



दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय
University of Delhi



ಸಮರ್ಥನಂ ಅಂಗವಿಕಲರ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ
Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled®

International Conference

titled

MAPPING DISABILITY IN 20TH CENTURY LITERATURE AND CULTURE

organized by

Department of English, University of Delhi

in collaboration with

Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled

Date: 17th-18th October, 2024

Venue: Conference Centre, University of Delhi (Main Campus), Delhi.-110007

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

DAY 1- Thursday, 17th October, 2024

9:30 AM-10:30 AM	REGISTRATION
10:30 AM-11:15 AM	INAUGURAL SESSION
11:15 AM-11:45 AM	TEA
11:45 AM-1:00 PM	PLENARY I: KEYNOTE ADDRESSES

CHAIR: Prof. Christel Devadawson, Department of English, University of Delhi

1. “We make holocausts”: Precarious Embodiment in Contemporary Novels of Disability and Indigeneity

-Prof. David T. Mitchell, Department of English, Columbian College of Arts & Sciences, George Washington University.

2. The Crip Camp Yet to Come: Crossing Borders with Queer/Crip Theory

-Prof. Robert McRuer, Department of English, Columbian College of Arts & Sciences, George Washington University.

1:00 PM-2:00 PM LUNCH

2:00 PM-3:45 PM PARALLEL SESSIONS I & II

PARALLEL I- Reimagining Disability in Western Representations

CHAIR: Dr. Yogesh Dubey, Associate Professor, Department of English, University of Delhi

1. Contextualizing Intellectual Disability in American Literature with a Special Reference to *Of Mice and Men* (1937)

-Dr. Achingliu Kamei, Associate Professor, ARSD College, University of Delhi

2. Completeness of Broken Images: Reading TS Eliot's 'The Wasteland' from Disability Perspectives

-Dr. Jyothsna Phaniya, Assistant Professor, ARSD College, University of Delhi

3. Interrogating Identity: An Intersectional Reading of Disability & Race in *Wide Sargasso Sea* (1966) & *A Patch of Blue* (1961)

-Dr. Aishwarya Jha, Assistant Professor, Maharaja Agrasen College, University of Delhi.

4. Ecological Disablism in Samuel Beckett's "The Lost Ones"(1970)

-Ms. Nilanjana Bhattacharya, Ph.D. Research Scholar, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Bhopal, India

5. Disability and the Avant-garde: Challenging Norms through Experimental Literature in William Faulkner's *The Sound and the Fury* (1929) and *As I Lay Dying* (1930)

-Ms. Josephine Christina Pasangha, Research Scholar, St. Mary's College (Autonomous), Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu

–Dr. A. Josephine Alangara Betsy, Associate Professor of English, St. Mary’s College (Autonomous), Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu

PARELLEL II- Indian Perspectives on Disability

CHAIR: Prof. Raj Kumar, Department of English, University of Delhi

1. **Silent Sufferers: Disabled Women’s Portrayal in *Subah* and *Vision* by Rabindranath Tagore**

–Dr. Preeti M.Gacche, Associate Professor, Department of English, Aryabhata College, University of Delhi

2. **“Their Ears Have Eyelids”: Blindness, Sound, and Materiality in Bollywood Films of 20th Century**

–Mr. Sayan Roy, Independent Research Scholar & M.A. from the Centre of English Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University.

3. **“PRAISE BE TO THE SPARROW!”: Disability and Cultural Religiosity in Mizo Literature**

–Ms. Roding Puii, Ph.D. Research scholar, Department of English and Culture Studies, Mizoram University

4. **20th Century Indian Eugenics: Scientific Colonial Discourse and its Postcolonial Representations**

–Ms. Senjuti Basu, Ph.D. Research Scholar, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, BITS Pilani (Hyderabad Campus).

5. **The Problem of Supercrip: A Reading of Sunil Gangopadhyay’s Early Kakababu Novels**

– Ms. Shamayita Sen, Poet & Ph.D. Research Scholar, Department of English, University of Delhi

3:45 PM-4:00 PM

HIGH TEA

4:00 PM-5:30 PM

PARALLEL SESSIONS III, IV & V

PARALLEL III- Reconstructing Disability Narratives

CHAIR: Dr. Varun Gulati, Associate Professor, Department of English, University of Delhi

1. Shifting Frames: The Evolution of Disability Representation in Mainstream Cinema

– Dr. Anand Mishra, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Satyawati College (Evening), University of Delhi.

