

School of Humanities

Established By Act (W.B. Act (XIX) of 1997 and Recognised by U.G.C.) Head Office: DD-26, Sector-I, Salt Lake City, Kolkata 64; Ph: 033 40663214 Website: www.wbnsou.ac.in; Email: nsou@wbnsou.ac.in

A Report

The Department of English Language Teaching, School of Humanities, Netaji Subhas Open University in collaboration with the Department of English, University of Kalyani, West Bengal organised a two day National conference on (Re)searching the Indian Culture, Languages and Literature: A Methodology of One's own on 5th and 6th October 2023 at Kalyani Regional Centre Campus, Netaji Subhas Open University.

The national conference aimed to ponder upon and reassess the universal models of research methods as well as to select reorganise or even suggest alternative methods of research in Humanities which appropriately tackle the needs of academic pursuits on topics related to the dynamic and vibrant India.

Inaugural Session

Professor Manan Kumar Mondal, Director, School of Humanities delivered the welcome address and stressed on the importance of an interdisciplinary research framework that would enable focused and participative research work. The organiser of the conference Professor Sharmistha Chatterjee, Head of Department English Language Teaching, Netaji Subhas Open University welcomed the dignitaries and participants and expounded the concept note of the conference. Smt Sharmila Majumdar, Professor and Head, Department of English, University of Kalyani the joint organising secretary of the conference stressed the importance of new emerging trends in research. The inaugural session was graced by the Honourable Vice Chancellor of Netaji Subhas Open University, Professor Indrajit Lahiri and the Registrar of Netaji Subhas Open University Dr. Ashit Baran Aich.



School of Humanities

Established By Act (W.B. Act (XIX) of 1997 and Recognised by U.G.C.) Head
Office: DD-26, Sector-I, Salt Lake City, Kolkata 64; Ph: 033 40663214
Website: www.wbnsou.ac.in; Email: nsou@wbnsou.ac.in



The inaugural session ended with vote of thanks by Dr. Sumana Bandopadhyay, Assistant Professor of English Language Teaching, Netaji Subhas Open University.

The conference witnessed a captivating keynote delivered by Professor Ipsita Chanda, Department of Comparative Literature and India Studies, English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad entitled “Researching Plurality: Ethics and Alterity”. Professor Chanda in her talk emphasised on the ability to perceive ‘plurality’ as entities in relation rather than self contained discrete entities. The session was chaired by Professor Subir Dhar, Former Professor, Department of English, Rabindra Bharati University.



School of Humanities

Established By Act (W.B. Act (XIX) of 1997 and Recognised by U.G.C.) Head Office: DD-26, Sector-I, Salt Lake City, Kolkata 64;Ph: 033 40663214 Website: www.wbnsou.ac.in; Email: nsou@wbnsou.ac.in

The national conference comprised three plenary sessions featuring three speakers each. The plenary sessions were chaired by dignitaries, renowned for their groundbreaking research and profound insight. The plenary sessions were compered by Dr. Sumana Bandopadhyay, Assistant Professor of ELT, Netaji Subhas Open University; Ms. Anindita Sarkar, Assistant Professor of ELT, NSOU and Ms. Debottama Ghosh, Assistant Professor of English,NSOU.

Plenary Session I

The session was chaired by Professor Niladri Ranjan Chatterjee, Department of English, University of Kalyani.

Professor Ujjwal Jana, Department of English Faculty of Arts, University of Delhi began his talk with the intriguing question, “How does digital platforms help us expand frontiers?” Through his presentation Professor Jana guided the humanities scholars on how to engage with new digital humanities research tools for analysing and interpreting textual and visual materials.

Dr. Syed Murtaza Alfarid Hussain, Associate Professor, Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, Assam University presented his thoughts on visual methodologies in the domain of humanities and social sciences research.

Dr. Samir Karmakar, Assistant Professor, Centre for Languages and Linguistics, Jadavpur University in his lecture focused on the complex relationship existing between the surveyor and the object of survey.



Plenary Session II

The session was chaired by Professor Himadri Lahiri, Department of English, Netaji Subhas Open University.

Professor Parthasarathi Mukhopadhyay, Department of Library Science and Information, University of Kalyani in his talk introduced the next generation web based tools like RSS,

School of Humanities

Established By Act (W.B. Act (XIX) of 1997 and Recognised by U.G.C.) Head
Office: DD-26, Sector-I, Salt Lake City, Kolkata 64; Ph: 033 40663214
Website: www.wbnsou.ac.in; Email: nsou@wbnsou.ac.in

Wikis etc. that are acting as agents of change for designing and developing open and interactive academic web space.

Dr. Sweta Sinha, Associate Professor, Department for Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Patna in her talk entitled “Ethics in Linguistic Research” guided the scholars on making ethical decisions without compromising the quality of research while also ensuring that the rights of any stakeholders are not violated.

Dr. Somak Mondal, Assistant Professor, Department of English, West Bengal State University deliberated on the usage of wordless picture books for narrative data elicitation.



Plenary Session III

The session was chaired by Professor Sanjoy Mukhopadhyay, Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, Netaji Subhas Open University.

Professor Baishali Hui, Department of English, University of Kalyani in her talk weighed on the importance of an effective amalgamation of quantitative and qualitative tools as used in oral historiography that may help in remapping culture and rewriting history.

Dr. Mrinmoy Pramanick, Assistant Professor and Head, Department of Comparative Indian Language and Literature, Calcutta University in his paper posited that Comparative Literature both as a field of study and as a methodological framework has the potential to provide a comprehensive approach to literary studies and cultural representation.

School of Humanities

Established By Act (W.B. Act (XIX) of 1997 and Recognised by U.G.C.) Head Office: DD-26, Sector-I, Salt Lake City, Kolkata 64; Ph: 033 40663214 Website: www.wbnsou.ac.in; Email: nsou@wbnsou.ac.in



Technical Session

Professors, experts, thinkers, scholars and robust variety of students from various higher education institutions participated in the conference to discuss the most recent developments and strategies in research. The papers presented at the technical sessions were diverse and provocative. Each of them developed new and unique avenues of looking at research. The conference also featured a stall set up by Sage, one of the sponsors of the conference where they displayed their educational resources.



Valedictory

The Valedictory Session was chaired by Dr. Srideep Mukherjee, Associate Professor, Department of English, Netaji Subhas Open University. Dr. Premananda Jana, Director,

NETAJI SUBHAS OPEN UNIVERSITY



School of Humanities

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

Office: DD-26, Sector-I, Salt Lake City, Kolkata 64; Ph: 033 40663214

Website: www.wbnsou.ac.in; Email: nsou@wbnsou.ac.in

Kalyani Regional Centre, NSOU congratulated the Department of English Language Teaching for conducting the two days national conference. Shri Arijit Ghosh, Assistant Professor, Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, NSOU delivered his valedictory address and the vote of thanks. Shri Arijit Ghosh appreciated the organisers of the conference and thanked all the delegates and resource persons for gracing the event. He also thanked Dr. Md. Intaj Ali, Assistant Professor of English, NSOU for his tiresome effort. He ended the vote of thanks by thanking the official staff of the School of Humanities, Shri Pabitra Naskar and Shri Goutam Samanta for their continuous support.

Report Prepared by
Anindita Sarkar