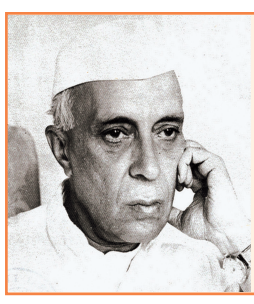




Bimonthly Journal of Jawaharlal Nehru University



A University stands for humanism. For tolerance, for reason, for the adventure of ideas and for the search of truth. It stands for the onward march of the human race towards ever higher objectives. If the Universities discharge their duties adequately, then it is well with the Nation and the People.

Jawahar



The symbol is a graphic statement which stands for international academic exchange and onwards search of knowledge for the betterment of human being.

The overlapping circular segments of the design denote global interaction, creating a flame emitting enlightenment, this flame emerges out of the traditional Indian 'diya' (lamp)-a source of Light, Understanding and Brotherhood.

The design is also representative of the rose-bud closely associated with the name of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru.



JNU News is a bimonthly journal of Jawaharlal Nehru University. It serves to bridge the information gap and tries to initiate constant dialogue between various constituents of the University community as well as with the rest of the academic world. Views expressed are those of the contributors and not necessarily of JNU News. All articles and reports published in it may be freely reproduced with acknowledgment.

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An interview with Prof. Rajiv Bhat, Director of Admissions



Lakshmi: How do you find this new experience with another side of the University, as part of the administration?

Rajiv Bhat: Even as a faculty member of a Centre or a School one deals with a lot of administrative work besides teaching and research responsibilities but most of it pertains to the functioning of the School/Centre. I have been earlier involved in several administrative works within the School of Biotechnology since early 1990 during its earlier phase of development and was recently the Dean of the School during 2009-11. As Director of admissions, one gets the opportunity to understand and appreciate the larger canvas of JNU with its broader challenges as well as opportunities for improvement. The administrative responsibility also opens up doors for interaction with students, faculty, Chairpersons and Deans across various academic programmes in JNU and to address their concerns related to the admission process. I have always appreciated the dedication of the staff of the Admissions branch steered by Coordinator (Evaluation) in successfully conducting entrance examination across the country year after year, declaring results in time, and admitting students in time. This makes my job as Director of Admissions easier and allows for looking into other important policy issues related to admissions.

Lakshmi: As Director of Admissions, what duties fall to you?

Rajiv Bhat: Director of Admissions position was created in JNU more than a decade ago when it was felt that there is need to have a greater liaison between Admissions office controlled by the Coordinator(Evaluation) on one hand and the Deans/Chairpersons of Schools/Centres as well as Rector and VC on the other hand. The prime responsibilities are especially to look at the Admission process as a whole and to facilitate the implementation of the admission policy from time to time as guided by various statutory bodies of JNU. The main job is to reach out to the several corners of the country in order to attract applications from far and wide, conduct entrance examination with all meticulousness and confidentiality that it needs, and finally to maximize the admission of students as per

requirements and to implement the reservation policies of the Government. In nutshell, the admission process would be deemed successful if one is able to attract quality students with the desired numbers that we intend to take and can accommodate from time to time.

All this throws up a lot of challenges every now and then and calls for mid- term reviews and corrective measures. This is primarily taken care of by the Standing Committee on Admissions appointed by the Academic Council to look at aspects of the admissions process of a particular year, to analyze trends in the admission over the last few years and to recommend measures to be adopted in the following years to the Academic council for broader discussions and implementation.

Lakshmi: You talked about examining trends in the flow of students. Can you tell us more about what you've noticed? And how do you deal with these patterns?

Rajiv Bhat: First, as I mentioned earlier, we need to maximize admission in the University in general and programme-wise in particular based on the intake capacity every year. Since the University admission policy does not provide for a wait-list, in order to achieve optimized enrollment each School/Centre is requested to indicate the number of offers to be made every year which are usually slightly higher than the intake capacity based on previous years' experience of each programme in terms of shortfall in admission during earlier years, if any. Hence, the number of offers are tuned every year based on the past experiences and approved by the Academic Council well in advance.

When the results are announced and the last date of admissions, e.g. 5th August this year, is over, the Standing Committee on Admissions takes a stock of the enrollment collectively in the university, programme-wise, as well as reservation-related admission. As per Academic council decision, only for those programmes, where in the admission falls short of 50% of intake, a second list may be announced. However, in case there are several programmes where such a situation arises leading to an overall larger shortfall, the Standing Committee is authorized to take decision every year

In conversation with.....

to enhance this cut-off for the second list. For example, this year by consensus, this percentage for the second list was increased to 70%. This enabled to fill additional seats as part of the second list. Despite all these efforts, still some seats were left vacant and one needs to look into these aspects and take care of this for admissions next year. Standing Committee on Admissions is meeting soon to discuss these issues.

Lakshmi: When drafting policies for intake as you mentioned, are there any models you follow from other universities?

Rajiv Bhat: JNU in its self is a unique model as we deal with conducting exams at 80 centres across 52 cities in the country including one in Kathmandu with 120 programmes of study. In addition, on behalf of 40 participating Universities, JNU conducts an All India Combined Entrance Examination in Biotechnology for M.Sc., M.Tech., and M.V.Sc. programmes including M.Sc. Biotechnology at JNU. It has been possible to efficiently conduct this gigantic task with only the active participation of JNU faculty, staff, and the untiring efforts of the Admissions branch.

In order to attract students from various not so developed regions of the country and some other categories, deprivation points of 5 and 3 marks are given to students belonging to

several such districts classified as Quartile 1 and 2, respectively. To promote having a desirable gender ratio in admissions, 5 marks are given to female candidates. Recently this ratio has almost become unity and the requirement needs to be looked into further. All put together, it is a mammoth task and, thus, unique among the University system in the country. Hence, any challenges in fulfilling the intake of the students have to be dealt with in-house strategies with a consultative mechanism in place.

Lakshmi: I'm sure that being in a position to observe the intake of students from above will give you an interesting view of the cross-section of the campus population.

Rajiv Bhat: JNU truly is a microcosm of the country and with a large size of foreign students coming from several countries, it indeed is a set-up which throws up diverse challenges but at the same time provides for immense opportunities both for the students as well as the faculty. With the student population having increased considerably over the last few years on one hand and several faculty members having retired in the period, JNU is poised with challenges to recruit quality faculty as well as to build infrastructure at a rapid pace in order to maintain the pace of excellence as we move ahead.

Movement

New Dean/Chairperson/Director

- ◆ Prof. Zoya Hasan, Centre for Political Studies as Dean, School of Social Sciences
- ◆ Prof. Karmeshu as Dean, School of Computer & Systems Sciences
- ◆ Prof. P.M. Kulkarni as Chairperson, Centre for the Study of Regional Development, School of Social Sciences
- ◆ Dr. Saugata Bhaduri as Chairperson, Centre of English Studies, School of Language, Literature & Culture Studies
- ◆ Prof. B.S. Chimni as Chairperson, Centre for Legal Studies, School of International Studies
- ◆ Prof. Shashi Kant Jha as Chairperson, Centre for European Studies, School of International Studies
- ◆ Prof. Bhagwan Singh Josh as Chairperson, Centre for Historical Studies, School of Social Sciences

- ◆ Prof. Valerian Rodrigues, Centre for Political Studies, as Director, Academic Staff College
- ◆ Prof. Man Mohini Kaul as Chairperson, Centre for South, Central, South East Asian and South West Pacific Studies, School of International Studies

Administration

- ◆ Sh. Kh. Siile as Deputy Registrar

Retirements/Resignation

- ◆ Prof. S.P. Ganguly, Centre of Spanish, Portuguese, Italian and Latin American Studies, School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies
- ◆ Dr. Ranjit Kumar Saha, Centre of Indian Languages, School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies
- ◆ Prof. Nandu Ram, Centre for the Study of Social Systems, School of Social Sciences

Movement

- ◆ Prof. Riyaz Punjabi, Centre for the Study of Social Systems, School of Social Sciences
- ◆ Sh. P.K. Choudhury, Section Officer, Project Finance Cell, Finance & Accounts Department
- ◆ Smt. Sarla Matai, Senior Assistant, Project Finance Cell, Finance & Accounts Department
- ◆ Mrs. Madhu Pathak, Assistant Librarian, Central Library
- ◆ Sh. H.P. Bhanot, A.C. Operator, Engineering Branch
- ◆ Sh. Anil Kumar Arora, Caretaker, School of Social Sciences
- ◆ Sh. Raje Singh, Electrician, Engineering Branch
- ◆ Sh. Zile Singh, Sanitary Guide, Sanitation Cell
- ◆ Sh. Beer Singh-I, Head Helper Mess, Narmada Hostel

The new hostel meant for resident girl students has been named as "Shipra Hostel".

