



**Gour
Mahavidyalaya**

DEPARTMENTAL NEWSLETTER



**DEPARTMENT
OF ENGLISH**

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Gour Mahavidyalaya

Department of English Newsletter



ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

The Department of English started its journey with the college in 1985 and today it has morphed into one of the most sought after centres for students wanting to study English literature in the district. At present the Department has three Assistant Professors and two Govt. approved SACT Teachers. It has one Smart Class Room with audio-visual facilities, one Language Lab for English Language Teaching, one well furnished office room etc. We are aware that most of our students come from the rural areas and we are committed to help them nurture their critical appreciation of literary and cultural issues and guide their intellectual journey

OUR VISION

- Empower rural, first/second generation learners.
- Develop English skills for academic and career success.
- Foster a love for literature and critical thinking.
- Build soft skills, creativity, and research abilities.
- Promote social awareness and values of cooperation.

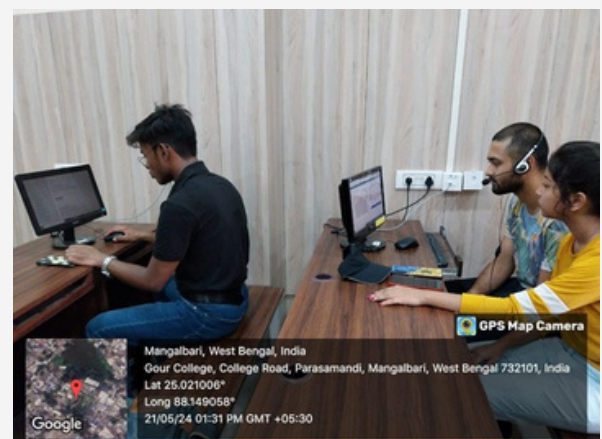


FACILITIES

- **Well-equipped Language Lab for English teaching.**
- **Mentor-Mentee Program for academic and professional growth.**
- **Two academic centres:**
 - **Abid Ali Khan Centre for Digital Archive and Cultural Translation.**
 - **Ambedkar Centre for Social and Cultural Studies.**
- **Creative development through clubs: Reading, Film, Debate, E-Magazine, Student Seminars, and Outreach Program.**
- **Course manuals and study materials provided.**
- **Well-stocked Departmental Library.**
- **Support for slow learners.**
- **Focus on nurturing research skills.**

DEPARTMENTAL RULES

- **75% attendance is Mandatory. Return borrowed items before collecting admit card.**
- **Participate in departmental events.**
- **Attend class tests and pre tests.**
- **Inform HOD if absent for 7+ days. Maintain a respectful academic environment.**
- **Dispose water properly. Turn off the fan and light before leaving.**



Students' Activity

pt. 1

Reading Session:

THE OLD MAN AND THE SEA

On January 4th, 2025, first-semester students at Gour Mahavidyalaya organized a reading session on *The Old Man and the Sea*. The event included readings and discussions on the novel's themes of struggle and resilience, offering students a deeper understanding of the classic work.



REPRESENTING WEST BENGAL

Sudesna Das, a student from 3rd Semester from the Department of English, Gour Mahavidyalaya, represented West Bengal as an NSS volunteer at National Youth Festival held in Nashik, Maharashtra.

- ▶ *The Magazine Club and Beautification Team showcased their creativity by transforming the department walls into vibrant works of art. Using a blend of innovative designs, colorful visuals, and inspirational quotes, the team brought energy and personality to the space. The wall decorations not only added aesthetic value but also created an inspiring environment for students and faculty alike. This creative initiative highlighted the artistic talents and collaborative spirit of the team, enhancing the overall atmosphere of the department.*



Students' Activities

pt.2



On 11th January, the Debate Club members of the 1st semester organized a stimulating debate on the topic, "**Freedom of Speech Can't Be Absolute.**" The event sparked engaging discussions, allowing students to explore and critically examine the boundaries of free speech. Through various arguments and counterpoints, participants delved into the complexities of the issue, considering its impact on society, legal limitations, and ethical concerns. The debate provided a valuable platform for students to reflect on this important topic, encouraging critical thinking and fostering intellectual dialogue.