2. From Livestock to Lives: Disability Caused by Zoonosis and its Representation in Popular Culture

–Ms. Aparna Patnaik, Writer & Lecturer of English Language and Literature.

3. Rewriting Disability: Autobiography, Eugenics, and the Rise of the Disability Rights Movement

–Ms. Kirti Verma, Ph.D. Research Scholar, Department of English, University of Delhi

4. Bl(ac/ea)kness in Disability: The Intersectionality of Race and Disability

–Ms. Isha Smriti, Postgraduate Student, Department of English, Kirori Mal College, University of Delhi.

PARALLEL IV- Exploring Mental Disability: Media, Trauma, and Literary Perspectives

CHAIR: Prof. Ujjwal Jana, Department of English, University of Delhi.

1. “In all things save sight they were strong and able . . .”: Disability as “Schizophrenic Sublime” in H. G. Wells’s *The Country of the Blind*

–Dr. Sunil Kumar, Assistant Professor of English, Central University of South Bihar, Gaya, Bihar (India).

2. **Fragmented Psyche: Exploring Carmen Sternwood's Mental Disability in the Novel *The Big Sleep* through the Lens of Psychosexual Theory by Sigmund Freud**
–Ms. Aadya Parauha, Ph.D. Research Scholar, Department of English and Modern European Languages, Banasthali University, Jaipur.
3. **Psychological Topographies: Aesthetics of Representing Mental Illness in Select 20th Century Pathographies**
–Ms. Veenita Rai, Ph.D. Research Scholar, Department of English and Modern European Languages, University of Lucknow.
4. **No Longer Human: Disability, Existentialism, and the Social Absurdity of Post-War Japan**
–Ms. Diksha Bhatnagar, M.A. in Comparative Indian Literature, Department of Modern Indian Languages, University of Delhi.
–Ms. Ramanjit Kaur, M.A. in English, Department of English, University of Delhi.

PARALLEL V- Representations of Disability in Indian Regional Cinema

CHAIR: Dr. Satveer Singh, Assistant Professor, Department of English, University of Delhi

1. **Evolution of Disability: A Critical Analysis of Tamil Films Between 1970s and 2000**

–Mr. N. Ramesh Kumar, NFPWD-SRF, School of English and Foreign Languages, The Gandhigram Rural Institute-DTBU, Gandhigram, Dindigul, Tamil Nadu.

–Prof. S. Balasundari, School of English and Foreign Languages, The Gandhigram Rural Institute-DTBU, Gandhigram, Dindigul, Tamil Nadu.
2. **Materiality and Disability Aesthetics: A Posthumanist Reading of Priyadarshan's *Thalavattam* (1986) and Bharatan's *Keli* (1991)**

–Ms. Amrutha S. L., Ph.D. Research Scholar, School of Social Sciences and Languages, VIT Chennai.

–Ms. Harishma A. Gireesh, Ph.D. Research Scholar, Department of Humanities and Social Science, National Institute of Technology, Warangal.

3. **Resonance of Silence: Disability, Marginality, and Resistance in M.T. Vasudevan Nair's *Nirmalyam* (1973) and A Vincent's *Chenda* (1973)**

–Mr. Sreehari Sasikumar V, M.A. in English, Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India, Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu

4. **Visual Discourse on Disability: Deciphering Nadigar Thilagam Shivaji Ganeshan's *Deiva Magan* (1969) and *Baaga Pirivinai* (1959)**

–Mr. Kathiresan G, M.A. in English, Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India, Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu

7:30 PM-9:30 PM CONFERENCE DINNER

DAY 2- Friday, 18th October, 2024

10 AM-11:15 AM PLENARY SESSION II

CHAIR: Prof. Anil K. Aneja, Head, Department of English, University of Delhi

1. Embodied Existence : Interwar Poetics and Disability

–Prof. Aparna Bose Lawnjewar, Head, Department of English Literature, English & Foreign Language University, Hyderabad.

