

**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH, JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA, NEW
DELHI**

**IN COLLABORATION WITH
SOUTH ASIA INSTITUTE, HEIDELBERG UNIVERSITY,
GERMANY**

**ORGANISES MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (MHRD) SPARC
SUPPORTED ONLINE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON**

LANGUAGE IDEOLOGIES AND THE 'VERNACULAR' IN SOUTH ASIAN COLONIAL AND POST-COLONIAL LITERATURE(S) AND PUBLIC SPHERES

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**PATRON: PROF. NAJMA AKHTAR, VICE-
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DELHI**

ORGANISING COMMITTEE:

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DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH, JAMIA MILLIA
ISLAMIA, NEW DELHI**

15TH MARCH 2021- 17TH MARCH 2021

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Day One

Monday, 15 March 2021

10:00 am- 11:30 am: Inaugural Session

10:00 AM–10:05 AM: Welcome Address, **Prof. Nishat Zaidi**, Head of the Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia, Conference Chair

10:05 AM–10:15 AM: Inaugural Address by **Prof. Najma Akhtar**, Honorable Vice-Chancellor, Jamia Millia Islamia

10:15 PM–10:25 PM: Introduction of the Theme of the Conference by **Prof. Hans Harder**, South Asia Institute/ CATS, Heidelberg University, Germany, Conference Co-Chair

10:25 AM–11:25 AM: Inaugural Address by **Prof. G. N. Devy**, Author, Cultural Critic, Public Intellectual and Former Professor of English, MS University of Baroda, on “The Idea of the Vernacular in India- A Historical Overview”

11:25 AM–11:30 AM: Vote of Thanks by **Dr. Saroj K Mahananda**, Associate Professor, Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia, Conference Co-Chair

Moderators: Meenakshi Yadav and Kashish Dua

Rapporteurs: Grace Mariam Raju and Anab Naiyer

SESSION 1: Plenary Address (11:30 AM- 1:00 PM IST)

11:30 AM–12:00 PM: **Prof. Charu Gupta**, Professor, Dept. of History, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Delhi
“A Vernacular Archive of Sex and Sexuality: Personal Annotations” (20 + 10 mins. Q/A)

12:00 PM–12:30 PM: **Dr. Veena Naregal**, Associate Professor, Institute of Economic Growth, University of Delhi
“Territorialising Language, Thinking the Political through Debates around Language 1920-1960” (20 + 10 mins. Q/A)

12:30 PM–1:00 PM: **Prof. Torsten Tschacher**, Professor, Dept. of History and Cultural Studies, Freie Universität, Berlin
“A South Asian Vernacular Public Overseas: Tamil in the Straits Settlements, c. 1870-1942” (20+10 mins. Q/A)
(8:00 AM–8:30 AM CET)

Chair: **Prof. Hans Harder**, South Asia Institute/ CATS, Heidelberg University, Germany

Rapporteurs: Steven S George and Nida Eqbal

1:00 PM–3:00 PM: Lunch Break

SESSION 2: Plenary Address (3:00 PM- 4:20 PM IST)

3:00 PM-3:40 PM: **Prof. Javed Majeed**, Professor of English and Comparative Literature, King's College London

“Beyond hegemonic binaries: English and the ‘vernaculars’ in post-liberalization India”

(09:30 AM–10:10 AM GMT)

3:40 PM-4:20 PM: **Prof. Francesca Orsini**, Professor of Hindi and South Asian Literature, South Asia Section, School of Languages, Cultures and Linguistics, SOAS London

“A multilingual vernacular: Krishna Sobti’s ideas on language”

(10:10 AM–10:50 AM GMT)

Chair: **Prof. Nishat Zaidi**, Head of the Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia

Rapporteurs: Ruchi Nagpal and Mirza Sadaf Fatima

SESSION 3: Paper Presentations (4:20 PM- 5:35 PM IST)

4:20 PM–4:45 PM: **Dr. Layla Mascarenhas**, Former Visiting Faculty at BITS Pilani, K. K. Birla Goa Campus and Former Assistant Professor at V.M. Salgaocar College of Law, Miramar – Panjim, Goa, and **Frederick Noronha**, journalist and alternative publisher of books

“Language Ideologies of a Goan Desk Calendar” (15+10 mins. Q/A)

4:45 PM–5:10 PM: **Meenakshi Yadav**, Ph.D., Centre for English Studies, JNU

“From English to Hinglish to Indic: A Reflection on the Evolution of Digital Folk Video Culture(s) in India and the ‘YouTube Vs. TikTok’ Controversy” (15+10 mins. Q/A)

5:10 PM–5:35 PM: **Arindam Saha**, M.Phil Scholar, Kazi Nazrul University

Asansol, West Bengal, India

“Towards a Republic of Vernacular (World) Letters: On How to Planetarize ‘World’” (15+10 mins. Q/A)

