



# NETAJI SUBHAS OPEN UNIVERSITY

## School of Humanities

Established By Act (W.B. Act (XIX) of 1997 and Recognised by U.G.C.

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### Postcoloniality, Subalternity and Indian Writing in English: The Open Learning Praxis ( Report )

The School of Humanities, Netaji Subhas Open University organizes the UGC-DEB sponsored Research project-based national seminar on Postcoloniality, Subalternity and Indian Writing in English: The Open Learning Praxis on October 1, 2015. The venue of this conference was in the seminar hall, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, NSOU, Sector-1, DD-26, Kolkata-700064 at the University main campus.

The conference attracts lots of scholars around the nation on the specific theme of the seminar. In the inaugural session, Dr. Manan Kumar Mandal, Officer in Charge, School of Humanities addressed the gathering by welcoming all the participants, scholars and dignitaries. Dr. Sreedep Mukherjee, organizing secretary introduced the theme of the seminar by highlighting key issues for selecting the theme of the seminar.

Eminent Scholar Professor Sukalpa Bhattacharjee, Head, Dept of English, North Eastern Hill University, Shillong delivered the keynote address on “Theorizing Indian Writing in English: Identities, Politics, and Representation”. He raised different indispensable issues and concerns identified with Indian Writing in English. He said that one needs to understand the position and the role of contemporary critical debates which is undergoing in/ around IWE. He raised an important question regarding the thematic, structural and formal component of Indian Writing in English. Are we not generalizing IWE, particularly in the context of any writing in English, is a part of it? He furthermore suggested the politics in canonizing IWE particularly in the context of alternative literature emerging at the peripheries of mainstream India like Tribal Literature, Dalit Literature and the Literatures of North- East India.

The Presidential address was given by Professor Shanta Mahalanobis, Sr member, PG, BoS, English, NSOU. Arijit Ghosh, Lecturer in Journalism & Mass Com. School of Humanities, NSOU extends the vote of thanks. The very first session was started with an invited talk by Eminent Scholar Dr. Albeena Shakil, Fellow, IAS, Shimla. He brought up one of the most noteworthy changes was the consideration of Indian Writing in English and the interpretations from other Indian Languages into the English writing prospectuses.

The valedictory session of this conference was followed by discussion and interaction. The conference secretary distributed certificates to all the participants. The conference ended on a note of thanks from the conference organizing Secretary Dr. Sreedep Mukherjee. Most of the paper presented within the curricular framework of an Open University syllabus oriented of our UG and PG syllabi in English Syllabus which we offered in our distance education of NSOU. The proceedings of the seminar will be published soon.