

New Dimensions in Indian Fiction in English

The Department of English J.J.College of Arts and Science Sivapuram Pudukkottai. Arranged a special lecture on New Dimensions in Indian Fiction in English at 11 am on Monday 29.11.2021


The Resource Person was Dr S. Ponkarthikeyan, Assistant Professor of English,Rajagopalasamy Government arts college Mannarkudi. Professor S.Selvi,Head of the Dept. introduced the Chief Guest as an eloquent Speaker and enthusiastic teacher of Literature. He has done his doctoral research on Amitav Ghosh and explored the post modern elements in them. Professor Ponkarthikeyan referred to the novel as the most resilient of Literary forms. It had grown in tune with contemporary critical trends and concepts of the world and man's place in it. We have different strands in fiction like Psychological,Sociological, Meta - physical post - colonial post modern and Diasporic. This variety is reflected in the work of Amitav Ghosh. Starting with 'The circle of reason' through the Ibis trilogy, to his most recent works. Ghosh has kept pace with the stream of themes, ideas and narrative techniques. He has been an experimenter in fiction and in his efforts he has not been alone. Many writers have kept him company in this common pursuit and the most famous names are Chitra Bannerji Devakaruni, Aravind Adiga, Anita Nair, Shobha De and host of others. There have also been significant contribution from Feminist writers like Arundhathi Roy and Kiran Desai.

Translation from the fiction of Indian languages have also enriched, Indian fiction in English. Thus the field of Indian fiction in English presents fertile field for committed researchers to explore relationship between and among writers through comparison and contrast.

Earlier S.Keerthana I-M.A welcomed the gathering and towards close T.Adeickala Sowmya of I-M.A proposed the vote of thanks.


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Special Lecture on Health and Wellbeing Amidst Covid-19 Pandemic

The **Department of English**, J.J. College of Arts and Science (Autonomous) Sivapuram, Pudukkottai, Organised a **Webinar Lecture**, at **2.00 pm on 27/08/2021**.

In her welcome address, **Ms. S.Selvi, Head of English** welcomed the participants and introduced the chief guest. She established the relevance of the topic to present social needs. She requested the students to take down the major points raised by the speaker as a guidance to managing their food regimen.

Speaking on **Health and Wellbeing Amidst Covid-19 Pandemic**, **Dr.V.Kavitha, Asst.Prof. Department of Nutrition and Dietetics, Jamal Mohamad College(Autonomous) Trichy**, recommended a five fold approach to health and welfare citing various experts like Dr.Mahajan. She pointed out the need to meet the pandemic squarely with out panic . She stressed the need for a positive approach and reminded the audience that human beings are born survivors. In the course of human history mankind has seen and outlived many epidemics. The presents crisis caused by Corona will also pass and become a memory of the victory of human spirits , overall trials and tribulations.


The Golden mantra is to remain positive, active and exercise regularly. Healthy diet and proper nutrition will help us build up stamina. But at the same time one should not be over optimistic or adventurous, self medication must be avoided. Medical help must be sought early enough. This will help avoid tension. Those with comorbidities like diabetics , hyper tension obesity and cardiac disorders should take regular precautions. It is also essential that we overcome Lockdown blues, through reading and relaxation.

One could listen to good music, watch pleasing movies and engage in chit-chat through social media. Finally she stressed the need to be courageous oneself and helps others through counseling

The session ended with vote of thanks by **Ms.K.Muthulashmi, Assistant Professor of English**.


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Webinar - Lecture on Dystopian Literature

The **Department of English**, JJ College of Arts and Science,(Autonomous) Sivapuram. Pudukkottai, organised a Webinar - Lecture on "**Dystopian Literature**" on **18th August 2021**.

Ms. S. Selvi, Head of the Department, welcomed the participants and briefly introduced the chief guest **Mrs.Sophia, Assistant Professor of English, Jamal Mohammed College Trichy**. She also focused on different dimensions of science fiction and made specific reference to Utopias and Distopias


Mrs.Sophia In her speech outlined various definitions of Dystopian Literature possible in the study of the subject. It could be taken up by century wise characterisation like rampant fear or distress, tyrannical governments, environmental disaster associated with War famine and pestilence etc. Giving practical examples, she proceeded with a detailed analysis of works like Orwell's "Nineteen Eighty-four" and Huxly's "Brave New world". She pointed out how all Dystopians like Utopians have a futuristic and futurological perspective and an accompany element of exaggeration. She encourages students to rise queries and stimulated a discussion on the topic.

She suggested various topics for project work and outlined the approach and methodology of studying Dystopian Fiction. The main point was to perceive the exaggeration of present trends in science and the progress of civilization and assess questions of probability and possibility. Very often Dystopian Fiction was exaggerated reality, a kind of warning to humanity to make use of Nature with moderation and put a rein on pride and prejudice. Dystopian stress our responsibility to the future generation. We have to ensure that our progeny inherit a world safe for human welfare and survival.

Finally **Mrs.P.M.Sudha**, Assistant Professor of English, proposed the Vote of Thanks.


