

Editorial

The gamut of English literature today is a rich treasure trove of multi-hued experiences, cultures and societies. Truly a world literature in its own right, English literature has transcended centre-margin polarities to encompass the literary assertions of First World, Third World and more recently Fourth World societies and cultures.

Literature is a reflection of life. As such contemporary literature is beset with the problems and malaise of modern life, replete with the phenomenon of migration, displacement, dispossession, alienation, fragmentation, stress, depression and neurosis. Characterized by man's quest for self-realization and his/her struggle for assimilation, contemporary English literature is a vast and cosmic expanse of man's need for self-expression.

In the inaugural issue of the *Journal of Teaching and Research in English Literature (JTREL)*, we endeavour to represent a wide-ranging scope of English literature through critical papers on literary works and criticism.

"Great literature cannot grow from a neglected or impoverished soil. Only if we actually tend or care, will it transpire that every hundred years or so we might get a Middlemarch," says P. D. James. Authentic, sensible and logical development of critical thought is an essential element required for preparing the soil for great literature to grow and take shape. This literary journal aims to take concrete steps in this regard. 'Publish or Perish' should become our motto in this literary arena. We must keep ourselves updated not only by reading the texts but also by writing about them critically.

Critical as well as literary endeavour needs to be substantiated by a proper channel of communication that will help to present the inherent ideas and knowledge to the world at large. Literature affects humanity. It can serve its purpose only through proper and accurate dissemination, and that is the ideal which inspires and lightens up our path and efforts. Our quarterly online journal aims to provide a suitable platform for scholars and teachers to interact with the English teaching community and nourish the entire fraternity.

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