

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
on
Convergence and Divergence: Indian Writing in a Global Context
15-16 March, 2018



DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES
PONDICHERY UNIVERSITY, PUDUCHERRY 605 014

Host Department:

The Department of English, one of the oldest Departments of the University, was established on 1st December, 1986, and since inception the Department has been the hub of teaching and research activity, attracting a cross-section of students and research scholars from all over the country. It has established itself as a stronghold of Comparative Literature, teaching Comparative Literary Theory and fostering Comparative Literary studies between Indian Languages and English. The Faculty of the Department with their diverse research areas and publications on topics of contemporary relevance remain at the forefront of innovative research areas. The Department also caters to the language and communication needs of students from other departments, running special courses on language and communication skills and add-on PG Diploma in Professional Communication in English

Objectives of the Conference:

- To examine how the aesthetic and cultural parameters of Indian literature both writing in English and writing in translation are represented in a global context.
- To investigate the reception and consumption of Indian literature in English and through translations in an international and national scenario.

Theme of the Conference:

With the publication of Salman Rushdie's *Midnight's Children* and the award of the Booker of Bookers for his work as well as the award of the Booker prize to Arundhati Roy and Aravind Adiga, there was a vision in the global context that Indian literature in English was indeed foregrounded. In the period after 1990s and the period after the millennium, disappointingly enough the scenario has changed. The shifting trends of globalization has given rise to a transnational literary culture and produced writing that is difficult to be classified as Indian. Along with this difficulty, the tussle between the Indian literature written in English and the Indian literatures written in bhasas has also entered the fray and distinctions between Indian Writing in English and Indian writing in the bhasas has become fluid with each moving beyond the national boundaries. Similarly, many university departments in countries such as Canada, US and European countries teach courses in Indian literature and thereby unconsciously build up canons.

Focus of the Conference:

The focus of this seminar is to examine how the aesthetic and cultural parameters of Indian literature both writing in English and writing in translation are represented in a global context. The other investigation that the seminar would like to focus on is the reception and consumption of these literatures in India and academic departments devoted to Indian/South Asian writing in the West and other regions. We are interested in queries such as the role of academics and scholars in promoting Indian literatures and processing it in the global context; the nature of canon formations; the pedagogy of courses devoted to these areas nationally and internationally, the cross cultural interactions that follow and so on

Thrust Areas for Paper Presentations:

Paper Presentations related to the following possible areas of interest may include, but are not limited to:

Region and Nation; Gender and Sexuality; Translations;
Indigenous/Aboriginal/Subaltern narratives; Pedagogical Methods; Canon Formations

Students are encouraged to present panel sessions on the following possible themes but are free to explore within the overall broad area of the conference:

The Role of Translation; The Relevance of Canons; The Process of Canon Formations;
The Importance of Bhasa/Regional Literature; The Inclusion/Exclusion of Other Literatures

Registration Fee:

Faculty Members (International): Rs. 7500; Research Scholars (International): Rs. 5000

Faculty Members (National and SAARC Countries): Rs. 5000

M.Phil & Research Scholars (National and SAARC Countries): Rs 3000

Students (National and International): Rs 1000

University Faculty & Scholars: Rs 500; Students of the Department: Rs 300

Abstracts: Word Limit for Paper Presentations and Panels: 250 words.

Note: Panel sessions should include names of all participants.

Dates to be noted:

- Last date for Abstracts: March 3, 2018
- Confirmation of Abstracts: March 6, 2018
- Time Limit for Presentation: 10 minutes

Kindly note that TA/DA/ cannot be provided due to financial constraint.

Organising Committee:

Chairperson: Dr. Clement. S. Lourdes, Associate Professor & Head, DOE, PU

Director: Dr. H. Kalpana, Associate Professor, DOE, PU

Committee Members:

- **Prof. Sujatha Vijayaraghavan**
- **Dr. T. Marx**
- **Dr. Binu Zachariah**
- **Dr. Lakhimai Mili**
- **Dr. S. Visaka Devi**
- **Dr. Ujjwal Jana**
- **Dr. K. Reshmi**

For Further Details Contact: Coordinator at indianwritingsseminar@gmail.com;

Ph 0413-2654481

Organised by Students, Scholars and Faculty, Department of English