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Webinar - Lecture on An overview of History of English Literature

The Department of English, JJ College of Arts and Science (Autonomous) Sivapuram Pudukkottai organised a Webinar - Lecture on **An overview of History of English Literature, on Monday 12th July 2021.**

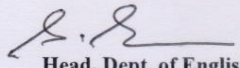
Ms.Selvi, Head of the Department, welcomed the participants and briefly introduced Chief guest. The chief guest **Mrs Suganya Lilian, Assistant Professor of English, Prist University, Thanjavur.** Spoke on An overview of the History of English Literature.

In her speech she outlined various approaches possible in the study of the subject. It could be taken up century - wise, movement - wise, or Genre - wise she said that she was going to adopt a eccentric approach. It was such an approach that helped her to clear, SLET once, and NET twice. She was trying to adopt the very same approach in her teaching also.


Giving practical orientation to her well documented speech she proceeded to a discussion of the sort of questions, that are commonly asked in NET & SLET and similar Competitive Examinations. She advised students to do focussed reading and cultivate the habit of note-taking and frequent revision.

She also clarified the doubts raised by the students. She recommended a literary and linguistic quiz programme as supplementary activities in online and offline teaching. In fact the resourceful teacher could do a great deal to make students clear such examinations and tests. Mrs.Liliyan suggested the preparation of a question-bank on subjects like Social History of England, History of English Literature and Literary Forms, which students could consult during leisure hours to update their knowledge on these areas.

Dr S Chitra, Assistant Professor of English, proposed the vote of thanks.


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International Webinar on 'Culture Theory'

The **Department of English**, J.J. College of Arts and Science (Autonomous), Sivapuram, Pudukkottai organized an **International Webinar on "Culture Theory" on Friday 26.02.2021**.

The Resource Person was **Prof. Shishir Kumar Bhusal**, Head, Department of Major Arts, St.Xavier's College, Nepal.

In her welcome address, **Ms.S.Selvi**, Head, Department of English. She introduced the resource person as an inspirational speaker and an one deeply interested in culture theory.

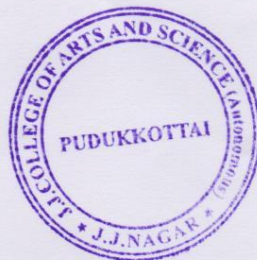
In the course of his lecture. **Prof. Shishir Kumar Bhusal**, sketch the development of culture theory and its applications in various fields. The present world is progressing towards the parliament of Man and the Federation of the world. There are two contradictory phenomena discernible in the cultural scenario. Various peoples are in search of their own uniqueness. Side by side there is a quest for cultural universals. These two cut across linguistic and racial considerations. There is also a quest for regional commonalities and resultant classifications. Areas like Comparative Religion, Comparative Literature and Comparative Linguistics have touched the borders of Anthropology. Research is on for a common cultural ancestor for all contemporary cultures. This has coloured literary criticism, aesthetics and ethnological studies. Thus culture theory has become a fertile field for research


In his lecture he outlined the various dimensions of Culture Theory and its relevance to literary and artistic studies. He focused on post-modern literary and cultural theories and the way, they are reflected in narrative and dramatic art. The post-modern mission is to bring out the variety and futility of all grand or mega narratives. Life is nebulous and baffles all concrete hard and fast formulae and ideologies. This is reflected in the formal and generic experimentations that are part of post-modern artistic expressions. They are rare specimens of the human attempt to give form to what is essentially formless. In short post-modern technique is a journey to a destination, that is ever shifting.

After the lecture, there was a question and answer session, in which, Mr. Bhusal clarified the doubts raised by the students and staff, with a sense of humour.

Finally **Mr. R.Aravindh**, Assistant Professor of English proposed vote of thanks.


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Webinar Lecture on “Reading Maketh a Full Man”

The Department of English, J.J. College of Arts and Science (Autonomous), Sivapuram, Pudukkottai organized a Webinar on “**Reading maketh a full man**” by **Professor.C.Hariram Jothi, Professor of English(Retd.), H.H. The Rajah’s College, Pudukkottai** at 2.00 p.m. on **25.02.2021(Thursday)**.

In her welcome address **Ms.S.Selvi, Head, Department of English**, introduced the chief guest as a man of wide reading and experience and a veritable role model for all teachers. He has a wide following of disciples and is well-known as a speaker and a Yoga Instructor. Referring to his services in J.J.College of Arts and Science, she called him a Teachers’ Teacher.


The Speaker highlighted the importance of Reading by taking a quotation from Francis Bacon’s Essays “Of studies” and defined how reading has a man making, educative role in our lives. It kindles not only the intellect but also the imagination. It has the potential to improve not only intelligent quotient, but also the emotional quotient. It is a valuable character building exercise that leads to the evolution of the human personality along constructive lines. Further Prof.Jothi referred to different types of reading from cursory to perceptive reading. He also stressed the need to adjust one’s reading speed to the field of discourse and the difficulty level of the book in one’s hand. The purpose of reading also determines reading speed. A good reader chooses his books wisely. The sort of books one reads is a key to one’s personality and character. Reading doesn’t mean swearing by the printed word. One has to be evaluative and critical. One shouldn’t be taken in by ideological gimmicks or mere propaganda. One should brood over one’s reading and digest the ideas therein. What one reads becomes part of our mind, influencing the way one thinks and acts. Thus reading forms character.

After the lecture Prof.Jothi answered the questions raised by the audience and engaged them in a lively discussion.

Ms. S.Jayakumari, Assistant Professor, proposed the vote of thanks.


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