

Annals of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English 2003 to 2023

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Annals of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English



2003-2023

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Journey of RASE at a glance

S.No.	Title of the conference	Year/Date	Venue	Key Speakers
1.	First Annual Conference of RASE on Curriculum Development and the role of the teacher	Feb.28-29,2004	M.V.Shramjeevi College, JRN Rajasthan Vidyapeeth, Udaipur	1.Prof.M.S.Agwani,EX V.C. JNU, New Delhi 2.A.P.Sharma,Writer 3.Prof.J.S.Ranawat,Principal, MVSC, 4.Sh.Anand Vardhan Shukla
2.	Second Annual Conference of RASE on Indian, British and American Writing in English	April 3,2005	R.N.T. College of Arts, Chittorgarh	1. Prof. B.L.Chaudhary,V.C. Mohan Lal Sukhadia University,Udaipur 2.Waswo X Waswo,American Poet, 3.H.Mallick,Vice President, Aditya Cement
3.	Third Annual Conference of RASE on Challenges to English Teaching	Feb.17-18, 2007	Institute of Technology and Management,Bhilwara	1.Prof.S.D.Kapoor, 2.Prof. Sudhi Rajiv, 3.Prof.D.N.Vyas. Dean Rajasthan Technical University, 4.Prof.R.K.Aeron,Director,ITM
4.	Fourth Annual Conference of RASE on Tribal Society and Literature	Nov.18-19,2007	Govt.P.G.College, Pratapgarh	1.Prof.Rajul Bhargava, 2.Prof.C.L. Sharma,Professor of Sociology,MLSU
5.	Fifth Annual Conference of RASE on Post Colonial Theory and Literature	Oct.19-20,2008	JDB Govt. PG Girls College, Kota	1.Prof.Naresh Dadhich,V.C. Vardhman Mahaveer Open University,Kota 2.Prof.Shyam S. Asnani, Ex- Professor,Himachal Pradesh University,Simla 3.Prof.Sudhi Rajiv, J.N.Vyas University,Jodhpur
6.	Sixth Annual Conference of RASE and First International ESL EFL Conference	Nov.5,6,7 2009	M.V.Shramjeevi College, JRN Rajasthan Vidyapeeth, Udaipur	1. Prof.R.P.Bhatnagar, 2.Prof.Divya Prabha Nagar, VC, JRN Rajasthan Vidyapeeth, Udaipur, 3.Prof.Z.N.Patil,EFLU,Hyderabad
7.	Seventh Annual Conference of RASE on	23-24 Jan.2010	SPU College, Falna Dist.Pali	1.Prof.O.P.Juneja,M.S.University, Vadodara 2.Prof.I.K.Sharma,University of Rajasthan,Jaipur
8.	Eight Annual Conference of RASE on Multiculturalism, Ethnicity and National Identities	26-27 Nov.2011	Govt. Dungar PG College, Bikaner	1.Prof. K.L. Sharma, VC, Jaipur National University 2.Prof. A.K. Gehlot, VC ,Veterinary University,Bikaner 3.Prof.R.P.Bhatnagar, 4.Prof.Rajul Bhargava
9.	Ninth Annual Conference of RASE on The Experience of British Rule in Modern India as Reflected in Contemporary Literature and Life	3-4 Nov.2012	Jaipur National University, Jaipur	1.Prof.Jasbir Jain,University of Rajasthan 2.Prof.K.L.Sharma,VC,JNU 3.Prof.H.N.Verma,Pro VC ,JNU
10.	Tenth Annual Conference of RASE on Traditions and Transformations of travel Literature	16-17 Dec.2013	MLV Govt.PG College, Bhilwara	1.Prof.N.S.Rathore,VC,SKN Agriculture University, Jobner 2.Prof.A.K.Singh, Former VC,Ambedkar University, Ahmedabad 3.Dilip D'Souza,Writer and Activist
11.	XI Annual Conference of RASE on "Learning from the Masses: Exploring the Folklore"	Nov. 2014	Jai Narain Vyas University, Jodhpur	Prof.S.D.Kapoor Prof. T.S. Satyanath, Delhi University Ranjit Singh, Chairman IPTA
12.	XII Annual Conference of RASE on "Translation, Adaptation and Popular Culture"	Nov. 2015	Central University of Rajasthan, Kishan garh, Ajmer	Prof.A.K.Pujari. Vice Chancellor, Central University, Kishangarh, Ajmer
13.	XIII Annual Conference of RASE on William Shakespeare Through the Ages	5-6 Nov. 2016	Dr. K.N.Modi University, Newai, Tonk	Prof.P.C.Kar, M.S.University, Baroda Prof. N.K.Jain, Univ. of Rajasthan
14.	XIV Annual Conference of RASE on "Contemporary Trends in English Language and Literature: Exploring Post 2000 Writings"	4-5 Nov. 2017	Chartered Institute of Technology, Abu Road, Sirohi	Prof. Z.N.Patil, EFLU, Hyderabad. Prof. Suman Bala, University of Delhi, Prof. N.K.Kaushik, Vice Chancellor, Rajasthan Technical University.
15.	XV Annual Conference of RASE on "Embracing the Other: Exploring New Literatures"	Nov. 21-22, 2018	SKDL Girls College, Ratangarh, Churu	Prof. Harish Narang, JNU, New Delhi, Prof. Sumanbala, Delhi University, New Delhi
16.	XVI Annual Conference of RASE on Widening Canvas Shrinking Spaces: Writer and Society Today"	9-10 Nov. 2019	Smt. Madi Bai Mircha Government Girls College, Nagaur	Aidan Singh Bhati, Prof. Suman Bala, University of Delhi (Smt. Aruna Rai, Sh.Narayan Bareth and Prof. Naresh Dadhich could not participate due to sudden declaration of Section 144 in the entire state of Rajasthan)
17.	XVII Annual Conference of RASE on Plurality is Unity: Exploring Humanity and Celebrating Individual Identities through Literature in Translation	19-20 Nov. 2020	Online Conference	Prof. Harish Narang, JNU, New Delhi, Prof. SumanBala, University of Delhi, New Delhi
18.	XVIII Annual Conference of RASE on "Writing in Restricted Spaces:Freedom of Writing and Writing for Freedom"		Hybrid Conference in association with Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar Government College, Nimbahera. Chittorgarh	Prof. Mashrur Shahid Hossain, Department of English, Jahangirnagar University, Savar, Dhaka, 1342, Bangladesh Prof. Prof. Ameena Ansari, Jamia Millia, University, New Delhi Delivered Prof.S.N.Joshi Memorial Lecture
19.	XIX Annual Conference of RASE on "Negotiating Love Combating Hatred: Exploring Love in World Literature".	Nov.20-21,2022	Lohia Government P.G. College Churu	Prof. Sudhi Rajiv, Vice Chancellor, Harideo Joshi University of Journalism and Mass Communication,Dr.Dula Ram Saharan, Chairman, Rajasthan Sahitya Academy, Prof.Sumanbala, Padmshri Dr. C.P.Deval, Dr. Faruq Afridi, OSD Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Dr. Hussain Raza Khan, Chairman Rajasthan Urdu Academy
20.	XX Annual Conference of RASE on Understanding Geocentrism, Naturalism and Collectivism Through Indigenous Literatures	26,27,28 December, 2023	Department of English, M.L.Sukhadia University, Udaipur	Sh.Kanji Bhai Patel, Sh.Hari Ram Meena, Prof. Harish Narang, Sh.T.C.Damor, Former Vice Chancellor,Rajiv Gandhi Tribal University, Prof. Sunita Mishra,Vice Chancellor, M.L.Sukhadia University.

Dedication

The Annals of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English
is dedicated to

Prof. R. P. Bhatnagar

Prof. S. N. Joshi, founder President

Prof. Supriya Agarwal, Vice President

And

Ms. Shailbala Mishra

Who contributed a lot to the formation and strengthening of the Association
And rest today in our memories.

*May the winds of heaven blow softly
and whisper in your ear
how much we love and miss you
and wish that you were here.*

Editorial

It is a matter of immense pleasure to state that Rajasthan Association for Studies in English has completed a journey of 20 years since its formation in 2003. It was an idea floated by late Prof. S.N.Joshi, who motivated Prof. Hemendra Singh Chandalia to give it a concrete form. Together with the support and help of the teachers of Rajasthan and other states of the country the Association took shape and became the sole platform of English Studies in Rajasthan. With pride and satisfaction we express our academic commitment today in the form of this 20th conference.



This journey went uninterrupted even in the most arduous times of the worldwide pandemic. During that time we opted to operate online and continued organizing annual conferences without a break. We adopted the virtual mode of interaction and used the online platform which provided exposure to the participants to a new means of interaction.

This journey of RASE started in September 2003 with a membership of fourteen teachers who met for a Refresher Course at Janardan Rai Nagar Rajasthan Vidyapeeth. Prof. H.S.Chandalia was the course coordinator of that refresher course. In the second Refresher Course organized by the same department the first Annual Conference of the Association was organized in 2004. Since then the Association marched from place to place meeting people, building teams at every place and successfully organized nineteen conferences in the last nineteen years. People came together and without much campaign the membership of the Association grew to more than two hundred and seventy five life members. Around one hundred delegates including teachers and scholars generally attend the annual conferences.

It's a matter of pleasure to submit that we have been able to hold RASE conferences in different corners of Rajasthan including the remotest parts like Ratangarh, Pratapgarh, Nagaur, Niwai, Abu Road and Falna besides the district of Chittorgarh, Bhilwara, Bikaner, Kota, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Kishangarh, Churu and Udaipur. A good number of eminent scholars and speakers have very kindly obliged us by their benign presence in these conferences to deliver key note and plenary addresses like Prof. Z N Patil, Late Prof. A K Singh, Prof. P.C. Kar, Prof. Amritjeet Singh from USA, Dilip Dsuza, Prof Harish Narang, late Prof. R.P.Bhatnagar, Prof Rajul Bhargav, Prof. Sumanbala, Prof. GalinTihanov, Queen Mary University of London, PadamshreeSh C P Deval, Prof S D Kapur, Prof. A.P.Sharma, Prof. Ameena Kazi Ansari, Prof. Mashrur Shahid Hussain from Bangla Desh, Prof. Umed Singh, late Prof S N Joshi etc. Vice Chancellors Prof Naresh Dadhich, Prof Sudhi Rajiv, Prof. N. S. Rathore, Prof. B. L. Chaudhary, Prof. Divyaprabha Nagar, Prof. N.P.Kaushik, Prof. K.L. Sharma also added magnificence to our conferences by their gracious presence. Chairpersons of various literary bodies like Shri Ved Vyas and Dr. Dula Ram Saharan, Chairpersons of Rajasthan Sahitya Academy, Dr. Hussain Raza Khan, Chairman Rajasthan Urdu Academy and Dr. Faruq Afridi, OSD to the Chief Minister of Rajasthan also shared their vast literary vision with the delegates of various conferences. The association in this way has given a platform for young scholars and teachers to interact with these academicians in their pursuit of knowledge.

The themes chosen for the conferences have been both literary as well as social, cultural and political focusing on the contemporary world order where the domination of the margins by the super powers has led to the creation of an inequitable world. Individual spaces are shrinking to provide more space to market. The association believes in building a society based on love and harmony. Therefore it selects such themes for discourse and debate where narrowness of mind and dogmas could be overtaken in favour of openness and rationality. The association has also taken the themes like tribal studies and folk literature to promote multiculturalism in the wake of globalization.

The constant rise of neo liberalism has posed threats to such indigenous traditions and cultures including languages spoken by small language groups.. Therefore it has taken up these issues to draw the attention of academia. Jodhpur conference on Masses and Folklore had been one such example. The Pratapgarh Conference on “Tribal Society and Literature” was also an effort in this direction. The association feels the need to bridge the gap between classes based on culture and economy. Hence it selected the issues of Embracing the Other through literature in Jodhpur conference.

Plurality is unity has been the precept of every healthy society. Love and mercy wins and revenge and hatred lose. With such tenets we take up themes like negotiating love combating hatred. Theory and other contemporary literary issues have also been chosen for the seminars. Space for writers and writing was the theme of 18th annual RASE conference. One conference has been devoted to Shakespeare and the recent trends of British literature of the first decade of 21st century. Experience of British rule in modern India as reflected in life and literature has also been one of the themes of our conferences.

The present 20th conference is devoted to understanding geo- centrist, naturalism and collectivism through indigenous literatures. It's a matter of pleasure to share that a good number of scholars and participants from all over the nation have been participating in the RASE conferences every year. The association is not funded by any Government or private agency and runs solely by the generosity of its life members and delegates. On this behalf we are thankful to all our host Government and private colleges as well as state and central universities of Rajasthan who have taken all pains in organising annual conferences. We also thank UGC for giving grants for many conferences. We express our gratitude for our sponsoring agencies for providing assistance to such events. We also express our gratitude to media for providing space to the conference reports. Above all the role of students and scholars is beyond all acknowledgements. Their active participation makes such events grand and successful.

The association has also initiated the publication of journals, newsletters, books and special issues with wide circulation. The first journal of RASE was published and released in 2006 in Bhilwara conference. Since then journal publication has become a prominent feature of annual conferences. From 2009 we obtained ISSN no 0975-3419 and took the status of peer reviewed and referred. The articles are sent first to the peer review committee and after approval they are published as per the plagiarism norms of UGC. The organising secretary of the previous conference is designated as the guest editor.

The association has also initiated the felicitation of prominent writers and artists of the region where the annual conference is organised as a mark of gratitude to such people. It believes that such traditions play a vital role in building a bond between society and art and provides an opportunity to younger generation to interact with them. Such felicitations are not limited only to the writers of English literature but we include the authors and artists from other languages like Hindi and Urdu. In this series Prof. I.K.Sharma, Dr. Kamal Nahta, RK Sambhariya, Ikram Rajasthani, PadmShri Dr. C P Dewal, Dr. Aai Dan Singh Bhati, Prof. P.N. Choyal, Shri Dayakrishna Vijay etc. have been felicitated so far in the conferences.

We are thankful to all the founding members, office bearers and members of the executive of the Association for carrying forward this so meaningfully. On the eve of the publication of the Annals we remember fondly Prof S.N. Joshi, our founder President, Prof. Supriya Agarwal, Vice President and Mrs.ShailBala Mishra who have left for their heavenly abode in these years.

All efforts have been made to gather all relevant information for this publication but still there could be some lapses. We request you to provide your views and suggestions for further improvement. This collage came to be assembled due to the help of many teachers and friends. First and foremost, I am grateful to Prof. H. S. Chandalia Sir for giving me this opportunity to recount the achievements of the association and enabling all of us to be a part of this memorable journey of twenty years. I also thank Dr. Ruksana Saifi, Dr. Gautam Sharma, Dr. H.M. Kothari, Dr. Chitra Dadheech and Dr. Sumer Singh for providing me with the material of RASE seminars conducted so far. I also extend my thanks to my student Abhijeet Sharma for helping me during the editing process.

Dr. Anant Dadhich
Joint Secretary, RASE

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I Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English

28-29 Feb. 2004

Organized by

Manikya Lal Verma Shramjeevi College, Janardan Rai Nagar Rajasthan Vidyapeeth, Udaipur

Organizing Secretary : Dr. S.K. Agarwal



A Report

The First Annual conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English (RASE) was held on 28- 29th Feb. 2004. At the Department of English, Janardan Rai Nagar Rajasthan Vidhyapeeth, Udaipur. The chief guest of the inaugural function was Prof. M.S. Agwani, Ex Vice-Chancellor, Jawahar Lal Nehru University, Key-speaker, Prof. A.P. Sharma, Prof. J.S. Ranawat, Principal, M.V. Shramjeevi College and Prof. S.N. Joshi, President, RASE graced the occasion.

Dr. H.S. Chandalia, Conference Director and Head, Department of English, M.V. Shramjeevi College, J.R.N. Rajasthan Vidyapeeth University gave the welcome speech. He said that teachers are the agents of change and through this association we plan to change the present educational scenario. Keeping this objective in mind, the theme chosen for the conference was Curriculum Development and the role of Teachers. He then invited Prof. A.P. Sharma to deliver his key-note address. Prof. Sharma expressed his concern over the current educational scenario which was quite dismal today. Curriculum and syllabi are very important factor and there should be a continuous research. He emphasised that a teacher plays an important role in curriculum development and his recommendation must be taken into consideration before formalising syllabi. A teacher must always update himself and become a role model for his students.

Prof. M.S. Agawani said that as regards the role of English Language in our country the situation is very fluid. He explained the two approaches viz. Macaulayan Approach and Raja Ram Mohan Rai approach. Over the years English has become an important link language whereby one-third of the world communicates. He appealed to the teachers to be conscious about making their students responsible citizens.

Prof. J.S. Ranawat then gave his observations on the association and the conference and hoped that the Association would flourish as its seeds are sown in the fertile soil of J.R.N. Rajasthan Vidhyapeeth Campus.

Prof. S.N. Joshi gave the concluding remarks and said that a class room teacher must not be at the receiving end and teach what is handed out to him. A teacher must assert himself and it is for this that RASE has been formed where teachers must sit together, share and listen. The UGC will listen some day, he hoped. The success of any organisation depends on -

- (1) The dedication of the organisers.
- (2) The co-operation of the institution.
- (3) The enthusiasm of the participants.

Vote of Thanks was rendered by Dr. S.K. Agarwal, the Organising Secretary of the conference. The inaugural session was convened by Dr. Sharda Bhatt.



Prof. M. S. Agwani



Anand Vardhan Shukla

The next session of the seminar was dedicated to the Muse, Dr. Azra Noor. A founder member of the Association who passed away on the 15th of Feb. 2004 at a young age of 42 yrs. The association took a pause to pay its tribute to her in this session. Dr. H.S. Chandalia gave his tributes to her by reading some of her poems like 'Holi' ka tyohar Hai' etc. Dr. Ashutosh Mohan said that destiny has snatched her from us and the loss has been ours. Dr. Aparna Sharma talked of her being a great person but at the same time being a very humble and down to earth person which is rare to find today. Dr. Tarana Parveen paid her tributes by writing a letter to her. Mrs. Chandalia then read out few couplets written by Dr. Noor. Prof. S.N. Joshi found an affinity with her as both came from the same place Nainital. Prof. Nand Chaturvedi then paid his tribute to her saying that he was present at the function where Dr. Noor collapsed. He recited some of his poetry as a mark of tribute. This session was convened by Dr. A Farooqui.

The first academic session began at 9.20 a.m. on 29th Feb. 2004. The session was chaired by Dr. Sharad Srivastava, Dept. of English, M.L.S.U., Udaipur. Dr. M.M. Gehlot, J.N. Vyas University, Jodhpur. Said in this paper that there was a need to introduce Indian English Literature at all levels. He expressed his unhappiness at the fact that even a simple task as writing an application in English is not done properly. No degree of Master should be given if the student is not adequate in English. Second paper was presented by Mrs. Jayshree Singh who talked of communication competence, professional responsibilities, problems of students and curriculum development. Dr. Kalpana Purohit from J.N. Vyas University, Jodhpur talked about functional and structural English. She put the question as to how can an Indian student be taught Shakespearean sonnets when he is not aware of the English culture. The fourth speaker of the day was Kameshwar Prasad who emphasised that the need of the students must be taken into consideration while preparing the syllabi.

In the second session Mr. E. Aubert read a paper on "Going Beyond the Text". He said that there was a need to wipe out the imprints of colonialism which was a hydra-headed monster. Dr. S.K. Agarwal read a paper on culture based-Language Teaching. On the basis of his experience, he emphasised that the tribal students can be motivated to learn English with the help of their cultural background. Tribals have a rich oral culture and when they were asked to write about their folk narratives in the English language, they were successful. This way by applying strategy of balancing the urban and the rural, English could be taught to the tribal students. Third paper was presented by Dr. S.K. Harit on "Problems faced by Teachers in inculcating an urge to learn in students". He said that British and American Literature must continue in the syllabi. Dr. Arun Zacharia spoke about the vicious divide of students and teachers not being proficient in English. Mr. R.C. Baleshwar presented the fifth paper and rejected the Macaulan Approach as being futile today. The last paper was presented by Dr. H.S. Chandalia who talked about the marxist ideology and the process of globalisation of the 1990's and how this heralded the phase of liberalisation. Today the world has become unipolar under the capitalist America and the flow of information has become unidirectional. Language has become a medium of expansion of consumerism. The need of the hour is to break the conspiracy of the capitalist on one hand and the Indian political rulers on the other.

Prof. S.S. Shrotriya talked about the development of one link language for the whole nation. English literature helps in developing a sense of humility and sensitivity in the students and this is the purpose of education. The session ended with Dr. Sharad Srivastava, Chairman, summarising the issue. The third session was the business session where the draft of the constitution of RASE and other matters concerning the Association were discussed.

