

“Gold Dust Of Begum Sultans” is the title of a book and exhibition that opens on April 19, 2016 at Exhibition Hall, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts.



Capturing the tangible and intangible heritage of the Rampur State, the exhibition showcases clothes, jewels, weddings, mourning, rites and rituals of this feudal era. The exhibition is designed by Ranesh Ray.

The book is set in the same period and revolves around a feudal family, which paradoxically consists of three strong matriarchs. Qamar Zamani Begum, Jahanara Begum and Shehzadi Begum. Intrigues of the durbar, impetuosity of feudals, their indulgences and lasciviousness, their poetry, their culture, clash with a new India, which is awakening post the 1857 war of Independence. The book is by Zakia Zaheer and Syeda Saiyidain Hameed.