

Aryabhatta College

Department of English

(Annual Report for the Academic session 2021 to 2022)

- **Name of Teacher in Charge: Binoy Bhushan Agarwal**

- **Brief details of Faculty members:**

Binoy Bhushan Agarwal is an Assistant Professor of English at Aryabhatta College, University of Delhi. With research interests in the history of gender, travel and colonial India, he has been a two time recipient of the Charles Wallace India Trust Research Grant (2013 & 2018). He has also been the Senior Judge since 2018 for the Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition, the world's oldest schools' international writing competition under the aegis of The Royal Commonwealth Society since 1883. Mr. Agarwal has published papers and presented his research on popular culture and cultural transactions in colonial India at various international conferences and workshops in UK, USA & Europe. He is also the co-editor of *Sasian Journey*, a two volume book on South Asia.

- Student Strength:

First Year	Second Year	Third Year
59	55	45

- **Details of publication work by the faculty members:**

Professor B. Mangalam

- Book titled Ilango Adigal's Silappadhikaram, published by Worldview Publications, Delhi. 2021.
- Paper titled "Mapping the Politics of a Poet vs Poetry on the Politics of Caste: A Reading of Milton and Ambedkar" published in Ad Litteram, Vol. 5, pp.25- 35. 2020.
- Paper titled "Violence Against Marginalised Women: Literary Representation in Tamil" published in The Creative Launcher, Vol. 5 (5), pp.1-7. 2020.
- Paper titled "Narratives from the Margins: A Reading of Tamil Dalit Literature" published in The Criterion, Vol. 12 (1), pp.122-131. 2021.
- Paper titled "Negotiating Literary Translations: Translations as Mapping Empowerment through Dissemination" published in The Creative Launcher, Vol. 5 (6), pp.38-45. 2021.
- Paper titled "Performative Interventions in Tamil: A Reading of Dalit and Feminist Theatre" published in Theatre Street Journal, Vol. 5 (1), pp. 59-73. 27th March, 2021
- Paper titled "V.S. Naipaul's Exploration of India: A Reading of Land, People and the Self" published in The Creative Launcher, Vol. 6 (1), pp.49-63. 2021.

- Paper titled “The Shrew in Shakespeare: A Feminist Perspective” published in The Criterion, Vol. 12 (2), pp.192-212. 2021.
- Chapter titled “Negotiating Disability in/and Translation: A Reading of Two Tamil Short Stories” published in Disability in Translation: The Indian Experience (South Asia Edition). New York, Routledge, pp.146-158. 2020.
- Chapter titled “Dalit Writing in Tamil: Early Voices, Missing Links and Contemporary Contexts” published by Pencraft International, Delhi, pp.153- 165. 2021.
- Chapter titled “Negotiating Gender Hierarchies: Mothers in the plays of Mahesh Dattani” published by Worldview Publications, Delhi, pp. 164- 181. 2021. • Delivered a lecture on “17th Century England and John Milton” as part of the first Foundational Lecture Series at Janki Devi Memorial College, University of Delhi on the 7th November, 2020.

Sh. Binoy Bushan Agarwal

- Paper titled “How to Stop Violence against Women” published in Vichar Manthan: An Anthology of Selected Articles in October, 2020. (ISBN: 9798693881938)
- Authored study material on William Congreve’s The Way of the World for School of Open Learning, University of Delhi. December, 2020.
- Authored study material on William Faulkner’s “Dry September” for School of Open Learning. October, 2020.

Participation of faculty members in seminars/workshops ,etc

• **Dr. Kamayani Kumar**

- Presented a paper titled, "Broken Columns-Trauma in the Paintings of Frida Kahlo" at the 5th Interdisciplinary National Conference on ‘Representation of Disability in Literature and Cinema’ organised by the Department of English, Maharaja Agrasen College, 15-20th June, 2020.
- Delivered a lecture on “Race Women and Marriage as an Institution in the Writings of Bessie Head” as part of the online lecture series organized by the Department of English, Barabazar Bikram Tudu Memorial College, Purulia, WB, India on 14th May, 2020.
- Completed a two-week refresher course on ‘Managing Online Classes and CoCreating MOOCS 4.0’, conducted by Teaching Learning Center Ramanujan College, University of Delhi, 11-26th March, 2021.
- Participated in a week-long Faculty Development Program on ‘Academic Writing’, organized by Teaching Learning Center Ramanujan College, University of Delhi, 18-24th February, 2021.

Binoy Bhushan Agarwal

- Presented a paper titled “On Sea: British Women Seafarers” at the 2021 ‘Virtual Dissertation Workshop:Research Redesign in the Covid Context’, jointly organized by Indiana University East

Asian Studies Center and University of Illinois Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies, USA, 24-25th February, 2021.