ANKUR: THE SEEDLING

The 1st semester students of the Cine Club recently organized a screening of the classic film **Ankur - The Seedling**, a renowned work directed by Shyam Benegal. The film, set in rural India, explores complex themes such as social issues, caste discrimination, and gender inequality, offering a deep and critical look at Indian society during the post-independence era. After the screening, the attendees engaged in thoughtful and insightful discussions, reflecting on the relevance of these issues in both historical and contemporary contexts. Many appreciated how the film portrayed the struggles of marginalized individuals in a way that was both sensitive and impactful. The event served as an excellent opportunity for students to engage with important social topics through the lens of cinema, which has the power to provoke thought and spark conversation. Overall, the screening was a meaningful and enriching experience that was highly praised by all who attended, contributing to the cultural and intellectual vibrancy of the campus.



Students' Activities

pt.3



DEPARTMENTAL EXHIBITION

The English Department recently hosted a dynamic exhibition, featuring an eclectic array of items. The event included an impressive collection of books, intricate jewellery, and a variety of delectable food offerings, all contributing to a vibrant atmosphere. This exhibition served as a platform for students to showcase their creativity, blending literary interests with artistic and culinary talents. The event not only highlighted the diverse skills within the department but also provided a memorable experience for all attendees.



Aditya Chowdhury, a 1st-semester student, recently launched his debut book at the Malda Book Fair. The young author's work, focusing on themes of growth and perseverance, has received positive attention from readers. His participation in the fair highlights the rising presence of student writers in the literary world, marking a promising start to his writing career.



Students' Activities

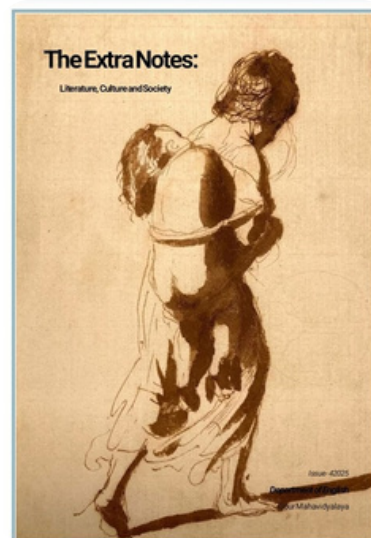
pt.4



On 8th January, students from the 3rd and 5th semesters hosted a successful seminar featuring a range of insightful presentations. The event began with a keynote address by Sri Dibybibha Roy, Assistant Professor at Malda Women's College, followed by student papers on topics such as the Victorian era, modernity, societal expectations, and women's struggles.



On January 11th, the Photography Club of the 1st semester organized a photography contest centered around the theme **"Life in Winter."**

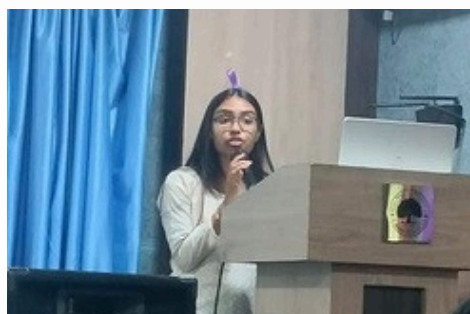


Digital Magazine of the Department of English
"The Extra Notes"

Students' Activity

pt.5

Pradipta Mandal, A senior student is mentoring juniors, providing guidance on coursework and navigating college life. This peer mentorship initiative has created a supportive learning environment, helping juniors succeed while strengthening connections within the college community. It's an inspiring example of collaboration and support among students.



Sudipta Paul, a 5th-semester student of Gour Mahavidyalaya, represented the college at a student seminar. Her well-prepared presentation impressed attendees, reflecting the academic excellence of the institution and earning recognition for her research and communication skills.

Sudipta Paul, a 6th-semester student of Gour Mahavidyalaya, generously donated a collection of books to the departmental library. Her contribution aims to enrich the academic resources available to fellow students, fostering a culture of knowledge-sharing and enhancing the learning environment for all.



