



Alliance Française  
*Pune*

# Your French Rendez-vous What's On at AF Pune?

Newsletter  
February  
2025

# EDITORIAL



## *Embracing New Horizons: Join the Alliance Française de Pune in 2025*

The Alliance Française de Pune continues to shine as a beacon of Indo-French collaboration, cultural exchange, and educational excellence. With a rich history steeped in tradition and a vision firmly focused on the future, this year marks a new chapter in our mission to connect Pune's vibrant city with the diverse and dynamic world of the Francophonie.

This year, we are introducing:

- **Immersive Cultural Experiences:** With our enhanced virtual reality modules and a library enriched with films, books, interactive resources, and a rich and diverse annual cultural program, every moment spent at the Alliance transports you to the heart of Francophone culture.
- **Exciting New Spaces:** Our branches in Balewadi and Rubika NIBM Road are becoming hubs for French learners and enthusiasts. In 2025, we plan to further expand our presence in Pune and its surroundings, ensuring the Alliance is accessible to everyone.
- **Workshops and Programs Designed to Multiply Opportunities:** To support the goal of welcoming 30,000 Indian students to France by 2030, we continue to offer fast-track French courses, cultural adaptation modules, and personalized workshops so every student and traveler feels at home in the Francophone world. We also collaborate with local French and Indian companies to maximize professional opportunities.

Indeed, the Alliance Française de Pune is more than a language institute. It is a vibrant community where art, gastronomy, opportunity, and intellectual curiosity converge. This year, our public art projects, including new augmented reality exhibitions and artistic collaborations, will transform Pune into a living canvas, celebrating the unity in diversity that defines both India and France.

In 2025, we are also focusing on global challenges. Through events and discussions on sustainability, inclusion, and technological innovation, the Alliance invites everyone to join in building a better future. Our programs are designed to inspire, educate, and connect citizens from all walks of life.

So why wait? Discover, learn, and grow with us. Be part of an ever-evolving journey that celebrates the best of two worlds.

The doors of Alliance Française de Pune are wide open—step in and find your place in this incredible journey!

Amélie Weigel, Director

# WHO ARE WE?

Alliance Française is an international non-profit organization that aims to promote French language and culture in the world since 1883. With over 833 centres all over the world, spread over 135 countries, it is a massive network working towards arts and culture in modern society. Recognized by the French government, the method of teaching adopted here is international and is revised every year by the Foundation Alliance Française in Paris.



## Alliance Française in India 2024



Alliance française de Pune, part of a global network, promotes French language and Francophone cultures, fostering cultural ties between France and India.

2024 marked our 50 years of existence in Pune. In India, there are 15 main Alliances Françaises and 9 annexes.

## French over Chai



## Poetry Reading with AFP & Baithak and Beyond



## Visit of Mr. Mathieu Bejot, the new Audiovisual Attaché of the French Embassy in India



# DEMO CLASS

**COME DISCOVER THE  
FUN QUOTIENT OF  
LEARNING FRENCH  
WITH US!!**

**Saturday,  
February 22**

**Offline**

**4 PM to 5 PM  
Free for all**



**ONLY 25 SEATS AVAILABLE -  
REGISTER NOW!**



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Pune

# CONVERSATION B1+ WORKSHOP

Improve your French naturally through lively conversations in our "Grammar through Conversation" workshop!

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22

FEB

22

MAR

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**Saturdays only**

10am to 12pm  
Offline

**10 hrs pack**

[Register  
here !](#)

# DELFDALF WORKSHOPS

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[Register here!](#)

## Monday 24th to Friday 28th Feb

**2:00 TO 4:00PM - HYBRID**

**10 hrs pack**

### DELFB2 PREP

Ace your spoken and written French skills with:

- 3 practice CO & CE exercises with tips on the types of questions
- 3 practice PE exercises with detailed feedback
- 3 practice PO exercises with detailed feedback

### DALFC1 PREP

Ace your spoken and written French skills with:

- 3 practice CO & CE exercises with tips on the types of questions
- 4 practice PE exercises (2 synthèses & 2 essais argumentés) with detailed feedback
- 2 practice PO exercises with detailed feedback