The Valedictory session was chaired by Prof. S.N. Joshi, The Chief guest on the occasion was Mr. Anadwardhan Shukla, the S.P. and Special guests were Prof. S.S. Shrotriya and Prof. Ramesh Tungaria, Manager Allahabad Bank, Mr. Agarwal was the Guest of honour. Conference Director H.S. Chandalia presented the report of the conference. Vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Kusum Srivastava, Dr. Divya Sharma, Dr. Shive Dhondiyal. The session was convened by the Organising Secretary Dr. S.K. Agarwal.

II Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English 3 April, 2005

Organized by
Ravindra Nath Tagore College, Chittorgarh
Organizing Secretary: Ms. Abhilasha Soni

A Report

The second Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English (RASE) was hosted by Ravindra Nath Tagore College of Arts, Chittorgarh, The conference was held on 3 April, 2005. About sixty delegates from different parts of the state and Madhya Pradesh participated in the conference. Ms. Abhilasha Soni, Lecturer, RNT College was the organising secretary while Dr. K.S. Kang of Maharana Pratap Government (PG) College, Chittorgarh acted as the director of the conference. Prof. B.L. Chaudhary, Vice-Chancellor, M.L. Sukhadia University, Udaipur was the chief guest of the conference.

Inaugurating the conference Prof. B.L. Chaudhary emphasized the need of acquiring competence in English. He said that English has become a language of global exchange not only in academic and economic spheres but in cultural matters also. He said that teachers, associations and institutions engaged in English studies must make efforts to develop the standard of English in India. Addressing the inaugural function as its key speaker Prof S.N. Joshi said that animal voices are not properly represented in literary criticism. He defined animals as a marginalized section which needed sympathetic treatment. He said that even Wordsworth could not feel the agony of a bird caught in a cage. He did feel the prick of conscience that he was stealing somebody else's catch but did not think that the bird could be set free. Mr. Waswo X. Waswo, American poet and photographer read out some of his poems. Mr. Waswo released Dr. Paritosh Duggar's book "Darwinism and Atlantic Monthly". Prof. Shrinivasan Aiyer presented the Sanskrit and Hindi translations of Mr. Waswo X. Waswo's poems. The vice president of Aditya Cement Works, Sava, Shambhupura, Mr. H. Mallick presided over the inaugural session. The Guest of Honour Industrialist Mr. Kailash Toshniwal also expressed his view. Managing Director of RNT College, Mr. Vanim Khan welcomed the guests. The inaugural session was convened by Ms. Abhilasha Soni, Organizing Secretary. The first technical session was chaired by Prof. (Mrs.) Devendra Johar of Janardan Rai Nagar Rajasthan Vidyapeeth. In this session Dr. Kalpana Purohit of J.N. Vyas University, Jodhpur presented her paper "Patrick White's The Tree of Man Thematic Structure", Dr. Sharda V. Bhatt of JRN Rajasthan Vidyapeeth presented her paper "Leaves of Grass Trees of Morals", Dr. Jaishri Singh presented her paper "The Play", "The street car named desire", R.C. Baleshwar presented his paper, "Expansion of English Studies", Dr. Jyoti Bhatia presented her paper "Comedy and Gender", Digvijay Pandya presented his paper on "T.S. Eliot's Wasteland". Dr. K.S. Kang convened the session.



Prof. B. L. Chaudhary



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The second session of the conference was chaired by Dr. Ashutosh Mohan, Head, Department of English M.L. Sukhadia University, Dr. S.K. Agrawal, Associate Professor, JRN Rajasthan Vidyapeeth, presented his paper on "Syntactic Worthies and Feminine sensibility in Anita Desai's "Cry The Peacock", Dr. K.S. Kang

presented his paper on "Sub-human State in Kamla Markandeya's novel "A Handful of Rice", Ms. Abhilasha Soni of RNT College, Chittorgarh presented her paper on poetry of Tagore, Dr. Paritosh Chandra Duggar presented his paper on "Meera and Krishna" Dr. Kusum Shrivastava convened the session.

The third session was chaired by Dr. Sadashiv Shrotriya, Retd. Principal, Govt. P.G College Nathdwara. Dr. H.M. Kothari and Mrs. Rekha Ranawat presented a joint paper "Language Barriers among the tribal students of T.S.P. area of Rajasthan". Dr. H.S. Chandalia Associate Professor and Head, Dept. of English, JRN Rajasthan Vidyapeeth presented his paper "H.S. Murdia". The lawyer poet of Mewar." This session was convened by Dr. Aparna Sharma. The conference ended with a business session chaired by Prof. S.N. Joshi, President RASE. The General Secretary Dr. H.S. Chandalia presented the report and the accounts of the Association. The conference ended with a vote of thanks.

Glimpses

‘अंग्रेजी में दशता समय की आवश्यकता’

1 चित्तौड़गढ़, 3 अप्रैल

वार्षिक सम्मेलन का उद्घाटन

अंग्रेजी भाषा में दशता समय की आवश्यकता है। वैश्वीकरण के दौर में अंग्रेजी विश्व भाषा बन चुकी है न सिर्फ अधिक व अकादमी क्षेत्र में अपितु सांस्कृतिक क्षेत्र में भी अंग्रेजी भाषा का महत्व बढ़ा है। भारत वर्ष में अंग्रेजी अध्ययन का समुचित विकास अंग्रेजी अध्ययन संस्थाओं तथा शिक्षकों की भागीदारी से सम्भव है। ये विचार मोहनलाल सुखाड़िया विश्वविद्यालय के कुलपति प्रो. बी.एल. चौधरी ने राजस्थान एसोसिएशन फॉर स्टडीज इन इंग्लिश के दूसरे वार्षिक सम्मेलन के उद्घाटन समारोह के मुख्य अतिथि के रूप में व्यक्त किए। रवीन्द्रनाथ टैगोर महाविद्यालय की ओर से इस सम्मेलन में राजस्थान, मध्यप्रदेश के विभिन्न विश्वविद्यालयों व महाविद्यालयों के साठ से अधिक प्राध्यापकों ने भाग लिया। कार्यक्रम के मुख्य वक्ता प्रो. एन.एन. जोशी ने साहित्य में सोमान्त समूह के रूप में पशुओं की उपेक्षा की चर्चा की। उन्होंने कहा कि अंग्रेजी साहित्य में तो पशुओं के प्रति सहानुभूति की अनेक रचनाएँ हैं किन्तु अंग्रेजी सभ्यता में उसे पर्याप्त स्थान नहीं मिला है। उन्होंने कहा कि बर्ड्सवर्थ जैसे प्रकृति के कवि भी उस पक्षी को पीड़ा का अनुभव नहीं कर पते जब वे उसे पिंजरे में फँस पाते हैं। उनकी चिंता यही है कि वह किसी दूसरे का शिकार ले रहे हैं उन्होंने

इस क्षेत्र में शोध की सम्भावना पर विचार पर बल दिया। समारोह में अंग्रेजी भाषा में कविता लिख रहे अमरीकी कवि वास्वो एक्स वास्वो ने भारत में रची अपनी कविताओं का पाठ किया। प्रो. श्रीनिवासन अख्यर ने वास्वो एक्स वास्वो की कविताओं के संस्कृत व हिन्दी अनुवाद का पाठ किया। उद्घाटन समारोह की अध्यक्षता आदित्य सीमेन्ट के वाइस प्रेसीडेंट एच. मलिक ने की। उन्होंने मानव संसाधन के निरन्तर विकास की आवश्यकता पर बल दिया। विशिष्ट अतिथि समाजसेवी तथा मार्बल एसोसिएशन के अध्यक्ष कैलाश तोषनीवाल ने भी विचार व्यक्त किए। शुरु में आरएनटी कॉलेज के प्रबन्ध निदेशक वसीम खान ने अतिथियों का स्वागत किया। उद्घाटन सत्र में अमरीकी कवि वास्वो एक्स वास्वो ने डॉ. पारितोष दुग्गड़ की पुस्तक 'डार्विनिज्म एण्ड इटलाक्रेटिक मंधली' का लोकार्पण किया। आयोजन सचिव अभिलाषा सोनी ने धन्यवाद ज्ञापित किया।



चित्तौड़गढ़ में आयोजित राजस्थान एसोसिएशन फॉर स्टडीज इन इंग्लिश अधिवेशन के अवसर पर उपस्थित अतिथि एवं वक्ता।

ऑफ ग्रास-ट्रीज ऑफ मोरल्स', जयश्रीसिंह ने 'द प्ले द स्ट्रीटकार नेम्ड डिजायर ए मोराज ऑफ लिविंग डेथ', रमेशचन्द्र वालेश्वर ने 'एक्सोशन ऑफ इंग्लिश स्टडीज द वेस्ट लैंड' पर शोध पत्र प्रस्तुत किए।

सम्मेलन के दूसरे सत्र की अध्यक्षता मोहनलाल सुखाड़िया विश्वविद्यालय उदयपुर के अंग्रेजी विभाग के अध्यक्षता डॉ. आशुतोष मोहन ने की। इस सत्र में जनार्दन राय नगर राजस्थान विद्यापीठ विश्वविद्यालय के डॉ. एस.के. अग्रवाल ने 'सिन्टैक्टिक नॉवल्टीज एण्ड फेनिनिन सेन्सिबिलिटी इन अनिता देसाइज डाइ क्राई व पीकोक', डॉ. के.एस. कंग ने सब ह्यमन स्टेट इन कमला मार्कन्डेयज नॉवल 'ए हैण्डफुल ऑफ राइस', अभिलाषा सोनी ने 'पोवट्री ऑफ टैगोर', डॉ. दुग्गड़ ने 'मीरा एण्ड कृष्णा' पर शोध पत्र प्रस्तुत किया। सत्र का संचालन डॉ. कुसुम श्रीवास्तव ने किया।

सम्मेलन के तृतीय सत्र में डॉ. रेखा राणावत तथा डॉ. हस्तोमल कोठारी ने समुच्च रूप से लिखे पत्र 'लैंग्वेज बैरियर्स अमंग द ट्राइबल स्टूडेन्ट्स ऑफ टी.एस.पी. एरिया ऑफ राजस्थान' तथा डॉ. हेमन्त चण्डालिया ने 'एच.एस. मुर्दिया, द लॉयर पॉयट ऑफ मेवाड़' विषय पर शोध पत्र प्रस्तुत किए। इस सत्र की अध्यक्षता डॉ. सदाशिव श्रोत्रिय ने की। इस सत्र का संचालन डॉ. अपरणा शर्मा ने किया। [प.सं.]

**III Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in
English on Challenges of English Teaching
17-18 February, 2007**

Organized by
**Department of English, Institute Technology & Management
Sangam University, Bhilwara**
Organizing Secretary: Dr. Ankit Gandhi



Concept Note

English language & literature teaching in India has witnessed a tremendous change with the advent of globalization. Literature, as a tool of education, was used to nurture the human values and uphold them as an ideal. But today questions are raised on the need of literature teaching. English has come out of the highly academic literature departments to play a role in almost every walk of life. Emerging fields of learning like technology, management, commerce, media etc. use English for their day to day pursuits. The English language has also undergone spectacular changes with more and more expressions drawn from modern technological gadgetry like cellular phones, computers etc. A new need of the changing society is to equip people with a competence in the use of English that can help them in their professional life. English no more remains a library language. All over the world English has been accepted as a medium of academic exchange, business transactions and diplomatic dialogue. Even the erstwhile Communist states like China, Russia, Japan and Latin American countries have realized the need for English learning. Today a teacher of English can no longer confine himself to the study of British Literature alone. On the one side, English literature has come to include English writing in other countries, English translations of writings of any regional languages, etc. and on the other it includes the need of teaching vocabulary, communication skills and proper pronunciation of the words.



Prof. Sudhi Rajiv

With the unleashing of the forces of globalization, a teacher of English has to maintain a fine balance between the traditional high pedestal of English literary tradition as well as the requirement of the market.

SCOPE OF THE CONFERENCE

1. English Language Teaching especially in professional Institutes.
2. Translation & Comparative Literature
3. Literature in Indian Languages
4. Marginalized Voice in Literature: Feminine/ Dalit/ Black/ Displaced
5. Subaltern and popular literature including film scripts

IV Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English

18-19 Nov. 2007

Tribal Society and Literature

Organized by

Department of English and Sociology

Govt PG College, Pratapgarh

Organizing Secretary: **Dr. H. M. Kothari**

Concept Note

Folk and Tribal elements form an important part of the Vedic lore. The Vedas have a Mantra part and a Brahman part which contains a commentary and theological discussion on the mantras. The Shatpath Brahman is such a commentary and theological discussion on the Mantras of the Yajur Ved. The Yajurvedic Mantras deal with the performance of the sacrificial rites or Yagnyas like the A swamedha. These rites include the Folk and Tribal elements. Such elements exist as the montage technique; dialogues with a double meaning; recognition of and giving respect to the tribal society and tribal rites.

The God Rudra is a tribal God. He is very different from the Puranic God Siva. Rudra is associated with forests, soils, land structures and water systems. All these are mentioned in the two hundred and forty Rudra Namaskars in the sixteenth chapter of the Yajur Ved. The ritual of placating the Rudra is an indirect recognition of the rights of the tribals to 'Jal, Jungle and Zameen.' The Yajurvedic term Panchjan (the five classes of people) includes the Nishadas as the fifth class alongwith the four Varnas. The earliest commentators of Yajur Ved have explained this grouping of the five as they all have a right to perform Yagnyas.

Since the college is situated in the remote tribal area, and the two-thirds of the students are tribal, the theme chosen for the conference was **Tribal Society and Literature**. The tribal society has never been understood well. Its portrayal too, has more or less been as an effort to showcase it rather than an attempt to develop a legitimate understanding of it. To address some of these issues the whole conference was divided into following technical sessions-

1. Tribal Society in Literature and Arts : Showcasing Vs. Understanding.
2. 21st Century Milieu and the English Teacher
3. Literary Theory – Feminism, Modernism, etc.
4. Comparative Literature
5. Translation as Creation
6. Dalit Voice and Human Rights Issues

Report

The Fourth Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English (RASE) was held at Padmavati Resorts, Pratapgarh on 17-18 Nov., 2007. The conference was hosted by Government Post Graduate College, Pratapgarh. Prof. Rajul Bhargava, Professor & Head, Department of English, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur inaugurated the conference while Prof. C.L. Sharma, former Professor and Head,

Department of Sociology, M.L. Sukhadia University, Udaipur was the guest of honour. About one hundred delegates attended the conference from Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat. Since Pratapgarh is a part of tribal sub-plan region, it was decided to focus on "Tribal Society and Literature" as the central theme of the conference.

Inaugurating the conference Prof. (Mrs.) Rajul Bhargava said that there is a need to learn from the tribals if we have to save our planet. They have a rich cultural heritage, which need to be explored and understood. She said that tribal society must be given the benefits of development without being forced to lose their identity. Prof. C.L. Sharma spoke of the tribal culture at length and said that they are essentially Pagans who worship the powers of nature. They released the second issue of the journal of RASE. Dr. Ankit Gandhi edited it. The guests also released a book written by Prof. Rekha Ranawat. The book is on "Revisiting Orwell". Dr. H.S. Chandalia reviewed the book. The publisher of the book Mrs. Snehlata Kothari presented the copies of the book to the guests. The Son of a well known writer of Pratapgarh Mr. Pardeshi was also felicitated on the occasion. Principal of Government College, Mr. Dantla thanked the organizing team of Dr. H.M. Kothari and Prof. Rekha Ranawat for their efforts. Prof. Rekha Ranawat convened the session. Presiding over the inaugural session Prof. S.N. Joshi said that the Association is now reaching out to people. It is the effort of the association to reach out to the marginalized and learn from them through mutual exchange. Mrs. Sudha Joshi and Priya Kothari presented Saraswati Vandana in a classical manner.



Prof. Rajul Bhargava

First Technical Session of IV Annual Conference of RASE was chaired by Prof. S.N. Joshi and convened by Dr. Anil Paliwal. It was reported by Dr. K.S. Kang. The first paper of the day was on the world famous art of Pratapgarh. Theva Art by Shri Bhagirath Rakesh Soni, who belongs to the same family as of renowned goldsmiths. This unique art took roots in 1767 AD. due to the efforts of Shri Nathji Soni who designed this unique and world famous art. Second paper of the day was by Shri Sanjay Joshi on 'Relevance of Folk Art in Tribal Life' which represents the spirit of collectiveness and cooperativeness in a number of traditions of the life of the tribals. Third paper of the day was by Dr. Sanjay Singh on the theme of 'Amitav Ghosh Writer as an activist'. He focused his study on his novels like Shadowlines, Calcutta Chromosome and the Circle of Reason. He considered Amitav Ghosh as a specialist on refugee problem particularly from Bangladesh in eastern and north-eastern part of the country, which is relevant even today.

Next paper of the day was on the theme of "Tribal Motifs from Tribal Art" in which Priya Kothari apprised the audience about the significance of various tribal arts used by the manufacturers of textiles like tribal and ethnic motifs and modern tribal motifs which is mixture of ethnic and abstract art. The significance of the use of tribal art on the textiles by the manufacturers is that it has led to the preservation of the traditional art and identity of the tribes.

The paper of Prof. S.N. Joshi followed this paper. His paper was on "Folk and Tribal Elements in Yajur Veda" in the mantras of Yajur Veda, and its Commentary. In the Shatpath Brahmana, several techniques have been used such as montage, double meaning dialogues, recognition of and giving respect to tribal society and tribal rites. He also talked about the reference to the fifth Varna the Nishads in the four folk division of society, who were given control over "Jal, Jungle and Jameen", who were none other than today's tribals, and who were given equal authority to perform religious rites.

Last paper of this session was by Dr. Mukta Sharma on "Marginalized Consciousness in Mahasweta Devi's Shanichari". Through her study of "Shanichari" Mahasweta Devi makes the readers privy to the life of a young Oraon girl from the most oppressed, marginalized sections of society who finds herself as an outcaste in her own village and society who is carrying a muslim's child. A woman like 'Shanichari' undergoes an

unending class, caste and gender exploitation which makes her life a relentless struggle for survival. Session ended for lunch with thanks by Dr. H.S. Chandalia.

The second session was chaired by Professor A.K. Paliwal and devoted to the papers pertaining to issues on ELT and Tribals and other marginalized voices in literature.

In her paper entitled "Practicability of the Theory of Feminism", Dr. Sharda Bhatt presented a review of the opinions of various philosophers from Plato and Aristotle to V.Woolf on women issues. The paper presented feminist perspective and emphasized equality in society and the desire of the women to have their own identity. She held that feminist theory will help in overcoming so many wrong notions associated with women in society and ultimately change the mindset of the society that discriminates against women.

In the following paper, chairman of the session, Dr. A.K.Paliwal talked about the predicament faced by the teacher of English due to the forces of globalization and acceptance of diversity in the postmodern world. In his paper on "The Teacher of English in the Present Milieu: Challenges and Strategies", he suggested various strategies to cope with the predicament caused by globalization and postmodernism. He suggested adopting different strategies for different learners. The next paper on "Error Analysis of the Indian Students" jointly presented by Dr. Prashant Mishra and Dr. Prachi Tiwari explored the causes that led to the errors of Indian students. Mother tongue interference, over- generalization and over-simplification of the rules of the target language are some of the reasons highlighted in the paper. An interactive and comprehensive approach was suggested to assist the learner in overcoming the errors.

In her paper on "Dr. Ambedkar and Saint Kabir: Two Social Reformers" Miss Anjali Khimesra undertook a comparative study of the two social reformers. The paper focused on the contribution of Saint Kabir through his literary writings and Dr. Ambedkar through his social and political movements and writings in the upliftment of the dalit.

In the next paper entitled, "ELT in the 21st century" F.L. Suthar discussed the communicative needs and their fulfillment in the context of globalization and universalization of Technology. He expressed his concern to equip our students to communicate effectively in the globalized world and to use a language that is globally intelligible and functional.

In another paper on ELT, "Challenges to ELT at the Primary Level", Mr. R.S. Choudhary expressed concern on the inadequacy of the learning of English at the primary level. He expressed shock over students' inability to construct even simple sentences after passing primary stage. He suggested some methods and techniques to assist the students in developing four skills - Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking.

In the next paper on "How to look after Children's Development", Mohd. Hussain Asif emphasized on the diversity of the country and advocated the development of the children keeping in view the heterogeneous nature of the society and the environment. He opined that the duty of the parents is to make their children more tolerant and inculcate the spirit of inclusiveness and respect for other cultures and people in them.

In his paper entitled "Problems of Language Teaching in Government Schools in the 21st century", Mr. Bajrang Dashora through analysis of the data collected from the students of 6th, 7th, 8th classes who hail from different sections of the society - OBC, SC and Tribals, found that the number of tribals is very low in comparison to other classes as Tribals are more engaged in their family occupations like farming etc. He felt that engagement of teachers in non-teaching works is one of the hurdles in the way of effective teaching of English in the backward tribal areas.

The last paper of the session was presented by Mr. Dashrath Singh. The paper was based on the experience of Mr. Singh as he is working in a Tribal region dominated by tribal students.

Tribal children who face various constraints due to poor environment of language are not properly motivated by the family members as well as their teachers.

