

# A life of an ordinary Indian – An exercise in self-importance

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## **A life of an ordinary Indian – an exercise in self-importance**

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## **About the book**

This is an autobiography of [Anil K Rajvanshi](#). Dr. Rajvanshi is a graduate of IIT Kanpur and a US trained engineer who left a lucrative career in US in early 1980s to come back and work in rural Maharashtra.

He and his wife [Dr. Nandini Nimbkar](#) run a small NGO called [Nimbkar Agricultural Research Institute](#), which works in the areas of agriculture, renewable energy, animal husbandry, and rural and sustainable development. He firmly believes that technologies for rural areas should be developed by the use of high technology.

Besides his technology work, he also writes regularly on issues of spirituality and technology and believes that the mantra of India's development should be [“Spirituality with High Technology”](#). He believes in simple living and high thinking and tries to [live a sustainable life](#) in rural setting. In essence, he is a spiritual engineer.

This book is an attempt to tell his story on what forces shaped him during his journey from childhood to becoming a spiritual engineer.

**[Book review in Google Books](#)**

## Preface

In the last 5-10 years, I have developed this insane desire to tell my life story. Whether it is to my friends, my acquaintances or to anybody who cared to listen, I would tell.

The reason could be my desire to share some interesting incidents in my life but the real reason was to show off and tell a good story.

I guess all life stories are good stories to tell. That is the reason why novels sell. They are mostly autobiographical in nature and when readers identify with the actors in the novel then the real impact is felt.

I feel that I have a story to tell, no matter how ordinary it might be, and do feel that it may inspire some youngsters to follow the path that I have trodden.

I have been writing for quite sometime about various phases of my life. The first autobiographical essay I wrote was in 2004 when I published my first book [“Nature of Human Thought”](#). In it, I tried to outline the forces that made me go on the path of spirituality and write the book.

The second autobiographical essay was about my journey to U.S. as a graduate student, my experiences there and my return to rural India in 1981. This resulted in second book entitled [“1970s America – an Indian Student’s Journey”](#) and was published in 2008.

The third essay was a detailed description about our work in NARI in renewable energy since 1981 and was published as a book in 2014. It was aptly titled [“Romance of Innovation – a human interest story of doing R&D in rural setting”](#).

And the final essay has been put out recently which covers the years of my [undergraduate education in IIT Kanpur](#).

After I had written this last essay, I thought of putting all of them together in a form of e-book. This is what I have done now. (<https://www.nariphaltan.org/mylife.pdf>) Please follow the links in the contents page.

Besides, I have been writing essays from time to time about various issues, including spirituality, and they have been published in [Times of India](#), [Huffington Post](#) and [Thrive Global](#) among others. They have all been put together and are [available at this site](#).

Thanks are to my wife Nandini Nimbkar for editing various essays included in this book and who read umpteen drafts through a fine toothcomb and to A.S. Aherrao for typing them.

I hope you enjoy reading about this journey.

*Anil K Rajvanshi*

*May 2016*

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