Achievements/Awards



◆ **Prof. Akhtar Mahdi**, Centre for Persian and Central Asian Studies, School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies has been awarded a Plaque of Appreciation by the University of Tehran, in recognition of his life long service for the promotion of the Persian Language and Literature and also the development of Iranian Culture in Indian sub-continent.



◆ **Prof. B. R. Deepak**, Centre of Chinese and Southeast Asian Studies, School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies, has won the "Distinguished Book Award of China" for the year 2011, for his book 'Chinese Poetry : 11th Century BC to 14th Century'. He is the first Indian to receive this award. The book is the first of its kind consisting of translation and annotation of 88 poems selected from various poetic periods of the Chinese history starting from Shijing of preQin to Xixiangji of the Yuandynasty.



◆ **Dr. Alka Acharya**, Centre for East Asian Studies, School of International Studies, has been nominated as Member, National Security Advisory Board, Government of India, for a period of two years. This is the second time she has been so nominated.



◆ **Prof. B. Vivekanandan**, former Chairman, Centre for American & West European Studies, School of International Studies, has been conferred the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Social Sciences, by the University of Helsinki, Finland for his outstanding contribution to the world of knowledge. He was also presented with a Hat of Wisdom, a Sword of Truth and a Diploma by Professor Seppo Hentila, the Conferrer of the Honorary Doctorate.



◆ **Prof. Balveer Arora**, former Rector and Professor, Centre for Political Studies, School of Social Sciences, has been recently made a Knight in the Order of the Legion of Honour (Chevalier dans l'Ordre de la Legion d'honneur) by the French Republic. The distinction was conferred upon him on 14 July during French National Day celebrations.



◆ **Ms Pooja**, Research Scholar, School of Environmental Sciences presented a poster on "Policy Interventions for Mitigating Adverse Effects Of Climate Change" in the International Conference on Preparing Agriculture for Climate Change at Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana and her poster was awarded the 2nd best poster prize in the session. It was co-authored by her supervisor Dr. Sudip Mitra, School of Environmental Sciences.



◆ **Mr. M. Rehan**, Research Scholar, School of Computational and Integrative Sciences was one of four people globally to win the International Society of Computational Biology (ISCB) Student's Council Award to visit the laboratory of Prof. Bukhard Rost, President of the ISCB in Munich, Germany. He was also selected to present his research work at the Intelligent Systems in Molecular Biology held at Vienna in July 2011.

Achievements/Awards

JNU Scholar is Nepal's fourth PM in 3 years: Diminutive bespectacled 57-year old scholar Baburam Bhattarai, who says he learnt Marxism at New Delhi's Jawaharlal Nehru University when pursuing his PhD, became Nepal's 35th Prime Minister. He is the second Maoist PM after Pushpa Kamal Dahal aka Prachanda in 2008-2009.



A Memorandum of Understanding between Jawaharlal Nehru University and Exim Bank of India for the Maintenance and Development of the Exim Bank of India JNU Economics Library was signed between the Vice-Chancellor, JNU and the Chairperson, Exim Bank, in JNU. Both resolved to continue their cooperation for the purpose of making the Exim Bank of India JNU Economics Library (the Library) an Economics library of excellence.

Under this Memorandum of Understanding Exim Bank shall provide 12.5 lakhs per annum, for a period of five years, commencing from April 1, 2011. Of this, Rs. 10.40 lakhs would be earmarked each year for purpose of acquisition of books and journals for the library; Rs. 4.00 lakhs each for two seminars to be organized during the period of MoU in JNU, with CESP-JNU taking the primary responsibility of organizing the seminar in consultation with Exim Bank; and Rs. 50,000/- would be earmarked each for incidentals/contingency.

Campus Activities

Single-Window System introduced to streamline Admissions

The University administration introduced a single-window system for admissions this year, making the admission process less cumbersome. Earlier the students had to go through the lengthy procedure of filling 12 forms, which has been reduced to four this year.

The purpose was to make registration and the admission process less time-consuming. All the information related to the shortlisted candidates was in the university database. When the students came for admission, they had to fill four forms,

including the one for hostel accommodation. After submitting three forms at the admission office, candidates went to their respective schools/centres. At the schools/centres, applications were downloaded, final registration was done and the admission process completed.

The administration is planning to make the application process online from next year. The students will not only get their results online, but they will also have fill up the registration forms online, before coming for the final admission.



Campus Activities

बच्चों ने निभायी गाँधी की भूमिका, नर्सरी स्कूल, जनेवि का वार्षिक कार्यक्रम संपन्न

पिछले दिनों जवाहरलाल नेहरू विश्वविद्यालय के वीमेंस एसोसिएशन द्वारा संचालित नर्सरी स्कूल के वार्षिक कार्यक्रम का आयोजन हुआ जिसमें विश्वविद्यालय के कुलपति प्रो. सुधीर कुमार सोपोरी ने मुख्य अतिथि के रूप में भाग लिया। इस कार्यक्रम में नर्सरी स्कूल के बच्चों ने भारत के स्वाधीनता आंदोलन से जुड़े सेनानियों की भूमिका निभायी। कोई गाँधी बना तो कोई नेहरू, कोई तिलक तो कोई सरोजनी नायडू। इसके अतिरिक्त बच्चों ने लोक संगीत के आधार पर नृत्य प्रस्तुत किए, फैंसी ड्रेस पहनकर दर्शकों का मनोरंजन किया और चित्र बनाए। कार्यक्रम के बाद बच्चों को पुरस्कृत करते हुए कुलपति प्रो. सोपोरी ने बच्चों के अभिनय कला और अन्य प्रस्तुतियों की तारीफ की।

कार्यक्रम के प्रारंभ में वीमेंस एसोसिएशन की सचिव श्रीमती दीपा चटोपाध्याय ने कुलपति प्रो. सुधीर कुमार सोपोरी का स्वागत किया और स्कूल की सचिव डॉ. रश्मि चौधरी ने कार्यक्रम का संचालन किया और नर्सरी स्कूल की गतिविधियों की जानकारी दी। इस अवसर पर जवाहरलाल नेहरू विश्वविद्यालय शिक्षक संघ के अध्यक्ष डॉ. डी.के. लोबियाल, वीमेंस एसोसिएशन की पूर्व अध्यक्ष श्रीमती स्वप्ना भट्टाचार्य, उपाध्यक्ष श्रीमती रानी कुमार, श्रीमती विभा प्रसाद,



प्रो. सुदेश नागिया, डॉ. रामनाथन, श्रीमती तारा नेगी, श्रीमती अन्नपूर्णा मूर्ति, डॉ. माधव गोबिंद, श्रीमती रचना पंत, श्रीमती निर्मल बग्गा आदि की उपस्थिति ने कार्यक्रम की गरिमा बढ़ायी। धन्यवाद ज्ञापन नर्सरी स्कूल की श्रीमती कल्याणी रामनाथन ने किया।

