

Report on the Workshop on Literary Theories : Approach and Application

The Workshop on *Literary Theories : Approach and Application* was conducted in the Department of English from 16th -18th February 2016. A research work, undertaken by a literary scholar gains credibility, when the analysis of the literary work is based on a relevant conceptual framework. So it is very essential that every scholar possesses a good grasp of these fundamental critical works and theories pertaining to literary works.

Hence this three day workshop a) introduced the important literary and critical theories, b) Guided the participants to employ these theories as effective tools in examining the literary works and c) trained them apply them effectively to their research work. Around fifty research scholars pursuing PhD and MPhil from research departments of at least 10 colleges in and around Trichy participated in this workshop. Subject experts from the university departments and seasoned scholars with critical acumen and expertise conducted the sessions. There were hands on session where the subject experts trained the scholars to apply the theoretical concepts to the literary texts.

The workshop was segmented into four sessions each day for three days. The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. C. Thiruchelvam, Registrar, Bharathidasan University and the keynote address was delivered by Dr. M. Balasubramanian, Professor (Retd), Dept of English, Bharathidasan University. The second session of the first day was handled by Dr. Balasubramanian who first introduced the concept of New Critical reading of a text and did a practical session of parsing a poem .

The afternoon session of the I day was handled by Dr. V. Vinod Kumar, Professor, Dept of English, Bharathidasan University on the theoretical bases of intertextuality and how to explore these concepts in research writing. In the next session Dr. D. Laura Dameris Chellajothi, Assistant Professor from the dept, introduced the basic concepts of structuralism both the Sausurrean School and the Piercian School. It also served as a precursor to the succeeding session on Post Structuralism.

The morning session of Day 2 was handled by Prof. Noel Joseph Irudayaraj, Prof and Head(former),Department of English, Bharathidasan University on the theoretical bases of Post structuralism. He also did a practical session of post structural reading of Robert Frost's poem *Acquainted With the Night* and Wordsworth's *I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud*. The first part of the afternoon session was handled by Dr. Catherine Edward of Holy Cross College on Post Modern concepts and ideas. The second part was an application oriented interactive session with her.

The morning session of Day 3 began well with Dr. Isaac Jebastine's (Head, Dept of English) lecture on Post Colonialism with practical illustrations. The second session of the morning was handled by Dr. Priya, Asst Prof in French, Bharathidasan University in the leading voices of French Feminist Thought. The first session in the afternoon was an interactive session with the participants where they clarified their thoughts and gave their feedback.

The Valediction of the Workshop was conducted at the Department of English where Dr. Isaac Jebastine , Head, Dept of English, Bharathidasan University gave an apt valedictory address and the participants shared their feedback. Finally with the distribution of certificates the curtain fell on the Workshop- Literary Theories : Approach and Application.

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