Chair: **Dr. Jurgen Schaflechner**, Freie Universität, Berlin

Rapporteurs: Indrani Das Gupta and Nida Eqbal

5:35 PM-7:00 PM: Tea Break

SESSION 4: Keynote Address (7:00 PM-7:40 PM)

7:00 PM–7:40 PM: **Prof. Sudipta Kaviraj**, Professor of Middle Eastern, South Asian and African Studies, Department of Middle Eastern, South Asian and African Studies, Columbia University

“Lingual estrangement: can we call a language our own?” (30+10 mins. Q/A)

(8:30 AM–9:10 AM EST)

Chair: **Prof. Nishat Zaidi**, Head of the Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia

Prof. Hans Harder, South Asia Institute/ CATS, Heidelberg University, Germany

Rapporteurs: Ann Susan Aleyas and Saneya

Day Two

TUESDAY, 16 March 2021

SESSION 1: Paper Presentations (9:00 AM–10:00 AM IST)

9:00 AM–9:20 AM: **Arifa Banu**, B.A. (Hons.), Dept. of English, JMI, Delhi, and **Zarak Rais**, B.A. (Hons.), Dept. of English, JMI, Delhi

“Bhasha Literatures in Colonial and Post Colonial Context of India” (15+5 mins. Q/A)

9:20 AM–9:40 AM: **Bushra Jabeen**, Ph.D. Scholar, Dept. of Applied Sciences and Humanities, JMI

“The Status of English Language and its Vernacularisation in India?” (15+5 mins. Q/A)

9:40 AM–10:00 AM: **Shreya Sahay**, Master’s Graduate, Dept. of History, DU.

“The Vernacular Discourse of Education in Colonial India and its Impact on Independent India?” (15+5 mins. Q/A)

Chair: **Dr. Suddhaseel Sen**, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT, Bombay, Maharashtra

Rapporteurs: Mehak Burza and Ipshita

SESSION 2: Plenary Address (10:00 AM–11:00 AM IST)

10:00 AM–10:30 AM: **Dr. Anjali Nerlekar**, Associate Professor, South Asian Literature, Rutgers School of Arts and Sciences.

“Territorial Reimaginings in Arun Kolatkar’s Poetry” (20+10 mins. Q/A)

(11:30 PM–12:00 PM EST)

10:30 AM–11:00 AM: **Dr. Baidik Bhattacharya**, Associate Professor, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, Delhi

“The Literary Sovereign: Colonial Histories and the Modern Culture of Letters” (20+10 mins. Q/A)

Chair: **Professor G J V Prasad**, Centre for English Studies School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies Jawaharlal Nehru University

Rapporteurs: Jennifer Monteiro and Nida

SESSION 3: Paper Presentations (11:00 AM-12:15 PM IST)

11:00 AM–11:25 AM: **Dr. Dhruvadi Chattopadhyay**, Assistant Professor, Department of English, SNDTWU, Mumbai

“Telling Lives in Forked Tongues: Reading Shanta Gokhale and Nabaneeta Dev Sen’s autobiographical writings” (15+10 mins. Q/A)

11:25 AM–11:50 PM: **Dr. Tana Trivedi**, Faculty, Amrut Mody School of Management, Ahmedabad University, Gujarat, India

“The Ghostly Vernacular: Language in Indo-Fijian Poetry” (15+10 mins. Q/A)

11:50 AM–12:15 PM: **Abhishek Pundir**, Ph.D. Scholar, Dept. of English, JMI

“Divided Subjectivity, Minor Man and the Postcolonial Nation: A Study of Shekhar: A Life” (15+10 mins. Q/A)

Chair: **Prof. Sumanyu Satpathy**, Professor of Eminence, K. R. Mangalam University; Former

Professor and Head of the Department of English, University of Delhi
Rapporteurs: Sango Bidani and Saneya

SESSION 4: Paper Presentations (12:15 PM- 1:30 PM IST)

12:15 PM–12:40 PM: **Indrani Das Gupta**, Assistant Professor in the Department of English, Maharaja Agrasen College, University of Delhi
“Vernacularizing Science in Colonial Bengal: A Translational Site of ‘Other’ Archives” (15+10 mins. Q/A)

12:40 PM–1:05 PM: **Dr. Bharti Arora**, Faculty, Department of English, Tagore Government Arts and Science College, Pondicherry University
“Making(s) Hindi Modernity and ‘Hindu Science’ in Colonial India: A Reading of Devaki Nandan Khatri’s Chandrakanta” (15+10 mins. Q/A)

1:05 PM–1:30 PM: **Ishita Singh**, Assistant Professor, Department of English at Jesus and Mary College, DU
“Alien Genres: Wonder and Western Science in Colonial Hindi Science-Fiction” (15+10 mins. Q/A)