The third and the concluding technical session of the conference was chaired by Dr. C.L.Sharma, Ex-Professor and Head, Department of Sociology, M.L.Sukhadia University Udaipur. In the first paper of this session, "Clausal Structures and Easification of Legal Texts", Prof. G.K.Sukhwil drew attention to the deviances noticed at the clausal and syntactical levels in a legal writing. He distinguished legal language from the ordinary language in respect of the use of foreign words and phrases. Through examples from the legal texts, he pointed out that legal register is different from the ordinary language used by the masses. In the next paper, "Dalit Voices in the Literature of Premchand" Dr. Sudha Joshi described Premchand as a writer with a reformative zeal. Various characters of Premchand in his novels and stories raise their voices against the discrimination against the Dalit in the society. Through citing examples from various stories of Premchand, she highlighted various factors responsible for the discrimination marginalization of the Dalits.



Prof. C. L. Sharma

In his paper entitled, "New woman's Vision in the Age of Globalization: A Perspective of the Selected Novelists from Nineties" Anant Dadhich highlighted the impact of globalization on the women writers of the nineties like Shobha Dey, Namita Gokhle and Manju Kapoor who have touched upon various tabooed subjects like free sex, extra-marital relationships, dating and live in relationships in their writings and in this way extended the dimension of women writings in IWE.

Rekha Ranawat and Dr. Kothari in their joint paper on "Depiction of Tribal life in Pardeshi's story "Khatu Rawat" talked about portrayal of Tribal life by Pardeshi who is a local writer of Pratapgarh and hence is well acquainted with tribal community and its ways and customs. The paper explored the literary style and symbolism used in the story highlighting tribal life. Khatu's marital qualities along with Chunki's respect for the living as well as the non-living things have been skillfully delineated by the writer.

"The Real Position of Tribals in Society" by Yatin Joshi highlighted the customs, status, living pattern and the opportunities and facilities available to the tribals. The paper deconstructed various false notions associated with the tribal and highlights their healthy practices like ban of alcohol and gambling in the marriage ceremonies and gender equality and worship of nature.

In his paper entitled "Social Relations and Expectations as Revealed in Folk Songs", G.P.Patidar regarded the folk songs and literature of tribals manifestations of their sentiments, social customs, traditions and emotions - both pleasurable and painful. Tribals use folk songs as a means to convey various messages to the members of their society. Through oral tradition, they transfer their knowledge to the next generation. The paper analysed the folk songs sung at various social, religious and personal ceremonies.

In the next paper, "Dalit Voices in Hindi Literature, Sanskrit Literature and Films" Koshal Kumar Jain opined that the word Dalit is very confusing and objectionable. He extended the use of the word Dalit to encompass females, prostitutes and other sufferers like children in the domain of Dalits. He quoted from Sanskrit and Hindi Scriptures and films in which Dalits raised their voices to gain their identities and individualities and to achieve their aspirations.

In her paper, "R.K.Narayan's Fiction in the Context of Patanjali's Yog Sutra" Dr. Pratibha Kalani complained of Western critics reading of R.K. Narayan in the light of Western novel form and canons whereas Patanjali's Yog Philosophy finds an overt expression in Narayan's novels.

In the next paper entitled, "Attrocities against Tribal Women" Mamata Singh voiced her concern about atrocieties leveled against tribal women at all the stages of their lives- adolescent, young and even old. Various types of atrocieties like family violence, dragging them in prostitution and even declaring them as witches makes their lives miserable. Their voices are also not heard in decision making.

Dr.H.S. Chandalia, Associate Professor and Head Dept. of English, JRN Rajasthan Vidyapeeth presented his

paper on "Tribe As a Class: The Depiction of Political Consciousness Among Santhal Tribe in Romen Basu's Blackstone". The paper talked about the exploitation of the Santhals by the landed aristocracy and the consequent growth of political consciousness among them and their participation in the struggle for emancipation from the slavery and exploitation.

In the next paper presented by Sarala Jain on "Influence of Liberalization, Privatization and Globalization on the Human Rights", the positive as well as the negative effects and consequences of LPG's contribution to economic prosperity and improvement of life style have been highlighted. LPG also has some negative consequences like death of local languages and culture, and harm to eco-system and increasing economic disparity. Dr. C. L. Sharma, chairman of the session, while summing up the session, warned against the increasing disparity in the society. He felt that the emerging tribal perspectives and perceptions will help in the upliftment and progress of the tribal. He appealed to the haves to sacrifice to ensure the upliftment of the tribals. Our literature, culture, and customs teach us to sacrifice for the downtrodden and the wretched, he added. The special feature of the conference was creative writing session and a visit to a tribal village, interaction with tribals and observation of their habitat near Gautameshwar valley.

Glimpses



वार्षिक कॉन्फ्रेंस शुरू

'पहचान नहीं, पिछड़ापन खत्म हो'

आदिवासी समाज को मुख्य धारा से जोड़ने का प्रयास हो

पत्रिका संपादक
प्रतापगढ़, 18 नवम्बर

राजस्थान विश्वविद्यालय में अंग्रेजी विभाग की अध्यक्ष प्रो. राजलु भागव ने कहा है कि आदिवासी समुदाय की विकास योजनाओं में विशेष सतर्कता बरतना आवश्यक है। आदिवासी समाज का पिछड़ापन खत्म हो लेकिन उनकी पहचान कायम रहे, हमें ऐसी नीति बनानी चाहिए।

वे यहां पद्मानवती रिसोर्ट में रविवार को 'राजस्थान एसोसिएशन फॉर स्टडीज इन इंग्लिश' की ओर से आयोजित दो दिवसीय चतुर्थ वार्षिक कॉन्फ्रेंस में मुख्य अतिथि पद से बोल रही थीं। उन्होंने कहा कि आदिवासी समुदाय को मुख्यधारा में लाने का प्रयास किया जा रहा है। उनका पिछड़ापन खत्म किया जाए, लेकिन ध्यान रखा जाए कि

इससे उनकी कला एवं संस्कृति पर आंच नहीं आए।

उद्घाटन सत्र के अध्यक्ष मोहनलाल सुखाडिया विश्वविद्यालय अंग्रेजी विभाग के पूर्व अध्यक्ष प्रो. एस.एन. जोशी ने कहा कि इस समुदाय को मुख्य धारा में लाने का विचार एक औपनिवेशिक विचार है। लोक व जनजाति ही वास्तविक धारा है। इसी से जीवन में प्रगति, शांति का आर्त्तिभाव हो सकता है। विशिष्ट अतिथि समाज शास्त्र विभाग के पूर्व अध्यक्ष प्रो. सी. एल. शर्मा ने साहित्य को संस्कृति का सवाहक निरूपित किया।

इससे पूर्व राजकीय महाविद्यालय के प्राचार्य के.एस. दातला व समाज शास्त्र के विभागाध्यक्ष डॉ. एच.एम. कोठारी ने अतिथियों का स्वागत किया। आयोजन सचिव रेखा राणावत की पुस्तक का अतिथियों ने विमोचन किया। इस मौके पर एसोसिएशन के महासचिव डॉ. हेमेश चण्डालिया ने पुस्तक की व्याख्या में बताया कि एसोसिएशन अपने जर्नल का विशेषांक आदिवासी समुदाय, कला और साहित्य पर केन्द्रित रहेगा। दूसरे चरण में लोक, दलित व जनजाति समूह विषय पर शोध पत्र प्रस्तुत किए गए।

V Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English

19-20 Oct, 2008

Post- Colonial Theory and Literature

Organized by

Department of English

JDB Govt PG College for Women, Kota

Organizing Secretary: Prof. Sunil Bhargava



Prof. Sunil Bhargava

Concept Note

The theme “Post Colonial Theory and Literature” is indeed a very relevant one which has evoked keen interest in the academic fraternity. In the context of a globalised world in which all of us live today, the theme is inherent with some very vital issues having inter-disciplinary ramifications. These issues are particularly significant for the Afro-Asian countries, most of whom attained independence only in the latter half of the twentieth century.

Colonialism places colonizers in the centre and dominating position fabricating myths to project their ideologies on the natives of the colonized countries to enslave them geographically and psychologically by Postcolonial studies are attempts to deconstruct the hegemonic designs of the colonizers. It encompasses in its canvass diverse fields like language, culture, religion, art, education system, curricula, displacement, and diaspora. feminism, fundamentalism, environmentalism and globalization. Such a vast and heterogeneous subject cannot be explored by using only one tool of study. It therefore chooses tools from different perspectives like psycho- analysis, feminism, post-structuralism and postmodernism, cultural studies, anthropology, philosophy, Marxism, sociology, linguistics, reader-response theory, Foucauldian discourse analysis and may be many more. In this short paper I have attempted to explore Postmodernism as a strategy used in studying postcolonial discourse.



Prof. Naresh Dadhich

A Report

The RASE executive joins the organising secretary, convenor and their team in extending a warm welcome to each one of you to the V Annual Conference of our Association. It is a milestone in the history of our association and we are thankful to the Principal, faculty members and staff of the JDB Govt. Girls College Kota for organising it in such a grand manner.

The association, since its inception in 2003 at MV shramjeevi College, Udaipur, has grown step by step in the dynamic and visionary leadership of our president prof. S N Joshi. The activities of the association have grown and its membership has increased with every conference. I am happy to inform that there are 73 life members now. The presence at conferences is increasing and people from Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Orissa, and West Bengal have joined our Association. Besides the annual conferences held at Udaipur in 2004, Chittorgarh in 2005, Bhilwara and Pratapgarh in 2007 the association has also organised regional seminars in this year. A discussion on Salman Rushdie's *Midnight Children* was organised at MV shramjeevi college Udaipur on 27 July, 2008. On 10 August 2008 a one day seminar was organised at JRN Raj Vidyapeeth Univ. in association with Astha Sansthan Udaipur to observe United Nation's Day for World's

Indigenous People. The conference at Pratapgarh which was focused on Tribal Society and literature inspired us to publish a special issue on The Indigenous People the World Over. We have received some articles on this theme and we are confident that we shall be able to bring out that special issue soon. The third annual issue is being released today. The executive of RASE is thankful to the Editors Dr H M Kothari and Dr Rekha Ranawat for their efforts in the publication of this issue. We are also thankful to Dr Sanjay Singh of Mandsaur Institute of Technology for publishing a collection of Poems, Rainbow, Colours of Life. It is a matter of great pride and pleasure for me to announce that the next annual number of RASE journal will be edited by Prof. Sunil Bhargav and Dr Jagriti Sharma. The association is planning to launch its website soon. Our President Prof. S N Joshi has planned to constitute certain sub committees and post of regional coordinators for further diversification and expansion of the association. We shall discuss these issues in the business session. Once again I welcome one and all to this conference.

Glimpses



**First International ESL EFL Conference and Sixth Annual Conference
of
Rajasthan Association for Studies in English
Nov. 5, 6, 7, 2009**

Organized by
Department of English
MV Shramjeevi College, Udaipur
Organizing Secretary: Dr. Hemendra Singh Chandalia

Concept Note

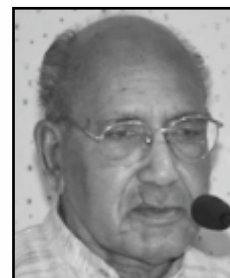
The first International ESL EFL conference was the outcome of a long series of exchanges that took place between the department of English and Asian EFL journal. After the V Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for studies in English held at Kota, Prof. Z. N. Patil floated the idea of organising the VI Annual Conference of RASE as an international conference. The idea appealed to the executive to the association which gave this responsibility to the department of English, Janardan Rai Nagar Rajasthan Vidyapeeth, Udaipur. The



department readily agreed and announced the conference. The theme "Decolonising English Studies" was accepted by all and this found its way across national boundaries to scholars working in the field of ELT, all over the world. We were happy that the response to our call was overwhelming. Quite a good number of delegates from every part of the country and from neighbouring Asian countries were participating in the conference. A lot many old friends and comrades sent their papers for presentation. The number of abstracts received exceeded two hundred. This was a sign of our increasing strength both as a department, as well as an association. The theme of the conference was quite interesting. Those countries which have been colonies of the imperialist countries, are now emerging as independent entities. Though they are not averse to using English for international exchange, there is an urge in them to protect their indigenous languages and culture. Since the elite in Asian countries study English to attain power, it is accepted as a staircase to success. The language which was considered to be a language of enslavement, is today accepted as a language of empowerment. We, as students of English language and literature have a big responsibility. We need to ensure that the learners of English acquire all the skills of language but also, retain their respect and love for their own languages. There is a need to overthrow the colonial hegemony in materials, methods and strategies of teaching and learning of English. The organising committee made all efforts to facilitate the comfortable stay of the delegates. Yet there were lapses. I took the responsibility of all of them and prayed to carry only sweet memories with them. I took pride in welcoming all members to Udaipur, the Venice of the East and to Janardan Rai



Prof. Divya Prabha Nagar



Prof. R. P. Bhatnagar

Nagar Rajasthan Vidyapeeth (deemed) university, udaipur. Let us all work together to make this conference a success.

A Report

English Language Teachers from all over the country and almost a dozen Asian countries met in Udaipur on 5,6,7 Nov 2009 to discuss issues in decolonizing English Language Teaching. The occasion was First International ESL EFL Conference cum Sixth Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English organized by the Department of English, Janardan Rai Nagar Rajasthan Vidyapeeth University. The conference began on 5th Nov 2009 and continued up to 7th Nov 2009 More than two hundred fifty delegates attended the conference and presented their research papers in these three days. The scholars came from countries like USA, France, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Thailand, South Korea, Iran and Oman. Eminent language experts like Prof Z. N Patil (Hyderabad), Prof R. P Bhatnagar (Jaipur), Prof O.P Juneja (M.S.



Seyyed Bagher Mirshojaee

University, Baroda) and Prof Rajul Bhargava (Jaipur) made plenary lectures at the conference. Prof. Sara E Kuehlhorn (South Korea), Prof Channerong Indraprasset (Thailand), Prof Khairi-Al-Zubaidi (Malaysia), Prof Bidisha Bhaduri (Symbiosis, Pune), Dr S. Devaki Reddy (IIT, Chennai), Devi Archana Mohanti and Sanchita Choudhury (IIT, Kharagpur), M.S Shankar Rao(MIT, Manipal), Dr Seemita Mohanty (MITRourkela), Bharti Shokeen (IIT, New Delhi) and Prof.Sudhi Rajiv (J N Vyas University,Jodhpur) made significant contribution to the conference. The papers received from foreign and Indian delegates were divided into five major themes namely Issues in English Language Teaching and Research; Ethnicity, Culture and ELT; ELT: Across the Borders; Decolonizing English Studies; Perspectives in Language and Literature Research and Teaching / Learning contexts in Asian countries. The papers took up issues related to teaching methodology, Teaching practices involving technology, English Language text books and their improvement, researchers in testing. Indigenous Languages and English experiences of language Teaching and Learning in various countries and different states India, Issues in teaching English as a foreign language and also as a second language. The significance of the conference increased with the participation of delegates from such Asian countries where, like India, English a second language. The Korean experience was found to be quite different from India in many ways though Language learning situations in Bangladesh and Sri Lanka were found to be comparable with the Indian situation There were seven parallel sessions everyday in which ten papers were presented. There were four workshops and five plenary sessions. The inaugural function was held in the new auditorium of Rajasthan College of Agriculture while all other sessions and the Valedictory function was held at Janardan Rai Nagar Rajasthan Vidyapeeth University Campus at Pratapnagar near Airport Road



Prof. Z. N. Patil

Addressing the Inaugural function Vice-Chancellor of Janardan Rai Nagar Rajasthan Vidyapeeth University, Udaipur, Prof. Divya Prabha Nagar said that English Language is now a language of empowerment rather than the language of enslavement New methods and strategies should be evolved to make the teaching and learning easy for the rural masses She welcomed the delegates from various countries and expressed her hope that their experiences will enrich the Indian scholars Key speaker of the inaugural session Prof. R. P. Bhatnagar said that there is an urgent need to decolonize English Language Studies in that no self respecting country would allow the teaching of another country's literature in the name of Lnguage Prof Channerong Indraprasset (Thailand) said that one has to visit his country in order to understand the teaching-learning situation there Prof Sara Kuehlhorn, South Korea talked of her experiences and read her paper on code

switching in an Indian film Kal Ho Na Ho. Prof Z. N. Patil delivered the first plenary address. He took up the task of setting the ball rolling. With his vast experience of teaching in India, Japan and Vietnam Prof Patil suggested several methods of improving teaching practices in India. He demonstrated how literature could be used as a potential source of teaching nuances of language use. He remarked that the texts used in India for teaching English are hopelessly monotonous and boring. According to him the teacher's attitude and performance are the key factors in the success of a foreign language teaching situation. In the beginning of the inaugural function Prof S.N Joshi, President of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English introduced the theme of the conference. Prof NK Pandya, Principal M V Shramjeevi College gave the welcome address. The organizing secretary Prof. Hemendra Singh Chandalia read the message of the Chancellor Prof. B. S. Garg. Dr S. K. Agrawal, Associate Prof in the Department of English offered the vote of thanks. Dr Sharda V Bhatt and Dr Mukta Sharma, Associate Professors in the Department of English convened the programme. On this occasion Prof R. P Bhatnagar was felicitated for his life-time contribution to the field of ELT. Sh G.K. Sukhwai, a Teacher Research Fellow in the Department of English was honoured for his painstaking role in organizing the conference while Dr S.K. Agrawal, Dr. K.S.Kang, Dr. HM Kothari, Dr Ankit Gandhi and Sh Sunil Bhargava were honored for playing the role of organizing secretary in the previous conferences of Rajasthan Association of Studies in English. The conference souvenir published by the department of English, Janardan Rai Nagar Rajasthan Vidyapeeth University was released by the Vice-Chancellor Prof Divya Prabha Nagar. She released two issues of the Journal of Rajasthan Association of Studies in English. At the end of the inaugural function national anthems of fourteen countries represented in the conference were played.

The academic excellence was showered in the seven parallel sessions held on the 5th, 6th and 7th November respectively. The sub-themes were comprehensively discussed in each parallel session on all the three days. The eminent chairpersons of each session appreciated and critically commented on the deliberations by the participants. Not a single untoward incident was reported to the organizing secretary throughout the conference: Healthy discussions enlightened the participants all through.

Out of the deliberations which took place during the three day conference we can take the privilege to mention only a few of them that were par excellence. The Voices of Thai Journalists on Their English was discussed by Adcharawan Buripakdi of Walailak University, Thailand. The findings were very interesting.

1. English used in Thailand was situated in a hierarchy of language and deeply embedded in a Colonial construct within the political and economic hegemony of Western Anglophone powers.
2. This validates the notion that English language usage is never apolitical and is always involved in global inequality and imposition of ways of thinking.

Though Thailand has never been ruled by European imperialism, the study results ferreted out a close connection between English and colonialism. The colonial view of the world illustrates the unfortunate consequence of the cultural politics of promotion of English. Measures should be taken toward deconstruction of apolitical views of English. To facilitate classrooms and to begin to deal with the self-marginalization issue in English educational contexts, teachers should help to capitalize on students' identities, their learning background and contexts.

The lead teacher trainer from South Korea Sara E. Kuehlhorn discussed the Hindi-English code switching in the Bollywood Film Kal Ho Na Ho. She made an attempt to show that film is a genre in which English is assimilated as and into an Indian language and that the language serves a direct purpose in developing character persona and plot through integration with other languages. The significant conclusion of her study reveals that English is used on a world-wide level by non-native speakers of the language in order to create and reflect new and unique experiences. At least in India, the English language is no longer merely a

'linking' language. Discussing English as an International Language Sayyed Bagher Mirahojee from Iran was of the view that the biggest challenge in coming decade is how to put the complementary model to teach English in the global village where pluricentricity is proposed in the WE paradigm and to solve the problems of the terrestrial planet Critical issues have gained ground in applied linguistics. He expressed his belief that the empire of WE is India but its aim is originally a call for democracy

Dr Khairi Obaid Al-Zubaidi from Malaysia opined that many campuses in various Universities around the world nowadays are witnessing the internationalization phenomenon English is the tool of globalization Though the political leaders of Malaysia fear the negative effects of the use of English on Malay Culture and identity, the students are of a negative opinion.

Lt. Col. Surjeet Singh Jeggy from Malaysia discussed the use of English in Malaysian Armed Forces The Malaysian military in service training institutions use English as their medium of instruction. He has made an attempt to assess the language features and patterns of English language in relations to the K-Force.

K-Force is knowledge enabled Armed Force with its soldiers and officers having knowledge, ICT skills, receptive to technological and global changes and a good command of English language. Therefore, the importance of English for military personnel especially officers cannot be compromised as English is the lingua franca of the world.

David Kent from South Korea discussed the use of digital poster publishing tool website Glogster in the University EFL context of South Korea. He concluded that potential does exist for it as an educational application in multimedia English courses, as web-based learning is becoming a major trend of teaching and learning in classroom and home-based activities. Similarly, Dr Sukhwant Bajwa and Raheleh Saffari emphasized the importance of Computer-based Instruction (CBI).

