2020 South Asia Book Award for Children’s and Young Adult Literature

Award Winners

**Priya Dreams of Marigolds and Masala**
by Meenal Patel (Beaver’s Pond Press, 2019)
Priya asks her beloved Babi Ba, “What is India like?” as they stand side-by-side preparing the evening meal. Babi Ba tells Priya of her India – the sights, sounds, and smells. And, Priya, in return, discovers how to bring India to her Babi Ba. (Grades K-2)

**The Bridge Home**
by Padma Venkatraman (Nancy Paulsen Books, 2019)
Runaway sisters Viji and Rukku learn the harsh realities of life on the swarming streets of Chennai, India. They find shelter and friendship with Muthi and Arul, two homeless boys living under an abandoned bridge. Forming a family, the four use their instincts and tenacity to survive in a perilous, indifferent world. (Grades 4-6)

**Forward Me Back to You**
by Mitali Perkins (Farrar Straus Giroux, 2019).
Robin, Kat and Gracie travel to Kolkata, India with their church group to help girls who have been rescued from trafficking, but find that they are the ones whose lives are changed. (Grades 9 and up)

Honorable Mentions

**The Many Colors of Harpreet Singh**
by Supriya Kelkar; illustrated by Alea Marley (Sterling Children’s Books, 2019)

**Thukpa For All**
by Praba Ram & Sheela Preuitt; illustrated by Shilpa Ranade (Karadi Tales Company, 2019)

**A Circle of Elephants**
by Eric Dinerstein (Hyperion Books for Children, 2019)

**Lakshmibai: A Graphic Biography**
by Jason Quinn; illustrated by Naresh Kumar (Campfire, 2019)

**The Love and Lies of Rukhsana Ali**
by Sabina Khan (Scholastic, 2019)

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the awards ceremony details will be announced at a later date.