for adventure and excitement. Upon leaving the army, it was only logical that I set up a company, which helped me build on my training in handling people and security affairs. Till this point in my life I was using my skills to earn a living. However, once I started writing books, I moved onto coaching, mentoring, keynote speaking and facilitation, I started leveraging on my passion. My practical experiences in the army and as an entrepreneur fueled most of my earlier books.

- What is the one thing you are really proud of?

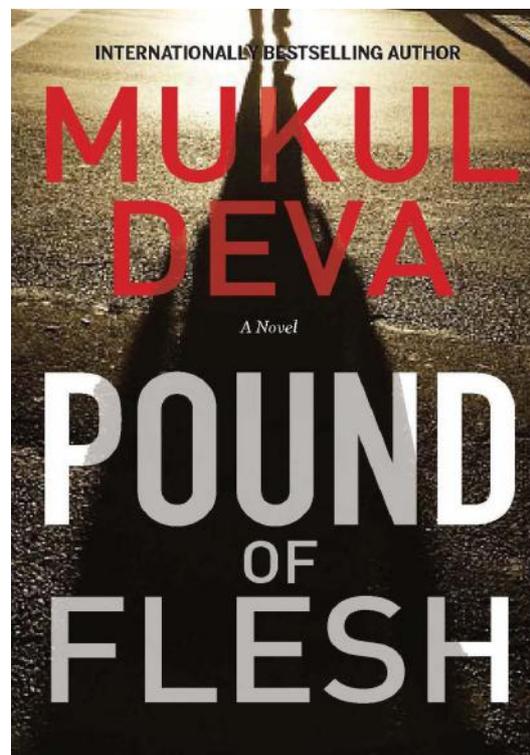
That I have been able to hold steady and stay with the values that my mother, Dr. Krishna Deva (who was an amazingly caring and strong woman), my school (La Martiniere Lucknow – by far the best character developer ever) and the Indian Army (more specifically, the Sikh Light Infantry), bred into us. No matter what life brings to my doorstep, I am still the same middle-class, somewhat conservative and perpetually positive guy.

- Of all the books you have written, which is your favourite book?

That's a bit like asking me which of my children is my favourite. However, if I did have to choose, I would have to say: LASHKAR since it was a path-breaking book, so prescient and despite the passage of almost a decade as relevant today as then.

- Please share a few words about your latest release, POUND OF FLESH.

Set in Delhi, it's a thriller that uses human trafficking and organ trading as the backdrop. I love this series because it is here that I started investing a lot more time and energy into developing my characters. If you have read my previous books, you will notice that now my characters have become more nuanced and intriguing.



email: cajit2001@yahoo.co.uk, editor@dailyworld.in