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XVII Annual Conference of
**RAJASTHAN ASSOCIATION
FOR STUDIES IN ENGLISH**

ON

*Plurality
is Unity*



*Exploring Humanity and
Celebrating Individual Identities
Through Literature in Translation*

On
ZOOM
Platform

Online International Conference : 28-29 November, 2020

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Plurality is Unity:

Exploring Humanity and Celebrating Individual Identities through Literature in Translation

Concept Note

Globalization ushered in an era of fear of dispossession of individual spaces leading to a strange kind of imposition of uniformity in all spheres of life. It was becoming visible how a super power was using its entire means to demean all other entities and establish a hegemonic control over peoples and countries. Over the years this has percolated down to smaller countries and the talk of national identities as central to political discourse is becoming evident. One nation, one language, one culture, one ideology and one party seem to be becoming the new normal. The pandemic also seems to have been used by the power centers to consolidate their positions and curb the alternative voices.

The world, however, has never been so in the past. This new normal is not normal. Plurality is normal. Existence of multiple voices, multiple choices, numerous colours and varied fragrances make a world normal. Small things matter. Their presence makes the big ones big.

This distinction of plurality and unity has been discussed at ontological and philosophical planes since long. In the Platonic view, pluralities are objects that partake in a form. A property like "two" jointly qualifies the objects but does not relate them, just as "beauty" qualifies many objects at once. There is nothing peculiar to pluralities. Only those plurals that are relational seem to escape this view. Two individuals partake in the form 'father of', but only one of them is legitimately described as 'father'. Thus, individual entities get their identity in a plural society and do not face any crisis of existence.

This is true in the sphere of literature too. It exists in different languages in various parts of the world. Every language represents a cultural and linguistic community. It gives expression to the individual voice of the author as well as the collective voice of the community. It successfully expresses the emotions, thoughts, aspirations, and imagination of the people speaking that language. In that sense no language is small and no language is big. The political power wielded by a linguistic community makes that language dominate others.

In literature a language with less number of speakers or politically marginalized linguistic community can also become important on the basis of literary creations in that language. The translation of literary works of a language build a bridge across cultures and helps the readers learn about that. In fact, the world has come closer through translations. It may be argued that translation from the source language to target language is accompanied by certain loss of meaning but the fact is that this is immaterial in comparison to the gain one has in reading literature of a language that he doesn't know. This also enables one to know another culture and respect it. Translation manifests respecting the other. One attempts translation from one language to another only when (s)he loves the two languages and wishes to engage with them.

Sub Themes

1. Translation from English
2. Translation from other languages to English
3. Translation from an Indian Language to another Indian Language
4. Adaptation
5. Indigenous Languages and their translation

Well researched papers conforming to MLA VIII edition are invited on any of the above themes or on any other aspect of the topic of the conference. There is no word limit but usually the research papers should have a word count of 2500 to 3500 words.

Please mail the abstract of your papers (300words) by 12th November, 2020 and full papers by 25th November,2020 at [Email - raseconference09@gmail.com](mailto:Email-raseconference09@gmail.com)

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