



DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH & FOREIGN LANGUAGES

A Report on

"The 3-day National Level FDP on Literature: Trauma, Eco-criticism and Oral Narratives" organized by E&FL Department on 27th, 28th & 29th JULY 2020

Coordinator: Dr. Rosalia H Bonjour



Day 1:27 July 2020Speaker: Dr. Uday Kumar MishraTopic:Trauma and Pandemic Literature: A Psycho-semiotic Study

Ms. Zareena J M (Asst. Professor- Department of English and Foreign Languages) as a moderator of the three-day faculty development programme on "Literature: Trauma, Eco-criticism and **Oral Narratives**" welcomed the participants on behalf of the Department and MITS Madanapalle. Then she introduced the speaker of the day-1 Dr. Uday Kumar Mishra - Head, University Department of English, T. M. Bhagalpur University, Bhagalpur, Bihar to the participants and thanked him for accepting the invitation to deliver the day-1 session of the FDP. She informed the participants to attend all the (three days) sessions and fill in the feedback form in order to be entitled to get their e-certificate of participation. She also informed them that they can post their questions in the chat box which will be picked up by the moderator who will read them out to the resource person to answer the chosen questions. Then she invited the **Principal Dr. C. Yuvraj** to address the participants who emphasized on how to make the best use of time during inevitable pandemic Covid-19. He highlighted the achievements of the college especially its research and development trajectory and student-centric approach of teaching to make students industry ready. He concluded his brief inaugural address on best wishes to participants and a thank you note to the HoD E&FL & Coordinator of the FDP along with the programme's moderator. Next, the moderator Ms. Zareena invited HoD English and Foreign Languages as well as Coordinator of the FDP Dr. Rosalia H Bonjour to say a few words to the participants. In her brief address she highlighted the achievements of the department and its strengths. She gave a few tips to the participants in order to get maximum benefits from attending this FDP. She concluded reminding participants, "We have come here to learn and learning never ends." Finally, the moderator requested the speaker of the day Dr. Uday Kumar Mishra to deliver his talk.

The speaker after thanking the Management MITS Madanapalle, Principal, Coordinator as well as HoD English and Foreign Languages, and Moderator initiated his session with a brief discussion on association of trauma with pandemic literature over the years. The element of trauma is an inevitable part of great literature. Shelley's often quoted line "**Our sweetest songs are those that tell of saddest thought**" in his opinion is worth remembering when we talk of the relationship between trauma and literature.

Prof Mishra stated that in literature, words and sentences as linguistic signs fail to represent the real trauma or the untold story. A psycho-semiotic study of all such texts can bring forth many such ideas in the analysis of trauma in pandemic literature. Lacan's deconstructive approach in this regard is very much applied in such an analysis of trauma in literature. He threw light on collective trauma. He said, "Trauma is not always individual rather it takes the collective forms. The speaker stated, "In recent covid-19 pandemic has shaken the world with its menace or 'traumatic neurosis' and I am sure literature being written, during this critical phase of human history like that in the past, is all about the trauma collectively experienced and expressed in the words though inadequately representing the intensity of trauma of the present time. The real trauma is unspeakable (lacan) a psych-semiotic study of pandemic literature written during / after covid-19 can bring out many new faces and facts about trauma presented by writers in different forms."

Prof. Mishra thanked the participants for attending his online talk. The moderator picked up the questions from the participants and read out one by one to the speaker who answered those questions.

105 participants participated in this session.

Day 228 July 2020Speaker: Dr. Sagrolikar Kapil IrwantraoTopic: Significance of Oral Narrative Tradition in English Classroom

Ms. Zareena J M requested the speaker of the day Dr. Sagrolikar Kapil Irwantrao to deliver his talk. The speaker after thanking the Management MITS Madanapalle, Principal, Coordinator as well as HoD English and Foreign Languages, and Moderator initiated his session with title appropriation of the session. He said, "Though the title is general, I am going to discuss one particular oral narrative tradition of Maharashtra which is also the area of my doctoral research work. He stated, "This talk is an attempt to trigger your mind in order to-

- try out or explore, implement or experiment your research in classroom teaching.
- explore innovative teaching ways, techniques, models and practices which may facilitate the active learning or active participation of the learners."

The speaker shared his Doctoral Research Work "Singing Tradition and Grinding Culture" with the participants. He displayed the following pictures to highlight his work.

The speaker highlighted the following significance of oral narrative tradition in general:

- Learning by Contextualising because Winter cannot be a metaphor for the death in India.
- Performativity is the most important Part because it provides Informal setup to make learning happen in a play-way method and with the utmost involvement
- TPR (Total Physical Response) or as Physical Exercise
- Story Telling or Narration
- Role Play and Enactment

In his concluding remarks he said, "This Model is one of the best platforms for the group work, team work and group discussion because it helps learners learn the tasks, exercises, etc. through their own socio-cultural context and outlet the physical strain through its performativity. The speaker thanked the participants for attending his online talk. The moderator Ms. Zareena picked up the questions from the participants and read out one by one to the speaker who answered those questions. It was out and out an interactive session. The speaker answered all the question to the participants' satisfaction.

Day 329 July 2020Speaker: Dr. V. Nirmala

Topic: Ecological Concerns and Literature

Ms. Zareena J M .requested the speaker of the day Dr. Nirmala to deliver her talk on the topic of the day. The speaker after thanking the Management MITS Madanapalle, Principal, Coordinator as well as HoD English and Foreign Languages, and Moderator initiated her talk on **Contemporary Environmental Pressures/Crises like**

Oil spills—toxic waste contamination—extinction of species—battle over public land use—nuclear waste dumps—a growing hole in the ozone layer—global warming—acid rain—loss of topsoil—destruction of the tropical rain forest—wildfire—poisonous gas emission—famine—flood—hurricane/storms—industrialization—pollution—urbanization—overpopulation

Then she touched upon the literary bearings of ecological concerns in terms of:

- Ecocriticism, as a methodological approach, has taken its literary bearings from:
 - The British Romanticism of the early nineteenth century
 - Three major 19th century American writers:

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

-Margaret Fuller and Henry David Thoreau whose works celebrate nature, the life force and wilderness. Touching upon the concerns in' Eco critical Reading' the speaker raised the following questions:

- What role does the physical setting play the plot of the text?
- Are the values expressed in this text consistent with ecological wisdom?
- How do our metaphors of the land influence the way we treat?
- How do environmental crises seep through into popular culture? (Ex: into movies, popular books and TV shows)
- What can the principles and research behind the science of ecology reveal about literature socially and symbolically?
- How can we characterize nature writing as a genre?
- In addition to race, class and gender, should place become a new critical category?

The speaker thanked the participants for attending his online talk. The moderator Ms. Zareena picked up the questions from the participants and read out one by one to the speaker who answered those questions. At the end of the session the moderator invited Dr. Shanmuga Priya Asst. Professor – Department of English & Foreign Languages to give a vote of thanks.

It was out and out an interactive session. The speaker answered all the questions to the participants' satisfaction.