



National Conference and Conclave on

Rethinking English Studies: Issues, Prospects, and Challenges

Department of English, Margherita College
in association with
ELTAI, Upper Assam Chapter

Date: 03-02-2024

Concept Note

The way we do English and Literary Studies has gone through a paradigm shift in the twenty first century. The modes of interpretation that successively dominated the first two thirds of the 20th century — philology and new critical formalism — sought to discipline literary reference by confining attention to, respectively, literary, and linguistic history or the internal formal dynamics of the artifact. The modes that dominated the last third of that century moved in the other direction, seeking in post-disciplinary theories like deconstruction or Marxism a kind of thought adequate to accompany literature in its flight beyond intellectual boundaries. Today the pendulum is swinging again, with a resurgent formalism struggling against new or revitalized theoretical tendencies — environmentalism, cognitive science, evolutionary psychology, speculative realism. The study of literature is infiltrating into novel territories, with literary scholars and critical thinkers, rethinking about the very ideas of literature and textuality. In the light of this development, this conference aims to appraise and assess the role of English and literary studies in the context of the present day and related debates surrounding post-colonialities, globalisation, new media, gender, culture, animal studies, plant humanities, artificial intelligence, and posthumanism.

Sub themes :-

- *Literature and Postcolonialities*
- *Literature and Ecological Consciousness*
- *Sociology of Literature*
- *Gender, Literature and Culture*
- *Literary Criticism and Theory*
- *Post theory debates*
- *Literature and New Media*
- *Posthumanism*
- *English Language and Literature Teaching*
- *Literature and Social Media*

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

Registration: 08:45 AM – 09:15 AM

Inaugural Session: 09:30 AM – 10:45 AM

Venue: Conference Hall, Margherita College

Chair: Dr. Atonu Kakoty, Principal, Margherita College

- Lighting of the Lamp
 - Welcome Song
 - Welcome Address by Dr. Atonu Kakoty, Principal, Margherita College
 - Rationale of the Conference by Deepasree Das Sarkar, Associate Professor and Head, Department of English, Margherita College
 - **Keynote Address by Prof. Mridul Bordoloi, Professor and Head, Department of English, Dibrugarh University – “Whither English Studies: A Critical Assessment of its Recent Developments”**
 - Vote of Thanks: Deepjyoti Bhatta, Assistant Professor, Department of English
- High Tea: 10:45 AM – 11:00 AM**

Plenary Session: 11:00 AM – 11:40 AM

**Panelist: Dr. Madhumita Purkyastha, Associate Professor and Head, Department of English, DHSK College
“Contemporary Feminisms: Legacy, Paradigm Shifts and Emerging Concerns”**

Chair: Dr. Protim Sharma, Associate Professor, Dikhowmukh College, Sibsagar

Rapporteurs: Dr. Runa Bhagawati, Chacha Singson

Technical Session I: 11:45-01:00 PM

Theme: Recent Trends in English Studies:

Introspection and Interrogation

Chair: Prof. Mridul Bordoloi

Rapporteur: Dr. Runa Bhagawati

Technical Session II: 02:20 PM – 03:20 PM (Online Mode)

Theme: Reading and Writing about Literature Today:

Critical Perspectives

Chair: Dr. Hemjyoti Medhi

Rapporteur: Chacha Singson

Sl. No.	Name of the Presenter	Title of the Paper
01	Anansha Borthakur	Finding Furrries: Exploring Animal Representations in Selected Indian English Poetry
02	Chinmoyee Baruah	English Teaching in Public Schools of Assam: Issues and Needs in Curriculum and Evaluation Measures
03	Dr. Jharna Choudhury	Art-Story: Methods of Teaching Literary Criticism
04	Ishita Goswami & Dr. Dipak Kumar Doley	The Human-Environment Dichotomy: Examining Ecological Imperialism in Amitav Ghosh's Selected Texts.
05	Snehalakhi Sonowal	Interrupting Technology: The Temptress in Tumblr Oscillating Between Taboo and Transgression
06	Deepjyoti Bhatta	Indian English Poetry and the Politics of Exclusion: A Study of Anthologies

Sl. No.	Name of the Presenter	Title of the Paper
01	Ashasmiti Das	Moving Plants and Modest Witnesses
02	Kadeeja Dilfa	Mappila Ramayana: The Muslim retelling of Ramayana
03	Manash Pratim Khanikar	Northeastern Writings in English: A Study in Genre
04	Rashmi Joshi	Carrying the Masculine Rhetoric: An Analysis of Sharat Katariya's Dum Laga Ke Haisha
05	Pratiksha Alamman	Indian Women Autobiographies Down the Era; from Ages to Pages

Lunch: 01:00 PM – 02:00 PM

Endnote Address: 03:20 PM – 04:00 PM

**Speaker: Dr. Basil Darlong Diengdoh, School of Traditional and Indigenous Studies,
National Law University, Meghalaya**

Valedictory Session: 04:00 PM – 04:15 PM

**Dr. Atonu Kakoty, Principal Margherita College
Dr. Gautam Purkayastha, Vice Principal, Margherita College
Mr. Ranjit Pandit, Academic Coordinator, Margherita College
Ms. Yemokhya Fakay, IQAC Coordinator, Margherita College**

**Department of English, Margherita College
Deepasree Das Sarkar, Associate Professor and Head
Dr. Muzibur Rahman, Associate Professor
Deepjyoti Bhatta, Assistant Professor
Dr. Giteemoni Saikia, Assistant Professor
Somali Raha, Assistant Professor**