Chitra Jayatilake from Sri Jayewardenepura University of Sri Lanka analysed the role played by Classroom Interactional Feedback (CIF) in second language acquisition Discussing the significance of CIF types she concludes by creating clines of CIF to be promoted in the Sri Lankan L2 teaching context.

Arezoo Farazjndeh from Iran analysed the effect of recast timing on EFL error correction of Iranian female students. He concluded that immediate error correction of learners directly has influence on their feelings and may cause debilitating anxiety to learners as it decreases their learning level and should therefore be avoided. Other significant presentations comprise of character formation through literature by M.S. Shankar Rao of Manipal Institute of Technology (MIT), Mampal, Karnataka He concluded that teaching and learning values is a gradual process. Unfortunately, the role of literary texts as a source of value is ignored in the present and the emphasis is on academic excellence. An attempt to inculcate an ability to think critically and to make meaning out of this drastically transforming world can be done through literature' so that the world is a better place to live in

Dr Sanjay Kumar Singh, Asstt. Prof and Head, OPJIT, Raigarh, Chattisgarh, emphasized on effective listening. Dr Kusum Shrivastava, Govt. College Nathdwara, discussed Textese (SMS Lingo) and its effect upon English Language. Dr Kalpana Purohit, JNV University Jodhpur discussed experience and disengagement of language Dr Jagdish Joshi and Sagar Pandya of Gujarat University showed the importance of teaching and learning English using Mind Maps. Dr Tarana Parveen, Govt College Dungarpur suggested the application of Neuro Linguistic Programming (NLP) to help English language students to increase their potential by improving self expression and determination Dr Brian Mendonca, Commissioning Editor-ELT, Encyclopedia Britannica deliberated upon ELT School Publishing in India Devi Archana Mohanty, IIT Kharagpur, emphasized upon implementing learner autonomy in Indian language classroom Kalpana Rangnathan, PSG college of Technology, Coimbatore emphasized upon integrating an EST curriculum with General English curriculum

Dr Prashant Mishra, Govt. college Neemuch and Dr Susant Kumar Bardhan, Suri Vidyasagar College, Birbhum (W Bengal) discussed the issues, challenges and strategies facing the Localization of ELT in India.

Rooble Verma, Vikram University, Ujjain (MP) discussed the Role of Perenos and Interferentia in learning Russian language.

Bharti Shokeen, IIT Delhi, Discussed the teaching of English as a Second Language to Immigrant and Refugee Students in America

Dr Archana Shrivastava, Birla Institute of management Technology, Greater Noida, discussed English as a Foreign language in Desi Flavours.

The presentations mentioned above represent only the tip of the iceberg. There is a lot which remains to be included in this brief report. The cordial atmosphere, the interactions between participants from all over India during the three days, their mails of appreciation received from them after they reached their destinations- all reveal the pains, the toil to organize the conference and also confirm the grand success of the conference

The three-day conference was enjoyed by the delegates. The vegetarian food served at the time of breakfast, lunch and dinner was relished by the Indian as well as foreign delegates. Melodious presentations were made by Sanchita Choudhuri, Atish Sarkar (Rourkela), Brian Mendonca (New Delha Shweta Sharma (Jaipur) Fateh Singh Charan (Chittorgarh), Sayyed Bagher Mirshojaee (Iran) Indira Nityanandam (Ahmedabad) etc. Besides, the delegates made their presentations in creative writing sessions and were taken round the city of Udaipur to view the world famous lakes Pichola Fatehsagar, Maharana Pratap Smarak, Sahelion - Ki- Bari, Manikya Lal Verma Garden etc

The Valedictory address was delivered by Prof O P Juneja, Professor Emeritus, M.S. University Baroda. In his address he underlined the importance of computer aided language learning and said that in the age of globalization a teacher of English has to keep pace with the demands of the market. The chief guest of the valedictory function Prof M.S. Agwani, former Vice-Chancellor of JNU, New Delhi said that the growth of English should not be allowed at the cost of Indigenous languages. He quoted several instances where English was responsible for the extinction of indigenous languages Presiding over the valedictory function Sh Prafulla Nagar expressed the need to strengthen English Language Teaching in tribal and rural areas. He felt it necessary as it would open new opportunities for them Prof H S. Chandalia, Organising Secretary of the conference presented the report of the conference Dr Sharda V Bhatt. convened the session whereas Dr. S.K. Agrawal offered the vote of thanks. Dr Mukta Sharma, Dr Bhatt, Mrs. Nandini Mathur and Sh. Basant Jain were felicitated for their contribution to the conference.

Glimpses

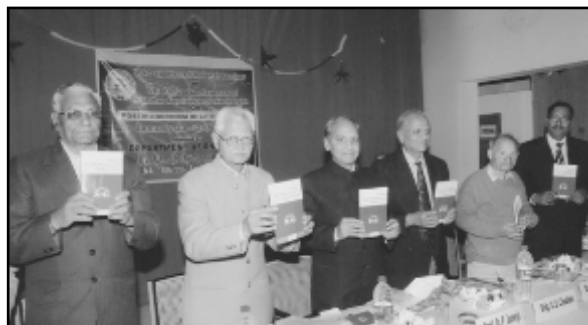


VII Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English
Postmodernism in Literature
A Report: UGC Sponsored National Seminar
23-24 January, 2010

Organized by
S.P.U. (P.G.) College, Falna
Organizing Secretary: Dr. Gautam Sharma

Concept Note

Post modernism is an aesthetic, literary, political or social philosophy, which was the basis of the attempt to describe a condition, or to state of being, or something concerned with changes to institutions and conditions [as in giddens,1990] as past modernity, in other words, post modernism is the “cultural and intellectual phenomenon”, especially since the 1920's new movements in the arts; while post modernity focuses on social and political out workings and innovations globally ;especially since the 1960s in the west. the seminar shall focuses on the debates on the



understanding of literature and language issues in the world today. The academic circles in India too are influenced by the developments in the realms of philosophy in the world. Postmodernism has become an important approach. It has provided greater space to the marginal voices like Dalits, women and the minorities. several Indian writers writing in English and other Indian languages have used their pen to voice the concerns of the weaker sections. The new world order formed after the disintegration of the erstwhile eastern camp has also led to a number of changes in the global society. The changes in the politico-economic world affect the literary and critical spheres as well. An effort was made to investigate into some of these contemporary issues in the seminar.

Sub Themes

The sub themes of the seminar are but not limited to:

- Postmodernism-critical perspectives
- Postmodern culture and literature
- Marginalized voices in postmodern literature
- Postmodernism and Indian society
- Literature and indigenious people
- Postmodernism in Indian songs and movies
- Postmodern pedagogy
- Postmodernism in regional literature of India.

A Report

U.G.C. Sponsored National Seminar and VII Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English was held on 23-24 January, 2010 at S.P.U. (P.G.) College, Falna. The Seminar was focused on the theme “Postmodernism in Literature”. The seminar was well planned and efficiently executed under the able guidance of the Principal, Dr. S.C. Agrawal. A dedicated team of teachers worked day and night to organize the seminar. More than eighty (Local and outsider) delegates attended the seminar and presented their research papers in these two days.

The papers received from the delegates were divided into eight major themes namely:-**Postmodernism - Critical perspectives, Postmodern culture and literature, Marginalized voices in postmodern literature, Postmodernism and Indian society, Literature and indigenous people, Postmodernism in Indian songs and movies, Postmodern pedagogy, Postmodernism in regional literature of India.** There were two parallel sessions every day in which about ten papers were presented. There was one plenary session in the morning of 24th January.

Addressing the **inaugural function** Secretary of S.P.U. Jain Shikshan Sangh Sh. I.R. Bhandari said that in the age of globalization English has become a language of empowerment. He welcomed the delegates from various part of the country and expressed his hope that their experiences will enrich the scholars. Key speaker of inaugural session Prof. O.P. Juneja, Emeritus, M.S. University Baroda said that Postmodernism has been in Indian culture since the days of Mahabharata. Postmodernism has always been a feature of Indian culture. Even in Mahabharata one can easily trace the features of Postmodernism. Prof. Juneja expressed his ideas on postmodernism in literature and its philosophy in capitalism. Dr. S.C. Agrawal, Principal S.P.U College gave welcome address. The guest of honour Brigadier K.S. Chouhan, a retired army officer presented a detailed paper on the theme and said that it was literature which kept him alive and lively even in the cold climate of Siachin.

I.K. Sharma, Associate Professor (Retired), University of Rajasthan, Jaipur also addressed the session and he defined Falna in that way “Falna is place, where never autumn comes.” It means “Fall-not”. S.N.Joshi Associate Professor (Retired) M.L.S University and President of RASE, Udaipur expressed his precious thoughts on postmodernism. Prof. H.S.Chandalia, Head, Department of English, J.R.N Rajasthan Vidyapeeth University, Udaipur and Secretary of RASE presented the annual report and future planning of the association. Dr. Gautum Sharma, Organizing Secretary of the Seminar introduced the theme of the seminar. On this occasion the souvenir of the seminar was also released by Secretary of S. P. U. Jain Shikshan Sangh Sh. I.R. Bhandari. At this juncture RASE also felicitated the famous Indian English Poet of Rajasthan Prof. I.K. Sharma for his creative writings in English and Rajasthani. Dr. B. D. Verma, Lecturer in the Department of Business Administration of the college offered the vote of thanks and Dr. G. K. Sukhwah, Govt. College Kota convened the programme. At the end our National Anthem was played on Casio by Mr. Manish Dadhich. Shri I.R. Bhandari very kindly consented the proposal of RASE to open a centre of creative writing in English and other languages at Falna.

The academic excellence was showed in the two technical sessions held on 23-24 January respectively. The sub themes were comprehensively discussed in each parallel session on all the two days. The scholarly chairpersons of each session appreciated and critically commented on the deliberations by the participants. Healthy discussions enlightened the delegates all through.

One plenary and four technical sessions were conducted in the seminar chaired by Prof. H.S. Chandalia, Dr. Paritosh Chandra Duggar, Dr. G.K. Sukhwah and Dr. G.S. Kushwah.

Plenary Session wasChaired by Prof. S.N. Joshi, Associate Professor (Retired) M.L.S University, Udaipur

& Convened by Prof. H.S. Chandalia. In this session Prof. I.K. Sharma, Retired Associate Professor, University of Rajasthan, Presented his Research paper on Postmodernism in Regional Literature which was enjoyed by all the delegates. A lot of questions were asked which were very convincingly answered by Prof. Sharma.

In the colourful evening of 23rd January, 2010 a **creative session** was held at Ranawat Farm House in which secretary of S.P.U. Jain Shikshan Sangh Shri I.R. Bhandari, Advocate Shri S.L. Surana, Prof. O.P. Juneja, Prof. I.K. Sharma, Prof. S.N. Joshi, Prof. H.S. Chandalia, Dr. Pramila Singhvi, Chandresh Sharma, P. Bhaskar, Vinish Arora and other delegates presented songs, gazals, poems and jokes. This session was beautifully convened by Prof. H.S. Chandalia, Head, Deptt. of English, J.R.N. Rajasthan Vidyapeeth University, Udaipur. This session was held in presence of Dr. N.M. Singhvi.

The presentations of papers mentioned above represent the success of the seminar. The cordial atmosphere, the interactions between participants from all over India during the two days, their mails of appreciation received from them after they reached their destinations all reveal the pains, the hard work to organise the seminar and also confirmed the grand success of the seminar.

The two days UGC Sponsored National Seminar and VII Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English was enjoyed by the delegates. The vegetarian food served at the time of breakfast, lunch, refreshment and dinner was relished by all the participants.

The **valedictory address** was delivered by Prof. S.N. Joshi. In his address he underlined the importance of English in the age of information and technology. He said that postmodernism is an important area of critical discourse in the world today. It encompasses not only the sphere of language and literature studies but also includes in its area the disciplines of Sociology, Political Science and Philosophy. The chief guest of this session Dr. N.M. Singhvi, Chairman, Administrative Reforms (HRD & Man Power Planning) Committee, Jaipur also focused on Postmodernism in literature & art and he said that Academic circles in India too are influenced by the developments in the realms of philosophy in the world. He said postmodernism has become an important approach today. Presiding over the Valedictory function Sh. I.R. Bhandari, Secretary, S.P.U.J.S.S., Falna expressed the necessity to strengthen English language teaching in rural areas. He said that such type of seminars develop academic excellence in scholars. The Guest of Honour Sh. Suresh Pandya, Additional S.P., Bali also presented a research paper on postmodernism which was admired by all the delegates. Dr. S.C. Agarwal, Principal, S.P.U. (P.G.) College, Falna welcomed all the guests. On this occasion S.P.U. (P.G.) College, Falna also felicitated Prof. S.N. Joshi and Prof. H.S. Chandalia for their academic activities in English studies in India. Dr. Gautam Sharma was elected regional secretary of RASE. Dr. H.S. Chandalia, Secretary of RASE presented his gratitude for the Department of English, S.P.U. College, Falna and S.P.U. Jain Shikshan Sangh for successfully organising the conference. At the end Dr. Gautam Sharma, organising secretary, of the conference presented the report of two days' National Seminar. He thanks University Grants Commission for financial assistance to conduct the National Level Seminar, S.P.U. Jain Shikshan Sangh, College administration, RASE executives, all the staff members, donors for their kind support and co-operation. He also thanked Dr. G.K. Sukhwai who convened the inaugural and valedictory program successfully.

Glimpses



**VIII Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English
on Multiculturalism, Ethnicity and National Identities
26-27 Nov., 2011**

Organized by
Department of English Govt. Dungar College, Bikaner (Rajasthan)
Organizing Secretary: Dr. Sonu Shiva



Concept Note

Multiculturalism is the appreciation, acceptance or promotion of multiple cultures, applied to the demographic make-up of a specific place, usually at the organizational level, e.g. schools, businesses, neighborhoods, cities or nations.

In a political context the term is used for a range of meanings, ranging from the advocacy of equal respect to the various cultures in a society, to a policy of promoting the maintenance of cultural diversity, to policies in which people of various ethnic and religious groups are addressed by the authorities as defined by the group they belong to. A common aspect of many such policies is that they avoid presenting any specific ethnic, religious, or cultural community values as central.

Multiculturalism may be defined as reaching out to both the native-born and newcomers, in developing lasting relationships among ethnic and religious communities. It encourages these communities to participate fully in society by enhancing their level of economic, social, and cultural integration into the host culture(s). This is a tricky question because the definition of multiculturalism depends heavily upon the context in which it is discussed. Also, the concept of multiculturalism is constantly changing as more people make their voices heard to a continually growing audience. In the United States, multiculturalism is a social and political movement and position that holds differences between individuals and groups to be a potential source of strength and renewal rather than of strife. It values the diverse perspectives people develop and maintain through varieties of experience and background stemming from racial, ethnic, gender, sexual orientation and/or class differences in our society. It strives to uphold the ideals of equality, equity and freedom on which the United States is based, and includes respect for individuals and groups as a principle fundamental to the success and growth of our country. An ethnic group (or ethnicity) is a group of people whose members identify with each other, through a common heritage, often consisting of a common language, a common culture (often including a shared religion) and/or an ideology that stresses common ancestry or endogamy. Another definition is "...a highly biologically self-perpetuating group sharing an interest in a homeland connected with a specific geographical area, a common language and traditions, including food preferences, and a common religious faith." Members of an ethnic group are conscious of belonging to an ethnic group; moreover ethnic identity is further marked by the recognition from others of a group's distinctiveness. Processes that result in the emergence of such identification are called ethnogenesis. The modern meaning emerged in the mid 19th century and expresses the notion of "a people" or "a nation". The term ethnicity is of 20th century coinage, attested from the 1950s. The term nationality depending on context may either be used synonymously with ethnicity, or synonymously with citizenship (in a sovereign state).

The modern usage of "ethnic group" further came to reflect the different kinds of encounters industrialised states have had with external groups, such as immigrants and indigenous peoples; "ethnic" thus came to stand in opposition to "national", to refer to people with distinct cultural identities who, through migration or conquest, had become subject to a state or "nation" with a different cultural mainstream. Writing about the usage of the term "ethnic" in the ordinary language of Great Britain and the United States, in 1977 Wallman noted that

The term 'ethnic' popularly connotes 'race' in Britain, only less precisely, and with a lighter value load. In North America, by contrast, 'race' most commonly means color, and 'ethnics' are the descendents of relatively recent immigrants from non-English- speaking countries. 'Ethnic' is not a noun in Britain. In effect there are no 'ethnics'; there are only 'ethnic relations'. Thus, in today's everyday language, the words "ethnic" and "ethnicity" still have a ring of exotic peoples, minority issues and race relations.

National identity is the person's identity and sense of belonging to one state or to one nation, a feeling one shares with a group of people, regardless of one's citizenship status.

National identity is not inborn trait; various studies have shown that a person's national identity is a direct result of the presence of elements from the "common points" in people's daily lives: national symbols, language, national colors, the nation's history, national consciousness, blood ties, culture, music, cuisine, radio, television, etc. The national identity of most citizens of one state or one nation tends to strengthen when the country or the nation is threatened militarily. The sense of belonging to the nation is essential as an external threat becomes more clear.

National identity collides with a person's civil identity. For example, many Israeli Arabs associate themselves or are associated with the Arab or Palestinian nationality, while at the same time they are citizens of the state of Israel, which is in conflict with the Palestinians and with many Arab countries. The Taiwanese also face a conflict of national identity with civil identity, in which residents are issued national identification cards and passports under the country name "Republic of China", when certain portion of them do not feel good about viewing their country as "China". This is also a reason why the Democratic Progressive Party advocates formal "Taiwan Independence" and renaming the country "Republic of Taiwan".

Prof R. P. Bhatnagar releasing two books edited by Dr. H. S. Chandalia and Dr. G. K. Sukhwal

The seminar looked at the debate on the emergence of ethnic issues the world over and also the threat to ethnical/national identities vis-a-vis globalization. The approach would be to see these issues through literature created in India and abroad in recent past.

Glimpses



IX Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English
on
The Experience of British Rule as Reflected in Contemporary Life and Literature
Nov. 3-4, 2012

Organized by
Department of English
Jaipur National University, Jaipur
Organizing Secretary: Dr. Saikat Bannerjee

A Report

A two-day conference of Rajasthan Association for studies in English was hosted by Jaipur National University on 3rd and 4th Nov., 2012. The conference focused on “The Experience of British rule in modern India as reflected in contemporary Life and Literature”. Prof. Jasbir Jain, well known critic and formerly professor and Head, Department of English, University of Rajasthan was the key note speaker. In her address she stated that “so far we have been talking about the encounter” with the British. But when we use the word



“experience”, it allows us to explore a wider range where the histories have been erased, where our past has been forgotten and disrupted. We tend to explore the concept of memory and learn how selected it in we have the scope to look at the national memory as a political unconscious of a nation. Prof. Jain said that we need to build a future on the memories of the past. She said that we need to redefine history –history is not just what has happened but is what continues to be in the present. The inaugural session of the conference was presided over by the Vice –Chancellor of Jaipur National University, Prof. K. L. Sharma, an eminent Social Scientist who had been earlier the Vice –Chancellor of University of Rajasthan, Jaipur. In his remarks he tacked about the language as an entity which is socially conditioned. He said that language is not just grammar or syntax, it serves a social purpose. The selection of words, pitch, intonation etc. together constructs the meaning. Therefore we have the language of coercion, persuasion, Intimidation, Abuse, contempt and love. Language and social life are intrinsically linked. Prof. Sharma referred to the structural linguists Ferdinand soussure, Post structuralist Rolland Barthe and the Transformational Generative mances of Noam Chomsky. He maintained that linguistic exchanges convey relations of power. The Chief Guest of the inaugural function was Mr. Sandeep Bakshi, Chancellor of Jaipur National University. In his inaugural address he said that though the British Rule was oppressive, it also gave us many things which had a positive impact on India. English language is one of them. He said that Universities must support and encourage academic bodies in their activities to further the cause of education. He thanked the executive of Rajasthan Association for studies in English for organizing the IX Annual Conference at Jaipur National University.

Two eminent academic and literary personalities were facilitated in the inaugural function of the conference. The first one was Ikraam Rajasthani, a poet, translator and broadcaster who retired as the Director, All India

Radio, Jaipur. He was facilitated for his life long contribution to poetry in Urban, Hindi and Rajasthan. Prof. K. L. Sharma presented a shawl, a citation and a memento to honour him. In his acceptance speech he recited a number of couples from his Urdu, Hindi and Rajasthani creations including verses from his Rajasthani translation of Tagore's Gitanjali. The second personality to be facilitated was Prof. Rajul Bhargava, retired Professor of English, University of Rajasthan and editor of a multidisciplinary journal "voices". She was also facilitated by Prof. K. L. Sharma and Mr. Sandeep Bakshi who offered her a shawl, a citation and a memento.

