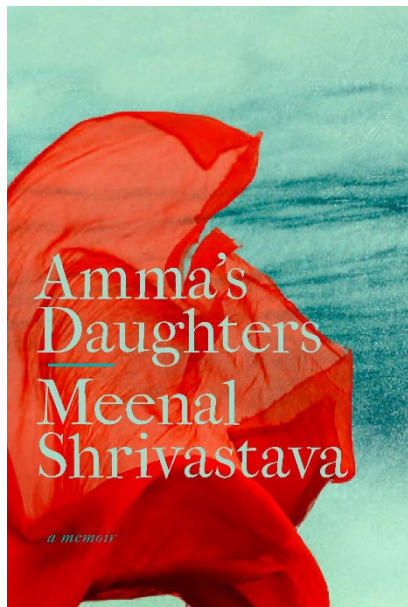


## New memoir uncovers the story of Gandhi’s feminist foot soldiers



*Edmonton*—Approximately seventeen thousand women were arrested in India between 1930 and 1931 under the charge of civil disobedience. Motivated by Mahatma Gandhi’s call for peaceful protest, these women stepped outside of their domestic boundaries to take up the fight for India’s independence. However, their contributions to this movement have been largely forgotten.

*Amma’s Daughters* is a groundbreaking work of creative non-fiction that uncovers the story of Gandhi’s feminist foot soldiers. Meenal Shrivastava, the granddaughter of one of these revolutionaries writes her family’s history in this moving re-memory. Shrivastava captures the courage of her grandmother, Shanti, at the age of twelve, as she joins the nationalist movement and is subsequently arrested for making seditious speeches. Despite serving many jail sentences, Shanti never wavers from her devotion to Gandhi’s teachings and her dream of equality for women.

“*Amma’s Daughters* draws a vivid portrait of a revolutionary woman who challenges the norms of her time. Drawing on diaries and oral history, Shrivastava takes us on a journey alongside her courageous grandmother as she joins the Gandhian struggle against British rule in India and, after independence, negotiates her way through a political terrain inhospitable to women while simultaneously being a wife and mother. This biography is a welcome addition to the field of women’s history as complicates the conventional dichotomy of political man/domestic woman.”  
—Sikata Banerjee, professor of gender studies, University of Victoria

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Born in Jaipur, **Meenal Shrivastava** now lives in Sidney, British Columbia where she is a writer and a professor of political economy and global studies at Athabasca University. Beginning with her grandmother’s published 1962 autobiography, Shrivastava weaves together interviews, her mother’s writings, and archival research to tell her remarkable family story.