Nation in Narration: Historico-political Narratives and Literature 16-03-2018

A National seminar on the topic 'Nation in Narration: Historico-political Narratives and Literature' was organised by the department on 16-03-2018, in the New Seminar Hall. The seminar was inaugurated by Dr Sr Isabel, Principal and the keynote address was delivered by Dr Anwar Sadath, Associate Professor, Department of English, The New College (Autonomous), Chennai. Dr Anwar spoke on the topic 'Between Historicity and Fictionality: Politics of Narratives and Representation in Indian Literature'. The session covered the intricate association between history and fiction and the significance of a new route to look into the area. The thoughts on the crucial issues in the association between history and fiction, role of fiction in detailing history and conveying culture, how writers contextualise the history they employ in their fiction and how they include historical research, composing of fiction into a broader framework of history etc were included. The representations of the same in Indian literature were also analysed.

The resource person for the second session was Mr Akhiles Udayabhanu, Adhoc faculty, Department of English, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady. Mr Akhiles spoke on the topic 'Genocide, Pain and Writing'. The session focussed on some representative Jewish narratives and examined genocide literature historically.

The seminar was attended by delegates from various colleges. Research papers were presented by a few participants. The seminar concluded with a valedictory function in which certificates were issued to the participants.





Dear Sir/Madam

The Post Graduate and Research Department of English is pleased to invite you to a National Seminar on the topic Nation in Narration Historico Political Narratives and Literature.

The identity of a nation is a metanarrative propogated by symbolic cultural text, history, and a nation's boundaries are determined by territory, language and cultures or racial identity or political tradition. Nation and narration are intertwined and inseparable as each contributes to the other. Supplementing history through the narratives is an inseparable part of contemporary literature. Writing the past forms our identity as it shapes the concept of a nation. Historical traumas like war, borders, birth of new nations, refugees and exile have its reflections in literary narratives. From the beginning of the 1980s there was an increasing thematic interest in Indian English novels in the affairs of the national politics and history. In the postmodern scenario, it is important to comprehend history and fiction as frontierless. The history-fiction interface involves the recognition of history as a linguistic construct and fiction as a product of specific historicity. Postmodern theory challenges the separation of the literary and the historical. In the post modern context, history has been widely seen as a site interrogating for the new meanings, hitherto unrepresentative sects of people, events, dynamics of cultures, power positions and above all the gender bias in writing the past.

The Seminar will provide a platform to explore and construct the concept of history, fiction, interface in historical narratives. There will be invited talks and paper presentations on the topic.

With immense pleasure we invite you to participate in this seminar and look forward to your gracious presence.

Dr. Sr. Lilly P L Principal Dr. Shali Anthappan Head of the Department

Dr. Asha Thomas Ms. Linet Sebastian (Co-ordinators)





09.00 am : Registration

Inauguration 10 am - 10.45 am

Session I

: Dr. Sr. Isabel (Vice Principal, St.Joseph's College, Irinjalakuda)

Between Historicity and Fictionality : The Politics of Narratives and Representation in

11 am - 12.30 pm Politics of Narratives a Indian Literature
Dr. Anvar Sadhath VP
Associate Professer,

Dept. of English, The New College (Autonomous)

Chennai

Session II : Genocide 1.15 pm - 2.30 pm Mr. Akhile

Genocide, Pain and Writing
Mr. Akhiles Udayabhanu

(Adhoc Faculty, Dept. of English

Sri Sankarcharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady)

2.30 pm : Paper Presentations

3.15 pm : Valedictory Session