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ৰঙাপৰা মহাবিদ্যালয়, ৰঙাপৰা

(Affiliated to Gauhati University, UGC Recognised under 2(f) & 12 (B)
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RANGAPARA COLLEGE
RANGAPARA::SONITPUR::ASSAM
REPORT ON NATIONAL LEVEL SEMINAR

Department: Department of English, Rangapara College	
TITLE: Emerging Trends in Women's Writing in India	DATE OF PROG: 27 th & 28 th October, 2017
Location of the Programme	Rangapara College
Sponsored Agency:	UGC
International/National/State Level	National Level
Co-ordinator of the programme	Mr. Deependra Sarma
Number of Participants	36


1. Objectives:

The major objectives of the seminar are as follows:

- Evaluate the nature, dynamics, composition, methods of functioning of women's writing.
- Critically identify different ideological trends and debates surrounding women's writing.
- To evaluate a distinctively female tradition in India, including Indian Writing in English
- To provide a platform to discuss and rev-evaluate the conditions of women depicted in contemporary texts.

2. **Target Group:** Researchers, Faculty Members and Students

3. **Significance of the Event:** The female literary tradition is a rich and vibrant tradition. The literary tradition itself is full of divergence and has undergone drastic changes over the period of years. Women's writings have a deep impact on the


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socio-political fabric of our society. The emergence of women's writing is akin to an outcry by a group of people who have remained marginalized by the patriarchal society. The significance of the seminar is to further the research on women's writings and their status and contexts of representation. The seminar also attempts to analyze the paradigm shifts in portrayal and representation of women in contemporary texts.

4. **Description of the Event:** The two day long National Seminar started with the inaugural ceremony followed by the auspicious lighting of the lamp where Baneshwar Talukdar, Principal i/c Rangapara College, Dr. Randendra Mohan Deka, HoD, English and other dignitaries present participated. It was followed by the welcome speech by Baneshwar Talukdar, Principal i/c. In the welcome speech, he extended his support and believed that the deliberations in the seminar will help examine different issues related to women's writing. This was followed by the inaugural speech delivered by the HoD, English, Dr. Ranendra Mohan Deka. In his inaugural speech, Dr. Deka stated on the need to examine issues of gender, class and community as points of intersection in women's writing. The technical session started with the Key Note Address by Prof. Dwijen Sharma, Head of Department, English, NEHU University (Tura Campus). In his keynote address Prof. Sharma focused on the significance of the female literary tradition and the various theories related to women's writing. The address also focused on the changes and diversity in the female literary tradition. The next session was presided over by Dr. Swapnali Kakoty, Dept. of English, Darrang College, Tezpur. A total of 36 participants presented their papers altogether. The first technical session had 17 paper presenters in the first day and the session was presided over by Prof. Dwijen Sharma. The next day there was a total of 19 paper presenters and the session was presided over by Dr. Swapnali Kakoty. The seminar concluded with the valedictory session. The valedictory address was given by the Co-ordinator of the seminar, Deependra Sarmah where he extended his heartfelt gratitude to everyone who participated in the seminar. The vote of thanks was given by Niku Chetia, Assistant Professor, Dept. of English, Rangapara College.
5. **Findings:**
- The papers presented in the seminar threw light on the diversity, representation and socio-political perspectives of the texts by women writers
 - The papers also attempted to analyze the texts by women writers in context of class, sex and gender.
 - The papers also analyzed the social and political landscape of women's texts in the contemporary landscape

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Signature of Co-ordinator

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Important Dates

Date of the Seminar:
27th & 28th October, 2017.

Last date of confirmation of participation:
25th October, 2017.

Submission of Abstracts:
20th October, 2017

Submission of Full Paper:
25th October, 2017.

Registration Fee:
Teachers & Professionals: Rs.700/-

Research Scholars: Rs. 300/-

Students: Free Registration

Outstation participants will be provided with accommodation by the organizing committee.

About the Host Institution

Rangapara College, situated in a serene surrounding amidst lush green of Tea gardens and facing the snow-capped mountains of Arunachal Pradesh encompassing a sprawling campus of 41 acres, presents an exemplary illustration of social contribution of a group of dedicated social workers and teachers to the society. The college offers undergraduate courses in Arts and Commerce of Gauhati University. One can reach the College by bus or train. Tezpur Airport is half an hour drive away from the college.

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Announcement and Call for Paper



UGC Sponsored National Seminar
on
'Emerging Trends in Women's Writing in India'
at
Rangapara College,
P.O. Rangapara, Dist Sonitpur, Assam
Pin-784505

Date of the Seminar
27th & 28th October, 2017



Organised by
Department of English
Rangapara College
www.rangaparacollege.org
Email-collegerp@rediffmail.com

In Collaboration with
Hindi Sahitya Parishad, Tezpur

INVITATION

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are pleased to inform you that Rangapara College, Sonitpur, Assam has organised a two day UGC sponsored National Seminar on "Emerging Trends in Women's Writing in India" on 27th and 28th October 2017 in the college premises.

We hope the seminar will provide a platform to share and interact among academicians, research scholars, professionals and students. We cordially invite your presence and participation in the enriching event.

