

CHAPTER 38

MODERN INDIAN LANGUAGE
&
LITERARY STUDIES

Doctoral Theses

01. ARORA (Ankita)
Understanding the Partition : Representation of Communal Conflict in Indian and Pakistan Short Stories and Personal Narratives.
Supervisor : Dr. V. Narayanappa
Th 25344

Abstract
(Not Verified)

With the final decision of creating fissures in the Indian subcontinent in 1947, Indian history got marred by cries of political and human agony. Not only did Indian subcontinent attain independence from British rule, it also got divided on the basis of religious differences once the idea of creating a separate all-Muslim nation-state came into being. The Partition uprooted millions of people and rendered them homeless. The resulting migrations and displacements ruptured their sense of identity which was once fabricated around their geographical markers of identity like trees, rivers, lakes, and cultural traditions and practices. The identity crisis changed how a society once felt and thought. The impact of distancing people from their roots on their individual identity has since been devastating. The purpose of this work is to focus on literature as a site of historical documentation. Partition literature is mostly governed by narratives of chaos, violence and loss. The historic episode of the Partition has been captured in its varied aspects by a number of writers across different genres. The present study focuses on the representations of the impact of various political decisions on society in Indian and Pakistani short stories. The personal narratives of the Partition survivors documented in this research work are bold and far from the politically-correct narratives of this part of Indian history. Their interviews serve to present the real human pain and misery which simultaneously celebrate the triumph of human resilience and perseverance. Both short stories and personal narratives are different platforms but hold a common purpose of bringing to the fore the brutal impact of the events of the Partition and the lived reality in the form of traumatic experiences of the Partition survivors.

Content

1. Introduction 2. Communal disharmony 3. Representation of social spaces 4. Partition through the prism of personal narratives. Conclusion. Bibliography. Appendices.

02. BLAH (Mereleen Lily Lyngdoh Y.)
Emergence of the Khasi Public Sphere and the Consolidation of Identity.
Supervisor : Prof. Prakash Pattanaik
Th 25345

Abstract
(Not Verified)

Khasi Press in 1896, was preceded by a tumultuous era of empire building by the East India Company and then the British crown, and concerted efforts by different Christian dominations. Though these two organisations operated on different tangents, Mills' report of 1854 brought them closer to each other. Together they brought about marked changes in the communities, in terms of both geography and administration. The shifts in these fields had wider implications on the society in terms of language, religion and representation which affected and produced the Khasi Public Sphere. One of the ways this was accomplished was through the imposition of an education policy promoting the use of English and later the vernacular. Literary productions were an important tool not only to mould public opinion but became a reflection of a political shift in the Khasi community as is evident from the gradual growth in terms of literary mediums employed, and content used, in the large number of newspapers and periodicals that erupted in the beginning of the twentieth century. The political ethos and change is clearly reflected in the sheer number of papers and periodicals that emerged between 1896 and 1971, along with the formation of various organisations. Besides historical records and reports, letters, prefaces and periodicals are focused on to determine the existence of a coterie of participants responsible not only for the genesis of the public sphere but ensured its continuity. A study of the Khasi public sphere needs to be understood against the colonial backdrop in which it operated. This is not the conventional sphere of Habermas' conception because the context in which it operated and the systems under which it was created were markedly different.

Content

1. General Introduction 2. Controlling the north eastern frontier 3. Documentation and the state 4. The letter and the state 5. The letter and the public sphere 6. The emergence of the khasi public sphere 7. An extension of the public sphere: form the literary to the political 8. Articulating difference. Conclusion. Works cited.

03. GUPTA (Ankita)
Verbal Taboo Avoidance: Menstrual Euphemisms and Political of Language.
 Supervisor : Dr. P. C. Pattanaik
Th 25348

Abstract
(Not Verified)

'Menstruation as such is not positively valued...Since menstruation is such a politically charged area, various kinds of discourse around the subject have emerged over the last few years in and around the women's liberation movement' (Laws 4). Understanding the politics of linguistic Tabooification of menstruation can help in finding ways to address the negativity associated with menstruation and women's body; desexualizing it and looking at it from a de-stigmatized point of view. This work has tried to help one understand the psychology behind the creation of a 'taboo avoidance technique'; taking into consideration 'euphemisms' and other verbal taboo langugae, study of which are relatively scarce as compared to the study of metaphors and metonymy.

