

GLF 2011 is set to unfold from 26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> January at various venues in Galle including the Jetwing Lighthouse Hotel, Amangalla, Galle Fort Hotel, Hall de Galle and the Galle Maritime Museum to name a few.

The first Galle Literary Festival was held in 2007 and since its inception the main objective of the event has been to enchant book lovers and those who value the magical beauty and power of words while also helping to discover future great talents. Quite a few notable changes to the usual programme are expected this year, with plans to introduce a Sunset Series with reviews and discussions, free lunch time concerts/picnics, presentations and performances on Kandyan dancing and Kathakali and even wine tasting sessions with England's leading authority on wine Jancis Robinson.

There will be many popular and significant authors present at this year's event. Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, the author of *Purple Hibiscus*, Jill Dawson, Kiran Desai, Sarah Dunant, William Fiennes, Mohsin Hamid, Pauline Melville, Pankaj Mishra, Prashani Rambukwella, Karen Roberts are some of the authors expected to be present at the event. Poetry too will play a prominent role during the festival and poets including Omar Musa, Vivamarie VanderPoorten, Daljit Nagra, Roger McGough and Tishani Doshi are expected to participate at the event.

This year Deccan will position a dedicated helicopter in Galle for the duration of the GLF, short scenic flights will be made available to the attendees from the butterfly bridge ground right outside the Galle fort.

“Deccan has a reputation in supporting major events in the local event calendar and we are delighted to be a part of the Galle Literary Festival this year” said Denham Schokman, CEO/Director of Deccan Aviation Lanka. “Visitors can charter a Bell Jetranger helicopter from our helipad in Colombo or the international airport and fly direct to the Galle Literary Festival.”

“We are very pleased to have Deccan on board as a first time sponsor and I know that some of our authors will be thrilled at the idea of being ‘helicoptered’ in style to the festival” said a spokesperson of the Galle Literary Festival.

Deccan is Sri Lanka's premier domestic airline and helicopter operator conducting flights to any destination in Sri Lanka.