

for its historical monuments like Thousand pillar temple, Warangal fort, Ramappa temple that are marvels of architecture, that no one likes to miss. The people of Warangal are peace loving, courteous and are known for their hospitality. The weather of Warangal during the seminar period will be pleasant with a temperature of 25-30°C. Light clothing would be sufficient.

ABOUT KAKATIYA UNIVERSITY

The University was established in the year 1976, to fulfill the aspirations of the Telangana people for higher education. Kakatiya University is located in the historical city of Warangal, the erstwhile seat of the Kakatiya Dynasty, with a sprawling campus of about 650 acres. The University has been rendering excellent service in the fields of Arts, Science, Commerce & Business Management, Pharmacy, Social Science, Law, Education & Engineering. In 2018, the University was placed in NIRF ranking. The University is re-accredited with 'A' grade by the NAAC, is an important milestone in its history.

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

The Department of English is one of the first four departments started in 1967. The Department has been in the forefront in teaching, research and extension activities. It has been bringing out *Kakatiya Journal of English Studies*, a research journal of repute annually since 1976. The research work of the Department is being utilized as reference work by scholars. The publications of the staff have often been cited by other critics. The teachers of the Department have undertaken assignments of leading publishers such as CUP, Macmillan and Orient Blackswan.. The faculty members are actively involved in serious research on thrust areas like *Post-Colonial Literatures*,

Indian Writing in English, English Language Teaching, British Literature, Translation Studies, Women Studies, Literary Criticism, Comparative Literature and American Literature.

GUIDELINES FOR RESEARCH PAPERS:

The research papers has to be in MS Word, typed in Times New Roman, 12 font for text and 14 font for titles with double spacing. The participants may send their abstracts in about 500 words. Abstracts will be accepted only in soft copy through email id:

deepa.jyothi91@gmail.com

IMPORTANT DATES:

Submission of Abstracts: March 02, 2019
Acceptance will be conveyed by March 11, 2019
Submission of Full Papers by March 15, 2019

Note: Paper presenters may arrange for their own TA and DA. However, local hospitality will be extended to all the participants.

REGISTRATION PARTICULARS:

Faculty : Rs 1500/-
Research Scholars : Rs 800/-

Note: TA and DA will be paid to invited speakers; paper presenters may arrange for their own TA and DA. However, local hospitality will be extended to all the participants.

Dr B. Deepa Jyothi
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DIRECTOR OF THE SEMINAR
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Two - Day National Seminar
on

PRISON WRITING IN INDIA: SUPPRESSING DISSENT AND GENERATING CONSENT

27-28, March, 2019

Sponsored by
University Grants Commission



Accredited with 'A' grade by NAAC

Organised by

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
KAKATIYA UNIVERSITY
Warangal 506009 Telangana India

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THEME OF THE SEMINAR

Daniel Defoe, Oscar Wilde, Fyodor Dostoevsky, Anton Chekov, Leo Tolstoy, Victor Hugo, and several others produced their classics in prisons. India too has produced significant prison writing. Prison, writes, David Arnold, is the birth place of some of India's most celebrated autobiographies." Anti-colonial activists, human rights activists, civilians, Naxalits, terrorists of different hue, white collared offenders, and others, who are considered 'dangerous' to society are arrested, charged, tried with conspiracy, rioting, possession of arms, and are incarcerated in jails. Separated from activism, family, friends and the world at large, the prisoners live a new life in the isolated spaces as felons, inmates, convicts, offenders, under trials. In their unforeseen new avatar as prisoners, they get a chance to understand the State, better through inmates and the prison administration than from those they had earlier lived with. Having a scope for thinking differently about life and the State, some of the prisoners, though not trained or professional writers, narrate their lives in prisons giving a new understanding of the State and the power from new perspectives. The narratives vindicate that incarceration cannot bind one's imagination and conscience: 'no jail can cuff one's thoughts or imagination.' Though there have been journalistic reporting of prison life, prisoners' own account of their incarcerated lives throws new light on life in general. Through their shocking stories, they indict the arbitrariness emanating from the Power-State nexus, organs of the State, including the judiciary and media, which are found wanting. The narratives show how the prison transforms into a metaphor for the curtailments of freedom within and outside the prison. The post-colonial prison writing, unlike the colonial prison writing which gives stereotyped impressions of the author, represents people unrepresented

in history by chronicling life in prison. Be it polemical or creative writing, the post-colonial prison writing portrays the prison being used as an ideological instrument for suppressing dissent or generating consent. Prison accounts of the anti-colonial struggles, the communist uprising immediately following Independence, the National Emergency, the underground Left in the recent past, subscribing themselves to varying ideologies, produced remarkable autobiographies, memoirs, letters, poems, stories, challenging the State. Prison writing may be said to have grown from a sub-genre of autobiography, memoirs a genre in itself. It is gradually growing to be a regular subject of teaching and research in the western universities, and is yet to take off in India.

Therefore, the Department of English, Kakatiya University, proposes to hold a national seminar on 'Prison Writing in India: Suppressing Dissent and Generating Consent.' Papers are invited on the theme. The paper writers may also consider presentation on the following sub - themes:

- Isolated spaces
- Prison memoirs
- Corruption in prisons
- Medical treatment in prisons
- Understanding the realities of imprisonment today
- Prisoners' trust with the inmates
- Jail culture, rules and regulations
- Court dates and unnerving process
- Strange relationship with the inmates: fights and reconciliation
- The absurdity of jail life as a learning experience.
- Do prisoners remember and write differently?
- How can this difference be historically located?

- How do prisoners articulate gender, caste, class and religion?
- How do prisoners re-construct their selves?
- How do they recount the withdrawal of the self from the family and the public domain?
- How do they create new spaces for themselves?
- What do these narratives reveal about the State?
- The State an instrument of exploitation
- Poetry and politics in prison
- Colonial prison in India
- Self-perceptions of Middle Class Prisoners
- Prison Writing as a Sub-Genre
- Jail Diaries
- Polemical Narratives of Prison Life
- Prison in Indian Novels, Plays, Poetry
- Prison and Autobiography
- Nationalist Autobiographies and Prison
- Prison writing as counter narrative
- Prison as an ideological instrument for suppressing dissent, or generating consent
- Prison writing as a marginalised genre
- The widening space between the State and civil society

ABOUT WARANGAL

Warangal (historically known as Orugallu) is a historical city the capital of erstwhile Kakatiya dynasty that ruled this region from 12th to 14th century. It is about 140 km away from Hyderabad, well connected by rail and road from all major cities. It is a beautiful place of rich flora, wild life and lakes and with ethnic tribes spreading all over the district. Warangal is the heart of Telangana culture and considered as hub for renaissance of literary, cultural and social activities. Warangal is known