## DELF DALF Tout Public

Exam dates: 24th March - 28th March 2025

Registration from 17th February to 11th  
March 2025

<https://www.ifindia.in/certifications>

**FRANCE**  
**EDUCATION**  
INTERNATIONAL

**DELF**  
**DALF**

  
AMBASSADE  
DE FRANCE  
EN INDE  
*Liberté  
Égalité  
Fraternité*

**INSTITUT  
FRANÇAIS**  
india

*af*  
Alliance Française  
India





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# E-TEF CANADA 2025



**MARCH 18**  
EXAM DATE

Registration dates  
04.02.25 to 01.03.25

# CRÊPES

## De La Chandeleur

THE ORANGE  
- ART & BOOK CAFE -

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### BAKING WORKSHOP with Juliette



**Sunday, 2nd  
February  
11 AM - 1 PM  
at the Orange Cafe**

Fees 550 rupees  
Includes a coffee along with  
freshly made crêpes!

Only 15 seats!

Call 9823804838 for registrations

THE ORANGE

- ART & BOOK CAFE -

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# FILM SCREENING

*Special Valentine's Day*



Geneviève, a young Frenchwoman who works in her mother's small-town umbrella boutique, falls for dashing mechanic, Guy. Their brief romance is interrupted when Guy is drafted to serve in the Algerian war. Pregnant, Geneviève has to choose between waiting for Guy or accepting an offer of marriage.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16**  
**11:30 AM**

**450/- WITH A CROISSANT**  
**& A COFFEE**

Call + 91 98238 04838 for registrations

# French over Croissant

LIBRARY

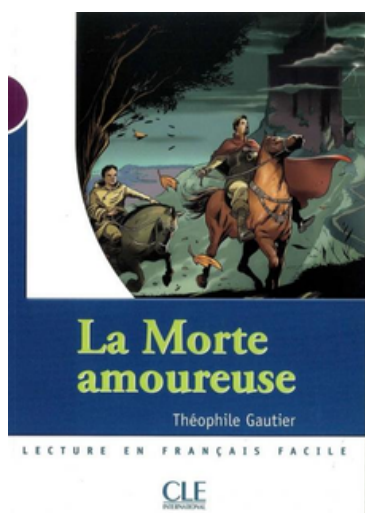


**11:30 AM  
SUNDAY,  
FEBRUARY 23**

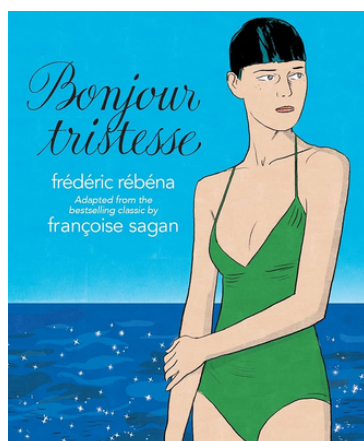


## February with the French Library

### The library's selection of the month



*La Morte amoureuse*,  
de Théophile Gautier  
(A1-2)



*Bonjour tristesse*, de  
Frédéric Rébena (B1-2)



*Toutes ces choses qu'on  
ne s'est pas dites*, de  
Marc Levy (C1-2)

# WRITING CONTEST AWARDS

As part of Les Nuits de la Lecture (Reading Nights), the Alliance Française de Pune organized a writing contest with two categories.

The first was the Intermediate/Experienced French category, where participants could submit texts in any form—short stories, poems, letters, testimonies, etc.—with the theme "Mon histoire" (My Story). This allowed participants to share personal or fictional narratives.

The second category was French Beginner, where the submitted texts could also take any form, but the story had to take place in France and include at least one French monument. Additionally, the text was required to contain at least five sentences in French.

We are excited to announce the winners of these two categories, whose creative works impressed the judges with their originality and engagement with the respective themes.

PREMIER PRIX Intermediate/Experienced  
French category

ANCHAL TIBREWAL  
"Le vieux vélo"

Chaque matin à Paris, je suis prêt. Moi, Pierre, un vieux vélo de livraison, ami des baguettes. De mon café, je regarde la ville se lever. Je ne suis pas jeune comme ces vélos électriques, mais mes roues usées racontent une histoire parisienne. Aujourd'hui, je transporte des pains frais. Mon cavalier, Jules, arrive en sifflotant. "Salut, Pierre! Prêt pour l'aventure?". Oui, je suis prêt.

Sur le Pont Saint-Louis, Jules murmure "Regarde, Pierre, Notre-Dame brille encore". Ça me salue comme une vieille amie, je lève mon guidon en réponse. Soudain, catastrophe! Une pierre me fait perdre l'équilibre. Jules trébuche légèrement. "Oh non, pas maintenant!". Elle s'arrête, ajuste mon panier rassuré. "Tout va bien, vieux ami."