In the beginning, Vice President of Rajasthan Association for studies in English Prof. H.S. Chandalia made the welcome address. He said that the British influenced the Indian psyche in multiple ways. When we talk of the British experience we have a larger scope to discuss their impact on language, architecture, literature, life –style and governance. Making of modern India can be understood better if we have this understanding. General Secretary of Rajasthan Association for studies in English Prof. Sunil Bhargava traced the journey of the Association from 2003 when it was first launched at the department of English Janardan Rai Nagar Rajasthan Vidyapeeth University during a UGC Refresher course. He stated that the Association has organized eight conferences at seven different places in Rajasthan and the journal has gone online from this year. On this occasion the online version of the journal was launched. As a tradition of the Association, the organizing Secretary of the last year's Annual Conference held at Government Dungeer College, Bikaner Dr. Sonu Shiva was also facilitated. Prof. Jasbir Jain did the honours. Pro-Vice Chancellor of the University Prof. H. N. Verma offered a vote of thanks.

In the two day conference sixty seven research papers on various aspects of the theme were presented in twelve technical and two plenary sessions. The first plenary session organized just after in inaugural was addressed by Prof. H. S. Chandalia and Dr. Bir Singh, both from Central University of Haryana. This session was chaired her Prof. Rahul Bhargava.

This was followed by lunch. Thereafter six parallel sessions were organized in which thirty research papers were presented by scholars from different colleges and universities. The second day of the conference began with a plenary session in which Dr. S. C. Hajela from J N PG College, Lucknow and Dr. Rajesh B. Sharma from Lucknow University, Lucknow made their presentations. This session was chaired by Prof. K. K. Gautam of Jaipur National University. Following this, six technical sessions were held in which thirty three papers were presented. A valedictory function chaired by Prof. K. K. Gautam marked the conclusion of the conference. Certificates of participation were given to the delegates by the Vice President of RASE Prof. H. S. Chandalia, General Secretary Prof. Sunil Bhargava and Prof. K. K. Gautam, the organizing secretary of the conference. The conference ended with a general body meeting of Rajasthan Association for studies in English, in which business related to the functioning of the Association was transacted. This session was conducted by the Vice President of RASE Prof. H. S. Chandalia.

Glimpses



X Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English
on
Traditions and Transformations in Travel Literature
16-17 December 2013

Organized by
MLV Govt. College, Bhilwara (RAJ.)
Organizing Secretary: Dr. Anant Dadheech

Concept Note

Travel literature may be cross-cultural or transnational in focus, or may involve travel to different regions within the same country. Accounts of space flight may also be considered as travel literature. Literary travelogues generally exhibit a coherent narrative or aesthetic beyond the logging of dates and events as found in travel journals or a ship's log. Travel literature is closely associated with outdoor literature and the genres often overlap with no definite boundaries. Another sub-genre, invented in the 19th century is the guide book.

Travel Literature has been a neglected and much varied genre of great antiquity to which many writers have contributed. These writers have been diplomats, scholars, missionaries, soldiers, explorers and sailors. In the present age of multiculturalism presented by post globalization travel literature brings out cross cultural effect. The subject of the conference is of utmost importance in locating the cultural implications of the particular nations.

The literature included in this genre is in the form of letters, memoirs, records, diaries, stories, novels, poetry and histories. The great epic poem Odyssey by Greek poet Homer is an account of the travels of the Greek hero Ulysses. Colonel James Tod's Annals and Antiquities of Rajasthan though treated as a history, is also a literary piece. Recently, travel writing has taken the form of cyber literature. Travel Blogs, called as Travelogue, have appeared on the literary scene.

Sub themes of the conference:

1. Negotiating the Rough Terrains: Historical Travelogues Seas
2. Across Cultures: Travel Writings across the 3. As They See Us: avelogues about India
4. Dissecting the Genre: Is Travelogue Literature?
5. Travel Literature and Ideology 6. Travel Writing and Pedagogy
7. Writing about Nomads: Travel communities
8. Travel Writing by Women Writers
9. Travel Writing and the Medieval Ages
10. Travel Writing and the Colonial Encounter 11. Travel Writing and the Language Barriers
12. Travel Writing and the Autobiographies
13. Western vis-a-vis Oriental Travelogues

A Report

“Right from the womb of mother till sinking/merging into the earth human life is a consistent journey.” A two day conference cum National Seminar of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English was hosted by the Deptt. of English, MLV Govt. College Bhilwara (Raj.) The theme of the conference was *Traditions and Transformations* in Travel Literature. Prof. AK Singh, Director Translation studies, IGNOU New Delhi was the key note speaker of the inaugural ceremony. Clarifying the theme of the conference extensively he stated that right from the womb of mother till sinking into the lap of the earth human life is a consistent journey. He explicated that travel literature is not only confined to printed literature rather it also includes oral literature as well as literature based on aural transmission, music and other modes of fine arts. Quoting from Upnishdas and considering them to be the abode of knowledge and scholarship Prof. Singh pointed out that for the gaining of knowledge two apt sayings have been referred to: one is NATI NATI i. e. That is not, that is not and other is 'Charavati' which means keep on moving. In his address he asserted that the contemporary travel literature has been affected by the means of modern transportation and communication. Due to these fast modes of transportations one has to face the problems of language. He made it clear who took the travel on foot never faced the problems of language. Describing the historic background of travel literature Prof. Singh stated that *suphiwad* could reach India through travellers like Amir Khushro and Bullesaha. *Babarnama* also deserves to be an apt example of travel literature. Quoting from the history of Europe and India he pointed out the historic perspective of travel literature and underlined that the concept of penal colony has also been derived from this thought which suggests that even the touching of water is a sin. He explained that there is a deep correlation between travel, trade and translation. The inaugural session of the conference was presided over by the Ex head Deptt. of English Prof. Rajul Bhargav. In her remarks she stated that travel literature is a serious literary genre which is by nature interdisciplinary. She was of the opinion that a new aesthetics should be formed on the basis of travel literature.

The chief guest of the inaugural function was Prof. N S Rathore, vice-chancellor of Jobner Agriculture University. In his inaugural address he said that the travels are the indispensable part of human life which bloom it by the means of knowledge, entertainment and empiricism. Originated from such experience travel literature delineates the cultural diversity.

Five eminent academic personalities were felicitated in the inaugural function of the conference for their lifelong contribution to poetry, literature and translation. They were Prof. A K Singh, Prof. A P Sharma, eminent dalit writer shri R K Sambhria , Prof. S P Jain and Dilip D'suza. The chief guest Prof. N S Rathore presented shawls, citation letters and mementos to these personalities. In the beginning of the inaugural ceremony the Principal of MLV Govt. College Prof. K R Jharolia welcomed all the guests. Vice president of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English Prof. H S Chandalia spoke about the formation and growth of RASE since its inception. He also pointed out the relevance of travel writing and its different traditions. Prof. Sunil Bhargava, Gen. Secretary of RASE presented a report of the association since its origin in 2003 during a refresher course in English at JRJ Raj. Vidyapeeth, Udaipur. He remarked with pride that the association is celebrating the first decade in the form of 10 annual conference. On this occasion the convener Prof. L S Rathore poetically welcomed the guests by presenting a poem. Dr. Anant Dadhich Organising secretary stated the theme of the conference. The annual journal of the association was also released on this occasion. Prof. AK Singh also released the book *Freedom Struggle Betrayed* translated by Prof. H S Chandalia. The session was compeered by Prof. Madhurima Nyati and at last Prof. Rekha Tondon gave the vote of thanks.

In the two day conference 50 research papers were presented on different dimensions of the theme in the technical sessions and one plenary session. The plenary session was organized after the lunch. Mr. Dilip D'suza a Mumbai based writer and journalist who frequently writes about social and political.

XI Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English
on
Learning from the Masses: Exploring the Folklore
1-2 November, 2014

Organized by
Department of English Jai Narayan Vyas University,
Jodhpur and Mahila PG Mahavidyalaya, Jodhpur
Organizing Secretary: Prof. Sudhi Rajiv



Concept Note

Literature begins with orality. No study of literature would be sustainable if it ignores the rich tradition of orality reflected through the creative faculty of the masses. In order to understand a civilization one needs to appreciate not just the classics but also its oral traditions, of which folklore is an indispensable segment. If one were to learn something worthwhile, learning from the core is a must. The core means voice of the mass, which essentially echoes from the rustic populace. These people in their own pristine simplicity, create their own reservoir of knowledge and wisdom expressed orally. In the galore of this orally transmitted culture and literature, folklore is an indispensable part



Prof. Amritjit Singh

It is not essentially a discipline of the past. Wherever people reside, folklore grows. It grows in the contemporary Eke the famous campus proverb of the later twentieth century "To Xerox is to know". Even in large modern cities of the East and the West folklore-proverbs, lullabies, folk medicine, folk theatre, folktales, folk songs, folk music exist- if not in the heart of the town, just a suburb away. The present urban generation may not be so well versed in it, but a cousin, aunt or the grandmother living in the vicinity of a few kilometers would testify the integral presence of folklore in the individual and community life.

Folklore genres such as proverb, riddle, lullaby, tale, ballad, prose narrative, song, dance, games, floor or wall designs, artifacts from toys to outdoor clay horses in villages and composite performing arts such as street magic, street theatre, narrations of tales, singing of devotional songs-all of these expressive folk genres reflect intrinsic aspects of one's culture and tradition of that locality [city/town/village/ suburb). Both public and domestic culture cannot be comprehended without the knowledge of this folk narrative

Folk is often juxtaposed with classics. Whether it is the classical epic, theatre, modern film or political rhetoric all of them are drawn from oral traditions and folk genres. What we separate as art, economics and religion appear intermeshed as aspects of the same performance. The aesthetics, ethos and worldview of a person are shaped in childhood and throughout early life, but reinforced later through these verbal and non verbal environments. Thus folklore could be explored as a broader and wider category. Several new disciplines of academic discourses like cultural studies, Musicology, Archaeology, Ethnomusicology. Cinema Studies, Linguistics and Comparative literature draw heavily from the folk.



Sheen Kaf Nizam

The folk literature has its narrative technique in which devices like montage and pastiche prominently appear. The linearity of plots is not a compulsion and the delivery provides sufficient scope for repetition, involvement of the audience/clientele in the narration/performance, and the use of blocks of narratives usually are disjointed for which the audience is supposed to fill in the gaps. Ballad is one of the folk genres that draws heavily from the rustic surroundings. It can be easily employed for such composition. The poems of the Lyrical Ballads by Wiliam Wordsworth and Coleridge have several elements of the folk.

Irrespective of the geographical location, folk tradition essentially emerges from the lower strata of a society. Not the elite or the privileged but the proletariat and the rustics are the producers of folklore. They represent the labour class. They are the peasants and artisans. Exploration of the folk, therefore, would mean not just documentation of data, analysis of a theme and appreciation of the folk forms of literature and other arts but would also would attempt to understand the dynamics of the rural-urban, dominant- dominated, literate-illiterate, upper-lower class and power relationships. The issues of marketing the folklore, patenting it and conserving it can also make a necessary part of the discourse.

The themes were as follows:

1. Folk and the classic: Convergence Vs Divergence
2. Folk Narratives and Modern Literature
3. Translating the folk genres
4. Folk Theatre
5. Ethnomusicology and Folk Music
6. Unity in Diversity through Folklore
7. Folklore and Modern Theatre/Cinema
8. Folklore-A significant narrative almost in oblivion
9. Folk genres and the Sciences
10. Folk Medicine and Modern Ailments
11. Folklore: Text and meta-text
12. Folklore, Religion and Alternative Faith
13. Market and the Appropriation of the Folk
14. Political Spaces and the Folklore
15. Folklore- From Heart to the Textbook

Glimpses



XII Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English
on
Evolving Facets of Translation: Comparative Perspectives,
Adaptation and Popular Culture 2015
November 24-25, 2015

Organized by
Department of English, Central University, Kishangarh
Organizing Secretary: Prof. Supriya Agarwal

Concept Note

Of all the recent buzz-words with a *trans* prefixed to them, the genealogy of **translation** appears to thread furthest back. Looking as far back as the cultures using cuneiform and hieroglyphs, one is sure to come upon texts (mythological, scriptural, historical, philosophical, astronomical, medical, aesthetic) either translated into or from languages favored in different reigns and regimes along the march of human civilization. If books are a means whereby the dead can speak to the living, books-in-translation are a means whereby the dead can speak to even those who hardly know the language in which the books were originally written. While the Geeta, the Bible, the Qu-ran and other scriptural texts are among the most oft-translated documents, there is no dearth of historical-literary-critical writings rendered from one language to another. If the multi-volume *The Sacred Texts of India* translated by Max Muller and his team revealed Indian religious corpus to the Western World, Harry Spens' translation of Plato's *The Republic*, Butcher's translation of Aristotle's *Poetics* made the Greek scholars accessible in English. Epics like *Ramayana*, *Gilgamesh*, *Odyssey*, and fiction like *Panchtantra*, *Aesop's Fables*, J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter* or Coelho's *The Alchemist* are all available today in several languages. And it is all purely due to translators. This service of bridging temporal-linguistic-cultural chasms is the crowning glory of the activity called *translation*. But, like most other human activities, translation too has its positives and negatives. Putatively, a work may gain or lose in the process of being rendered from the 'source language' to the 'target language'. The area appears worthy of scholarly exploration, deliberation and discussion for two basic reasons, i) the traffic of translation has been on now for over millennia, ii) the process of translation is fraught with complex dynamics.

The present-day world order seems especially propitious for translation as cross-cultural rendering of 'knowledge' is what seems called for in the global scenario. The role of the translator here is, of course, crucial. And the ever-alive questions of power, politics, discursive dimensions, poetics, aesthetics etc. vis-à-vis translation assume renewed importance. How an apparently innocent act of inter-linguistic rendering may begin to signify infinitely is a vital point of debate and discussion. While acknowledging translation as a literary genre, one may ask, what role does a translator play in this regard? How does s/he transport the meaning inherent in one textual composition to the other linguistic configuration? As a mediator where does s/he stand in the negotiating process of translation? To what extent does it savor or devour the aesthetic structure of the original text? Is a translator in position to justify his/her venture in the greatly dubious and precarious territory of translation? In its growth as an independent genre, translation studies are faced with many such questions that have shaped its contours and need to be deliberated upon.

If translation is, on the one hand, a connecting link among cultures, it is also, on the other hand, often accused of being a 'slavish activity' that represses innovation and novelty. Another perspective is that it is a comparative act involving transference of meaning from one semiotic system into another and a search for cognate elements across linguistic and other semiotic fields. So the field holds out potential for research and debate.

While translations among regional and inter-national languages are found worldwide, adaptation of linguistic material to cinematic presentation is, in view of critics like Robert Stam, its new form. Vishal Bhardwaj's trilogy (Maqbool, Omkara, and Haider) of cinematic rendering of Shakespeare (Macbeth, Othello, and Hamlet) is a case in point. Likewise, the Italian novelist Alberto Moravia's novel *II Disprezzo* is translated into English with the title *A Ghost at Noon* and then further translated, of course, cinematically by French-Swiss film director Jean-Luc Godard with the title *Contempt/Le Mepris*. This popular practice of the adaptation of a literary work to celluloid creates a new mode of trans-cultural, trans-generic shape-shifting.

So, the conference aimed to bring together literature enthusiasts, researchers, translators, historians, linguists, psychologists, film script-writers as well as literary and film critics at one forum to share their views about the developments taking place in the field of translation. The themes were as follows:

- Translation as a literary practice
- Theory and Praxis of Translation
- Scope and relevance of Translation today
- Translation as cross-cultural dialogue
- Forms of translation
- Human versus Machine Translation
- Translation versus trans-creation
- The equation : Author versus Translator
- Self-translated versus else-translated texts
- Emergence of Bhasha literature in India
- Cinema and Translation
- Translation and Comparatism
- Folklore, performance and translation

Glimpses



XIII Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English

5-6 Nov, 2016

William Shakespeare through the Ages

Organized by

Department of English

Dr. K. N. Modi University, Newai

Organizing Secretary: **Dr. Saikat Bannerjee**



A Report

William Shakespeare remembered in XIII Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English

Shakespeare presents insight into the problems of the Contemporary: Prof. P.C. Kar

Newai, Tonk. William Shakespeare, the English poet and dramatist, who has become an epitome of drama in world literature, has many things to offer even now. He passed away in 1616 AD but his works have kept him alive till today. His popularity and glory has increased year after year. This is so not just because his plays are highly entertaining but also because they provide a deep insight in human psyche and interpersonal relationships. William Shakespeare's place could prove to be a panacea to a bereaved heart and a restless mind.

These observations were made by the chief guest of the XIII International conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English organized by Dr. K.N. Modi University University, Newai, Tonk on the 5th of Nov. 2016. A world known critic and author, Prof. P.C.Kar, Director, Forum on Contemporary Theory, Baroda chief guest of the inaugural session, said that literature not only captures the reality of the time reflected in it but also has vision for the future. It transcends time and acquires a universal significance. He said that Shakespeare is not gone, he is present in our times as well.

The guest of honour, Mr. Matthew Kramer, California, USA presented William Shakespeare in a new perspective. He introduced his theoretical foundation of predatory leadership and tried to relate it with the plays of William Shakespeare. He stated that Shakespeare's writing is framed and infected by predatory leadership. In order to tell a good story, Shakespeare needs to incorporate specific elements: conflict, relevance, believability, tension and, occasionally, fantasy or magic to take the audience beyond the banal reality of their lives. Surviving winners of wars decide what factors legitimize leaders while determining rules and destinies for the losers who become the subordinate population. Pre and Post the Shakespearian era, the dynamics of Predatory Leadership often determined who leaders of nations became. Leaders who had enough power, who had earned or bought the loyalty of their armies tended to have long careers unless they were betrayed by someone close to them. In a dialectical sense, the Predatory Leadership environment affected who became leaders; in turn, those leaders contributed their influence to the Predatory Leadership environment. These factors are valid today as we can see how Shakespeare's webs of intrigue apply to corporate environments and power struggles between managers and departments in those corporations.

Prof. H.S.Chandalia, Vice President of RASE in his address welcomed the guests and dwelt upon the conference theme. He said that William Shakespeare is available to the audience of 21st century in several

forms. The new technology has made it possible to watch enactments of the plays, read Elizabethan, Restoration, Romantic, Victorian and Modern criticism of Shakespearean drama. The cinematic adaptation of Shakespearean plays, comics, translations and contemporary theatrical presentations bring Shakespeare to the contemporary world in several *avatars*.

Prof. Devendra Pathak, Vice Chancellor of Dr. K.N.Modi University, Newai , in his presidential remarks described the event as a historical one in the annals of the university. He said that even those scholars who are not in the discipline of English Literature are aware of the marvelous plays of William Shakespeare. He shared his own reading of Shakespeare's plays and said that as an expert in management he found the plays of Shakespeare immensely helpful in understanding the concepts of management. He said that the professional courses should also have some ingredients of literature and social sciences so that they become socially conscious technocrats, not just machines.

Prof. Sunil Bhargava, General Secretary of RASE presented the annual report of the conference. He said that the Association has successfully organized thirteen conferences in thirteen years without a break.

Felicitation

The Association has a tradition of felicitating writers, poets, artists and eminent professors in its conferences. This year Prof. P.C.Kar was felicitated for his outstanding contribution to the world of letters and critical thought. He was offered a shawl, a citation and a memento by the guests.

It is a tradition of the Association to felicitate the organizing secretary of the last conference in the current conference. Prof. Supriya Agarwal, Prof. and Head, Department of English, Central University of Rajasthan, Kishangarh, who was the organizing secretary of the XII conference was felicitated with a shawl and a memento by the guests.

Releases

In the inaugural function the souvenir of the conference edited by Saikat Bannerjee was released. In addition to it the Journal of the Association edited by Prof. Supriya Agarwal, a book written by Dr. Manoj Kumar titled *Exploring Folk Literature* and another book written by Dr. Mehzbeen Sadriwala and Dr. Pankaj Vyas titled *English Language Teaching in India : Problems and Innovations* were released.

Plenary Sessions

Two plenary sessions were held in the conference. On 5th Nov. Dr. Lata Mishra, Editor of the Journal *Labyrinth* from Gwalior, M.P. delivered the plenary address. This session was chaired by Prof. Sudha Rai, Professor and Head, Department of English, Manipal University, Jaipur. The second plenary address was delivered by Prof. N.K.Jain, Dean, Faculty of Humanities , IIGS University, Jaipur. This session was chaired by Prof. P.C.Kar.

Technical Sessions

In all fourteen technical sessions were held in which fifty nine delegates from all over the country presented their research papers. The delegates came from Kashmir, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Tamilnadu, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh. The scholars made some theatrical presentations also.

Creative writing session: Interface with creative writers

A session on creative writing was organized in the evening of the 5th Nov. In this session story writers Aditya Ganguli from Kolkata, K.V. Raghupati, poet and story writer from Tamilnadu, story writers Saikat Bannerjee and Ms. Lopamudra Bannerjee interacted with the audience and talked about their creative

processes. They read out their poems and parts of their stories as well. This session was chaired by poet and short story writer Prof. Hemendra Chandalia.