Chair: **Prof. Angelie Multani**, Department of Humanities & Social Sciences, IIT Delhi
Rapporteurs: Nida and Mirza Sadaf Fatima

1:30 PM-3:00 PM: Lunch Break

SESSION 5: Plenary Address (3:00 PM–4:00 PM IST)

3:00 PM–3:30 PM: **Dr. Margrit Pernau**, Senior Researcher, Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Center for the History of Emotions, Berlin
“Jazbat and Josh. The transformation of Urdu journalism around the First World War” (20+10 mins. Q/A)
(10:30 AM–11:00 AM CET)

3:30 PM–4:00 PM: **Dr. Arian Hopf**, Lecturer, South Asia Institute, Heidelberg
“Urdu Language Ideologies and Pakistani Identity” (20+10 mins. Q/A)
(11:00 AM–11:30 AM CET)

Chair: **Professor Mohd. Asaduddin**, Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia
Rapporteurs: Zahra Rizvi and Jubi C John

SESSION 6: Paper Presentations (4:00 PM-5:15 PM IST)

4:00 PM–4:25 PM: **Surajkumar Thube**, D.Phil. Scholar, Faculty of History, University of Oxford
“Confronting the ‘high’ vernacular: Non-Brahmin writings and the question of aesthetics and social exclusion in early 20th century Western India” (15+10 mins. Q/A)
(10:30 AM–10:55 AM GMT)

4:25 PM–4:50 PM: **Vandana Lal**, Ph.D. Scholar, Dept. of English, DU
“Re-reading Dalit Writings in Translations: Understanding the Nexus between English Language and Dalit Empowerment” (15+10 mins. Q/A)

4:50 PM–5:15 PM: **Aalim Akhtar**, M.Phil., Center for English Studies, JNU
“White Lady Translators and the Vernacular Experience” (15+10 mins. Q/A)

Chair: **Dr. S K Mahananda**, Associate Professor, Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia
Rapporteurs: Steven S George and Bhawna Shrey

5:15 pm-5:30 pm: Tea Break

SESSION 7: Plenary Address (5:30 PM–6:00 PM IST)

5:30 PM–6:00 PM: **Prof. Ruth Vanita**, Professor of English and Co-director, South & South-East Asian Studies, College of Humanities and Sciences, University of Montana
“How Reverse Translation Alters the Meaning of Philosophical Concepts” (20+10 mins. Q/A)

Chair: **Prof. Harish Trivedi**, Former Professor, Department of English, University of Delhi
Rapporteurs: Bhawna Shrey and Sakshi Dogra

6:00 pm-7:00 pm: Tea Break

SESSION 8: Plenary Address (7:00 PM–8:00 PM IST)

7:00 PM–7:30 PM: **Dr. Preetha Mani**, Assistant Professor, South Asian Literatures, Rutgers School of Arts and Sciences
“New Voices, New Language: The Spoken Language Poetics of Tamil New Poetry” (20+10 mins. Q/A)
(8:30 AM–9:00 AM EST)

7:30 PM–8:00 PM: **Dr. Snehal Shingavi**, Associate Professor, Department of English, Comparative Literature, South Asia Institute, Center for Asian American Studies, University of Texas, Austin
“Should Hindi count as a “bhasha” language when it pretends that Urdu does not exist?” (20+10 mins. Q/A)
(8:00 AM–8:30 AM CST)

Chair: **Prof. Torsten Tschacher**, Professor, Dept. of History and Cultural Studies, Freie Universität, Berlin
Rapporteurs: Shraddha A Singh and Abhishek Pundir

Day Three

WEDNESDAY, 17 MARCH 2021

SESSION 1: Paper Presentations (9:30 AM-10:15 AM IST)

9:30 AM–9:55 AM: **Dr. Swatie**, Assistant Professor, LSR, DU
“Trauma and the Vernacular: Saadat Hasan Manto’s Language Games” (15+10 mins. Q/A)

9:55 AM–10:20 AM: **Nandini Kalita**, PhD Scholar and Teaching Assistant (Literature), Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at IIT, Delhi
“Becoming Assamese: Language, Identity and Anxiety” (15+10 mins. Q/A)

10:20-10:45 AM: **Shrikanth BR**, Ph.D. Scholar, Dept. of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Bombay, Maharashtra

“Revisiting a construct, reinventing a cosmos” (15+10 mins. Q/A)

Chair: **Dr. Anuradha Ghosh**, Professor, Dept. of English, Jamia Millia Islamia

Rapporteurs: Ruchi Nagpal and Aditi Das Khan

SESSION 2: Plenary Address (10:45 AM–11:15 AM IST)

10:45 AM–11:15 AM: **Dr. Neilesh Bose**, Associate Professor and Canada Research Chair, Department of History, University of Victoria

