

EDITORIAL

Welcome to another issue of the ELTAI Journal of Teaching and Research in English Literature JTREL

This issue is special owing to many reasons. We offer a series of papers from different domains of creative writing at the same time the focus, by coincidence, has been Indian Writing in English. Dr. V. Rajasekaran and Ms. Jasmine Jose have written on Kamala Das, the rather unconventional woman writer of the late twentieth century. The attempt of the paper is to study how through unconventional and revolutionary methods, Kamala Das establishes her identity in a traditionally hostile society and also to analyze how she celebrates herself. As part of the study they have identified that Kamala Das chose to be an outspoken and irreverent person though at the inner corner enjoying the freedom gained for her 'self' and identity.

Dr. B.Nagamani in the paper "An Eco-Critical Perspective of Jhumpa Lahiri's *The Lowland*" brings out the ingrained vitality that eco-critical perspective can offer to analyze texts. This approach views human beings as members of ecosystem and reassures the fact that man and nature need to be interdependent.

Dr Seeme Mahmood and Ms. Shiny Anthony make an analysis of the novels of Bhabani Bhattacharya, especially the portrayal of women. They are of the opinion that he considers women as a beacon as the life force itself. For them Bhabani Bhattacharya is a promoter of social transformation and human betterment and through his novels he tries to comprehend the problems of contemporary Indian society and brings out an authentic picture of life in the country.

Dr. Anjali Verma in her article, "*The White Tiger: A Postcolonial Perspective*" tries to analyze the nature of underclass, its identity, and causes of its emergence, ways of its subjection and articulation and reaction against it. Dr. Verma is of the opinion that *The White Tiger* is a penetrating piece of social commentary, attuned to the inequalities that persist despite India's new prosperity. It correctly identifies — and deflates — middle-class India's collective euphoria.

Dr. V. Anuradha, in her paper titled "Conflicts and Resolutions in the early novels of Kamala Markandaya", tries to bring out the innate conflict that is present in the works of Kamala Markandaya. According to Dr. Anuradha, Being an expatriate herself, Kamala Markandaya had been successful in bringing to light, the many clashes that tend to occur, when the East and the West meet. The beauty lies in the resolution of those warring forces.

Finally, the paper which is slightly out of the context compared to the earlier ones is that of Dr Anindita Dutta's "How far is Shakespeare relevant to modern times?" The

question is of course quite rhetorical. Ms. Dutta is of the opinion that Shakespeare's plays embody human emotions that haven't changed or have changed very little with time. According to her, Shakespeare may not be our contemporary in the sense of being topical, but he certainly is contemporary to our inner behavioural patterns.

Regards,
Dr. T. R. Muralikrishnan
Associate Professor and Head,
Postgraduate Department of English,
MES Asmabi College,
Kodungalloor, Kerala, India