



# Kabulnama

**Amitabha Ray**

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<b>ISBN</b>	9789381523575
<b>Publisher</b>	Niyogi Books
<b>Binding</b>	Paperback / softback
<b>Territory</b>	USA & Canada
<b>Size</b>	5.90 in x 8.79 in
<b>Pages</b>	166 Pages
<b>Price</b>	\$10.00

- The author pens details of his rare journey along the highs and lows of Afghanistan and life in Kabul during turbulent times

Afghanistan has perhaps always preferred to live with uncertainties. The eminent Bengali writer Syed Mujtaba Ali had to quit the country overnight while on a visit in 1927, threatened by political upheavals. Amitabha Ray spent some time in Kabul between 2007 and 2008, as a representative of the Government of India on a United Nations mission. Living a risky existence in an unsettled country he was nevertheless awestruck by its unique landscape, ancient heritage and the natural warmth of its people. *Kabulnama* is his tribute to those years, sharing personal moments of anxiety, lending a glimpse into the life of the common Afghan. It is a rare journey along the highs and lows of the land and the times. There is camaraderie amidst chaos in this story of a battle-worn nation in a rugged land, lending a ringside view of its natural beauty, history, culture, travel, food and people.