- Presented a paper titled “Of Intimate Lives and A Tense State: The Phenomenon of 'Going Native' in Indian Port Cities” at the ‘Workshop on Indian Ocean Port Cities and Their Hinterlands’, an international workshop at the Centre for Global Asia, New York University, Shanghai, China, 23-24th October, 2020.
- Returning Senior Judge for The Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition, 2020 held under the aegis of The Royal Commonwealth Society, London.
- Completed a two-week online refresher course in English conducted by UGC- HRDC, University of North Bengal. 12- 25th February, 2021.
- Completed a week-long online workshop on ‘E-Content Development & Online Pedagogy’, conducted by UGC-HRDC, University of Hyderabad. 18-23rd January, 2021.
- Completed a week-long online workshop on ‘Research Methodology (RM2)’, conducted by CPDHE, University of Delhi. 06-12th January, 2021.
- Completed TEQIP-III sponsored fiveday Short Term Course (STC) on ‘Gender Equality and Violence against Women during COVID-19 (GEVW2020)’, organized by Women Cell, NIT Jalandhar. Online, 09-13th October, 2020.
- Participated in a three-day international webinar on ‘Postcolonial Negotiations: History, Literature and Culture’, organized by Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University, West Bengal, and BBTM College, Purulia, 3-5 th June, 2020.
- Participated in a workshop on ‘Documentation’ for NAAC-SSR under ‘Paramarsh’, UGC project organised by Kamala Nehru College on 22nd July, 2020.
- Participated in an online session on ‘Understanding the NAAC Accreditation Process’ as per the latest NAAC guidelines under ‘Paramarsh’, a UGC Project organized by Kamla Nehru College on 15th July, 2020

- **Dr. Madhulika Nirmal,**

- Deputy Coordinator for Add-on Course titled ‘French Language Beginners Level Certificate Course’, Level A 1.1 & 1.2 (108 hours), conducted by Aryabhata College in collaboration with Alliance Française de Delhi.
- Deputy Coordinator for Course titled ‘English Proficiency: Language and Communication’ (60 hours), conducted by Aryabhata College in collaboration with Langma School of Languages,

Ms. Roshni

- Presented a paper titled “The Politics of Choice: From Yajnaseni to Deeya Panchal” at the international econference on ‘Environment, Literature & Culture’ organized by Higher Education & Research Society, Mumbai, 11-12th September, 2020.
- Participated in UGC-sponsored online refresher course in English Literature & Language organized by UGC- HRDC, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, 26 Nov10 Dec, 2020.

Ms. Shrimi Gupta

- Presented a paper titled "Exploring Vulnerability, Agency and Resistance visà-vis the Hijra Community" at an international conference on 'Vulnerability' organized by the English Graduate Student Organisation (EGSO) at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York on 17th April, 2021.

5. Achievement of Students including their participation in various societies

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| • Archisa Mohanty | • Rangmanch |
| • Nandini Sharma | • Rangmanch |
| • Dhananjay Pathak | • Rangmanch |

6. Co-curricular Programmes conducted by the Department

English Literary Society

The Department of English had a bustling year with an extensive Special Lecture Series, followed by the annual Departmental Festival, Calypso. Special Lecture Series Seminar-in-Charge: Sh. Binoy Bhushan Agarwal The Denmark-based Prof. Tabish Khair delivered a scintillating talk on 'Why Literature Matters?' on 20th May, 2020. The webinar witnessed more than 100 participants which speaks of the success of the talk. This was followed by the translator, poet and author, Dr. Saba Mahmood Bashir's talk on 'Negotiating Elements of Untranslatability: Searching for Equivalence' held on 25th June 2020. In the third special lecture held on 29th June 2020, Dr. Vandana Saxena, Taylor's University, Malaysia, delivered a talk on Harry Potter and young adult fiction. Her presentation was titled 'Fantasy and Adolescence'. Both these talks were very well received by the participants as the fruitful discussions and comments revealed. 38 International Webinar & Departmental Festival, Calypso (26th -27th February, 2021) Seminar-in-Charge: Sh. Binoy Bhushan Agarwal The event saw a huge participation in different games and events despite most of it being in the online mode. Day 1 of Calypso also coincided with the first day of the International Webinar on the theme of 'Forms of Telling: Narrativity, Myth and Literature'. Dr. Giti Chandra, author of The Book of Guardians trilogy, delivered the keynote lecture titled "Real Bodies, Unreal Tales: Violence, Agency and Literature. Day 2 of the Webinar began with Aruni Kashyap,

author and translator whose talk was titled 'Skylark Girl: Myth and Orality in Narratives from Northeast'. Joining him on the panel dedicated to representation of/from diverse landscapes was Mihir Vatsa, author of Painting that Red Circle White. Mihir spoke on 'Landscape and Literature: Representing the Chota Nagpur Plateau through Poetry'. Vineetha Mokkal, the writer of A Happy Place and Other Stories spoke on 'Writing about the Apocalypse'. Abhija Ghosh, a film scholar from JNU delivered a fascinating talk on 'Retelling in Cinema and Media: Old and New genres'. Finally, Prof. Meenakshi F Paul, the Principal, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla, talked of myths and storytelling in general and Himachal folklore in particular. Prof. Paul held the audience enthralled with her talk titled 'Narrating Folktales: Crafting Retellings'. With most of them being practitioners of both creative and noncreative fiction, the invited speakers brought their sharp intellect and brilliant understanding of the craft of storytelling and narrativity to the webinar.

7. Library Budget sanctioned for the Department;

1,10000/-

8. (Strength ,Weakness , Opportunities, Challenges) SWOC Analysis of the Department

Strength

- 1.Coped well with shift to online teaching, Teachers participated in FDP on ICT
2. Teachers reached out to students to counsel and support during the covid crisis
3. Talks and workshops held in online mode

Weakness

- 1.No Physical interaction with students, in particular fresh admissions
2. Language Lab and Journal yet to concretise

OPPORTUNITIES

- 1.Mentoring students on Creative writing, Academic Writing
2. Platforms made available for students for international academic exposure regarding internship, Student Exchange Programme for our Dept. Students
3. Short-term research Projects for students suggested, mentored

Challenges

Pandemic related issues.

9. Future Plans of the Department

Proposal for MA classes has been prepared for submission.

Proposal for student research paper series invited.

Proposal for peer reviewed journal is being drafted.