श्रीमती भारती रावत
अध्यापिका, नर्सरी स्कूल, जनेवि

हिन्दी के सुप्रसिद्ध विद्वान प्रो. वाई. लक्ष्मी प्रसाद की अध्यक्षता में विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग की एक उच्च स्तरीय समिति ने विश्वविद्यालय में राजभाषा हिन्दी में कामकाज का निरीक्षण करने के लिए पिछले दिनों विश्वविद्यालय के कुलपति प्रोफेसर सुधीर कुमार सोपोरी और अन्य उच्च अधिकारियों के साथ एक बैठक की। इस अवसर पर विश्वविद्यालय के कुछ शिक्षक भी मौजूद थे। समिति में मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय के निदेशक (राजभाषा) श्री नरेश कुमार, विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग की संयुक्त सचिव डॉ. मंजू सिंह, गृह मंत्रालय के निदेशक (कार्यान्वयन) श्री रमेश बाबू अणियेरी और डॉ. महेशचन्द्र गुप्त भी शामिल थे। समिति ने विश्वविद्यालय में राजभाषा हिन्दी के प्रयोग एवं प्रगति की समीक्षा की और विश्वविद्यालय में हिन्दी के अधिकाधिक प्रयोग के संबंध में अपने कुछ सुझाव रखे। विश्वविद्यालय ने समिति के सुझावों का आदर किया और उनका अनुपालन करने के लिए यथासंभव कार्रवाई शुरू की। अंत में समिति ने जेएनयू द्वारा तैयार की गई हिन्दी बेवसाइट की सराहना करते हुए कहा कि इसमें शामिल सामग्री अपने में पर्याप्त है।

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Seminar/Conference

"The Sustainable Development of Indian Rivers: From Science to Society"

The School of Environmental Sciences organized a one day seminar on 13 June, 2011 in SES on "The Sustainable Development of Indian Rivers: From Science to Society". The objective of this seminar was to get a broad overview of the subject and discuss future directions of interdisciplinary

research in River Science. The meeting was attended by Prof S. K. Sopory, Vice Chancellor JNU, Prof Sudha Pai, Rector, JNU, and faculty and students of the university. The eminent persons who delivered lectures included Prof S. K. Tandon (internationally acclaimed geological scientist, and former Pro VC, DU), Sh.

Seminar/Conference

Ramaswamy R Iyer (renowned water-policy expert and currently visiting fellow at Centre for Policy Research), Dr. Manohar Arora (Senior Scientist at the National Institute of Hydrology, Roorkee) and Shri Rajendra Singh (Magsaysay Awardee and well-known water conversationalist).

In his opening remarks, Prof Sopory appreciated the initiative of SES to organize the seminar on an issue of national importance. He also urged that such seminars should be held periodically and JNU, SES in particular, should work towards a policy draft for consideration by Indian Govt. Prof. Tandon in his talk on 'River Science for River Futures' shared the existing scientific knowledge about Indian rivers and highlighted the need of research at various levels to protect Indian rivers. He discussed the basic tenet of river science which states that it is important to respect the inherent diversity, complexity, and variability of river systems. This however cannot be done in a reductionist discipline-specific mode. Mr. Aiyer spoke on 'Wrong and Right Thinking About Rivers' and shared his vast experiences on how Indian rivers became polluted with time. He also discussed Govt. policies and gave his own opinions on the issue of water conservation and river sustenance. He concluded that "Let the rivers live, Let us learn to live with rivers and Let us forget Prometheus and remember Bhagiratha". Dr. Arora delivered a lecture on "Base flow in rivers and their impact on Environment" in which he discussed the existing knowledge about the hydrological observations and techniques applied to monitor the water status. Shri Singh in his talk on "Need of National River Policy" appraised the

audience about his past experiences on water conservation, status of Indian rivers and his ongoing involvement in drafting the national river policy. He also urged the scientific fraternity to give their inputs so that a comprehensive draft on the river policy could emerge for consideration by the Govt.

The lectures were followed by a lively discussion chaired by Prof. A.L. Ramanathan (SES) in which Prof. B.S. Chmni (SIS), Prof. R.P. Sengupta (SSS), Prof. A.K. Attri (SES) amongst other JNU faculty and students, put forward their views. Mr. Shankar Mahto, Chairman, Brahmaputra Board, Ministry of Water Resources, Govt. of India, gave the Government's perspective and discussed his experiences of river water conservation.

The meeting was organized by Prof Sudha Bhattacharya, Dean SES assisted by Prof AL Ramanathan and Dr Sudesh Yadav.

The concluding message from the meeting was that rivers must be recognized as natural entities in their own right, whose existence on our planet is not merely to serve the needs of the human species. Hence knowledge of the river from its geological and ecological perspective must be borne in mind before channelizing this precious fresh water resource for societal needs. JNU faculty with their combined expertise in relevant disciplines can make a unique contribution in furthering these perspectives.

**Sudesh Yadav, Assistant Professor
School of Environmental Sciences**

“हिंदी साहित्य की दुनिया बहुत बड़ी है” – तेजी साकाता

“भक्ति साहित्य सिर्फ हिंदी या हिन्दुस्तान का साहित्य नहीं है, बल्कि यह मानवता का साहित्य है। इंसानियत के साथ उसका गहरा रिश्ता है। उसे पढ़ने और समझने का अर्थ है, मानव और उसके सभ्यता के इतिहास को जानना !” ये बातें हिंदी के प्रसिद्ध जापानी विद्वान प्रो तेजी साकाता ने भारतीय भाषा केंद्र द्वारा ‘भक्ति के अर्थ’ पर आयोजित व्याख्यान में कही। प्रो. साकाता आजकल जापान के ताकुशाकु विश्वविद्यालय, तोक्यो में हिंदी के प्रोफेसर हैं और शोध के सिलसिले में प्रतिवर्ष भारत आते रहते हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि “हिंदी साहित्य की दुनिया बहुत बड़ी है। भारत और जापान का धार्मिक जीवन एक जैसी परंपराओं से प्रभावित है। हम बुद्ध को भी मानते हैं और कृष्ण को भी। इनके बारे में लिखा गया साहित्य जीवन को समझने में मदद करता है। ये हमारी दुनिया और हमारे अंदर मौजूद मानवीय भक्ति की चेतना को बढ़ाते हैं।” उन्होंने यह भी बताया कि जापान में भी भक्ति साहित्य से मिलता-जुलता साहित्य है और वहाँ के लोग भी इस साहित्य को पढ़ने में दिलचस्पी ले रहे हैं।

भारतीय भाषा केंद्र की ओर से आयोजित इस व्याख्यान में प्रो. साकाता की बातचीत को आगे बढ़ाते हुए ताशकंद के प्राच्य विद्या



Seminar/Conference

संस्थान से आयी डॉ. उल्फत मुहिबा ने हिंदी के वार्ता साहित्य में 'चौरासी वैष्णवन की वार्ता' का उल्लेख किया और कहा कि "भक्ति का अर्थ केवल भगवान की भक्ति नहीं है, भक्ति का अर्थ बहुत ही व्यापक है और उस काल के सभी कवियों के यहाँ भक्ति का अर्थ अलग-अलग है। जैसे – मलूकदास के लिए भक्ति का अर्थ था – लोगों की सेवा करना। सभी लोगों के बीच प्रेम, समानता का भाव पैदा करना ही भक्ति साहित्य का प्राथमिक लक्ष्य था।"

अतिथि वक्ताओं के व्याख्यान के बाद दोनों विद्वानों ने छात्रों के विचारोत्तेजक सवालों का जवाब भी दिया। कार्यक्रम की शुरुआत में

डॉ. देवेन्द्र चौबे ने अतिथियों का स्वागत करते हुए कहा कि भक्ति को केवल धर्म से नहीं जोड़ा जाना चाहिए। भक्ति मुक्ति देता है, आगे बढ़ने का मार्ग खोलता है। कार्यक्रम के अन्त में एम.फिल. हिंदी की शोधछात्रा शीला आर्य ने केंद्र के छात्रों की तरफ से अतिथियों का धन्यवाद ज्ञापन किया।

**अजय कुमार यादव और देबीना अक्षयबर,
शोधछात्र, भाषा, साहित्य और संस्कृति अध्ययन संस्थान,
जनेवि**

Lectures in School of Arts & Aesthetics

- A Lecture on "The Shadow of "Authenticity": Museums, Temples and the Display of Religious Icons" by Prof. John Cort, Professor and Director of the Department of Religion, Denison University was organized on 5 August, 2011. Dr John Cort is an eminent scholar of Indian religion whose distinguished work has focussed on the place of temples, icons, texts and traditions in Jainism. His recent book, "Framing the Jinas: Narratives of Icons and Idols in Jain History" (New York, OUP, 2010) discusses Jain discourses and practices concerning temple images.

