

The Hindu

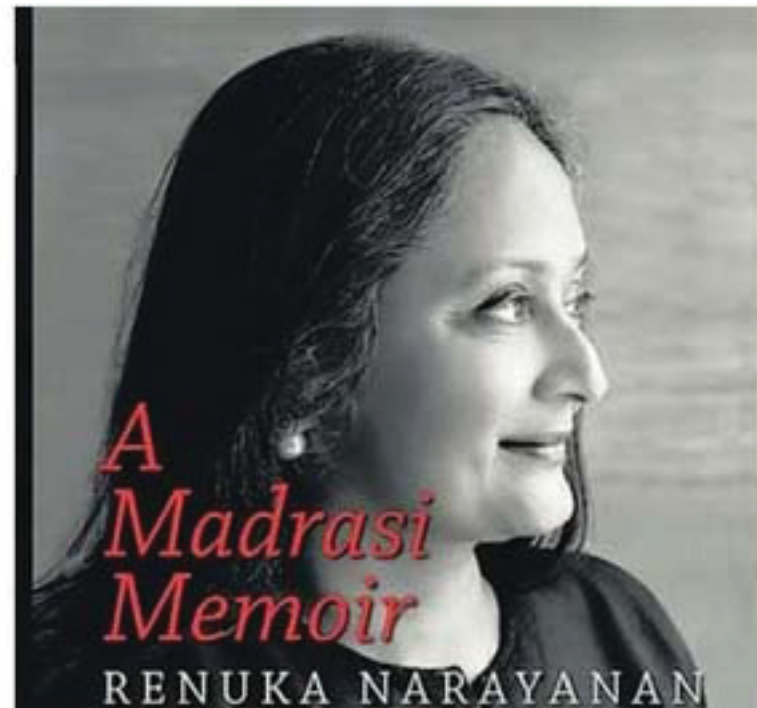
Chennai, 2 November 2016

Chronicling lives

Prakriti Foundation hosts the book launch of *A Madrasi Memoir* by Renuka Narayanan on November 5 (Saturday), 7 p.m. at Amethyst, Whites Road. Gopalkrishna Gandhi will release the book and speak about it.

Renuka, a commentator and columnist on religion and culture, writes about the radically Westernised ‘whiskey-sambar’ Tamil Brahmins of 20th Century India, who broke every last taboo of five millennia of orthodoxy, while unable to wholly tear out their roots.

The author takes an unsparing personal glimpse of their mysterious, contradictory world and chronicles



the lives and loves of ordinary people through those extraordinary times.

Renuka’s other books include *The Book of Prayer, Faith: Filling the God-sized Hole* and *The Little Book of Indian Wisdom*.

A tome on health

Tuberculosis in India is one of the most frightening challenges to public health. Recent WHO figures state that in 2013, India had 2.6 million cases of tuberculosis – almost a fifth of the world’s tuberculosis-related deaths occurs in India. Niels Brimnes’ *Languished Hopes: Tuberculosis, the State and International Assistance in Twentieth-century India* narrates and analyses the history of tuberculosis in the country.

The book, which looks at how the disease was discovered and how it has been understood, is being launched in the city by Aarhus University and Orient BlackSwan, on November 2 at Hall 3, IC & SR, IIT Madras at 4 p.m.