ABOUT THE THEME

Women's writing in the present scenario is playing a crucial and major role in India. The concept of womanhood is as divergent as the country itself and has undergone drastic and dramatic changes from era to era. Women's writing has been transformed a long way from the depiction of a traditional woman subordinate to their male counterparts towards the depiction of a modern and independent woman. Owing to this change, the themes, styles and techniques adopted by the women writers is also on its path of development. In Indian literature, women's writing has been used as a modest attempt to evaluate women's position under the prevailing socio-economic conditions.

Renewed interest by the women writers to assert their identity leads to the emergence of new trends in writing such as postmodernism, feminism, ecocriticism, psychological descriptions, ecriture feminism and many more. However, mapping the status of Indian women writing would become fragmentary without focusing on the regional writings by women. Almost every language has its literature of their own and has thrown up many remarkable women writers, sensitive, outspoken and critical of the state affairs in their respective regions. Thus, this seminar attempts to find out a distinctively female literary tradition in India, including Indian writing in English or any other regional languages and will try to hear the authentic female voice or share women's real experiences, which are transparently available in women's texts. The seminar will also try to form a substantial platform to discuss and reevaluate the conditions of women as depicted in the contemporary texts by women and also enlightening the audience as well as the participants to a whole new world of emerging trends in women writing unlike the earlier traditions.

SUB THEMES

1. Female literary tradition in India.
2. Feminism and women's writing in India.
3. Postmodernism and women's writing in India.
4. Post colonialism and women's writing in India.
5. Queer writing by women.
6. Women's writing in the Vernacular Languages of India.
7. New image of woman in women's writing.
8. Subjugation, domestic violence, marginality and gender discrimination in women's writing.
9. Women Writers of North East Writing in English
10. Any other theme relevant to the main theme.

Teachers, academicians, research scholars, professionals and students are requested to submit research papers on the above said theme/ subtheme on or before 23rd of October, 2017. An abstract of the research paper in not more than 250 words may be sent to the undersigned on or before 18th October, 2017. Selected papers will be published in a book form with ISBN number.

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Signature of Co-ordinator

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**UGC SPONSORED
NATIONAL SEMINAR
ON
EMERGING TRENDS IN WOMEN'S
WRITING IN INDIA
27th & 28th October, 2017**



**Organised by
Department of English
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In collaboration with Hindi Sahitya Sammelan, Tezpur**


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Abstract

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AN ALTERNATE REPRESENTATION OF THE "MARGINALIZED" INDIAN WOMAN IN SHOBHA DE'S NOVEL *SECOND THOUGHTS*

Ankita Roy*

Women in India have been marginalized and exploited, their marginality being primarily physical, emotional, social and economic. They are still exploited and treated as inferior beings in this ancient land of dreams and nightmares. Women in India are conditioned to be passive receptacle to male virility and potency. Simone De Beauvoir's remarks are worth quoting in this context:

"She is defined and differentiated with reference to man and not he with reference to her; she is the incidental, the inessential. He is the subject, he is the absolute, she is the other."

(Beauvoir 8)

Shobha De has authored twelve books. Her works which generally start with the letter 'S' and she wrote her first novel- the best-selling *Socialite Evenings* in 1989 and she published *Starry Nights* in 1990. Her other works are *Sisters*(1992), *Strange Obsession*(1992), *Sultry Days*(1994), *Snapshots*(1995), *Second Thoughts*(1996), *Uncertain Liaisons*(Co-edited with Khushwant

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Marriage and Marginalisation in Indian Context: A Study of Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni's *Arranged Marriage*

Nabanita Hazarika
Assistant Professor of English
Biswanath Commerce College

Abstract:

Marriage is a striking part of Indian festivity, being celebrated by taking resort to endless rituals and extensive decorations. Since the common tradition in India is the shift of the bride to the groom's place, the idea of feminine identity is closely associated with Indian matrimony. The post marriage appearance of an Indian lady is a thinkable factor which encompasses study of her physical and psychological condition. In most cases psychological change in female folk can be traced in this regard which owe much to the way she has been treated in her new place in the name of post matrimonial tradition. Manifestation of post marriage violence has been a dominant thematic concern in narratives since literature tends to spread values by throwing light on the preoccupations of the surrounding. Being specific to South Asian Fiction, it can be said that in various narratives emanating from the region, depiction of the plight of feminine is prevalent; physical harm along with psychological attack can be visibly found in such narratives. Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni, an acclaimed writer, born in Kolkata and at present settled in Houston, America is considerable in this regard, working on the status of women belonging to various regions i.e. Indian subcontinent and immigrating to exotic places. In her fictional work, *Arranged Marriage*, a collection of catchy short stories, Divakaruni presents how in Indian

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context the social institution of marriage gives licence to a certain people to continue demands, domination and subsequent marginalisation on the female in the name of tradition. Inside the ramification of marriage how some female are placed in a state from which she has no other choice than either to act accordingly or to repulsively do things on her own. The paper seeks to analyse the manifestation of marriage as a marker of marginalisation on femininity in given Indian context; it also seeks to explore the nature of resistance on the part of Indian female by throwing light on their behaviour as perceived and depicted by Divakaruni in the short stories in *Arranged Marriage*.

Keywords: Marriage, Marginalisation, India, Response, Women.

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Emerging Trends in Women's Writing in India

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I acknowledge thanks to the authors of the present book for their contributions.

In this context, I express my thanks to Prof. B. Talukdar, Principal i/c, Rangapara College, for allowing The Department of English to hoist the Seminar at Rangapara College.

Students, Teachers and Research Scholars will find this piece of work useful and informative.

Dipendra Sarma
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