In this talk, Dr Cort addressed the issues that arise when objects made for temple contexts move into the museum. How should such objects be displayed? What do they gain, and what do they lose, if they are presented as autonomous aesthetic objects? Conversely, if they are contextualised as ritual objects, does this deny them the right to be art? Taking up issues and specific instances, Dr Cort's seminar with issues of 'authenticity,' meaning, and value ascribed to art in shifting institutional locations.

- A Lecture on "Indian Visual Culture as World Commodity" by Professor Frederick Asher, Department of Art History, University of Minnesota was organized on 12 August, 2011. Dr Frederick (Rick) Asher is a major figure in the study of Indian art history. Known for his important early work on Gupta and Pala period art, his current research considers the architecture of contested religious space, issues related to art as commodity and patterns of trade.

In this talk he discussed the role and presence of classical Indian art beyond India, that is, Indian visual culture as part of a world system. He argued that much as India borrowed visual ideas from distant parts of the world and, it exported ideas across the world to areas with which India was and remains connected, though in diverse ways through time.

Following the work of Janet Abu-Lughod, who argues that India was central to a world system long before the age of European colonialism, as Immanuel Wallerstein had argued, Asher extended that notion even further back in time, to the time of Aśoka, as well as forward to the present day. The various factors that stimulate the transmission of visual ideas which were discussed in this lecture included: Appropriation of the Other, pilgrimage, trade in luxury goods, war, colonialism, and diasporas.

- A Lecture on "Masculinity, ethnicity and sexuality" by Girish Shahane, a prominent art critic and commentator on cultural matters, was organized on 26 August, 2011. Girish Shahane is a columnist for Yahoo India and a former editor of Art India Magazine, he is a freelance writer based in Mumbai, who administers the prestigious Skoda Prize for Contemporary Indian Art. Shahane is the curator of the upcoming exhibition Home, the Devi Art Foundation. Among the places he has lectured or presented papers are NCPA and NGMA in Mumbai; Max Mueller Bhavan, Bangalore; India School of Business, Hyderabad; Tate Modern, London; Wesleyan University, Middletown; and the Art Institute of Chicago.

In this lecture he compared depictions of Indian men and accounts of masculinity in the subcontinent with representations of European and African maleness. Through the comparison, his talk revealed deficiencies in the currently dominant academic viewpoint which considers masculinity purely a social construct. The talk drew on a wide range of examples from art, literature, advertising, cinema and cricket in making an argument against postcolonial theory.

**Parul Dave Mukherji, Dean
School of Arts and Aesthetics**

जवाहरलाल नेहरू विश्वविद्यालय के भारतीय भाषा केन्द्र में आयोजित संगोष्ठी – 'हिन्दी दलित साहित्य और कविता पाठ' की रिपोर्ट :

जवाहरलाल नेहरू विश्वविद्यालय के भारतीय भाषा केन्द्र में दिनांक 12 अगस्त, 2011 दिन शुक्रवार को "हिन्दी दलित साहित्य और काव्य पाठ" पर एकदिवसीय संगोष्ठी का आयोजन किया गया। इस संगोष्ठी की अतिथि प्रसिद्ध दलित लेखिका डॉ. सुशीला टाकभौरे थीं।

संगोष्ठी की अध्यक्षता भारतीय भाषा केन्द्र के हिन्दी के जाने माने प्रो. वीर भारत तलवार ने की। इस अवसर पर भारतीय भाषा केन्द्र के गणमान्य लोगों में से भारतीय भाषा केन्द्र के अध्यक्ष प्रो. कृष्णस्वामी नाचीमुथु, डॉ. रामचन्द्र, डॉ. देवेन्द्र कुमार चौबे और डॉ. गोविन्द प्रसाद उपस्थित थे।

समारोह के आरंभ में प्रो. कृष्णस्वामी नाचीमुथु ने अतिथि महोदया डॉ. सुशीला टाकभौरे का स्वागत किया। स्वागत कार्यक्रम के बाद एम.फिल. हिन्दी की छात्रा प्रियंका सोनकर ने सुशीला जी की एक कविता का काव्य पाठ किया। काव्य पाठ के बाद दलित प्रभारी डॉ. रामचन्द्र ने हिन्दी दलित साहित्य में सुशीला टाकभौरे के महत्व पर

संक्षेप में अपने विचार प्रस्तुत किए। डॉ. रामचन्द्र के वक्तव्य के बाद डॉ. सुशीला टाकभौरे ने हिन्दी दलित साहित्य पर विस्तार से अपना व्याख्यान दिया। उन्होंने दलित साहित्य की वैचारिकी तथा सैद्धान्तिकी पर बात करते हुए बताया कि इसका पूरा प्रभाव डॉ. भीमराव अम्बेडकर तथा गौतम बुद्ध के दर्शन से ओत-प्रोत है। उन्होंने कहा कि – आज मुझे जवाहरलाल नेहरू विश्वविद्यालय में पहली बार इतने बड़े स्तर पर बोलने का शुभ अवसर मिला। यह मेरे लिए बड़े ही सम्मान की बात है। आज हिन्दी दलित साहित्य एक बहुत बड़े विमर्श के रूप में समस्त विश्व में विख्यात है। आज के लोगों से मेरी यह कामना है कि वह शिक्षित बनें, संगठित हों और संघर्ष करें। हिन्दी दलित साहित्य पर बात करते हुए उन्होंने अपनी रचनाओं के बारे में भी संक्षेप में प्रकाश डाला तथा हाल ही में प्रकाशित अपनी आत्मकथा 'शिंजे का दर्द' के महत्व को उद्घाटित किया। अंत में उन्होंने अपनी तीन कविताओं का पाठ भी किया।

इसके बाद वहाँ उपस्थित सभी छात्र-छात्राओं ने उनसे दलित साहित्य और उससे संबंधित मुख्य मुद्दों पर सवाल-जवाब किया। डॉ. सुशीला टाकभौरे ने सभी प्रश्नों का बड़े ही शालीनता से जवाब दिया।

अंत में अध्यक्षीय भाषण में प्रो. वीर भारत तलवार ने डॉ. सुशीला टाकभौरे के विषय में अपना वक्तव्य प्रस्तुत किया। उन्होंने उनकी तीन प्रमुख कविताओं का बड़े ही जोश के साथ पाठ किया और उसमें छुपे मर्म को सराहा। समारोह का संचालन शोध छात्रा प्रियंका सोनकर ने किया।

प्रियंका सोनकर, एम.फिल. द्वितीय वर्ष (हिन्दी), भारतीय भाषा केन्द्र, जनेवि, नई दिल्ली-67



English for Linguistic Empowerment

"Basic Communication Skills- Level -1" and "English for Academic Writing- Level 1", two courses meant for linguistic empowerment of the students from across the schools and centres of JNU, have been introduced by the university this semester. The Vice Chancellor Prof S.K. Sopory inaugurated the programme on the 19 August 2011 in the auditorium of the SSS. The meeting was chaired by the Rector, Prof Sudha Pai who explained how the three units meant for capacity building of JNU students, namely Equal Opportunity Office, Language Cell and Disability Cell were brought together by the Vice Chancellor, to work together in an integrated manner.

Professor Vaishna Narang, Convener of the program, explained in her welcome address and introduction to the

program how the erstwhile Centre for Linguistics and English, and later Prof GJV Prasad from Centre for English Studies and she from Centre for Linguistic, struggled for setting up a language cell which would serve the purpose of linguistic and cognitive empowerment of JNU students. She explained the need to have such foundation courses in place of the so called Remedial English courses running for more than three decades.

She said that 250 students had registered for the Basic Communication Skills, and more than 275 students registered for the English for Academic Writing course. The English Language Cell had become a reality thanks to the vision and the

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support of the Vice Chancellor, Prof S.K.Sopory and the Rector Prof Sudha Pai.

