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NEWSLETTER - DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

*“A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way,
and shows the way”.*

-John Maxwell

1950s The Angry Decade: A Complete Diversion from Victorian Classicism to Utmost Social Realism

A close review of the whole literary genres brings it to our concern that classification of the literary ages is not merely being done focusing any historical landmark of time, rather on the basis of literary trend a group of writers followed up to a certain period of time. Time to time in every literary era, we notice remarkable changes in terms of thematic as well as stylistic point of view. Literature being a transparent projector of life and society walks parallel along with its ups and downs. In this regard, Victorian era had witnessed an overwhelming domination of great scholarly artists with their keen concern for pure aesthetic value and classicism. The credit of such full-fledged enrichment of art, culture and literature may be ascribed to social, political and economical stability of the era, which

England strongly lacked during 1950s. England's active involvement in both the World Wars threw the nation in the darkest corner of immobility, which caused to all kinds of degradations. The bitter experience of life and disdain for social inequality and class humiliation gave birth to a genius group of angry but intellectual writers. Their strong rejection of the conventional outlook for achieving sublimity of theme, emotional vehemence, aesthetic value and morality of life are being replaced by disheartening description of unspeakable anxiety, frustration and resentment felt by the post war people in England. The writing focuses the transformation of creative impulses and nature of literature is solely nurtured by the circumstantial influences on the writers.

Sital Bera

Asst. Professor English

Sarojini Naidu's Poems are Optimistic And Echo The Soul's Union With Eternal Happiness

Sarojini Naidu's world of poems is the ordinary world classified and enriched by softness and delicacy of her imagination. The subject of her poem is simple, familiar and unpretentious world of natural feelings and emotions, happiness, simple joys and sorrows, vivid memories and reveries, which are marked by rich normality and poise of Indian life and landscape. The pageantry of Indian life enchanted her and she sings of it with enthusiasm. Like her own wandering singers she sings of happy and simple and sorrowful things which mark the life of common man in India. Her poems portray the gallery of Indian folk-characters. The Palanquin Bearers, the Indian Weavers, Bangle Sellers, the Snake Charmers, all genuinely reflect the eternal happiness of culture and tradition. Most of her poems pour out healthy feelings and emotions with eternal happiness. As a lyricist her position in the Indo-Anglian Literature is the same as that of Shelley in English poetry. The eternal happiness with creative identity in her poems makes her poems meaningful and substantial. Life's endless variety excites her. As colors dazzle her, its beauty intoxicates her and responds to it quickly. This makes her poems youthful and vigorous with the help of which influences the young and impressionistic hearts. Her poems are a major contribution in the society with a new dimension, which revolve round subjects of permanent interest men, nature and society.

Dr. Mahima Gautam

Associate Professor English



is a Newsletter Open to all. This newsletter has been initiated by the “University Wits”, Club of the Department of English, MATS University. We welcome Articles/Poems/Short Stories/Anecdotes/Facts from students of English Department. Interested students can mail their work before the 10th day of every month to the given e-mail : drshilpi@matsuniversity.ac.in. All entries should be in WORD (docx) format.

Editor: Dr. Shilpi Bhattacharya

Choose the Highest
Ideal of your life and
live your life up to
that; look at the
ocean but not to the
waves

Swami Vivekanand

The world is my country, all mankind are my brethren, and to do good is my religion - Thomas Paine

Book review- *Rau* by N.S. Inamdar

N.S. Inamdar's *Rau* wonderfully captures the life and times of the great Peshwa Bajirao. It allows us deeper insight into the events that propelled the prosperity of the Maratha Empire. Bajirao's role is monumental as he relentlessly pursues Hindavi Swaraj, trying to rid India of the tyranny of all external forces. The novel introduces Mastani, an entertainer whose performances in the court begin to draw the Peshwa's attention. Soon, a relationship blossoms between the two, much to the astonishment of others. As Bajirao finds himself falling in love with Mastani, he is forced to face a society that is highly intolerant of intercaste relationships. What is more, his loved ones too refuse to accept Mastani, thereby isolating Bajirao in his struggle. *Rau* mirrors the heartbreak and burden that follows suit with being titled the Peshwa.

This book that inspired the film is a lot more wholesome in its attempt to convey the highs and lows of Bajirao's reign.

Firstly, a larger chunk of the text concerns Bajirao's conquests in comparison to the romance quotient. This helps us understand Bajirao's mien sans Mastani. He is a willful, valiant and affectionate individual. Although he is quick tempered, he fights for what he believes in. It is rather sad that, for a Peshwa who gave his all to the society, he finds himself alone towards the end of his journey. Secondly, Mastani is not the warrior princess as depicted in the movie. Rather, this novel highlights her demure and agreeable nature. She is selfless and always ready to forgive other's transgressions. Thirdly, the novel presents to us the next generation and gives importance to the rest of the family. It was great to learn more about the family and how they were integral catalysts of events at that time.