Valedictory Session

The valedictory session was held in the afternoon of 6th Nov. Prof. P.C. Kar, Prof. N.K.Jain, Prof. Devendra Pathak and Prof. H.S.Chandalia were the guests in this session. Dr. S.C.Hajela , editor of Dialogue from Lucknow made his presentation in this session. He made a strong plea to take into account the contribution of Indian critics on Shakespeare for a proper study of William Shakespeare in the present century. Mr. Saikat Bannerjee, organizing secretary of the conference presented a report of the conference and Dr. Manvijay Singh, convener of the conference offered a vote of thanks.

Glimpses



XIV Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English
On
Contemporary Trends in English Language and Literature:
Exploring Post 2000 A.D. Writings
04-05 November, 2017

Organized by
Chartered Institute of Technology, Abu Road
Organizing Secretary: Dr. Rukhsana Saifee

Concept Note

British Literature has not been in focus in the last half a century. The centre has been occupied by New Literatures (ded 2003), National Theatre of Scotland (founded 2006), published in countries which are erstwhile colonies. Even the National Theatre Wales (the English language national departments of English Literature have been working on the theatre company of Wales, founded 2009). Theatre Genedlae- study of American, African, Asian, Canadian, Australian and Caribbean Literature. In India Indian Literature, Indian Literature in Translation, Regional Literatures, Literature of dramatic influences. Joe Penhall's multi-award-winning the Indigenous People, Cinema, Cyber Literature and Language Teaching have received greater critical attention than the contemporary British Literature. Ironically the centre seems to have been marginalized. Therefore, it is pertinent to organize an international conference on

Contemporary Trends in English Language and

Literature: Exploring Post 2000A.D. Writings. Most Indian scholars of English Literature remember having read Ted Hughes as the last major poet. After him, a new trend was set in. In England, the Poet Laureates were now appointed for ten years. Ted Hughes was succeeded by Andrew Motion in 1999, who was followed by Carol Ann Duffy in 2009. The Scottish and Welsh Parliaments started appointing the poets of their region as National Poets or Poet Laureates. Thus, in the British Isles, the tradition of official recognition of men of letters has continued in the 21st century also. But these poets and writers did not receive enough critical attention outside their own countries.

Some of the prominent writers in English after the turn of the century include Zadie Smith whose novel *White Teeth* (2000) won him the Whitebread Book Award. This novel

Thus there is ample scope and sufficient resources for a renewed interest in the contemporary British Literature. In addition to this English Language has emerged as lingua franca of the world. In most institutes of Professional studies English is learnt as a language of communication as well as a depicts the later life of two war time friends. The novel mixes the emotions of pathos and humour. In England, Booker Awards have received International acclaim. Those novelists and other writers who could bag the tions. Booker Award did gain global recognition. Hilary Mantel emerged as an important novelist as she bagged this award twice, first for her novel *Wolf Hall* (2009) and the novel *Bring Up the Bodies* (2012). David Mitchel's science fiction *Cloud Atlas* was awarded British Books Literary Fiction award. Julian Barnes and E. L. James are two other prominent British novelists who have got acclaim all over the world. E.L. James' *The Shades of Grey* has been a best in one of the sessions. seller paperback novel.

Poetry too has flourished in these years. Christopher Whyte is a Scottish Gaelic poet who won in 2002 A Saltire Society Research Book of the year award. Performance poet Gearoid MacLochlainn exploits the creative possibilities for poetry of "creolised Irish" in Belfast speech.

The theatrical landscape has been reconfigured, moving from a single national theatre at the end of the 20th century to four as a result of the devolution of cultural policy. National theatre companies were founded in Scotland and Wales as complements to the Royal National Theatre in London. Similar new efforts to revive theatre have been launched in different parts of England in the form of Theater Genedlaethol Cymru (the Welsh language national theatre of Wales, fourth Cymru attempts to shape a distinctive identity for drama in Welsh while also opening it up to outside linguistic and Blue/Orange was heralded as 'one of the best new plays in the National's history' (Sunday Times). Set in a mental hospital it provides a riveting exploration of racism, health and power, and was the winner of the Olivier Award for Best New Play 2001. Elmina's Kitchen by Kwame Kwei-Armah, about gun crime and the struggle to make a living. Hackney's Murder Mile, marked the emergence of a major new writing talent. 'An exquisite tragi-comedy for our times' (Herald) Neilson's Realism dramatizes the everyday life and increasingly bizarre fantasies and thoughts of its protagonist with comic zeal and inspired inventiveness. Gone Too Far! explores a London community divided by race and prejudice. The first play to be written about the London 7/7 terrorist bombings, Simon Stephens' Pornography tells seven entwining stories of people's lives during the day leading up to the catastrophic event.

It would be interesting to examine this phenomenon of renewed interest in English as a means of written and oral communication in technical institutions.

This year is 200th birth anniversary year of Karl Marx. His contribution to political economy is well known. But he has contributed to literature and art as well which finds expression in a number of his writings. Not only this, political and economic thought of Karl Marx has influenced world literature a lot. This conference would also attempt to discuss the views of Karl Marx and the influence of Karl Marx on literature.

Besides this, the year 2017 marks the 300th death anniversary of Jane Austen. One session was devoted to the discussion on this great novelist also.

A Report

21st Century British Literature echoes futility of warfare The wars England had participated in as a junior partner of the United States had caused a great human suffering in England too. This was stated in some of the research papers presented at XIV International Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English hosted by Chartered Institute of Technology, Abu Road. In England nationalism is tied to the idea of supporting state policy as we find in India. Many writers in England have raised their voices in favour of global peace, maintaining of ecological balance despite England's participation in allied forces which attacked many countries in the middle east. The two day conference focused on "Contemporary Trends in English Language and Literature: Exploring post 2000 A D Writings"

The conference was inaugurated by Prof NP Kaushik, Vice Chancellor, Rajasthan Technical University, Prof Z.N.Patil, former Professor University of English and Foreign Languages, Hyderabad, Prof Suman Bala, Delhi University, Mr Kishore Gandhi, Chairman of Gyan Ratan Trust and Tejas Shah, The Director, CIT. Abu Road Prof N.P Kaushik, The Chief Guest in his address emphasized the importance of English in enhancing the employability of Engineering and Management students. The Key Note Speaker Prof Suman Bala talked about the trends of English literature across the world and said that English Literature has grown immensely outside England and so Commonwealth Literature and New Literature have assumed greater importance. In her hour long address she underlined the latest trends in British, Indian and Commonwealth

literature Professor Hemendra Chandalia, the Vice President of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English said that the Association has organized fourteen conferences in fourteen years without a break. He spoke on the theme saying that the ideas of transnationality, hybridity, marginality and diaspora are the trends of late twenties and the first two decades of 21st century literature He said that 21st century literature is a literature without established icons. The Chairman of UIT, Abu Road Suresh Kothari expressed his best wishes for the conference. Dr G.K.Sukhwai, Joint Secretary, RASE presented the report of the organization. Mr Tejas Shah, the Director of CIT delivered the welcome address He said that it was the first time a conference of this scale was being organized at CIT Mr Kishore Gandhi also expressed his best wishes for the conference On this occasion Prof Z.N.Patil was felicitated for his life time achievements in Language and Language teaching across the globe Similarly Dr J.S.Kharagwal was felicitated for his explorations of new settlements at Chandrawati and his contribution to archaeology A young author, Rithvik Singh Rathore who has penned a novel at the age of fifteen was also felicitated. On this occasion the Journal of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English edited by Saikat Bannerjee was released. He was also felicitated. "Tribal Literature, Culture and Knowledge Systems", a book by Prof HS.Chandalia, "Personality Management and Communication.a book by Dr Rukhsana Saifee and Dr Mehzbeen Sadriwala, two books by Dr G.S. Kushwaha, "Practical Approach to Sociolinguistics" by Dr.H.M.Kothari and Dr Rekha Ranawat were also released. Dr. J.S. Kharagwal made a power point presentation about the excavation work at Chandrawati. The inaugural was nicely convened by

Dr. Anu Badola. The two day conference was a rich academic feast with three plenary lectures presented by Prof. Z.N. Patil, Professor at Symbiosis, Prof. Nikhilesh Yadav, Professor at Indira Gandhi University Rewari, Haryana and Prof. S.K.Singh, O.P.Jindal University, Raigad, Chhattisgarh. Nine technical sessions were held in which about sixty delegates presented their research papers.

Glimpses



**XV Annual Conference of
Rajasthan Association for Studies in English (RASE)
on
Embracing the 'Other': Exploring New Literatures
November 19-20, 2018**

Organized by
Department of English
Government College, Ratangarh, Churu, Rajasthan
Organizing Secretary: Dr. Sumer Singh

Concept Note

New Literatures in English, used always in plural, refers to that body of literature which has been traditionally treated as literature of the 'other'. These 'other' are the people who live in the erstwhile colonies of the then British Empire and used the language of their colonial rulers to fight back and create their own histories and narratives using that language. It is the literature of the people of countries in Asia, Africa, the Caribbean, Oceania, and some other countries like Canada where a large number of people learnt English to meet the challenges of their lives and then used it to voice their feelings through writing in English. New English literatures, is a body of literary writings that reacts to the discourse of colonization. It often involves writings that deal with issues of de-colonization or the political and cultural independence of people formerly subjugated to colonial rule. It is also a literary critique to texts that carry racist or colonial undertones.

Katja Sarkowsky and Frank Schulze-Engler maintain that the New Literatures in English are not that new altogether. They have emerged from **a process of colonization** that transformed large tracts of the world from the late fifteenth century onwards, and some of them can trace their beginnings to the nineteenth or even late eighteenth century, when English, Irish or Scottish settlers in the Caribbean, Canada or South Africa first began to create an 'overseas literature,' and enslaved or colonized people first began to reflect on their current situation and future perspectives utilizing the medium of what was then 'the colonizer's tongue.' Katja Sarkowsky and Frank Schulze-Engler further state that Other literatures in English are indeed new, sometimes startlingly so: as distinct literary fields, West African literature in English emerged in the 1950s, East African literature in English in the 1960s, indigenous writing in Canada, Australia and New Zealand in the 1970s, and Black and Asian British Literature in the 1980s. There may be different opinions about the dates as not many histories have so far been written about these new voices in English Literature. In the present times people belonging to these countries have emerged as powerful players in the affairs of the world. More than that, their literature written in English has also been recognized as a powerful voice that can neither be ignored nor wished away.

It is true that New Literatures emerged as an aftermath of Colonial rule but the kind of literature that was produced swiftly flitted away from the shadow of the past to engage itself with bigger questions of the contemporary geo-politics. The east-west question was shelved to develop a new discourse on the north-south divide and narratives of dominance and exploitation in these regions. The ideas of creolization, hybridization, globalization, Global Englishes: Colonial Legacies, Multiculturalism, Diaspora and New

Diversity became important ideas with which New Literatures engage. In both research and teaching, transnational and Transcultural Exchange Processes and developments (historical and contemporary) are foregrounded rather than specific national literatures. Accordingly, issues of cultural plurality and hybridity, as well as literary negotiations of colonization and decolonization, migration, Diaspora, and social inequality are central lines of inquiry and research. Critical studies in New Literatures are therefore practiced as transcultural and comparative analyses of texts from a broad variety of national and cultural contexts; literature, with its specific aesthetic forms, is understood as part of larger cultural and societal constellations, and connections to other forms of cultural productions (e.g. film, photography, painting) are frequently included.

The themes were as follows:

- a. Major concerns in African Fiction
- b. African Poetry and Identity Issues
- c. African Non-fiction Prose
- d. New Literatures and Indigeneity
- e. Racial Prejudices and Cross cultural migration
- f. The Language of resistance
- g. Australian Literature in English
- h. Caribbean Literature and Nostalgia
- h. Multiculturalism in New Literature
- i. Asian Literature in English
- j. Globalization and Nationalism
- k. Cultural homogenization versus ethnic assertion
- l. Canadian Literature in the contemporary
- m. Changing contours of Diaspora Literature
- n. Voices of Minority and the marginalized
- o. Desert in Literature – Special Session

Glimpses



जेएनयू के प्रो. बोले- समाज में सद्भाव का निर्माण करना साहित्य का काम
राजस्थान के लौहिया गार्स स्टडीज में दो दिवसीय राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन शुरु

भारत गुरु | राजस्थान

राजस्थान लौहिया गार्स स्टडीज में दो दिवसीय राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन का आयोजन किया गया है। इस अवसर पर राजस्थान के साहित्यिक क्षेत्र में हुए विकास और प्रगति के प्रति अग्रणी प्रो. जे. एन. बोले का उद्घोषण था।

उद्घोषण के दौरान प्रो. बोले ने कहा कि साहित्य समाज को एकजुट करता है। जब तक समाज में अंधेरे हैं, तब तक साहित्य का काम है। जो, समाज के अंधेरे को दूर करे। साहित्य के माध्यम से समाज में सद्भाव का निर्माण किया जा सकता है।

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XVI Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English
on
Widening Canvas, Shrinking Spaces: Writer and Society Today
9-10 November, 2019

Organized by
Smt. Madi Bai Mirdha Government Girls' College Nagaur, Rajasthan
Organizing Secretary: Dr. Shashikant Acharya

Concept Note

Writer and society are integrally connected with each other. No writer can write in isolation and similarly no writer can remain unaffected by the society around. The socio-political and economic environment of a given time and place molds a writer and his approach to the world. The post globalization world led to a series of changes in literary perceptions and analyses. It created a new world order which is governed by a new set of values and novel aspirations of the states and people. It is a society of creation of wealth as a primary value. Both at the level of the individual and the state it is being understood as a sign of progress. The unipolar world has created a world order with the states becoming more and more powerful and the hard earned freedoms of people seem to be shelved in the name of national interests. Egalitarianism seems to have taken a back seat in the wake of new economic changes and challenges. In literary sphere post-modernity has become a major phenomenon spreading its wide wings casting their dark shadow over the world menacingly.

The reality is no more real and falsehood is no more false. What glitters is not gold and what irks is not pain. The truth is hidden behind a mesh of pretensions and propaganda prevails as truth. The media has come forward in a big way to define and present the strains of life. The concept of Post Truth is a new theoretical premise being used and discussed widely to negotiate between what is and what is projected. The new media has taken over the traditional print medium. This electronic and digital revolution has created a world of virtual experience which has replaced the real life experiences and reached a point where it seems more real than the real one.

Market as Mediator: The twenty first century is a century in which market has emerged as a major force determining national and international policies. The capitalist economic system cuts across national boundaries and modulates the people of the world through factors that affect their life. In classical economic thought it is assumed that in a capitalist economy consumer is sovereign. This is something to be seriously pondered. Citizen is not sovereign, consumer is. Only that citizen is a consumer who has the purchasing power. In a system governed by market forces the wealth is distributed unequally to create islands of affluence surrounded by oceans of poverty. Thus only a small portion of citizens who are consumers are sovereign and determine the priorities of market as well as polity. The market mediates production and sets priorities of the nation state as well.

Politics as Collaborator: The new economic and political order clearly proclaims of a nexus of the market, political forces and media. The politics which is prime force of transformation collaborates with market to

continue the status quo. Those in power always want to remain in power and use the forces of market to achieve this goal. The market has the natural tendency to move with the profit motive. Earning of profit and accumulation of wealth is the prime objective. In a capitalist system the forces of market and political forces collaborate to help each other thus capitalists are happy with piling up wealth and politicians are happy to remain in power, of course with the help and support of the market.

Media as Manipulator: Jean Baudrillard, a post modern philosopher says that in post-modernity, as opposed to modernity, we witness the decline of absolute truth and the rise of relativism, where no single dominant meanings can be widely agreed on in society. He says that the media creates something like “hyper reality”. This is in no way related to reality. The suffix “hyper” indicates that the simulated images claim to be more important than reality per se. This reverse chain of signified and signifiers goes against the Kantian notion of concept and noumenon in which reality did exist. Here media refers to electronic and cyber media which create so many simulated images that it becomes difficult to know which is the real and which is virtual. More often than not this is modulated by the ruling classes. The political power uses media to serve its own interest and the corporate capital which owns media also assists the ruling class to further its own ends.

State as Dictator: Democracy as defined by Lincoln has taken a new form. The term “ People” no longer represents the common masses. Democracy is a system of government for “some people”, “Of some people” and “ by some people”. Elections are manipulated and have become more of an “Event Management” issue where everything is designed by professionals and are “designer” products. Right from the manifesto of a party to the outfit of the leaders, their language, propaganda material, interviews, speeches and rallies are designed by paid professionals. Therefore the state also becomes an organism governed by the vested interests of these agencies. Any voice that disrupts their interest or challenges the policies to serve the corporate masters of the “elected” government is sniffled in the name of “national interest”. New laws are framed to define and design expression of the people.

Literature as Reflector: All the changes taking place all around within the country and abroad have their literary connotations as well. The world of perception and experience is widening day by day. Man is aiming at landing on Mars. Newer forms of social, political, economic, cultural and intellectual structures are taking shape. From human intelligence to artificial intelligence is a journey in the unexplored future. In this widening world the spaces of expression are shrinking. There are impositions of market, restrictions of state, threats of non-state power groups and above all, the greed and fear of the individual. There are limitations of media themselves and challenges of language and signs. The cultural imperialism of the twentieth century has come to the world in a new Avtaar of cultural homogenization. Consuming the same media over and over again people tend to think alike and react on issues using a typically homogenous tone and texture. The same lexicon repeats itself from all quarters as if it is an echo of the same sound. A new hegemonic media imperialism snatches away individual's freedom to have his own views and exercise his freedom of choosing from the available options of artistic expression. We are already in a surveillance society with Adhar cards, Pan cards, mobiles, television and internet whose data are so vulnerable This is the reason why George Orwell's classic novel *Nineteen Eighty Four* has been discussed once again this year seventy years after its first publication.

The XVI Annual Conference aimed at discussing some of the issues in the light of the literary texts published in recent years. The writer and society are integral. In a literary creation it is important how their relationship exists in a given time and space.

Sub Themes:

1. Literature in a surveillance society
2. Allegory as a strategy
3. Satire : who laughs at whom
4. Paid News, Fake News and No News
5. Media Lynching
6. Committed versus commercial
7. Writer as a subject
8. Cartoons and caricature
9. The world of “comments and likes” – its economics
10. Cinema of resistance vs. Cinema of convenience
11. Twitter revolution : The dangers of “instantism” for literature
12. University and School Syllabi : New battlegrounds

A Report

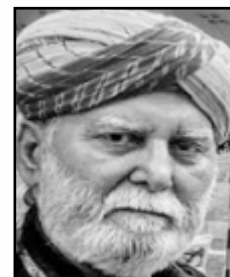
The extraordinary circumstances in which XVI Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English was held has prompted me to write this note of appreciation for the organizing team at Smt. Madi Bai Mirdha Government Girls'College, Nagaur and the colleagues at M.S.Mirdha Government PG College, Nagaur who made enormous efforts to make the conference a great success. I wish to place on record my special appreciation for Dr. Devendra Rankawat and Mr. Shashikant Acharya who worked day and night to make the conference successful. I am also thankful to our guests Prof.Naresh Dadhich, former Vice Chancellor of Vardhman Mahaveer Open University, Kota, Sh.Narayan Bareth, former Correspondent BBC, Magsaysay Award winning activist and author Ms.Aruna Roy, Dr.Anant Bhatnagar, state secretary PUCL and well known litterateur who had agreed to grace the conference but were requested to cancel their visit due to the refusal of the district collector of Nagaur to conduct the conference.

As is known to all of you the honourable Supreme Court of India gave the decision on the Ayodhya Issue and the state government imposed section 144 of the IPC in several districts of Rajasthan including Nagaur much before the decision came. The commissioner of department of College Education ordered the closure of all colleges of Rajasthan in a decision taken late night of 8th Nov. 2019. This information reached the organizing team in the morning of 9th Nov. 2019. The Principal of Smt. Madi Bai Mirdha Government Girls'College, Nagaur, in compliance of the order of the state government, ordered the organizing team to vacate the College by 10.00 am when the inaugural function was scheduled to begin.

In this situation, in consultation with the President of RASE Prof. Rajul Bhargava and Vice President Prof. Sudhi Rajiv, it was decided to abide by the orders of the state government. Since more than fifty delegates had arrived the venue was shifted to Pitti Dharmshala, where some of the delegates were staying. Dr.Aidan Singh Bhati, Sahitya Academy award winner poet, Prof. Suman bala, Delhi University and Dr. Sanjay Kumar Singh, O.P.Jindal University, Raigad, Chhattisgarh had arrived. All the delegates and guests gathered in an open space in the Dharmashala and an informal session ensued with the felicitation of Dr. Aidan Singh Bhati who was offered a citation by Prof. Sumanbala, Dr. Sanjay Kumar Singh and Prof. H.S.Chandalia, Vice President of RASE. Prof. Mukta Sharma, treasurer of the Association read the citation.