2. Disability and Devaluation: The need for (SRV) Social Role Valorization in India

–Prof. Ranu Uniyal Pant, Department of English and Modern European Languages, University of Lucknow

3. Culture, Norms, and Disability: Reflections on Literary and Cultural Narratives

–Dr. Vivek Singh, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Banaras Hindu University

11:15 AM-11:45 AM TEA

11:45 AM-1 PM PLENARY SESSION III

CHAIR: Prof. Anjana Sharma, Department of English, University of Delhi

1. Fragmented Bodies, Fragmented Selves: Disability and Identity in Kafka's Universe

–Prof. Anil K. Aneja, Head, Department of English, University of Delhi.

2. Disability, 'Fiction For Girls,' and the Reluctant Twentieth Century

–Prof. Christel R. Devadawson, Department of English, University of Delhi.

3. Representing Disabilities in Odia Fiction

–Prof. Raj Kumar, Department of English, University of Delhi.

1:00 PM-2:00 PM LUNCH

2:00 PM-3:45 PM PARALLEL SESSIONS- VI, VII & VIII

PARALLEL VI- Evolving Representations of Disability in Visual Mediums

CHAIR: Dr. Nidhi Vats, Associate Professor, Department of English, University of Delhi

1. Filming the 'gap': Cinema and disability narratives

–Dr. Kamayani Kumar, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Aryabhata College, University of Delhi

2. Revolutionizing Disability Representation: David Freeman's *Creeps* and the Birth of Disability Theatre

–Dr. Betty Elsa Jacob, Assistant Professor, Department of English, CMS College Kottayam, Kerala

3. No Pity, Just Punchlines: Analysing Disability and Humour in John Callahan's Cartoons

–Ms. Anukriti Bajpai, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Sri Guru Gobind Singh College of Commerce, University of Delhi.

4. Superheroes and Disability: A Critical Analysis of Representation in Comic Books

–Mr. Shashank Yadav, M.A. in English, Department of English, University of Delhi.

5. From Sideshow to Screen: Reclaiming the "Freak" Narrative in Tod Browning's *Freaks* and David Lynch's *The Elephant Man*

–Ms. Soumya Chakraborty, Postgraduate student, Department of English, University of Delhi

PARALLEL VII- Wartime Trauma and Disability: Literary and Psychoanalytic Perspectives

CHAIR: Prof. Subarno Chattarji, Department of English Literature, University of Delhi

1. An Exegetical Study of Disability, War, and Religion in *The Bells of Nagasaki*

–Dr. Gokul S, Assistant Professor, Department of English, PGDAV college, University of Delhi.

2. Narratives of Scars: The Interplay of War, Memory, and Disability in Michael Ondaatje's Writing

–Ms. Nilakshi Moran, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Satyawati College (Eve.), University of Delhi.

3. Biopolitical Formations of Disability: A Wartime Genealogy

–Ms. Anshula Upadhyay, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Shivaji College, University of Delhi.

4. Bearing Scars: Representations of Physical and Mental Disorder of Post-War in Kurt Vonnegut's *Slaughterhouse Five*

–Ms. Saba Perween, Ph.D. Research Scholar, Vinoba Bhave University, Hazaribagh, Jharkhand.

5. Warring Disability: A Reading of Wilfred Owen's Poems

–Ms. Dipanjali Singh, M.Phil. in English, Department of English, University of Delhi.

PARALLEL VIII- Lived Experiences of Disability

CHAIR: Prof. Someshwar Sati, Department of English, Kirori Mal College, University of Delhi

1. **Reflections on Mental Health Issues and Disability in *The Bell Jar***

–Dr. Shubha Dwivedi, Associate Professor, Department of English, ARSD College, University of Delhi.

2. **Disability Life Writings in India: A Critical Discourse**

–Ms. Shilpa Gupta, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Maharaja Agrasen College, University of Delhi. Shilpa Gupta

3. **Navigating Darkness: The Intersection of Identity and Disability in Tom Sullivan’s Autobiography, *If You Could See What I Hear***

–Ms. Aswathi Narayanan, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Alphonsa College, Pala.

4. **American Exceptionalism and Disability in Ron Kovic’s *Born on the Fourth of July***

–Mr. Sandeep Sedai, Ph.D. Research Scholar, Tezpur University, Assam.

5. **Disability, Identity, and Transformation: A Critical Study of Major HPS Ahluwalia’s Narrative in Relation to Marilyn J. Phillip’s Transformational Process**

–Ms. Bratita Sarkar, Ph.D. Research Scholar, Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan, West Bengal

4:00 PM-4:45 PM

VALEDICTORY SESSION

4:45 PM

HIGH TEA