Radhabai, Bajirao's mother is an austere woman, defined by the traditions and symbolic of the narrow minded society. I didn't much like her. Kashibai is portrayed

to be a responsible and loving wife who gets neglected because of Bajirao's growing affection for Mastani. The novel is not split into chapters, rather it is divided into four parts. Albeit this division is uncommon, it does not hamper the reading pace. I found the first few pages to be a tad bit slow. But then Bajirao's zeal captivates one and holds on till the end. His strength is infectious and urges one to be firm about their beliefs even if the entire world is against it. Originally written in Marathi, it is a moving tale about love, sacrifice and the irony of possessing power but losing out on the one thing that an individual cherishes the most. I thoroughly enjoyed reading it and would definitely recommend it to all who love historical accounts or simply want to glean more about Peshwa Bajirao and the Maratha Empire.

Vidushi Malhotra
B.A.(Hons.)English Semester-III

Poem - JUST BECAUSE I LOVE YOU

I did whatever you said,
I did because I was afraid.
Fear of losing you always hunted my mind;
I had fallen in love with you as I am blind.
I could not see anything but only you,
You were my everything because I love you.
Those talk made me feel like I am your queen,
I can never dream of anyone because you are my king.
When I was with you I feel like walking in heaven,
you're those pampering were loveable and unforgotten.
Your love for me filled my heart with passion and joy,
The day we part I felt like a broken toy.
You left me with an unspoken goodbye;
I wish I could say you that last goodbye.
You lost your courage to face me again,
but believe me things will remain the same.
Distance doesn't matter how far you are,
there will be always a place for you in the corner of my heart.
I would not complain destiny for the separation we had made,
Because I believe the time passes but memories doesn't fade.
I can never forget you,
just because I love you
just because I love you.

Munira Haidry
B.A.(Hons.) English Semester-V

Poem - FLIGHT

We stand at the edge of a precipice
Thinking over what has been,
And what might.
To step back or to slide down
If it is wrong,
Or is it right.
To hurry home or to carry on
If there will be darkness,
or is there light.
To fight more or to reconcile
If we'll suffer pain,
Or gain respite.
We stand at the edge of a precipice
Thinking over what has been,
And what might.
Should we hope for a day,
Or is there just night.
Will the birds ever take flight?

-Kusumita Sonwani
B.A.(Hons.)English Semester -V

Poem- LIFE

There she stood wondering ,
Right in front of the abode of vastness ,
Which kept dashing ,
And battling against her feet ,
Gently kissed by the settling sun ,
Which was taking its leave for the day ,
Hugged by the aura of serenity ,
Though restless ,
The gargling vastness spoke out loud ,
Yet she found peace .
To the splashes of memories ,
Which kept galloping her ,
Taking her back ,
To the niche of those reminiscences ,
And then dashing her down to the world of reality ,
Though it hurts , But still feels better ,
Atleast lies and fakeness was far away ,
Leaving beside some cruded scars ,
But making life a beautiful journey ,
And worth retaining ,
For years to come ,
Secured by the love of her soul .

Lost ?

Oh ! Yes I am .
In the audience of monotonous reign ,
In the petrified galore of ambiguity ,
Under the protective sheath of 'care' ,
Under the strangled composure of tranquility .
Too tired with monotonous reign ,
Am not the one who is going to follow the trend,
Too tired with this petrified galore ,
My heart wasn't ever a part of that .
Too tired of the bestowed concern and care.
I have learnt to be alone even under that spark .
Ever asked me what I wanted ?
Ever looked upon something other than what led me to miseries ?
Allow me to be what I am .
Allow me to excavate the hidden self .
Let me get scattered ,
Let me be carefree .

Alisha Garnaik

B.A.(Hons.) English Semester-I

Poem - STRESS!

Stress a mess in life
Stress takes all the pleasure away from life
Stress is like the dark hole in heart.
If one doesn't cope up with it
He or she will die physically or mentally.
Stress the another face of satan
Which makes you do things
Which are wrong
Which makes you hurt people who care
and love you.
So to cope up stress
Let's break up with it
Remember it is not stress that kills us
It is our reaction towards it.
So take a deep breath and think
That if stressed spelled backwards
It becomes deserts
So enjoy life
Let the stress go for a HOLIDAY.