Prof. Suman Bala



Dr. Aidan Singh Bhati

This was followed by Dr. Aidan Singh Bhati's acceptance speech and recitation of poems in Rajasthani and Hindi. He said that poetry is a universal language which is like a bridge which connects people and cultures. It is an expression of emotions and feelings of the masses. Poetry is often a voice of dissent and questions the undemocratic actions of the establishment. Dr. Sanjay Kumar Singh also recited his poem and shared his thoughts on the subject "Understanding Learning Pattern of Generation Z Students to Promote a Conducive Learning Environment and the Challenges of Teaching". Prof. Mukta Sharma and Dr. K.S. Kang also shared their thoughts on the theme of the conference. Prof. H.S. Chandalia, Vice President of RASE also recited a number of Poems. He said that the theme of the conference "Widening Canvas and Shrinking Spaces" was actually experienced by the participants as the very basic right to organize a conference was snatched away by the state by a blanket order. In order to safeguard the safety and security of the organizing team and participants it was decided that the research papers will be deemed to have been presented and the conference deemed to have taken place as the law and order situation forced us to remain away from the venue of the conference. It was also decided that the selected research papers will be published in the forthcoming journal of the Association which will be released in the XVII Annual Conference.

As an afterthought several ideas came to our minds and to the minds of our colleagues. It was later thought that we could have continued in the Dharmshala, the presentation of the papers the next day also. But the truth is that the administration was conscious of the presence of delegates in the Dharmshala and had tried to interrupt in the proceeding session. In such a situation it was not wise to continue. I am thankful to all the delegates and the students' team from Central University of Rajasthan who unconditionally followed our instructions and peacefully concluded the conference.

Rajasthan Association for Studies in English is committed to the cause of academics and preservation of the constitutional values of democracy, secularism, socialism, freedom of thought and expression and respecting critical opinion. It is an independent forum of research in English Studies and shall remain so. We have a website www.raseindia.com on which all the previous journals have been uploaded. The audited balance sheet of the Association is here that shows liabilities and assets worth Rs 2,44,4626. The amount in the saving banks account of the Association with Allahbad is Rs 1,51,480. I request all the scholars and teachers who are not yet members to join the Association.

Glimpses



**XVII Annual International Conference of
Rajasthan Association for Studies in English
On
Plurality is Unity: Exploring Humanity and celebrating Individual
Identities through Literature in Translation
28-29 November, 2020**

*Organized by
Hybrid Mode*

Organizing Secretary: Dr. Abrar Ahmed

Department of English, M.V. Shramjeevi College, JRN Rajasthan Vidyapeeth, Udaipur

Concept Note

XVII Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English held on 28-29 Nov. 2020. The theme of the conference was ***Plurality is Unity: Exploring Humanity and Celebrating Individual Identities through Literature in Translation.***

The conference was in the form of a webinar. General Secretary of the Association Dr.K.S.Kang, Principal, Maharana Pratap Government PG College told that every year the Association organizes conferences at some part of Rajasthan. This year due to Covid-19 it has been decided to have it in a webinar form. The inaugural session will be chaired by Prof. Rajul Bhargava, President of the Association. Prof. Harish Narang, formerly Chairman of School of Languages, Jawahar Lal Nehru University will be the chief guest. Prof. Sumanbala of Delhi University delivered Prof. S.N.Joshi Memorial Lecture. Prof. P.K. Patra , Academic Director of Bodoland University Assam delivered the Valedictory address. Prof. Galin Tihanov, George Steiner Professor of Comparative Literature, Queen Mary University of London was the key speaker in a plenary session.

Organizing Secretary of the conference, Dr. Rajshree Ranawat, J.N.Vyas University, Jodhpur told that scholars from all over India and also from abroad joined this conference. Scholars from Malaysia, Dubai and Saudi Arabia registered for the conference. Vice President of the Association Prof. H.S.Chandalia told that the theme of the conference was very relevant to the present times. Describing the theme he said that 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.

The conference focused on some of these issues on the basis of literature in Translation. This has been chosen as the domain of the conference because translation brings people together by making them available

literature which is otherwise inaccessible. 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.

A Report

Prof. Harish Narang, formerly Chairman of School of Languages, Jawahar Lal Nehru University in his address stated that pluralism is embedded in the very genetic structure of the human species. He said that the idea of imposing one thought, one religion and one way of life is not natural. It is against the very history of the growth of human civilization. He said that this is an established fact that whether Black, White or Coloured – all races of human beings have their origin in Africa. It was later that they migrated to different parts of the world and evolved differences due to geographic reasons. He said that insistence on following one ideology and promoting one political party is anti – democracy. The beauty of democracy lies in respecting differences and celebrating diversity. He was speaking as the chief guest at XVII Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English held on 28-29 Nov. 2020. The theme of the conference was *Plurality is Unity: Exploring Humanity and Celebrating Individual Identities through Literature in Translation.*

Prof. Sumanbala, Professor of English at Delhi University delivered Prof. S.N.Joshi Memorial Lecture. Explored the depiction of Identity issues in Indian English Literature and literature of regional languages in India translated in English. She maintained that regional literatures are very rich and enrich English Literature through their translation. The journal of the Association was also released in the inaugural session of the conference.

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The conference discussed many of these issues on the basis of literature in Translation. This was chosen as the domain of the conference because translation brings people together by making them available literature which is otherwise inaccessible. 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

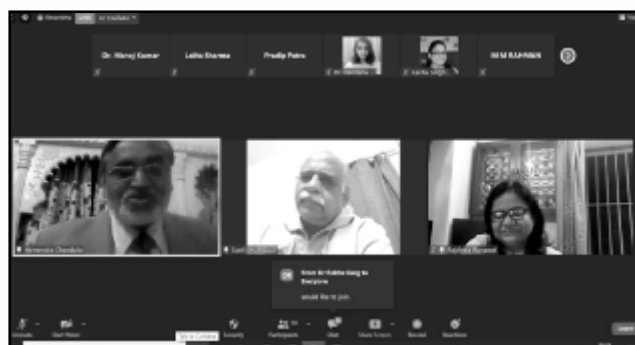
the two languages and wishes to engage with them. A major high light of the conference was the plenary session in which Prof. Galin Tihanov, George Steiner Professor of Comparative Literature, Queen Mary University of London delivered his address. In his address he talked about some of the reasons for the resistance to theory we have been living with over the last few decades. One of these reasons, he said, is the realization that theory (specifically literary theory in this case) has not had universal applicability. Theory has not been the primary mode of reflection on literature beyond the Western tradition (however risky in its generality, and open to accusations of essentialism, this notion might be). In other, equally powerful (but non-Western in their formation) cultural zones (China and the Middle East would be good examples), there has not been, historically speaking, much demand for theory; instead, literature would be reflected upon through the equally enabling prism of poetics – a very different prism indeed. Literary theory derives its specificity from being the outcome of a particular historical negotiation over the place literature occupies vis-a-vis the state and its institutions, vis-a-vis religion, and other important societal factors – and only in conjunction with (and sometimes in the invisible shadow of) these larger emancipatory developments does literary theory emerge as a specific mode of reflection on literature. This session was chaired by Prof. Umed Singh of CDL University, Sirsa, Haryana.

Dr. Mehzbeen Sadriwala and Mayadah Mohammad of Shaqra University, Saudi Arabia and AAshima Jain of Nottingham University, Malaysia presented their papers in the conference. The conference had four plenary sessions in which Prof. Dipa Chakrabarty of Amity University, Jaipur, Dr. Rimika Singhvi of IIS University, Jaipur and Dr. H.C Hajela, Editor of literary journal Dialogue addressed the participants. These sessions were chaired by Prof. Anand Mahanand of University of English and Foreign Languages, Hyderabad, Prof. Sanjay Arora of Central University, Kishangarh and Dr. S.K.Singh of O.P.Jindal University, Raigarh, Chhattisgarh. Dr. Veenu George, Dr. Sonu Shiva, Dr.Kshamata Chaudhary, Dr. Arpit Kothari, Dr. Manoj Kumar convened the sessions.

Prof. P.K. Patra , Academic Registrar of Bodoland University Assam delivered the Valedictory address. Prof. Patra an eminent Indian English Poet, talked of cultural pluralism and cultural relativism. He said that the character of translation is inclusivity. He said that the theme “Plurality is Unity” is very relevant to Indian situation. He said that centrality of the whole thing is culture. This session was chaired by Prof. Sudhi Rajiv, professor of English at Purnima University, Jaipur. This session was convened by Dr. Anjali Singh, M.L.Sukhadia University, Udaipur.

Nearly forty research papers were presented in three technical sessions. These sessions were chaired by Dr. Sumer Singh, Dr. Rekha Tiwari, Dr.Vibha Bhoot, Dr. Anant Dadheech, Dr. K.S.Kang and Dr. Khushpal Garg.

Glimpses



XVIII Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English
on
Writing in Restricted Spaces: Writing for Freedom and Freedom of Writing
20-21 November, 2021

Organized by
Hybrid Mode
Organizing Secretary: **Dr. H. M. Kothari**
Department of English
Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Government College, Nimbahera, Chittorgarh



*“This is true Liberty when free born men
Having to advise the public may speak free,
Which he who can, and will, deserves high praise,
Who neither can nor will, may hold his peace;
What can be juster in a State”*

(A motto from Euripides' tragedy *The Suppliants* which the title page of *Areopagitica* bears-translated by John Milton)

The world faces new crises every day as we move ahead in time. Despite claims of progress and development, the human life is becoming fraught with misery. Rise of Taliban in Afganistan is a reminder of age old regimes of fundamentalist tendencies. Amidst the surging oceans of information the right to know the truth is shackled even as the instruments of information and free expression get bound to political and economic interests. Both the state and the non-state actors hold the voice of truth to ransom and those who dare to speak are confined to restrictions imposed by numerous means – both imposed by law as well as unlawful. Several people who have been, at various points of time, detained or imprisoned by the authorities in the ruling classes, dared to speak their heart out and wrote significant works.

As a student of literature it should not be surprising if one is reminded of Dante's political work *On Monarchy* (1313) which was burnt as a heretical text by the papal authorities. Similarly one may recount *Historiadel Concilio Tridentino* ('History of the Council of Trent'), a deeply critical account by the Venetian scholar and statesman Paolo Sarpi of the proceedings of the Council of Trent, convened by the Catholic Church from 1545 to 1563 to develop the policies of the Counter-Reformation. Sarpi's critique of the abuses of clerical power and defense of the authority of the Venetian republic to govern its own Church was considered so potentially incendiary that his work was smuggled out of Venice in installments and first published under a pseudonym in London in 1619. In his polemical work *Of Reformation* (1641) John Milton had warned the threat of clerical usurpation of political power .

Galileo, a contemporary of John Milton was placed under house arrest in Florence since 1633 for his belief that the Earth moved around the Sun. Milton went to meet him. Tommaso Campanella wrote *Apologia pro Galileo* ('Defence of Galileo') in 1622. Campanella argued for the necessity of 'the freedom of philosophising' in Christian nations, perhaps himself echoing Galileo, who in several of his writings had quoted the dictum attributed to the Platonic philosopher Alcinous: 'The philosopher needs to think like a free-born man.' 'Philosophy' here encompasses 'natural philosophy', or what we call science: the modern

concept of 'academic freedom' has roots in this 17th-century notion of 'philosophic freedom'. There are many more examples of authors pointing at the need to ensure writers' freedom to express and also of those who were persecuted for doing so.

The historian James Hankins, in his book *Virtue Politics* (2019), talks of Renaissance Italy: 'To speak with freedom, to advocate what was right, especially before a tyrant or a howling mob, was a great virtue that required other virtues such as prudence and courage.' This is equally true in 21st century India. George Orwell in his powerful essay 'The Prevention of Literature' (1946) considers the twin threats posed to 'intellectual liberty' by 'totalitarianism' and 'monopoly and bureaucracy'.

Louis Althusser talks of the forces that exercise checks on the free thinking of individuals. He mentions two such instruments, namely State Apparatus and Ideological State Apparatus. According to him the state apparatus includes administration, courts, government agencies, military, police and prison houses. They represent institutions which repress by the sheer violence of their authority. The Ideological State Apparatus includes institutions which do it more subtly. They exercise some sort of a hegemony which appears persuasive, tempting and less coercive. They include religion, educational institutions, NGOs, political parties, cultural institutions and programmes, media and above all market. According to Althusser they are less centralized and appear to be heterogeneous. However, they are, in truth, unified in serving the interest of the ruling classes.

These SAs and ISAs create restricted spaces. The more obvious ones are prisons. People spend years in prisons languishing there for want of enough strength, resources and access to judicial intervention. Other restricted spaces may include government institutions, the corporate, private work places and media houses. This list is not exhaustive. Even family becomes a restricted space if one is not allowed to indulge in expressing discontent and dissent towards a dominant narrative. Despite all odds many authors have written about their struggle and experiences. This literature appears in different genres. Sometimes, while languishing in prison houses too people have composed prose, fiction and poetry.

COVID-19 created self-imposed isolation and restricted free movement for months together in various countries of the world. People were forced to confine at their homes while millions of working class people were forced to flee to their native places in pathetic conditions. Literature composed by people in their confinement would also make an interesting study.

Some of the famous works written in prison include *Letters from Birmingham Jail*, by Martin Luther King Jr., *Pisan Cantos*, by Ezra Pound, *Don Quixote*, by Miguel de Cervantes, *Conversations with Myself*, by Nelson Mandela, *Justine*, by the Marquis de Sade, *The Travels of Marco Polo*, by Rustichello da Pisa, *Le Morte d'Arthur*, by Sir Thomas Malory, *Our Lady of Flowers*, by Jean Genet, *De Profundis*, by Oscar Wilde, *History of the World Volume 1*, by Sir Walter Raleigh.

In India Mahatma Gandhi wrote *My Experiments with Truth* in Pune's Yerwada jail. *The Discovery of India* was the result of four years that Pandit Nehru spent in Ahmednagar prison. Jayaprakash Narayan wrote *Prison Diary* while in prison. Revolutionary Sardar Bhagat Singh wrote four books while in Jail. But the only work that survived is his jail diary published with the title *The Jail Notebook and Other Writings*. Kobad Ghandy's *Fractured Freedom - A Prison Memoir* is an account of the jail experiences of an activist who had to spend ten years in jail without anything unlawful proved against him. *Behind The Bars* by Sunetra Choudhury is a book containing prison tales of India's most famous people, *Black Warrant* by Sunil Gupta and Sunetra Choudhury is a record of the confessions of a Tihar Jailor. Some other works are *My Years in an Indian Prison* by Mary Tyler, *The Tale of My Exile* by Barindra Kumar Ghose, *Of Women 'Inside'* by Rani Dhavan Shankar Dass and *My Years in a Pakistani Prison* by Kishori Lal Sharma.

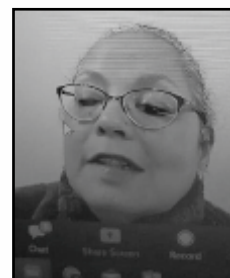
The themes were as follows:

1. Prison Literature
2. Letters from Convicts
3. Literature by authors in exile
4. Media Analysis/ Media Trial
5. Cinema of Resistance
6. Documentaries
7. Tales behind the Purdah
8. Psycho-analytical study of the authors in prison
9. Jail Writings of freedom fighters

A Report

Recognition of the voices of Protest and Dissent is the Essence of Democracy: Prof Mashrur Shahid Hossain

The XVIII Annual International Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English was held on 20-21 November 2021 in a hybrid mode. It was organized jointly by the department of English, M.V.Shramjeevi College, Janardan Rai Nagar Rajasthan Vidyapeeth, Udaipur and Dr. B.R.Ambedkar Government PG College, Nimbaheda, Chittorgarh. The inaugural function was held at Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Government PG College, Nimbaheda, Chittorgarh while all other sessions were held on line. Ninety six participants registered for the conference. Three plenary sessions, seven technical sessions and a special parallel session were organized besides the inaugural and the valedictory sessions. In addition to different parts of the country scholars from Bangladesh, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia and South Africa also participated in the conference.



Prof. Ameena Kazi Ansari

The conference began with the lighting of the sacred lamp of learning and wisdom by the guests. Lighting of the lamp by the guests and chanting of Mantra by Dr. Rajendra Kumar Singhvi. Dr. Kamal Nahar, Principal, Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Government College, Nimbahera, Chittorgarh and Dr. Sanjay Joshi, Government College, Neemuch, MP presented the welcome address. Prof. H.S.Chandalia, Conference Director presented the concept theme and delved upon various aspects of the subject. The report of the Association was presented by Dr.K.S.Kang, General Secretary of the Association. He said that the Association has been actively engaged in academic activities since its inception in 2003. The latest issue of the journal of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English was released by the guests in the inaugural function. Guest Editor, Dr. Rajshree Ranawat, Assistant Professor, Jai Narayan Vyas University, Jodhpur introduced the journal. New publications of the members were also released in the inaugural session. Prof. H.S.Chandalia's book titled *The Power of Pen*, a collection of journalistic articles was released by the guests. It has a foreword by Prof. M.Shaffey Kidwai, Noted columnist and Chairman of the department of Journalism and Mass Communication, Aligarh Muslim University. This book is dedicated to noted journalist Gauri Lankesh who was brutally murdered by the right wing fundamentalist fanatics. Two more books titled *Dramatizing the Truth: The Plays of Girish Karnad* edited by Prof.H.S.Chandalia and Abrar Ahmad and *Aspects of Indian Drama in English* edited by Prof.H.S.Chandalia and Prof. Mukta Sharma were also



Prof. Mashrur
Shahid Hossain

released. A book titled *Antarrashtriya Sambandh* written by Ms.Pavani CHaudhary, Assistant Professor, Government College, Gudha Malani, Barmer was also released. Key note address was delivered by Chief Guest Prof. **Mashrur Shahid Hossain**, Department of English, Jahangirnagar University, Savar, Dhaka, 1342, Bangladesh. The title of his key note address was "Reconceiving 'I Who Am Bound': Un/Writing Restricted Spaces". The focus of his talk was on the way 'writings' in restricted spaces - from prison to quarantine zones - have reconceived the notion and practice of 'restriction' and 'being restricted'. The title had a quote from a poem in *Prison Days* by Agyeya, an Indian poet. The talk referred extensively from Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's *Prison Diaries* too. He said that the recognition of the voices of dissent and protest is the essence of democracy. The Association has a tradition of felicitating men of letters in every conference. This year **Janab Vaseem Irfani**, Urdu Poet and Critic from Nimbaheda, Chittorgarh was felicitated by the Association. The Citation presented to him was read by Prof. Prashant Mishra, Professor and Head, Department of English, Government College, Neemuch. Every year Prof. S.N.Joshi Memorial Lecture is organized in the annual conference in the memory of former President of the Association late Prof. S.N.Joshi. This year Prof. Ameena Ansari, Jamia Millia, University, New Delhi delivered Prof. S.N.Joshi Memorial Lecture. Prof. Ansari talked of various aspects of freedom of writing and writing for freedom. She talked of the forces of suppression of free voices and quoted several examples of dissenting voices in world literature. The session was chaired by Prof. Sunil Bhargava, Vice President of the Association. Dr. H.M.Kothari, convenor of the conference offered the vote of thanks.

The inaugural session was followed by the first Plenary Session. Introduction of the speakers was given by Dr. Parul Mishra, Professor, Amity School of Languages. In this session Prof. Dipa Chakrabarty, Head, Amity School of Languages, Amity University, Jaipur was the speaker while Prof. Umed Singh, Professor and Head, Department of English, C.D.L. University, Sirsa, Haryana chaired the session. Prof. Chakrabarty spoke on the topic "Assia Djebar: A Trajectory from Restriction to Liberation". Prof. Umed Singh spoke of the Jail diary of Sardar Bhagat Singh also while presenting his concluding remarks. The second plenary was presented by Dr. Harshad Santosh Pore, Assistant Professor, KES Shroff college, Kandivali West, Mumbai. Dr. Harshad spoke on the topic "The Jailer and His World: Creating Prison as a Narrative Device". He examined prison as a teleological narrative device with special reference to two different kinds of prisons created in Konnie Huq's "Fifteen Million Merits", a story from a television series anthology *Black Mirror* and Stephen King's novel *Under the Dome*. This session was chaired by Prof. Sabita Tripathi, Department of English, Sambalpur University, Sambalpur, Odisha and moderated by Dr. Anant Dadheech, Associate Professor, M.L.V. Government College, Bhilwara. The third plenary session was organized on Sunday, 21st November, 2021. Introduction of the Speakers was given by Dr. Kshamata Chaudhary, Associate Professor, VMOU, Kota. Prof. Susanta Kumar Bardhan, Associate Professor, Birbhum, West Bengal, was the key speaker. He spoke on the theme "Incarcerated Voices: A Critical Study of the Prison Writings of Communist Revolutionaries". This session was chaired by Prof. Prashant Mishra, Professor, Government PG College, Neemuch, MP. He spoke about the communist revolutionaries who were put in jail during seventies in West Bengal. He translated many of their poems into English and underlined their indomitable spirit.