“Vernaculars across Texts: Modern Islam and Modern Literature in Bengal” (20+10 mins. Q/A)
(9:15 PM–9:45 PM PST)

Chair: **Prof. Nishat Zaidi**, Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia

Rapporteurs: Nabanita Deka and Faizaan

11:15 AM-11:30 AM: Tea Break

SESSION 3: Paper Presentations (11:30 AM-1:10 PM IST)

11:30 AM–11:55 AM: **Dr. Suddhaseel Sen**, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Bombay, Maharashtra

“The Location of Theory: Postcolonialism in North America and India” (15+10 mins. Q/A)

11:55 AM–12:20 PM: **Grace Mariam Raju**, Ph.D. Scholar, Dept. of English, JMI, and **Rajitha P. Venugopal**, Ph.D. Scholar, Dept. of English, JMI

“Panning the Local and the Global in Vernacular: Contemporary Trends in Select Malayalam Fiction” (15+10 mins. Q/A)

12:20 PM–12:45 PM: **Rameesa PM**, Ph.D. scholar, Department of English, University of Hyderabad

“Vernacular Languages and the Construction of Diasporic Identities: A Study of select Indian Diasporic Narratives” (15+10 mins. Q/A)

12:45 PM–1:10 PM: **Dr. Sabiha Hashami**, Faculty, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Goa.

“Vernacular of Bihar and Bihari Identity: Colonial Contexts and Present Times” (15+10 mins. Q/A)

Chair: **Prof. Saugata Bhaduri**, Centre for English Studies, JNU

Rapporteurs: Jubi C John and Zahra Rizvi

1:10 PM-3:00 PM: Lunch Break

SESSION 4: Paper Presentations (3:00 PM–4:15 PM IST)

3:00 PM–3:25 PM: **Prof. Nishat Haider**, Professor, Dept. of English, Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI)

“Reconfiguring the Vernacular, Language Ideologies and Identity: A Study of Fahmida Riaz’s Tum Kabir” (15+10 mins. Q/A)

3:25 PM- 3:50 PM: **Maryam Sikander**, Ph.D. Scholar, Department of South Asia, SOAS University of London

“The Vernacular Press Act (1878) and the “Native” Response” (15+10 mins. Q/A)
(9:55 AM–10:20 AM GMT)

3:50 PM-4:15 PM: **Meenakshi Yadav**, Ph.D. Scholar, Dept. of English, JMI
“The Standardisation and Vernacularisation of Hindi” (15+10 mins. Q/A)

Chair: **Dr. Aakriti Madhwani**, Assistant Professor, Department of English, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Shiv Nadar University

Rapporteurs: Sango Bidani and Nabanita Deka

4:15 PM-5:00 PM: Tea Break

SESSION 5: Plenary Address (5:00 PM–6:00 PM IST)

5:00 PM–5:30 PM: **Dr. Ravi Kant**, Associate Professor, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, Delhi

“‘Koi sarhad na inhein roke’: Language flows beyond ideological boundaries” (20+10 mins. Q/A)

5:30 PM–6:00 PM: **Gautam Liu**, Lecturer of Hindi, University of Heidelberg, Germany
“In Defense of the Premasagar. Re-evaluating the Narrative of the Hindi-Urdu Split” (20+10 mins. Q/A)
(1:00 PM–1:30 PM CET)

Chair: **Prof. Rita Kothari**, Professor of English, Ashoka University

Rapporteurs: Asra and Ann Susan Aleyas

6:00 PM-7:30 PM: Tea Break

SESSION 6: Valedictory Address (7:30 PM–8:25 PM IST)

7:30 PM–8:25 PM: **Prof. Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak**, University Professor, Department of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University, and Founding Member of the Institute for Comparative Literature and Society

"Who wants to learn languages?" (40 + 15 mins. Q/A)
(9:00 AM–9:55 AM EST)

Chairs: **Prof. Nishat Zaidi**, Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia

and **Prof. Hans Harder**, South Asia Institute/ CATS, Heidelberg University, Germany

Rapporteurs: Grace Mariam Raju and Abhishek Pundir

8:25 PM–8:35 PM: **Vote of Thanks** by **Meenakshi Yadav** and **Kashish Dua**

Patron

Prof. Najma Akhtar, Honourable Vice-Chancellor, Jamia Millia Islamia

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Conference Organising Committee

Prof. Nishat Zaidi, Head of the Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia

Prof. Hans Harder, South Asia Institute/ CATS, Heidelberg University, Germany

Dr. Saroj K Mahananda, Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia

Dr. Jurgen Schaflechner, Freie Universität, Berlin

Ms. Meenakshi Yadav, Research Scholar, Jamia Millia Islamia

Ms. Kashish Dua, Research Scholar, Jamia Millia Islamia