

# Departments of English

## Triveni Devi Bhalotia College





## Onda Thana Mahavidyalaya

present-

### **International Web-lecture Series**

# **Contemporary Trends in Postcolonialism**

# **Theory and Praxis**

October 12-14, 2020



Registration link- https://forms.gle/dWJmDSxbfw7bQCVw5

Register before 10 October 2020 (only 250 participants)

No registration fees

Certificates will be sent to those who will participate in all the web-lectures.

#### **Concept note**

I too write from within this inheritance. Postcolonial scholarship is committed, almost by definition, to engaging the universals—such as the abstract figure of the human or that of Reason—that were forged in eighteenth-century Europe and that underlie the human sciences. (05)

Dipesh Chakrabarty, Provincializing Europe (2008)

Contemporary postcolonial theories and practices have taken a significant turn towards the universal-towards the human. The urge to 'provincializing Europe,' to move away from Eurocentrism towards a 'golabectic' (Thiong'o) humanism is the call of the day. Fanon seems to be more radical: "Let us waste no time in sterile litanies and nauseating mimicry. Leave this Europe where they are never done talking of Man' (09). The primary focus of our web lecture is the recent development in postcolonial thoughts.

Incidentally, postcolonialism (the non-hyphenated one) is a tendency- an attitude to write back to the colonial past and at the same time to 're-member' (Thiong'o) the pre-colonial past that has been brutally dismantled and buried by the colonial administrations. Said's phenomenal work *Orientalism* (1978) addresses the matter of 'binary social relation' which helped Europe divide the world into two halves-the Orient and the Occident. In *The Empire Writes Back* (1989) Bill Ashcroft, Gareth Griffiths and Helen Tiffin look into the future of English language in countries with history of colonialism' (McLeod 25). The language question was raised by Thiong'o in *Decolonizing the Mind* (1986) in which he bade farewell to the English language as the first language for his writings. Bhabha challenged the 'ideological validity of colonialism' with his theory of 'mimicry' and 'hybridity.' Spivak introduced the terms 'Essentialism' and 'Strategic Essentialism' to show how the postcolonial societies operate culturally. Postcolonial feminisms tend to challenge the Western ethics to counter patriarchal exploitation and gendering of women. Theorists, such as Audre Lorde and Chandra Talpade Mohanty argue that in the purview of the European feminist thoughts the Third World women are viewed as a unitary, singular construction, thereby failing to address the complex nuances of the woman question.

The web lectures will be delivered by some of the best thinkers and theorists from all over the world, namely, **Prof. Bill Ashcroft, Prof. Fiona McCann, Prof. Claire Omhovere, Prof. Bibhas Choudhury, Prof. Thomas Lynn, and Dr. Kunal Basu.** We welcome all to register duly and participate in the web lecture series to held from 12 October to 14 October 2020.

Joint Coordinators- Mentor-

Dr. Sourav Kumar Nag Assistant Professor, Dept. of English, Onda Thana Mahavidyalaya, West Bengal. Dr. Sharbani Banerjee (Mukhejee) Associate Professor, Dept of English, Triveni Devi Bhalotia College, Raniganj, West Bengal

Prof. Sujit Malick, Assistant Professor, Dept. of English, Triveni Devi Bhalotia College, Raniganj, West Bengal

#### **Organizing Committees-**

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# WEBINAR SERIES SCHEDULE 12-14<sup>th</sup> October, 2020-09-23

**Inauguration: 10.30am on 12-10-20** 

**Principal's Address:** 

10.35-1040am – Dr. Asish Kr. Dey (TDBC) 10.40-1045am – Dr. Bijay Kant Dubey (OTM)

#### Joint Convener's Welcome Address- 10.45-10.55am

Dr. Sourav Kr. Nag & Sujit Malick

DATE	TIME	SPEAKER	TOPIC
12-10-20	11:00-12:00	Prof. Bill Ashcroft	Postcolonial Theory Today
12-10-20	12:00-1:00 p.m.	Prof. Fiona McCann	Border Poetics in Contemporary Irish and
			Indian Literature: Arundhati Roy & Mia
			Gallagher
13-10-20	4:30-5:30pm	Prof. Claire Omhovere	Reading Amitav Ghosh on a Tour of Canada's
			Petroscapes
13-10-20	5:30-6:30pm	Prof. Bibhas Choudhury	Making Sense of Slippage: Event, Narrative,
			and Tenability of the Postcolonial Exercise
14-10-20	7:00 pm-8:00 pm	Prof. Thomas Lynn	Women and Self-Possession in the Writing of
			Chinua Achebe, Flora Nwapa and
			Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
14-10-20	8:00 pm-9:00 pm	Dr. Kunal Basu	Conversation with Dr. Sharbani Banerjee and
			Dr. Sourav Kumar Nag and a talk on his latest
			publication Sarojini's Mother