Enfin, nous arrivons.

Les clients sourient en voyant les pains encore chauds.

Le soir, alors que Jules me gare, je regarde la nuit envelopper la ville. Oui, je suis vieux, mais je suis Parisien. Tant que mes roues tournent, je ferai partie de cette danse.



FIRST PRIZE  
French Beginner category

ISHITA WADGAONKAR

Le moment s'écoule Comme du  
saphir fondu Deep blue silences No  
Earth below No sky above

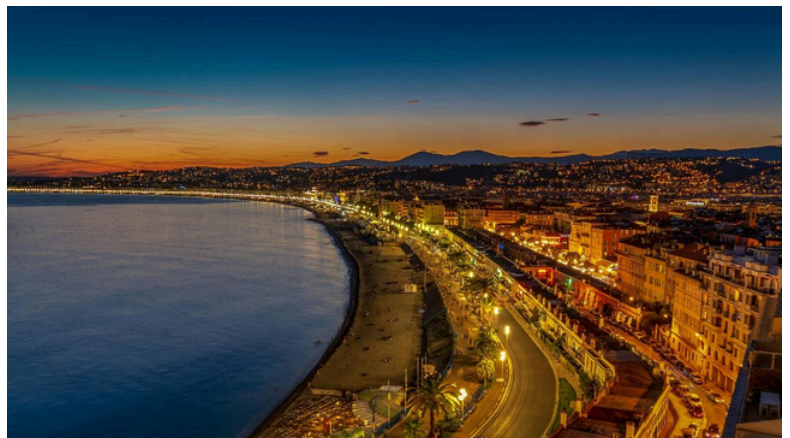
Les branches et les feuilles  
bruisant  
Saying you are the only one here  
Seulement moi  
Mon souffle  
My heartbeat  
Such depth  
Such loneliness everywhere  
Et moi,  
Seulement moi

Je crois que maintenant j'existe  
Dans l'ombre du Monument aux  
Morts  
Where memories of the past linger  
A testament to time,  
To life  
Je me trouve  
Le soleil se couche,  
A palette of dazzling colors,  
In the evening sky,  
Les étoiles apparaissent,

In this sweet tranquility,  
I feel connected to the world,

I am part of all,  
Yet, alone.  
Here.  
The weight of time passed  
And days to come  
Rests  
All around me,  
The shadows of those gone by,  
Tell endless stories,

Et je fais partie de cette tapisserie,  
Woven into the fabric of Nice,  
Où chaque rue, Et chaque  
monument, Raconte une  
histoire unique. But in the  
darkness, I find clarity. Dans  
cette solitude, Je découvre la  
paix, And I realize, Here, À  
Nice, I am alive, I am home.





# A Journey into Science Fiction with French Authors

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Thursday, February 27

- 11 AM - 1 PM @ Darshan Studio, KalaChhaya campus

Conversation about science fiction and its connection to our world. A bilingual session moderated by Abhijeet Ranadive.

Pierre Bordage



Is a French sci-fi and fantasy writer, known for *Les Guerriers du Silence* and *Wang*. His works delve into futuristic worlds with philosophical and social themes. *Nouvelle Vie* is part of the French middle school curriculum.

Laurent Genefort



Is a renowned French author, celebrated for his rich imaginary worlds in works like *Le Cycle d'Omale*, *Arago*, and *Lum'en*. His novels *SAP Hunters* and *Thick Skins* have been translated into English.

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# Parents & Kids

## Friendship bracelet workshop

Enjoy a heartwarming story on friendship, an interactive game, and a creative session to make and exchange friendship bracelets



Saturday,  
February 8

3 p.m. to  
4:30 pm

Library  
Alliance Française  
de Pune

[Click to register!](#)



# OUR VR SELECTION

## NOTRE DAME DE PARIS

### Éternelle Notre-Dame

French and English; 2:30 min.

Éternelle Notre Dame is a technological challenge that allows visitors to immerse themselves in the history of the Parisian cathedral Notre Dame de Paris and its treasures, from its construction in the Middle Ages to the current restoration work. It's a journey through time and space, giving visitors the chance to discover every aspect of this iconic monument through a genuine virtual reality experience in which they become real players in the monument's rebirth.

