



An unprecedented seven novels have been shortlisted for the 2011 Man Asian Literary Prize. Chair Judge Razia Iqbal revealed that because of the strength of contemporary fiction coming out of Asia, the decision had been made to increase the number of writers on the shortlist from the usual five to seven.

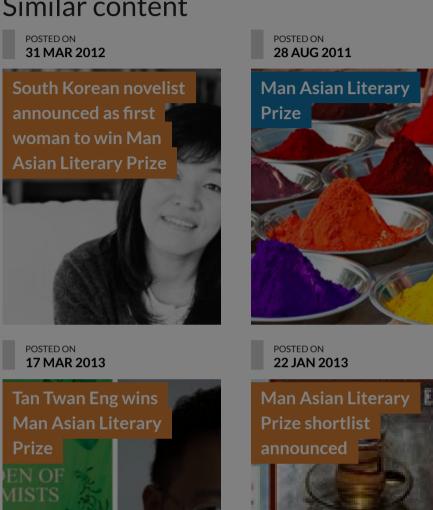
The shortlisted titles are as follows: AUTHOR, Country - Title (Publisher)

- JAMIL AHMAD, Pakistan The Wandering Falcon (Penguin India/Hamish Hamilton)
- JAHNAVI BARUA, India Rebirth (Penguin India/Penguin Books)
- RAHUL BHATTACHARYA, India The Sly Company of People Who Care (Pan Macmillan/Pan Macmillan India/Picador)
- AMITAV GHOSH, India River of Smoke (John Murray/Penguin India/Hamish Hamilton)
- KYUNG-SOOK SHIN, South Korea Please Look After Mom (Alfred A. Knopf)
- YAN LIANKE, China Dream of Ding Village (Grove Atlantic)
- BANANA YOSHIMOTO, Japan The Lake (Melville House)

90 books were submitted for entry in 2011 and the longlist of 12 books was announced in October last year. Four of the shortlisted novels were originally written in English; the novels from South Korea, China and Japan are all judged in translation. Speaking of the decision Chair Judge, Razia Iqbal said, "The judges were greatly impressed by the imaginative power of the stories now being written about rapidly changing life in worlds as diverse as the arid borderlands of Pakistan, the crowded cityscape of modern Seoul, and the opium factories of nineteenth century Canton. This power and diversity made it imperative for us to expand the 2011 Man Asian Literary Prize shortlist beyond the usual five books."

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