Content

1. Introduction 2. Menstruation: a political and social discourse 3. Menstruation: the etiquette of silence 4. Taboo avoidance: strategy and techniques 5. Verbal taboos and sociology of language: theoretical and methodological consideration 6. Menstrual euphemism in Indian vernacular: language and oral traditions. Conclusion. Bibliography. Appendix. Annexure and published research papers related to thesis.

04. MURGESWARI (C.)
Sangam Aham Poetry in Semiotic Perspective.
 Supervisor : Dr. Govindaswamy Rajagopal
Th 25346

Abstract
(Not Verified)

Among the Tamil literary anthologies, Caṅkam literatures are the most ancient ones. The Caṅkam literature is comprised of Eṭṭuttokai and Pattuppāṭṭu. There are 2381 poetries in the 18 books. According to the subject matter and grammatical rules these are further classified as Akam and Puṇam. There are 1863 Akam poetries. By the following methods the meaning of these poetries is understood: Uḷḷurai, iraicci, kuṟippu poruḷ, kuṟittukkāṭṭal, and kuṟippu. The introduction of modern western literary principles particularly semiotics, explored the poetries and revealed deep meaning hidden into these creative work. Symbolism is the field of language which sees literature, society, and historical arts as a symbol, as well as a linguistic entity and explores its meaning. Moreover, this has been a part of linguistics and has developed into a separate field today. Semiology, which evolved from the thinking of linguists Bernard Saussure and Charles Saunders Pierce in the early 2100, and has had an impact on many fields. This is because symbolism is more in poetic form of literature. In continuation of this nowadays there are more articles and books are being published in Tamil related to this field. This theory draws more meaning from the Caṅkam poetry. When the meaning of Akam poetry deepens it produces alternative texts. Semiology is the doctrine of signs and it originated in the West as a multidisciplinary thinking system. Saussure used two terms, Langue (language) and parole (speaking) to explain the structure of language. Stating that the language was comprised of words he revealed the internal elements inside a word. He further stated that these are not natural but developed according to the social customs. He established that the meaning (signified) of a word (signifier) was symbolic. And also Roland Barthes concept of first level meaning and multiple level meaning is also taken into consideration in this study.

Content

1. Semiotics: Definition and Description 2. The Theory of Semeiotics in Tamil Literary Tradition 3. Birds and Animals as Signs in the Akam Poetry 4. Plants and Trees as Signs in the Akam Poetry. Conclusion.

05. RAY (Dipali)
Study of Representation of the Subaltern in Selected Post Independence Bengali Novels.
 Supervisor : Dr. Antara Chaudhary
Th 25347

Abstract
(Not Verified)

The main objective of this is to study the representation of Subalterns in selected Bengali novels of seven post-colonial novelists namely Mahasweta Devi, Abhijit Sen, Bhagirthi Mishra, Debesh Roy, Kinwar Roy, Nalini Bera. The word 'subaltern' literally means 'an officer in the British army below the rank of captain, especially a second lieutenant.' And the other definition is a person '..Of lower status'. The subalterns are the people who in general socially, politically and geographically outside the hegemonic power relations. Chapter-I The History and Theoretical Concept of the Subaltern We will discuss history and the theoretical concept of the subaltern and the notion of Subalternism. Chapter -II Representation of Subalterns in Post-Independence Bengali Novels The chapter will focus on representation of the Subaltern in Bengali literature in general and subaltern characters are represented in Bankim Chatterji's 'Bangadesher Krishok', Sharat Chandra Chattopadhyay's 'Pallisamaj' Chapter-III The Reading of Selected Bengali Novels (connection with Subaltern) Chapter-IV The Relevance of Subaltern Studies in

Understanding Selected Bengali Novels: Its Newness and Significance The chapter focuses on post-colonial discourse specially Marxism and emancipation of the subaltern characters from the bondage, social stigma, their alternative voice for equal status. Chapter-V Conclusion. This chapter will try to conclude the things discussed earlier and perspective of the author.

Content

1. Nimanbargar hinaas o tatvik gurutattva 2. Bangala upanyase nimanbarger avasthan 3. Swadhinter nirvachit bangle upanyas niman barger up sthit path 4. Swadhinter nirrachit bangle upanyase nimanbarger nutantattva gurutattva.