Seven technical sessions were organized in which scholars from different parts of the country presented their papers. Prof. Mukta Sharma, Professor, JRN Rajasthan Vidyapeeth, Udaipur, Dr. Sonu Shiva, Government Dungar College, Bikaner, Dr. Minakshi Jain, HoD, Department of English, M.L.S. University, Dr. Vinita Goyal, Associate Professor, Government Girls College, Alwar, Dr. K.S.Kang, Principal, Maharana Pratap Government College, Chittorgarh, Dr. Rekha Tiwari, Associate Professor, G.N.G. College, Udaipur. Rukhsana Saif, Chartered Institute of Technology, Abu Road, Sirohi, Dr. Sanjay Kumar Singh, Professor of English, Department of Humanities, O.P.Jindal University, Raigad, Chhattisgarh chaired the technical sessions.

The conference ended with a valedictory session in which the director of the conference Prof. Hemendra Singh Chandalia presented the report of the conference and offered the vote of thanks. This session was moderated by Dr. Rajshree Ranawat, Jai Narayan Vyas University, Jodhpur. The chief guest of this session Prof. Gourhari Behera from Gorakhpur University talked about the theoretical perspective of restricted spaces highlighting the significance of “Space” , particularly heterotopias in literature. This session was chaired by Prof. Supriya Agarwal, Professor of English at the Central University of Rajasthan.

Glimpses



XIX Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English
on
Negotiating Love, Combating Hatred: Exploring Love in World Literatures
20-21 November, 2022

Organized by
Lohia Government College, Churu
Organizing Secretary: Dr. Sumer Singh

Concept Note

“Those who are hardest to love, need it the most”, said Socrates. 21st century man is perhaps the hardest to love and hence needs it the most. An age in which love is lost in the mazes of worldly strife and people tend to embrace hatred in order to succeed; when progress means accumulation and power means the authority to rule others; when on the other side of the coin of wealth lies hunger and squalor; when the price of peace is high and turmoil is let loose here and there on the streets, it is worth its while to delve deep into the vast oceans of world literature and bring forth the pearls of love treasured therein.

Prof Hossain

Prof Ameena Kazi Ansari

If hatred can make one mad, why not shun it. Let love take the reins. Hatred has made men mad in history. It has led to racialism, communalism and caste based violence. More than anything else in the world hatred has led to massive dehumanization of communities. More so when the state or the ruling establishments use hatred as a strategy to polarize people and capture power by playing with their emotions. It has caused deadly riots and widespread wars. It demeans the perpetrator as much as it destroys the victim. The greed to capture natural resources and to expand one's territory have also been responsible for genesis of hatred towards people whom one doesn't even know. Love, on the other hand makes one mad too. But it does it in an exactly opposite way. Homer, the great Greek poet, says, “There is the heat of love/the pulsing rush of longing/the lover's whisper/ irresistible/magic to make the sanest man go mad.”

The ancient Latin poet Ovid is considered the most prolific among poets of the world who have written on the theme of love. His collections of poems titled *Amores* (Loves), *Ars Amatoria* (The Art of Love) and *Remedia Amoris* (Cures for Love) depict love in its various manifestations. French literature has abundant works of fiction famous all over the world as French Romances. Victor Hugo, Gustav Flaubert and Balzac are well known names in French Literature who have treated this theme in their works of fiction. Works like *The Lover* by Marguerite Duras, *Madam Bovary* by Gustav Flaubert and *Bel – Ami* by Guy De Maupassant may be taken as examples of literature of love in French Literature. The Literature in English produced in England and elsewhere in the Anglophone world provides hundreds of poets, novelists and essayists who have written on this theme. Francis Bacon , in his very popular essay “ Of Love” says, “It is impossible to love and to be wise.” His observations on love have become popular quotes. For example the lines “Nuptial love makes mankind; friendly love perfects it; but wanton love corrupts and debases it” carries a meaning which is almost didactic. Similarly in the sentence like “The speaking in a perpetual hyperbole is comely in

nothing but love” his observation is very realistic. The sentence “Why should a man be in love with his fetters, though of gold?” would have inspired many a freedom fighter all over the world.

In Chinese literature love has been depicted as a very powerful force. Known as the greatest playwright of China Tang Xianzu (1550-1616) says, “ We do not know the origins of love, but once it starts, it runs deep: those who are alive can die and those who are dead can be reborn by it.” Another author Zhang Qi goes to the extent of saying “ a man without love is not a true man [...] Love is something that makes use of ears and eyes, modifies the divine principles, makes one forget light and darkness, makes one ignore hunger and cold, dominates the entire empire and beyond, traversing the eight desert lands, even penetrates metal and stone, moves heaven and earth, guides all beings, through it is born what has life and dies what can die”.

Alexander Pushkin's *The Belkin Tales*, Leo Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina*, Alexander Grin's *Scarlet Sails*, and Anton Chekov's tales are but a few examples of Russian Literature which may be treated as texts where love has been depicted. Mikhail Lermontov “The Sail”, Aleksandr Pushkin's “To *** (I Still Recall the Wondrous Moment”, Ivan Krylov's. “The Dragonfly & the Ant”, Alexander Blok's “Night, street, lamp, drugstore...” and Sergei Yesenin. “The Birch Tree” are some of the very famous love poems of Russian literature.

Literature of the indigenous peoples of the world remains neglected. But if examined closely, one may find brilliant poetry in which they have expressed their love to Mother Nature, plants, trees, hills and also birds and animals besides their love for other human beings. Jake Skeets, Tanaya Winder, Amber McCrary, Kinsale Hueston etc. are some of the indigenous poets of the present generation who have penned down their love and concern for their surroundings and the loss of natural habitats.

Indian Literatures including Indian Literature in English, literature composed in twenty two languages included in the eight schedule as well as literature composed in hundreds of dialects spoken in different regions of the country are rich treasures of literature of love. Great Indian classics in Sanskrit, Persian, Pali, Prakrit and literature composed in the medieval ages by great saint poets like Kabir, Tulsi Das, Meera Bai, Ras Khan, Abdul Rahim Khankhana can be explored to see depiction of varieties of feelings of love in their texts.

To combat the vicious propaganda of hate, it would be interesting to explore the rich tradition of Sufi poetry beginning with Amir Khusro and followed by a galaxy of writers and poets like Amrita Pritam and Adam Gondavi. The Urdu poets beginning with Mir, Ghalib and Nazeer Akbarabadi to Faiz, Iqbal and Sahir provide immensely popular verses of love and harmony.

The objective of the conference was to bring to centre stage the harmonious feelings of love, cooperation, sharing and caring. It was attempted through a discussion of the literatures of the world. In a strife - torn world where wars continue to devastate countries and fanatic forces use all means to propagate poisonous hatred through the speeches of so-called religious leaders against targeted communities and amplified by a sold-out media, we aim at beginning a discourse on love.

The themes were as follows:

1. The Philosophy of Love
2. Eros, Philia and Agape
3. Love in Classical Literature
4. Love in the literature of the Medieval Ages
5. The fallacy of associating languages with religion
6. Combating Hatred with tales of love

7. Institutional Intervention in Propagation of Love
8. Imperialism and Global Land-Grabbing
9. War and Love
10. Capitalism and Human Emotions

The Greek term Eros refers to sexual lust and passion, not love the way we know it. Eros can be felt towards any gender, in both married relationships and more casual sexual liaisons. Eros is also the name of the Greek god of love, whose Roman counterpart is Cupid. Sometimes depicted as an infant or a young man, Eros is the culprit behind many mythological love stories in Ancient Greece. Eros is also closely associated with Aphrodite, the goddess of love, beauty, and passion, who is often identified as his mother.

Philia

The Greek term Philia refers to love between friends and equals. Philia is often conceived of as a more virtuous kind of love, separate from the love of sexual attraction. While philia primarily refers to love between friends, it can also reference affection towards family members and even romantic partners. Bonds of philia can be just as strong as romantic and sexual bonds.

Agape

Agape is a type of unconditional **love** that refers to love towards one's children, family, and spouse, as well as the community more generally. In Christian theology, agape can also indicate God's love towards his creation.

*Her heart fell from out her bosom,
and a dark mist came over her eyes, and a hot blush covered her
cheeks. And she had no strength to lift her knees backwards or
forwards, but her feet beneath were rooted to the ground; and
meantime all her handmaidens had drawn aside. So they two stood
face to face without a word, without a sound, like oaks or lofty
pines, which stand quietly side by side on the mountains when the
wind is still; then again, when stirred by the breath of the
wind, they murmur ceaselessly; so they two were destined to tell
out all their tale, stirred by the breath of Love. (Argonauts of Apollonius Rhodius)*

Report

Literature is the Apt Tool to Combat Hatred: Prof. Sudhi Rajiv

“Literature is an apt tool to combat hatred. For centuries literature has propagated the message of love, be it the love of God, love of one's own country or love between man and woman. Love is a synthesized feeling of what is the best in human nature. Literature is the reflection of human imagination and emotion. Thus, it is love that flows like an undercurrent in the world literature. Love is the force that takes hatred and fear away. In the world of incessant strife in the name of religion and power, it is love that can bring lasting peace and happiness.” These thoughts were expressed by Prof. Sudhi Rajiv, Vice Chancellor, Haridev Joshi University of Journalism and Mass Communication, Jaipur in the inaugural function of the XIX international conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English as its chief guest. The conference was organized at Lohia Government College, Churu on 20-21 November, 2022. Prof. Mahaveer Singh, Principal of the college presented the welcome address. Organizing Secretary of the conference Dr. Sumer Singh, Head, Department of English introduced the guests to the audience.

Prof. Hemendra Singh Chandalia, Vice President of the Association presented the concept note of the conference. He said that the forces of division have torn the world in conflicts. The communal and fascist forces in India have created a vicious atmosphere. It is the duty of writers, poets and teachers to dispel this gloom and create an atmosphere of mutual love, respect and harmony. In the concept note he referred to writers from Greek, Latin, Russian, Chinese and Indian Literatures who wrote about various shades of love and thus propagated the message of love, peace and harmony. Dr.K.S.Kang, General Secretary of the Association presented the annual report of the conference.

Sh.Dula Ram Saharan, Chairman, Rajasthan Sahitya Academy, Udaipur addressed the audience as the guest of honour. He said that the purpose of literature is to bring together people and make them enjoy the best that is available in human life. Literature also becomes a tool of protest in the reign of tyrants and dictators. He said that today when the ruling establishment at the center is trading in hatred and violence it is the duty of the enlightened writers, poets, journalists and teachers to propagate the message of love and tolerance. He said that the theme of the conference is relevant to the present times. Noted Rajasthani writer and poet Padmshri Dr. Chandra Prakash Deval in his addressed said that humanity is the essence of the world of literature. The spirit of freedom and creativity are inherent in human nature. Hatred and violence are not natural. He said that unfortunately human history as it comes to us valorizes the victorious in battles and thus indirectly glamorizes violence. Though there have also been works of anti war literature but they have not been so well popularized. There is a need to fight the forces of hatred and violence for lasting human progress. In the inaugural session Prof. Sudhi Rajiv, Vice President of the Association was felicitated for her elevation to the position of the Vice Chancellor. Prof. H.R.Isran read the citation and the guests offered a shawl as a token of respect to her.

The souvenir of the conference, the annual journal of the Rajasthan Association for studies in English and a book titled *Legions of Liberty: Exploring Prison Literature* edited by Prof. H.S.Chandalia were released by guests in the inaugural session of the conference. Prof.Suman bala, Delhi University, presented the key note address while Ms.Roswitha, an ex official of German Embassy and a creative writer in English gave Prof. S.N.Joshi Memorial Lecture. Presiding over the inaugural session Prof. Rajul Bhargava, President of the Association said that hate is a product of fear. It is hate that brings blindness. Hate teaches us to remember our differences while love teaches us to forget and forgive. Dr. Sanju Jhahhariya , convener of the conference offered a vote of thanks. Dr. Rukhsana Saifi , Chartered Institute of Technology, Abu Road and Dr. Chitra Dadheech, Sujangarh, convened the session.

The inaugural was followed by a sumptuous lunch at Grand Shekhawati Hotel. A plenary lecture was organized after the lunch which was delivered by Dr. Devendra Rankawat of Central University of Rajasthan, Kishangarh, Ajmer. The title of the lecture was “Meeting Hatred with Love: A Note on Gandhi's Philosophy of a Peaceful World. This session was chaired by Dr.K.S.Kang. A number of technical sessions were held in the afternoon in which the delegates from different parts of the state presented their research papers. In all eighty three papers were received for presentation in the conference. The second day of the conference began with a plenary session in which Prof Umed Singh, Professor and Head, Department of English, Chaudhary DeviL Lal University, Sirsa, Haryana presented his research on the depiction of love in Jai Dev's *Geet Govind*. This session was chaired by Dr. Bhumika Sharma, Head, Department of English, Central University of Rajasthan, Kishangarh, Ajmer.

Parallel technical sessions were held chaired by Dr.K.S.Kang, Dr. Anant Dadheech, Dr. Khushpal Garg, Dr. H.R. Isran and Dr. Shubha Dwivedi.

The valedictory session of the conference was chaired by the Principal of the college Prof. Mahaveer Singh. In his speech he made very pertinent remarks about the need to fight hatred in all walks of life. In particular he spoke of religion being used as a tool for gaining political advantage. He said that India, with its huge

size and rich diversity cannot be ruled by the followers of any one religion. The chief guest of the session was Sh. Faruq Afridi, noted writer and Officer on Special Duty, Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Jaipur. In his speech he referred to the works of numerous writers from world literature and said that love is a universal feeling which has been expressed the world over. He said that fascist forces are on a rise in India and have tried to destroy the composite culture of our country. He said that such conferences will enhance the secular character of our nation. Prof.Hussain Raza Khan, Chairman, Rajasthan Urdu Academy, special guest of the session spoke on the tradition of Sufi literature in India and said that the Sufis seek God through love. He mentioned several works of literature written in Urdu to establish that literature in India exists in many languages but their spirit is one. In the beginning of the session Dr. Sumer Singh, organizing secretary of the conference, introduced the guests while Prof. H.S.Chandalia welcomed the guests. He said that the theme of the conference is relevant to the present time as there are organized attempts to jeopardize the secular and socialist ideals of the constitution of India. Dr. Sanju Jhaharia , convener of the conference presented the report of the conference while co-convener Dr. Chitra Dadheech, offered a vote of thanks. The session was convened by Dr. Chitra Dadheech and Dr. Anant Dadheech.

Glimpses



XX Annual Conference of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English Proposed Concept Note

Understanding Geo-centrism, Naturalism and Collectivism through Indigenous Literatures
26, 27, 28 December, 2023

Organized by
Department of English, Mohanlal Sukhdia University, Udaipur
Organizing Team: Dr.Minakshi Jain, Dr. Khushpal Garg, Saurabh Meena

“She kept a pot of stew on the stove
all day for anyone to eat.
She never went to church but said
you could be a good person anyway.
She fed hoboes during the '30s,
her back porch a regular stop-over.
Every person has rights no matter
what color. Be respectful.”

These memorable lines of the native American poet Denis Low speak a lot about the life and philosophy of the indigenous communities. It contrasts starkly with the non-indigenous super civilized world. Today it is not the question of saving a nation, a religion or a language. We have entered into an era of more serious threats to the entire planet which is a home to not just human beings but to myriad species of animals and plants. The idea of homocentric world has created a myth of man being the master of the earth. This has led to an uncontrolled exploitation of natural treasures which unfortunately we have named as “resources”. Accumulation of wealth and production of surplus to further multiply it has led to an unending cut throat competition between countries, communities and individuals. Global pursuit of land – grabbing and ascertaining command over the natural resources for a nation has resulted in bloody wars and destruction of natural and man - made capital.

The emergence of the capitalist world order and its expansion has created a world which is divided and disjointed. The human race is also divided into races, religions, nationalities and communities. This segregation has endowed human beings with multiple contending identities and there are conflicts of preserving individual identities rather than saving human race. There are hierarchies which govern and create an order of power structures that dictate. The ruling establishments work day in and day out to maintain the status quo whereas the masses reel under monstrous suppression and exploitation.

Though material gain and scientific advancement has made life easier for this generation but there is also a sense of being hollow from inside. Individualism has led to creation of islands. Every man is an island unto him/herself. This isolation has resulted from the idea of private individual and ownership of property which is a serious fallacy. In this world there is a regular rise in the number of prison houses. For punishment one is subjected to long durations of isolation and solitary confinement is considered one of the most severe punishments. But often one realizes that the isolation can exist even outside a prison. There are invisible walls that surround us. This is a truth of this super –civilized society.

In this background if one were to visit the indigenous communities of the world through their literatures composed in their native tongues or in English and other languages of the world, one would be happily surprised to see a new vision of life which might usher in a renaissance of human civilization. Indigenous societies living in their remote, less exposed habitats present an alternative world view which rests on Geo-centrism, Naturalism and Collectivism. The fallacious understanding of the super civilized world as masters of the earth does not exist here. Homocentric world is not the world view of the indigenous people. For them earth is central, not man. They treat earth as their mother and believe in using nature's components sparingly just to fulfill their needs not following the capitalist principle of producing surplus.

The concept of individual property does not hold the sway in indigenous community. They believe in collective command of the gifts of nature and so the ownership right rests with community. There are community guidelines of the use of land, water, forest produce and other available treasures of nature which are derived from some natural object which is the center of their faith. The mythological deities have little space in the indigenous belief system. They worship nature, sun, moon, trees, rivers, ancestors and sometimes even certain animals. Naturalism is the order among the indigenous communities. In an era of ghastly conflicts in the name of religion when religious identities are invoked to gain political power at international level and also within a country, naturalism could offer a viable alternative.

As we try to understand the issues of the contemporary world in the light of the literature of the indigenous peoples of the world there is a fresh breeze of hope which presents an alternative to the existing world order. It might appear to be a utopia but alternatives are generated out of utopian ideas only. In the era of monarchy even the idea of democracy would have appeared a utopian idea. In fact, the attempt to understand the Geo-centrism, Naturalism and Collectivism is also an attempt to make democracy more rooted and mass-based.

Indigenous people form about eight percent of the population in India. At the global level they number around 400 million. They are scattered in some seventy two countries and speak a large number of languages which are limited to their locale. However, many indigenous communities have people who have acquired a capacity to compose in languages which they have learnt through education and interaction with non-indigenous populations. This rich body of literature has a great scope of exploration. It would be interesting to study this literature, now available in English translation also, to understand the concept of Geo-centrism, Naturalism and Collectivism.

The themes are as follows:

1. Indigenous philosophy and literature
2. Colonialism and indigenous literature
3. Indigenous faith and the idea of God
4. Marginality and main stream
5. Identity Issues of Indigenous people and the concept of assimilation
6. Indigenous versus Capitalist economic model
7. Social organization among indigenous communities
8. Language , style and imagery in indigenous literatures
9. Naturalism and indigenous literature
10. Sustainability, ecological balance and development
11. Collectivism versus individualism
12. Save indigenous people, save earth



Glimpses of RASE



YUG PURUSH



Pdt. Janardan Rai Nagar was born in Udaipur on June 16, 1911. He earned indestructible fame and name in the field of education, literature, journalism, politics and social service. Trained in Gandhian values and having obtained the blessings of great novelist and short story writer Munshi Premchand. He established Vidyapeeth in 1937 to spread education in the erstwhile state of Mewar an institute for educating the masses in the night when they were free from their daily chores. His hard work and dedication resulted in the continuous growth of this institution which is now flourishing as an institution deemed to be a University called Janardan Rai Nagar Rajasthan Vidyapeeth after his name.

While his committed public service earned him fame in the world of education his inner journey as an artist bloomed and bloomed into literary work of admirable literary worth. He composed novels, stories, prose-lyrics and poetry. His novel Jagatguru Shankaracharya is a series of ten novels spread in some 5500 pages. Five novels in the series Ram Rajya have been published. Besides these two collections of short stories, four collections of prose-lyrics, and plays titled “Acharya Chanakya”, Patit Ka Swarg”, “Uda Hatyara”, “Jeevan Ka Satya”, have been very popular. His plays were staged also.

Pdt. Nagar's contribution to journalism is no less versatile. He established, edited and wrote for a number of magazines and newspapers. Some of these newspapers and magazines are Madhumati, Swarmangla, Nakhalistaan, Baalhit, Kalki, Samaj Shikshan, Shodh Patrika, Vasundhara, Jan Mangal, Jan Sandesh, and Aravali.

Ptd. Nagar was a great institution builder. Besides Rajasthan Vidyapeeth which is Deemed to be University now, he played pioneering role in institutions like Rajasthan Sahitya Academy. All India Adult Education Association and Kendriya Sahitya Academy. He served as Chairman, Rajasthan Sahitya Academy, member Kendriya Sahitya Academy, Hindi Salaahkaar Samiti, Indian Railways, Central Adult Education Advisory Committee etc. He represented the Mavli constituency in the state legislative Assembly for one term. The awards and accolades that he received in his life time are numerous. Prominent of these are Nehru Literacy Award and Maharana Mewar Foundation Award.

Pdt. Nagar completed his eventful life journey on August, 15, 1997 exactly fifty years after the independence of India.

Courtesy

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Udaipur (Rajasthan)**