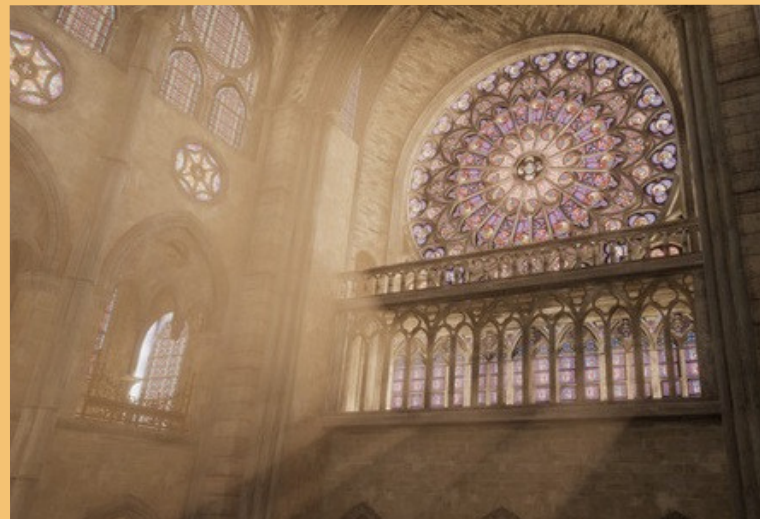


LEARN MORE ABOUT THE HISTORY OF THE FAMOUS FRENCH CATHEDRAL

### Revive Notre Dame

French and English; 17 min.

On April 15, 2019, Notre Dame de Paris caught fire. Today, the cathedral is not entirely saved, but still standing. Experience a unique and unprecedented immersion in the cathedral before and after the fire, narrated by the architects who look after the iconic monument.



# ART

## L'île des morts

French; 8 min.

Based on Arnold Böcklin's painting. Isle of the Dead is a timeless journey, starting from an everyday apartment towards our final destination, guided by Charon, ferryman of the Underworld.



## Un Bar aux Folies Bergère

French and English; 6 min.

A Bar at the Folies Bergère takes us into the head, the eyes and thoughts of Manet's painting. Beyond the documentary aspect, the project intends to reflect and to show the ambivalence of the Belle Époque and the sophistication of a masterwork whose interpretation is still a mystery.



## Claude Monet, L'obsession des Nymphéas

French and English; 7 min.

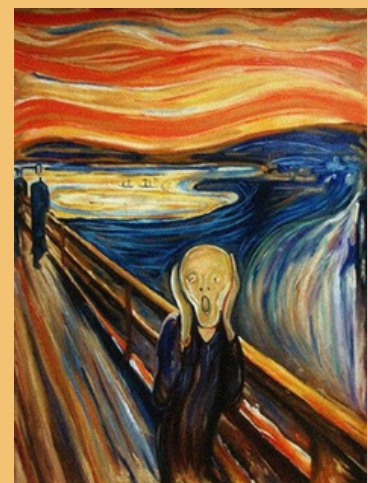
In 1883, the painter Claude Monet first rented a house in the French town of Giverny. After purchasing the property and adjoining land, the artist transformed an existing small pond into a water garden with water lilies and a Japanese-style bridge from which he could observe the water and the flowers.



## Le Cri VR

French and English; 17 min.

A documentary experience bringing Edvard Munch's thoughts and demons to life. This virtual reality experience uses The Scream as a launching pad, exploring the painter's deepest obsessions in an audio-visual staging of the most famous scream in the history of art.



# GAMES



## Chauvet : à l'aube de l'art

French and English; 12 min.

Our humanity's first masterpiece was created 36,000 years ago in Ardèche, France. Within Chauvet Cave lies thousands of drawings, enclosed forever. The Dawn of Art is a Virtual Reality experience, including both an immersive film and a virtual visit of the cave that invites you to meet your prehistoric ancestors, the first humans who ventured in a deep subterranean world and left their marks preserved on the walls.



## En tête à tête avec la Joconde

French and English; 8 min.

This is the first virtual reality experience presented by Musée du Louvre. It combines moving image, sound and interactive design to create a deeply engaging way to immerse visitors in the world of da Vinci's as well as bringing to life decades of conservation research and data, including infrared scans. Transporting the viewer through time, the experience unveils insights into how the artwork was originally created, how it might have looked in the past, and how it has changed over 500 years.