06. SAHU (Geeta)
Literature Women's Issue and Socio Cultural Concerns: A Comparative Study of Memories of Selected Indian Writers.
 Supervisor : Dr. Rajendra Mehta
Th 25343

Abstract (Verified)

The thesis titled "Literature, Women's Issues and Socio-Cultural concerns: A Comparative Study of Memoirs of Selected Indian Woman Writers," is a study of how the diversity in the social, cultural and historical backgrounds of women affect their lives and shape their personalities. This project follows a descriptive and analytical approach to study the memoirs of some selected Indian women. As a methodology, the principal method that has been followed in this research is a comparative study of the primary texts. During the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, several memoirs have been written by women in India. The four primary texts which I have selected for this research include - Memoirs of an Indian Woman by Shudha Mazumdar (1989), A Princess Remembers by Gayatri Devi (1995), First Darling of the Morning by Thrity Umrigar (2004) and Climbing The Mango Trees by Madhur Jaffrey (2006). While the comparative study of the four primary texts brings out the differences in their socio-cultural backgrounds, they also exhibit some common feminist attributes. However, the Western term 'feminism' cannot be blindly applied to these memoirs. Keeping in mind the Indian milieu, the memoirs demand a different kind of inquiry and offer new dimensions to feminism which has been deliberated upon in the conclusion of this thesis. The broad objectives of this thesis are as follows: 1. To discuss the various dimensions of memoir writing. 2. To critically analyse the four primary texts keeping in mind their social, historical and cultural backgrounds. 3. To undertake a comparative study of all the four primary texts. 4. To review the texts with particular significance to re-visiting feminism in the Indian context. The thesis has been broadly divided into six chapters which include introduction, an individual chapter on each of the primary texts and Conclusion. It also includes an extensive bibliography.

Content

1. Introduction 2. Memoirs of an Indian woman: glimpses into the socio cultural milieu of the early twentieth century Bengal through the memoir of Shudha Mazumdar 3. A princess remembers: the journey of Gayatri Devi from Purdah to politics 4. Climbing the mango tree: The taste memories of Madhur Jaffrey's childhood in India 5. Transcending boundaries- first darling of the morning: Selected memories of thirty Umrigar's childhood in India 6. Conclusion. The significance of photographs in memoirs. Glossary and bibliography.

07. VINOD KUMAR
Representations of marginality in Indian novels in English in the age of globalization.
 Supervisor : Dr. Govindaswamy Rajgopal
Th 25515

Abstract
(Not Verified)

My thesis aims to explore the representation of marginalized e.g. SC, ST, OBC, Minority, poor and all those who are subjected to oppression of any kind with the help of five primary selected novels in the context of globalization and neoliberalism. The selected novels of the research are as follows: "The White Tiger" (2008) by Arvind Adiga, "Animal's People" (2007) by Indra Sinha, "Q&A" (2005) by Vikas Swarup, "The Hungry Tide" (2004) and "The God of Small Things" (1997) by Arundhati Roy. The selected novels of the research have been analyzed from the caste, class and gender perspective. The thesis questions the oppression, exploitation, deprivation, dejection, hunger, poverty and other social issues of Indian society. The entire thesis has been structured in five chapters in addition to an introduction and conclusion.

Content

1. Introduction 2. A brief history of Indian novels in English 3. Post colonial post modernism and globalization: a brief history 4. Select modern Indian novels in English in the age of globalization 5. Portrayal of oppression of marginalized people and revolt against suppression in select modern Indian novels in English. Conclusion and bibliography.

M. Phil Dissertations

08. ADAM (Zarquaa)
Mapping Politics of the Journal Muslim India : A Distant Reading from 1983 to 2002.
Supervisor : Dr. Amitava Chakravarthi
09. ANAMIKA
Tracing Transcendentalism In The Select Works Of U.R. Ananthamurthy and Nathaniel Hawthorne: A Comparative Study.
Supervisor : Dr. Rajendra Mehta
10. BATRA (Yatin)
Study of Displaced Bahawalpuri (Siraiki) Community in Rajpura.
Supervisor : Prof. Ravi Prakash Teckchandani
11. GUPTA (Rajni)
Socio Cultural Study of Children Folk Games in Delhi.
Supervisor : Prof. D. Uma Devi
12. KESHARI (Purava)
Subversion and Retelling : A Study of Popular Indian Myths in the Liberation of Sita and the Palace of Illusions.
Supervisor : Dr. Rajendra Mehta
13. SONGRIWAL (Kriti)
Theorising Dalit Autobiographies: Special Reference to Omprakash Valmiki's Joothan & Urmila Pawar's the Weave of My Life.
Supervisor : Dr. Mitali Barman

14. TANVEER (Tasadduq)
Re Reading Politics of Theorization of Disability: Problems of Definition and representation of Disability With Reference to Selected Postcolonial Indian English Fictions.
Supervisor : Dr. Mitali Barman