Written by Amit Bachchan Saturday, 01 December 2012 11:41 - Last Updated Sunday, 02 December 2012 13:02



Cross Word in Kemps Corner was at the eye of a storm this Friday as film stars, industrialists, politicians, sports personalities, socialites and other luminaries descended in droves for the launch of Captain Vinod Shankar Nair's book 'Pride of Lions'.

Stars of the event that did readings were Vivek Oberoi who was bang on time, Tulip Joshi and the Additional Commissioner of Mumbai Police, Brijesh Singh.

Also seen were Ranjeet, Dalip Tahil, Shama Sikander, Alexx Oneal, Parveen Dabbas, Kiran Bawa, Yasmin Morani, among many, many others.

The book being launched (Pride of Lions) is a taut thriller, gritty and extremely fast paced. While it does have a lot of action, it is also intense as it addresses deeper issues facing the youth of current day India. The story starts with students in a classroom questioning the basis of pride in their country given today's scenario of corruption and inefficiency. Their debate is cut short when the theatre abruptly shifts to a fierce gun battle raging between two equally determined sides on a seemingly obscure war-ravaged mountain top. It is a soul stirring love story of brotherhood, courage and passion.

## PRIDE OF LIONS Book launch with B-Town

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Vivek Oberoi and Tulip Joshi captivated the audience when they read excerpts from the book that had everyone on tenterhooks. The Question and Answer session with the author revealed some fascinating insights into his motivational power and irrepressible intelligence. He has an IQ of 163 (a score achieved by 0.03% per million). Some members of the audience seemed convinced that the book is a true story based on Captain Vinod's own real life combat experiences but when quizzed, he insisted that the book is a work of pure fiction and not related to his life at all.

A few critics present who had previewed the book described it as an instant best seller. India's answer to 'Saving Private Ryan' and christened Captain Vinod Shankar Nair as India's Fredrick Forsyth.

A superb team, Captain Vinod Shankar Nair, Vivek Oberoi, Tulip Joshi, and Brijesh Singh formed a real Pride of Lions on stage.