

EDITORIAL

We are the true renouncers, because change is our very secret.
We lose in order to find.
-Tagore

Dynamism marks life. Change is the law of life. While dynamism denotes action, 'change' refers to ability to adapt, adopt the right technique and carry on the pursuit. Optimism is the fulcrum on which entire edifice of human endeavour and accomplishment rest resplendently. Birds in sky, fish in water constantly motivate one to keep moving. Splendour of seasons lies in synchronised symphony of shifts.

This festive season augers well as a string of holidays commencing with Dasara festival smoothly moves over to the festival of lights Deepaavali and then starts the eager wait for the arrival of the redeemer in cold winter night amidst warm feelings of love and compassion. Christmas celebrations extend to warmly welcoming the New Year.

All friends familiar with activities of ELTAI know that dynamism is the hallmark of this great organisation of Teachers of English language and literature. It is heartening to note that a good number of active participants made the latest discussions initiated in recent times fruitful, vibrant and inspiring with their enthusiastic and erudite inputs. This issue offers impressive papers contributed by our esteemed friends on a variety of topics, with major focus on works of women writers.

Aarati Sahu and Sujata Rana discuss the love of Margaret Atwood for nature in their paper "Taming of Woman and Nature in Margaret Atwood's *Surfacing* and *The Handmaid's Tale*." Exploitation and needless harm caused by Man's greed inevitably results in his own down fall. Nature and woman are brutalised by insensible acts of man. Eco-feminist views of Atwood are well documented and admirably presented in this paper.

The paper titled "The Plight of the Immigrants in Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni's *Mistress of Spices*" amplifies the peculiar predicament of Indian expatriates. A sense of alienation and loss of identity make them long for bonding as a survival strategy. Nicely made attempt to portray the happenings around as reflected in the works of diaspora writers like Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni.

Abhisek Upadhyay advances an emphatic appeal in his paper "Using Literature for Inter-Cultural Training" to design appropriate literature-based modules to enhance tolerance and inter-cultural comprehension. He elaborates how language, literature and culture are inter-related.

"Unveiling the Feminine Voice in Modern American Drama" by Shraddha Joshi is a very neatly presented paper highlighting the splendid contribution made by two women playwrights in America, Susan Glaspell and Zona Gale. As precursors to the team of energetic women delightfully scripting dramas of abiding charm these days, these two women laid a strong and adequate base in the first part of twentieth century. Refreshingly avoiding cliché ridden expression Shraddha Joshi offers a well-qualified argument.

In “Multiculturalism in Jhumpa Lahari’s *Unaccustomed Earth*” B. Sreekanth Reddy pays attention to the ‘cultural pull’ visible in the lives of expatriates in a multicultural society.

In this issue we carry a paper on a novel of Jhumpa Lahiri, short listed for the Booker prize. Let us wish her best of luck!

Book Reviews are welcome as always. Why not share your views of a book recently published?

May we once again remind you to fortify our efforts with your invaluable feedback, please!

Wishing You All Happy Dasara, Happy Deepavali and Merry Christmas!

Happy Reading!

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