Dwelling upon questions like what is linguistic empowerment, and what can we do to empower ourselves, why language is important for us, she explained why such language courses are absolutely essential for any academic program conducted by institutions of higher learning in India. She identified the most important reason to be the state of language education in India, which at any and every level is a national embarrassment. Educationists have forgotten that language is a means to cognition as well as a product of human cognition. Learning languages enriches, enhances cognition. Educationists fail to recognize the fact that the failure of education system, especially at the primary level can sometimes be entirely attributed to the failure of language education. Our education system, just like the rest of the modern world which has become a global village has blindly supported science and technology, engineering and management and commerce etc. without understanding that language education which is so very necessary for the cognitive development and enrichment of the learners.

Prof RN Menon, Dean SLL&CS, in his address to the students explained the role and strengths of the School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies in the university, while Prof Sonajharia Minz, Chief Advisor, EOO highlighted the activities of the EOO in capacity buildup programs. Prof Karmeshu, Dean SC&SS, announced two special introductory courses in computers for the new entrants of JNU. He mentioned that Prof GJV Prasad, who was one of the moving forces for this programme, could not be present at the function because of personal reasons.

On this occasion, Prof Harish Narang, special invitee, who retired from CES and was UGC Emeritus Fellow in SLL&CS, who has had the long association with the English language programs including those for the foreign students and the Remedial English programme for our Indian students, told success stories of JNU students from his four decades of

experience of language & literature programs in JNU. He emphasized that these success stories were there only because of a very high level of motivation of the students who came from remote rural areas of the country and went on to become Professors in different universities of the country or went to other successful careers with a special mention of two alumni of JNU, Prof Bhonsale from Bombay University, and Moola Ram teaching English in a college in the University of Delhi.

The Vice Chancellor, Prof S K Sopory, inaugurating the program emphasized that it is absolutely essential to have a good command over English to be able to understand the discipline that you want to pursue and to express your research, your ideas, to the rest of the world. He explained how he planned to create different units for capacity buildup and empowerment of the student community. In fact, the three units -Equal Opportunity Office, Disability Cell and English Language Cell, and also the fourth one announced by the Dean, SC&SS, to offer basic computer courses for the students of JNU work together as a team towards a common goal of capacity building and empowerment of the student community in JNU. Four well-qualified and experienced teachers were engaged as Guest Faculty to take up this responsibility in English. Since our students come from all over India, including many from rural areas in the remote parts of the country, where they had no exposure to the language, it was very necessary for them to prepare themselves for receiving the education imparted in JNU, and for conducting their research eventually. Wishing the students the very best, Prof Sopory also announced that the students would get a certificate of proficiency after successful completion of the Level 1 courses this semester and Level 2 courses in the following semester.

The program ended with a vote of thanks by Prof Vaishna Narang.

**Vaishna Narang, Professor
Centre of Linguistic, SLL&CS**

Seventh J.P. Naik Memorial Lecture

The Educational Records Research Unit (ERRU) organised the Seventh J.P. Naik Memorial Lecture, an annual feature since 2005, to commemorate the death anniversary of eminent educationist J.P. Naik, who founded ERRU in 1971. The Memorial Lecture was delivered by Professor Mrinal Miri, Chairman, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, on 26

August 2011, in the Committee Room of SSS-I. The session was chaired by Professor S.K. Sopory, Vice-Chancellor and attended by a large audience of scholars.

The topic addressed by Professor Miri was 'Higher Education: Autonomy, Responsibility and Challenges'. He said that there is

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no doubt that education has an instrumental value. But that is not the only kind of value it has. It has a value that is specific or internal to it. The specific value of education consists in its inherent capacity to enhance the human person. It is interesting that this value of education is intimately connected with the values that we have, as a nation, committed ourselves to. These are values such as: a democratic way of life (freedom of speech and expression as cognates of this value), economic progress with one eye firmly on the principle of equity, equality of races, castes and genders, secularism based not on rejection of, but respect for all religions, respect for cultural and linguistic plurality and diversity of traditions, communities as sustaining different forms or ways of being human.

Professor Miri further observed that the internal value of education demands that the practice of education be

autonomous, and the autonomy of the practice of education, in its turn, demands that institutions that sustain such practices be autonomous. The notions of autonomy, responsiveness and responsibility are necessarily connected. He ended the lecture by mentioning, rather randomly, three challenges for higher education in our country: the challenge of interdisciplinarity, of the great diversity of languages and cultures, and of research.

Seeing special interest of the audience on the issues raised by Professor Miri, the lecture was unconventionally opened for discussion. Professor Sopory initiated the discussion by his observations as part of chairperson's remarks.

**Ch. Radha Gayathri, Research Officer
Educational Records Research Unit, SSS**

Our Publications

Book Review

The Story-Time of the British Empire Colonial and Postcolonial Folkloristics

An analysis of the folklore collected by imperials and colonials during the second empire

In "The Story-Time of the British Empire", author Sadhana Naithani examines folklore collections compiled by British colonial administrators, military men, missionaries, and women in the British colonies of Africa, Asia, and Australia between 1860 and 1950. Much of this work was accomplished in the context of colonial relations and done by non-folklorists, yet these oral narratives and poetic expressions of non-Europeans were transcribed, translated, published, and discussed internationally. Naithani analyzes the role of folklore scholarship in the construction of colonial cultural politics as well as in the conception of international folklore studies.

Since most folklore scholarship and cultural history focuses exclusively on specific nations, there is little study of cross-

cultural phenomena about empire and/or postcoloniality. Naithani argues that connecting cultural histories, especially in relation to previously colonized countries, is essential to understanding those countries' folklore, as these folk traditions result from both internal and European influence. The author also makes clear the role folklore and its study played in shaping intercultural perceptions that continue to exist in the academic and popular realms today. "The Story-Time of the British Empire" is a bold argument for a twenty-first-century vision of folklore studies that is international in scope and that understands folklore as a transnational entity.

Sadhana Naithani, Centre of German Studies, School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies, JNU, is the author of "In Quest of Indian Folktales: Pandit Ram Gharib Chaube and William Crooke and editor of Folktales from Northern India".

Our Publications

Statistical Physics of Liquids at Freezing and Beyond

Exploring important theories for understanding freezing and the liquid-glass transition, this book is useful for graduate students and researchers in soft-condensed matter physics, chemical physics and materials science. It details recent ideas and key development, providing an up-to-date view of current understanding. The standard tools of statistical physics for the dense liquid state are covered. The freezing transition is described from the classical density functional approach. Classical nucleation theory as well as applications of density functional methods for nucleation of crystals from the melt are discussed, and compared to results from computer simulation of simple systems. Discussions of supercooled liquids form a major part of the book. Theories of slow dynamics and the dynamical heterogeneities of the glassy state are presented, as well as nonequilibrium dynamics and thermodynamic phase

The British Empire and the Natural World: Environmental Encounters in South Asia

Edited by Deepak Kumar, Vinita Damodaran, Rohan D'Souza

About the Book

The British empire marked an exceptional ecological moment in world history, Between 1600 and 1960, through economic expansion, political strategy, military conquest, and territorial control, it held and linked disparate lands and varied peoples. The environmental encounters of the empire, significantly enough, were multidimensional with, many an ecological legacy still influencing and shaping the modern world. The British Empire and the Natural World examines concepts of nature and environmental practices in colonial South Asia.

Focusing on the British empire as a scale and unit of analyses, this volume reconsiders environmental transformations in the nineteenth century and the complex inter-colonial exchanges over environmental ideas, techniques and technologies, and the institutionalization of various

transitions at deep supercooling. Mathematical treatments are given in full detail so readers can learn the basic techniques.

Features

- A unique presentation of recent developments in an active field of research
- Suitable for graduate students and researchers, including those just entering the field
- Covers a number of recent ideas and main developments to give an update on the current status of the field

Shankar Prasad Das, School of Physical Sciences; Published at Cambridge University Press

environmental imaginings. It explores a range of topics including colonial forestry, plantation economies, irrigation practices, ethnic identities, and environmental strategies of the empire.

This collection underscores the need to debate the British empire as an apt and helpful conceptual template for the writing of global environmental histories. It also reviews several key debates and shifts in recent writings on environmental history in South Asia.

About the Editors

Deepak Kumar, Professor, Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

Vinita Damodaran, Senior Lecturer in History, University of Sussex, UK.