Poem-DOWRY

Dowry system a curse.
Black clouds spread all over
Money became the most important thing,
The sellers told whatever prize
And the buyers excepted it willingly.
The deal was about some ones dream,
Decision was taken about her life.
The thoughts and dream of the girl didn't matter
So if this is what society want
It is better for a girl not to be born
Stop the curse of DOWRY SYSTEM
Let the girl live her life, never ever
Encourage this evil system.

Astha Khandelwal

B.A.(Hons.) English –Semester-V

Poem – MEMORIES

Bottled up inside are the words, I never said.
The feelings that I hide;
The stories you never read.

You can see in my eyes, Read it on my face:
Trapped inside are memories of past,

Poem - DREAMS

It feels so different, so strange. Something
I might not be able to explain. This is not
what I wished for,
This is not what I wanted. Is it really true?
I have no clue.

I had a dream once
where I saw the exact same thing.
But what I know is that it was all just a dream.
People tell me, “ dreams do come true”.
But again it was something I always knew.
My question is not how or where but
when? A beautiful dream will come true again.

Poem - THE SHADOWS

The wind blew and the river froze.I saw in
a distance some unknown shadows. Under
the light of the noble moon,
The darkness within me will be gone soon.
I searched in vain yet nothing I gain.
It was not long before I came across a
mighty mountain. At once i knew my fate,
And that now death is my only mate.
I lifted my head and looked up at the sky,
For a moment I wished if i could fly,
Touch the water, the star and then in peace
I will die. I layed down on the cold
ground,
Imagining it to be my bed.
And hoped with all my heart that soon i'll
be dead. I then slowly closed my eyes,
Right before the sun started to rise.

Bhumika Singh

B.A.(Hons.) English Semester-I

I cannot replace.

The hurt I am feeling now,
Won't disappear overnight;
But, someday, somehow,
Everything will be all right.

Tanushree Samaddar

M.A.English Semester-I

Faculty Development Programme

MATS School of Arts and Humanities – Department of English conducted five days Faculty Development Programme (12th September to 16th September, 2017) based on the theme "Trends and Theories in Literary Criticism". The key speakers were Dr.Madhu Kamra, Dr.Savita Singh, Dr.Rashmi Dubey, Dr.Somali Gupta and Dr.Kirti Tiwari. The topics delivered were Feminism: An undertaking of Female, Femine and Feminist, Gender

Sensitization in the context of 21st century Literature, T.S.Eliot: The Modernist Critic, Dalit Literature: An Epitome of Rural India, Understanding of Eco-criticism and Cultural Ethnicity. Almost 35 participants were present in the event and enjoyed the heart touching interactive session. It was a platform for the teachers of various higher educational institutes to have research oriented teaching learning process.



Life is A Bliss: Experience It

Happiness is an affirmative emotion and these days everyone wants to sink in this emotion and be happy but very rarely we come across a happy person. The reason is very simple; people feel that it is the situation that makes them happy and so when the situation changes happiness vanishes. One day we are very happy for some pleasant moment and after few days we become sad for some other reason. This means that our happiness depends upon the external circumstances and surroundings: if the situation is according to our will we feel happy and if the situation is not according to us we are not happy. Have we ever thought, how safe it is when we surrender our happiness to the external factors!

Now when we realize this, let's take the emotion of happiness to a different platform. Is it possible for us to elevate our happiness to bliss? Bliss comes when we move from the world of duality to non-duality. In the world of duality, everything is dual and has an opposite to balance whereas non- duality is complete in itself and is a state of mind that is perfectly balanced. This is Bliss!

Life moves in duality as everything is balanced by its counterpart, for example day and night, male and female, birth and death, creation and destruction, positivity and negativity, good and bad. Same is the case with our emotions in this dual world. Some time, we are happy, some time we are sad, angry, jealous or loving. No emotion

stays for long and our emotional state is always fluctuating. According to Gautam Buddha everything is changing in this world. So its very clear that we cannot have a static emotion all the time in this dual world.

This is the reason we cannot have permanent happiness in the world but we can be permanently blissful as bliss belongs to non-dual world where it does not have any counterpart. Bliss comes to us whenever we transcend the boundary of body and go to the pure state of mind. Bliss is a much higher quality than happiness. Let's experience the beauty of this blissful life!!!!!!

Dr.Shilpi Bhattacharya
Professor and Head English



One day Trip to Siyadevi



Song Competition

Editorial Team : Dr. Mahima Gautam, Mr. Sourabh Shukla, Dr. L.K Tiwari, Mr. Sital Bera
Student Editorial Team : Vidushi Malhotra, Sahil Gupta, Bhumika Singh, Kusumita Sonwani, Swagata Nandi, Samhita Singh
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