

The Wayback Machine - <http://web.archive.org/web/20090711001926/http://www.hindu.com:80/yw/2008/12/30/stories/...>

# THE HINDU

Online edition of India's National Newspaper  
Tuesday, Dec 30, 2008

Google™



## Young World

Published on Tuesdays

Features: [Magazine](#) | [Literary Review](#) | [Life](#) | [Metro Plus](#) | [Open Page](#) | [Education Plus](#) | [Book Review](#) | [Business](#) | [SciTech](#) | [NXg](#) | [Friday Review](#) | [Cinema Plus](#) | [Young World](#) | [Property Plus](#) | [Quest](#) | [Young World](#)

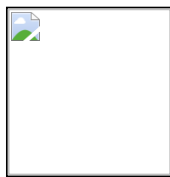


QUICK READ

### So rare, and so beautiful

PAROMITA PAIN

Rigzin is a nature guide and this is a story of one day in his life...



The Himalayas seem so huge and so far away isn't it? Have you ever wondered about those who live in its snowy midst? *The Ghost of the Mountain* by Sujatha Padmanabhan is about a boy from the village of Ang who is a trained nature guide. A nature guide is someone who shows people the natural delights of any place like birds, animals, flowers of rather than important buildings. The story spans one day in his life. It's Budhpurnima, a day of great significance to the Buddhists of Ladakh. But Rigzin has no idea of how special the day is really going to be. A rare snow leopard is about to be killed and people are really angry at the number of animals he has killed.

#### Conservation

How do you talk to grown ups, especially angry grownups who know you as a pipsqueak? Rigzin may be only 16 but he does more than just speak. He helps them change their mind and also teaches them important lessons about protecting wild species. Creatures don't just become rare and go extinct on their own. Man with his activities and often attitudes has a big role to play. We have taken over a planet where every creature has a right to be. Our earth isn't ours alone and this is the simple story conveyed with telling effect. The illustrations by Madhuvanti Anantharajan are warm and happy ones that capture the simple life that Rigzin and his friends lead. Note the huge amount of detail that has gone into these drawings. Rigzin saves this white leopard but there are many other species that you can protect from the safety of your home. If only the book has more on how you could do your bit!

THE GHOST OF THE MOUNTAIN by Sujatha Padmanabhan, Kalpavriksh

#### An excerpt:

Tashi's wife, Choral, had woken up in the morning as usual. But as she went up to the roof to gather firewood to light the stove, she heard a low, growling sound. Running to the lhas, she opened the door. To her utter horror she saw a snow leopard crouching in a corner. There were blood stains covering the floor. All her goats and sheep lay motionless. They had all been killed by the leopard.

[Printer friendly page](#)

[Send this article to Friends by E-Mail](#)

Archives  
• [Datewise](#)

News  
[News Update](#)  
[Front Page](#)  
[National](#)  
States:  
• [Tamil Nadu](#)  
• [Andhra Pradesh](#)  
• [Karnataka](#)  
• [Kerala](#)  
• [New Delhi](#)  
• [Other States](#)  
[International](#)  
[Opinion](#)  
[Business](#)  
[Sport](#)  
[Miscellaneous](#)  
[Index](#)

Advts  
[Retail Plus](#)  
[Classifieds](#)  
[Jobs](#)  
[Obituary](#)

---

*Young World*

**Features:** [Magazine](#) | [Literary Review](#) | [Life](#) | [Metro Plus](#) | [Open Page](#) |  
[Education Plus](#) | [Book Review](#) | [Business](#) | [SciTech](#) | [NXg](#) | [Friday Review](#) |  
[Cinema Plus](#) | [Young World](#) | [Property Plus](#) | [Quest](#) |

---

**The Hindu Group:** [Home](#) | [About Us](#) | [Copyright](#) | [Archives](#) | [Contacts](#) | [Subscription](#)  
**Group Sites:** [The Hindu](#) | [Business Line](#) | [Sportstar](#) | [Frontline](#) | [Publications](#) | [eBooks](#) | [Images](#) | [Home](#) |

Comments to : [thehindu@vsnl.com](mailto:thehindu@vsnl.com) Copyright © 2008, The Hindu

Republication or redissemination of the contents of this screen are expressly prohibited without the written consent of The Hindu

---