Rohan D'Souza, Assistant Professor, Centre for Studies in Science Policy, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

Our Publications

Release of IERB for Research on Human Subjects: Information and Guidelines- 2011

The first brochure of the (IERB-JNU) was released by the Vice Chancellor, JNU on 26 May 2011, in the 8th meeting of the Board. "The Institutional Ethics Review Board" was originally constituted by the Executive Council of JNU vide its resolution no.EC/ 5.3/3.9.2008 with Prof. RNK Bamezai as Chairperson and Prof. Vaishna Narang as Member Secretary. The board reviews research proposals which may involve participation of human beings as subjects, submitted by the faculty and students of JNU for ethical clearance.

The board was reconstituted recently with 20 new members and 16 members continuing for another term as per EC resolution no. 6.22/5th April 2011 with Prof. Shiv K. Sarin as the new Chairperson. Dr. Shiv K. Sarin an eminent medical scientist, former Chairperson of MCI, is currently the Director, Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences, Vasant Kunj New Delhi.

On 26 May 2011, in the first meeting of the new board, Prof. S.K. Sopory welcomed the new chairperson and the new members, and released the brochure titled "Institutional Ethics Review Board for Research on Human and Guidelines- 2011", IERB-JNU. In his message Prof. Sopory said I am very happy with the establishment of an Institutional Ethics Review Board (IERB) at JNU. The basic responsibility of an institutional ethics committee is to ensure a competent review of all ethical aspects of the project proposals received by it in an objective manner and to provide advice to researchers on all aspects of the welfare and safety of the research participants after ensuring the scientific soundness of the proposed research through appropriate review Committee. I am sure the IERB-JNU will not only look in to initial proposals prior to institution of the projects but will also have a continuing responsibility of regular monitoring of the approved programs to foresee compliance of the ethics as per guidelines during the period of the project/research work.

Further, IERB should also organize awareness workshops to bring out the scope, aims and principles of legislation, politics or other instruments in the field of bioethics."

Prof. Shiv. K. Sarin in his message emphasized that "the broad principles of research should be that the benefits of research should be far reaching and without any harm to the individual. With the emergence of the new disciplines like organ transplantation, stem cell biology, regenerative medicine, human genetics, proteomics, bio-devices, clinical trials, etc.; the scope and responsibilities of the ethics committees have enormously increased.

I am delighted that the EC at the JNU have experts with significant knowledge domains in various disciplines of science and public life. With the help of these eminent members, we do hope to provide fair, independent, comprehensive and timely review of the ethics of the proposed studies. I do believe that we would be able to have a good feed back on the science generated at the completion of the research studies at this prestigious university."

The brochure contains besides the information on how to apply and the prescribed format for the informed consent, excerpts from ICMR guidelines, UNESCO guidelines and WHO guidelines. It also contains the full text of SOP's (Standard Operating Principles) as adopted by the IERB-JNU on 20-01-2010. While introducing the brochure Prof. Narang, put on record a vote of appreciation and thanks for Prof. Bamezai, the first Chairperson of IERB under whose leadership, a lot of effort and time was spent in setting up the IERB-JNU and evolving SOP's for IERB.

**Vaishna Narang, Professor
Centre of Linguistic, SLL&CS & Member
Secretary, IERB, JNU**

List of Publications

School of Social Sciences

- Interrogating Reorganisation of States: Culture, Identity and Politics in India', Routledge Publishers, India and NMML, Delhi, June 2011, Asha Sarangi and Sudha Pai(ed), CPS

Special Centre for Sanskrit Studies

- Sanskrit Literature in Andhra Pradesh(Post Independence Era), Eastern Book Linkers, Delhi, 2011. Dr. Upender Rao,(SCSS) and Dr.Ram Krishna

Our Publications

School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies

- Baqatun Min Khamseena Qissa (Arabic), (A bouquet of fifty stories-50 one page stories translated from Tamil to Arabic) Arabnet, Calicut, 2011 Basheer Ahmad, CAAS
- Nuaimavin Alakiya Arabic Kadhaikal (Tamil), (Nuaima's Beautiful Stories -20 Arabic short stories of the Novelist Nuaima into Arabic), Manimekalai Press, Chennai, 2011 Basheer Ahmad, CAAS

School of Environmental Science

- Management and Sustainable Development of Coastal Zone Environments, Springer, Germany, 1st Edition., 2010,

Ramanathan, AL (SES).; Bhattacharya, P.; Dittmar, T.; Prasad, B.; Neupane, B (Eds.) (2010)

- Groundwater for Sustainable Development: Problems, Perspectives and Challenges, (Edited by) Bhattacharya P., Ramanathan AL(SES), Mukherjee A.B., Bundschuh J., Chandrasekharam D., Keshari A.K. Taylor and Francis/A. A. Balkema, The Netherlands; 2008
- Integrated Coastal zone management – The global challenge, (Edited by) Krishanmurthy R., Glavovic B.C., Kannan A, Green DR, Ramanathan AL(SES), Han Z., Tufi S. and Agardy T. Research Publishing House, Singapore; 2008

Our Scholars

List of scholars who have been awarded the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) and Master of Philosophy (M.Phil). The name of the scholar is followed by the title of the thesis/dissertation and the name of the supervisor.

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D)
(12.01.2010 to 29.1.2010)

School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies

Centre of Indian Languages

Mr. Arshad Jamal “Symbolic Short Stories in Urdu With Special Reference to the Eminent Writers”, Dr. Mazhar Mehdi Hussain

Mohd. Qasim Ansari “An Analytical Study of the Use of Urdu in TV News Channels (Hindi) from January 2007 to July 2008”, Dr. S M Anwar Alam

Mr. Ramajna Ray “Peasant Movement and Hindi Poetry (1917-47)”, Prof Ram Bux Jat

Centre of English Studies

Ms. Aneeta Rajendran “In the Realm of the (Un) Familiar: Studies in Contemporary Lesbian Indian Texts”, Prof. Makarand Paranjape

School of Life Sciences

Mr. Shivesh Kumar “Structural Studies of Calcium Binding Protein-1 from Entamoeba histolytica”, Dr. S Gourinath

School of International Studies

Centre for Russian and Central Asian Studies

Ms. Rachana Singh “Political Development in Azerbaijan, 1991-2005”, Prof. Tulsiram

Mr. E Khekugha Tuccu “Presidency and the Functioning of Democracy in Russia, 1991-2005 Dr. Sanjay Kumar Pandey

Centre for South Central Southeast Asian and Southwest Pacific Studies

Mr. Omprakash Dahiya “Indian and Australian Security Interests in Southeast Asia: A Comparative Study, 1991-2005”, Prof Man Mohini Kaul

Special Centre for Molecular Medicine

Mohd Ashraf Dar “Functional Characterization of the Possible Drug Target DNA Gyrase in Human Malarial Parasite Plasmodium Falciparum”, Dr. Suman K Dhar

Raman Research Institute, Bangalore

Ms. Kripa G “Dynamics of Shape and Composition of An Active Composite Membrane”, Prof. Madan Rao

International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, New Delhi

Mr. Shashank Gupta “Characterization of Intracellular Mechanisms Regulating Immune Response to Mycobacteria by Mycobacterium tuberculosis Secretory Antigen Differentiated Dendritic Cells”, Dr. Krishnamurthy Natarajan

Institute of Microbial Technology, Chandigarh

Ms. Puja Saluja “Exploration of Yeasts from Selected Niches of India and Study of Thermotolerance”, Dr. G S Prasad

Mr. Janmejy Pandey “Molecular and Biochemical Studies of O-Nitrobenzoate Biodegradation and Bacterial Diversity of A Nitroaromatic Contaminated Site”, Dr. R K Jain

Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad

Mr. Aneesh P Panoli “Functional Analysis of Meiosis in Yeast and Plants: Studies on the Role of AtMNDI During Meiosis in Arabidopsis”, Dr. Imran Siddiqi

National Institute of Immunology, New Delhi

Mr. Narendra Kumar “Modeling Protein-Peptide Complexes Using Rotamer Library Approach: Application to Prediction of Substrates for MHC and Kinases”, Dr. Debasisa Mohanty

Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow

Ms Geetika Kharkwal “A Comparative Study of Estrogen Receptor Signaling Under the Influence of CDRI-99/373 and SERMs”, Dr. Anila Dwivedi

Master of Philosophy (M. Phil)

School of International Studies

Centre for Russian, Central Asian Studies

Ms. Mahashradha Yadav “Impact of Socio-Cultural Transformation on Women of Russia 1991-2001”, Dr. Preeti D. Das

Mr. Kumar Saurabh “Evolution of Political System in Uzbekistan 1991-2001”, Dr. Phool Badan

Mr. Shraddha Nand Rai “Evolution of Political System in Kazakhstan 1991-2001”, Dr. Phool Badan

Centre for International Politics, Organization & Disarmament

Ms. Zothanpuii “Nuclear Energy Options: A Comparative Study of France and Germany”, Prof. Swaran Singh

Ms. Manisha Chaudhary “The Politics of Dual-Use Technology: A Study of Nuclear Weapons”, Dr. J Madhan Mohan

Centre for South, Central, South East Asian and South West Pacific Studies

Mr. Basanta Kumar Jena “Dimensions of India-ASEAN Cooperation: The Free Trade Agreement”, Prof. G V C Naidu

Mr. Ram Pratap Prasad “Bhutan's Transition Towards Democracy: An Assessment”, Prof. Partha S Ghosh

Centre for International Trade and Development

Ms. Susmita Mitra “Profitability of Investment and Export: Evidence from East Asia”, Dr. Meeta K Mehra

Centre for West Asian & African Studies

Mr. Chitaranjan Nayak “The Process of Democratization in Uganda (1995-2008)”, Prof. S N Malakar

Centre for East Asian Studies

Ms. Bhavna Singh “Discursive Nationalism and Contemporary Chinese Public Sphere-An Analysis of Sports and Cinema”, Prof. Srikanth Kondapalli

School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies

Centre of German Studies

Ms. Mangrulkar Shiwane Sanjeev “Kartographie Desselbst: Hugo Loetscher, Die Deutschsprachige Schweizer Literatur And Das Problem Der Kultur”, Prof. Rajendra Dengele

Centre of Indian Languages

Mr. Rajesh Dogra “Rupa Bajwa Krit Angrezi Upanyas 'The Sari Shop' Ka Hindi Anuvad Evam Vishleshan”, Prof. Ranjit Kumar Saha

Ms. Monika Chauhan “Shani Ki Pratinidhi Kahaniyon Mein Abhivyakta Samajik Yathartha”, Dr. Ram Chandra

Mr. Raj Mani Tripathi “Hindi Ki Sahityik Patrakarita Aur Pratap Narayan Mishra”, Dr. Raman Prasad Sinha

Md. Haider Ali “Abdus Samad Ke Afsanon Ka Samajiyati Motala”, Dr. SM Anwar Alam

Our Scholars

Mr. Abdul Rahman “Iqbal Tanqeed (Khaleefa Abdul Hakeem Aur Kaleemuddin Ahmad Ke Khusoosi Hawale Se”, Prof. Mohd. Shahid Husain

Mr. Mohammed Imteyaz Alam “Kasheful Haqaaeq Ka Tanqidi Motala”, Dr. K M Ekramuddin

Ms. Son Sun-Kyung “Oh Tae Seok Aur Dharmaveer Bharti Ke Natkon Ka Tulnatmak Adhyayan”, Dr. Raman P Sinha, Dr. Vyjyanti Raghwan (Jt. Supervisor)

Mr. Jahangir Ahmad “Urdu Mein Novelet-Nigari (Joginder Paul Ke Khosoosi Hawale Se)”, Dr. Mazhar Mehdi Hussain

Ms. Farhat Jahan “Sajida Zaidi Ke Novel 'Mitti Ke Haram' Ka Tanquidi Motala”, Dr. K M Ekramuddin

Centre for English Studies

Ms. Parinita Sinha “In Translation: A Case Study of Toru Dutt's Ancient Ballads and Legends of Hindustan”, Prof. GJV Prasad

School of Social Sciences

Centre for Historical Studies

Ms. Tripti Deo “Social Life of Charans in Medieval Rajasthan in the 17th and 18th Centuries”, Dr. Nandita Prasad Sahai

Mr. Taru Luederitz Dalmia “Rajput Valour in Charan Song: The Poetics of Power in 17th -18th Century Marwar”, Dr. Nandita Prasad Sahai

Ms. Kavita Gaur “Wives and Courtesans: Perspectives from the Normative Literature of Early India”, Prof. V. Ramaswamy & Prof. Kumkum Roy

Ms. Swati Detha “A Study of State and Politics of Culture in Eighteenth Century Rajasthan”, Dr. Nandita Prasad Sahai

Ms. Jaya Priyadarshini “A Social History of the Menial Jatis of 18th Century Marwar”, Dr. Nandita Prasad Sahai

Ms. Babli Praveen “Dargah of Khwaja Mu 'Inuddin Hasan Chishti of Ajmer: Administration Under the Mughals and Historical Significance”, Dr. Nandita Prasad Sahai

Centre for Political Studies

Ms. Sejuti Das Gupta “Indian Agricultural Policy in 1950-70: Decades of Conflicts and Compromises”, Dr. Asha Sarangi

Centre for the Study of Social Systems

Ms. Hia Sen “Hiding Behind Discourse: Childhood in the Indian Social Sciences”, Prof. Surinder Singh Jodhka

Centre for Philosophy

Mr. Manoj Kumar Panda “The Mind World Relationship : A Study of the Nature of Perceptual Content”, Dr. Manidipa Sen

Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram

Mr. Sreejith A “Financial Liberalization and Extent of Financial Exclusion in India : A Study of Economically and Socially Backward Classes in Kerala”, Prof. N.Shanta:& Dr.Hrushikesh Mallick

Mr. Anand S “Financial Market Efficiency : An Empirical Examination of the Indian Stock Market”, Prof. K. Pushpangadan; & Dr.Lekha Chakraborty

Alumni Corner

An interview with Siddhartha Gigoo, Assistant General Manager, Technical Communication, Tata Consultancy Services Limited, New Delhi



Wafa: When and how did your association with JNU begin? What were your first impressions about this University?

Siddhartha: I joined the Center for

Linguistics and English at JNU in 1997. I was quite surprised to see my name in the list of selected candidates, since I hadn't really performed too well in the entrance examination, or so I thought. Initially, I was excited at my selection, but as classes began, the excitement turned into disillusionment. I became conscious of my inadequacies as a student.

The courses were unconventional, as were the pedagogical methods of teaching. I came from a small town and had never been to a college (I had done my graduation in English Literature as a private student). Attending classes, participating in classroom debates, presenting seminars and term papers - I was not prepared for it. Lack of preparedness and disinterest led to poor grades. Yet, somehow I trudged on from one semester to another.

Those were terrible times for me. I struggled with my studies. Good grades evaded me. Failure stared me in my face and the world mocked me. I slept during the days and idled during the nights. I laboured from one text book to another, sometimes seeking enjoyment and sometimes to broaden my experience and understanding of life and the world.

The first impression was one of shock and awe. Culture shock, perhaps! Having been a loner for years, it was difficult to adapt to the vibrant life in the campus. It was fashionable to question notions, theorise and intellectualise.

Room Number 13, Jhelum Hostel was my address for those two years. I made new friends and many of them inspired me in different ways. They introduced me to world literature and cinema. Chatting with friends at Ganga Dhaba and Parthasarathi rocks became a favourite past-time.

Wafa: How has JNU shaped your perception in relation to your profession? Do you think JNUites do things differently in your field?

Siddhartha: I tasted failure there - academically. Became aware of my imperfections. Questioned the very purpose and essence of my being and looked upon myself with profound suspicion. And gradually developed a philosophical bent of mind! Learnt to laugh at things! Life in JNU taught me how to take many things non-seriously.

I am not sure if JNU shaped my perception in relation to professional life. I have never given it a thought. But JNUites indeed do things 'differently'. I was the only one in my batch

who kissed goodbye to academics. Most others pursued higher education and are teachers in different universities now.

Wafa: Tell us something about your experiences at TCS. What was the trajectory that your career took after you left JNU?

