

In search of the eternal star

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Frederic Mari at the launch of his book

FREDERIC Mari officially launched his book, *The Shine*, a translation of his French book *Rêver d'Etoile* at Alliance Francaise de Madras. It was followed by an interactive session, when the author addressed the audience on the book.

A French book by an Indian resident, being translated into English, this is but a curtain raiser to the next publication in line. Published by the Libre Edition Pondicherry Pvt Ltd, the book was officially released by Mathieu, cultural co-ordinator of the French embassy. Philosophical in nature, it is a story of an owl in search of its dream and the eternal shining star. His style of writing, that has been quite familiar to French readers, which will make way for further translations of other literary works, is what the Libre aims at, through this translation.

Hosted at the library, the launch provided a platform for similar ventures to take a cue and step into the world of translations, with the simple motive of not letting language form a barrier to writing, believes the publishing house.

Having stayed in and around the state for over 20 years, the author is well-known amongst the French community. His next book, a novel, talks about his country of residence. The event was small and, in a way,

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restricted to the people involved with the launch and a few people who fit in with the tagline the book was presented with, essentially on the lines of being a good read with not so much of a hullabaloo.

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