

12-14th October,2020-09-23

Inauguration: 10.30am on 12-10-20

Principal's Address: 10.35-10.40am –Dr. Asish Kr. Dey(TDBC)

10.40-10.45am- (OTM)

Joint Convener's Welcome Address- 10.45-10.55am

-Dr. Sourav Kr. Nag & Prof. Sujit Malick

DATE	TIME	SPEAKER	TOPIC	INTRODUCER
12-10-2020	11am-12pm	Prof. Bill Ashcroft	Postcolonial Theory Today	Dr. Sharbani Banerjee
12-10-2020	12pm-1pm	Prof. Fiona McCann	Border Poetics in Contemporary Irish and Indian Literature: Arundhati Roy and Mia Gallagher	Prof. Arunima Karmakar
13-10-2020	4:30pm-5:30pm	Prof. Claire Omhovere	Reading Amitav Ghosh on a Tour of Canada's Petroscares	Prof. Sourav Kr. Nag
13-10-2020	5:30pm-6:30pm	Prof. Bibhash Choudhury	Making Sense of Slippage:Event, Narrative and Tenability of the Postcolonial Exercise	Prof. Sumbul Nasim
14-10-2020	7pm-8pm	Prof. Thomas Lynn	Women and self-possession in the Writings of Chinua Achebe, Flora	Prof. Pankaj Kr. Soren

			Nwapa& C.N. Adichie	
14-10- 2020	8pm-9pm	Dr. Kunal Basu	Conversation with Sharbani Banerjee and Sourav Nag and a talk on his latest Publication Sarojini's Mother	Prof. Sujit Malick

Vote of Thanks by Souvik Datta & Sayani Nayak

Report on International Webinar titled; 'Contemporary Trends in Post colonialism Theory and Praxis'

The departments of English of Triveni Devi Bhalotia College and Onda Thana Mahavidyalaya organised a three day international seminar with some of the greatest minds around the world. This webinar was of immense importance because it took place during a time when the world was still in the grip of the Covid-19 pandemic and people were coming to terms with the new normal. After staying in lockdown for months this webinar served as a welcome change for every participant and gave them a chance to shower in a fresh stream of knowledge.

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 'gloabectic' (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 the web lecture was 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 the 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 were 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. Sumbul Nasim, Thomas Lynn, and Dr. Kunal Basu.

Joint Coordinators-

Dr. Sourav Kumar Nag

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Mentor-

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