Siddhartha: After completing my Masters in English, I walked out of the campus into the 'real' world to explore what to do next. I needed money to eat, smoke and pay the rent. So I applied for various jobs, mainly in print journalism. Luck did not favour me for months until I applied for the job of a trainee editor at a Tata company, cleared the test and interview and got selected. I have been with the Tatas ever since.

Working in the corporate sector took me to places I used to dream of as a student of literature. The Hermitage in St Petersburg, Rembrandt and Van Gogh museums in Amsterdam, Globe Theatre in London, the Reading jail where Oscar Wilde spent time, Louvre in Paris, Colorado, Sweden, Portugal...

Wafa: Tell us a bit about your debut novel, The Garden of Solitude. What prompted you to write it?

Siddhartha: I remember being a mute witness to the political events that unfolded in Kashmir in 1989. The militancy, the mass uprising, the protests on the streets, the deaths and the devastation! I was in my teens at the time. For years, during the 'peaceful' eighties, certain unrest had been lurking in the hearts and the minds of the Kashmiri people - the Muslims and the Pandits! Muslims were fed up of the hollow promises made by the successive governments in India. There was a life of subjugation, they thought. The Pandits feared that the uprising and the militancy might lead to a 'divide' and that they would be targeted. I saw the bizarre events unfold day after day. While thousands of Kashmiri Muslims came out on the streets, defying curfew and shoot-at-sight orders to protest against India, the Pandits huddled indoors in fear and

Alumni Corner

bewilderment, not knowing what to do. Many Muslim friends (mostly teenagers) from my neighbourhood joined the freedom movement after undergoing weeks of training across the border. It seemed surreal at first.

Images of the nameless Pandits who fled their homes in the winter of 1990 remained with me. Strangely, the world didn't take notice of the Pandit exodus. The life and plight of the migrants in exile were horrible. People lived in camps (canvas tents) for years. No one cared. The government didle out relief money – a pittance. That was all! Years later, I asked myself a question, 'What am I doing?' I guess there was some torment in me too. Some remnants of memory haunted me. All I did was read books and pine for my homeland endlessly. During the early days of exile, I wrote amateur poetry and short stories. But I was not happy with my writing. I still am not.

Then, one night, I opened a blank document and started typing. It took me weeks to begin. I struggled but I didn't stop. I guess I wanted to narrate a story; an untold story of the exiles. Yet I must admit that I am at best a hobbyist.

Wafa: How much do you resemble Sridar from the novel? And also, what are your plans now as far as writing goes?

Siddhartha: The protagonist of my novel could be the 'other me'. Many people who read my novel commented that they found their small stories in it.

I want to give short fiction a try, but not unless I am convinced that improvements are possible.

Wafa: On a different note, which aspect of JNU did you love the most when you were a student here? Any particular memories that you would like to share?

Siddhartha: Freedom to choose and to do whatever one wants, without shackles and restrictions. It is a world unto itself. Even the most miserable, like me, can survive. Those days one could lead a secret life. I am not sure if this is possible today. The world has changed in the last decade.

Fond memories I will always cherish. I got C minus in a course on Shakespeare because the professor said D plus didn't exist. I got A plus in a course on African Literature because the professor liked the term paper I presented. Pelting stones at Bihar House while protesting the murder of Chandrashekhar, the beloved leader of our student's union! (Real education was protesting against inhumanity.) Another memorable moment was attending Jacques Derrida's lecture in the campus auditorium. Skiing and rafting as part of the mountaineering club activities. Bhang-drenched Holi celebrations.

Wafa: Is there anything in your life which can be dedicated to JNU?

Siddhartha: When I look upon the days I spent in JNU, I feel a sense of nostalgia. JNU proved fruitful in ways more than one. The JNU experience, in particular, shaped my outlook towards life.

Wafa: What message would you like to give to the present JNU student community?

Siddhartha: I don't think I have anything worthwhile to share with JNUites. The last time I was in JNU was when I was packing my bags and preparing to leave. I want to enter the JNU gates and be at the Ganga Dhaba just for a cup of tea and anda-parantha.



Smt. Sheela-II, Safaikaramchari passed away on 7 July, 2011

We extend our condolences to the bereaved family.

Obituary

Photo Gallery



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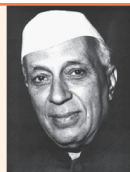
6

1. A delegation from Ministry of Education, Government of the Republic of Mozambique visited JNU on 15 July, 2011, and met Prof. S.K. Sopyro Vice-Chancellor. Photo shows Prof. S.K. Sopyro, interacting with the members of the delegation, also seen in the photograph are Prof. Sudha Pai, Rector, and other officials from JNU and Republic of Mozambique.
2. A delegation headed by Ms. Sue Elliot, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Global Engagement and Prof. Amitabh Mattoo, Director Australia India Institute visited JNU on 2 August, 2011 and met Prof. Sudha Pai, Rector and discussed the academic collaboration. Photo shows (from left) Ms. Sue Elliot, Prof. Sudha Pai, Rector, Prof. S. Christopher Raj, Dean, SIS, and Prof. Zoya Hasan, Dean, SSS.
3. The University organized a felicitation function in the honour of Prof. Balveer Arora, Centre for Political Studies, School of Social Sciences on 12 August, 2011. Prof. Arora has been made a Knight in the Order of the Legion of Honour by the French Republic. Photo shows Prof. Balveer Arora (third from right) addresses to other Officials of the University.
4. Prof. Sudhir Kumar Sopyro, Vice-Chancellor hoisting the National Flag at the Academic Complex during the Independence Day Celebrations.
5. Special Centre for Sanskrit Studies organized Sanskrit Week Celebration programme from 16- 20 August, 2011. Photo shows (from right) Prof. Vaishna Narang, Chairperson; Prof. Sudha Pai, Rector; Prof. Kapil Kapoor and Prof. Uttam K. Pati.
6. Centre for Linguistics, School of Language, Literature & Culture Studies started English Language Program- Monsoon 2011. Photo shows Prof. S.K. Sopyro, Vice-Chancellor giving the inaugural address to the participants on 19 August, 2011, also seen in the photograph are Prof. Vaishna Narang; Prof. Sudha Pai, Rector; Prof. R.N. Menon, Dean, SLL&CS; Prof. H.C. Narang; and Prof. Karmeshu, Dean, SC&SS.



विश्वविद्यालय की विशेषताएँ होती हैं; मानववाद, सहिष्णुता, तर्कशीलता, विचार का साहस और सत्य की खोज। विश्वविद्यालय का काम है उच्चतर आदर्शों की ओर मनुष्य जाति की सतत यात्रा को संभव करना। राष्ट्र और जनता का हित तभी हो सकता है जब विश्वविद्यालय ठीक से अपने दायित्वों का निर्वाह करें।

—जवाहरलाल नेहरू



7. A delegation headed by Dr. Torsten Fischer, Director, DFG India Office and Dr.(Ms.) Ingrid Kruessmann, Director, International Affairs Division, DFG Bonn, visited JNU on 26 August, 2011 and met Prof. S.K. Sopory, Vice-Chancellor, and discussed the academic collaboration. Photo shows (from left) Dr. (Ms.) Ingrid Kruessmann; Dr. Torsten Fischer, Prof. S.K. Sopory; Prof. Sudha Pai, and Dr. S. Chandrasekaran, Coordinator (Ev).
8. Educational Records Research Unit, School of Social Sciences organized the Seventh J.P. Naik Memorial lecture on "Higher Education: Autonomy, Responsibility and Challenges" on 26 August, 2011 delivered by Prof. Mrinal Miri, Chairman, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, Delhi. Photo shows Prof. Mrinal Miri, delivering the lecture.
9. The University organized a felicitation function on 8 August, 2011 for employees of the University who retired between April 2011 and July, 2011. Photo shows University Officials with the retired employees.



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Chairperson: Prof. G.J.V. Prasad, SLL&CS, **Members:** Dr. Devendra Kr. Choubey, CIL/SLL&CS, Dr. Andrew Lynn, SIT, Dr. Rohini Muthuswami, SLS, Ms. Ritu Nidhi, CIS, **Member Secretary:** Poonam S. Kudaisya, PRO
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