Debpriyo Dutta, a 1st-semester student of Gour Mahavidyalaya, recently showcased his folk instrument skills in Bangladesh. His performance received widespread appreciation, highlighting his exceptional talent and representing the college on an international stage. This achievement underscores the cultural richness and artistic abilities nurtured at the institution.

Students' Activity

pt.6

Romantic Poetry

SPECIAL CLASS: EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

5th semester students explored Romantic poetry during a garden visit, surrounded by serene natural beauty. They discussed works by Wordsworth and Keats, reflecting on themes of nature and imagination. The session ended with students composing verses inspired by the setting, enhancing their creativity and understanding of Romanticism.



EDUCATIONAL EXCURSION

The 5th-semester students recently embarked on an exciting educational excursion to North East India. The trip offered an enriching blend of learning and exploration, as students discovered the region's unique cultural heritage, natural beauty, and biodiversity. Key highlights included visits to historical landmarks, interaction with local communities, and immersive activities in picturesque landscapes. The experience broadened their horizons and left lasting memories of North East India's vibrant charm.

- ▶ The students of English Department visited Dakshin Bhadra, the college's adopted village, as part of the NSS initiative. Guided by faculty and NSS coordinators, the students conducted a door-to-door survey to understand the community's needs in areas like education, health, sanitation, and government schemes. The visit offered students valuable insights into rural life and a chance to contribute to social development. A community meeting concluded the day, with initial findings and plans for future actions discussed.



Outreach Program



Outreach Program:

- River Bed Cleaning: Students took part in cleaning the Mahananda River bed in the Mangalbari region, removing waste and raising awareness about environmental preservation.

- Sanitation Drive: A sanitation drive was organized in the local neighbourhood, where students swept streets and applied bleaching powder to enhance cleanliness and hygiene.

- Education Kit Distribution: Students distributed education kits, including notebooks and stationery, to underprivileged children in the community to support their learning needs.

- Health Literacy Drive: A health literacy drive was conducted, providing residents with essential information on hygiene, disease prevention, and overall health maintenance.



STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENTS

»»» MIRZA NAZMIN

A student from the 6th Semester, Department of English, secured the 1st position as a speaker in the Youth Parliament Competition. Competing against a pool of outstanding young speakers, Mirza Nazmin stood out with eloquence, passion, and a well-researched approach



»»» POULAMI NANDI

A student from the 1st semester, Department of English, was awarded the 3rd prize in the photography competition that was held by English Department



»»» PRATHAM PANDEY

A student from the 5th semester, Department of English, was awarded the 2nd prize in the inter college debate competition



»»» SNEHA MANDAL

A student from the 3rd semester, Department of English, was awarded the 1st prize in the Classical Dancing competition held during Students' Week.



»»» BHAGYASREE ROY

A student from the 3rd semester, Department of English, was awarded the 1st prize in the drawing competition held during Students' Week.



»»» ENAKSHI SAHA

A student from the 1st semester, Department of English, was awarded the 2nd prize in the folk Dancing competition held during Students' Week.



»»» PUBAYAN KARMAKAR

A student from the 6th semester, Department of English, was awarded the Best Secretary in the Youth Parliament Competition

TEACHERS' PROFILE



DR. MD MURSED ALAM (HOD)

(M.A, B.Ed, Ph.D)

Assistant Professor

Specialization:

Postcolonial theory and literatures

Recent Publications:

- Jointly written chapter for ***Foucault Studies***,
Review Article for ***Postcolonial Interventions***
_ A Journal of Post colonial Studies_
- A critical edition of Dinesh Chandra Sen's ***Folk Cultures of Bengal***
(ILSE PRESS, 2024)

Fellowships

1. Postdoctoral fellow at IASH, University of Edinburgh (2023)
2. Fellow at ICSI, New School for Social Research, New York (2024)
3. Charles Wallace India Trust Fellow (2018) at British Library



Postcolonial Interventions, Vol. VIII, Issue I

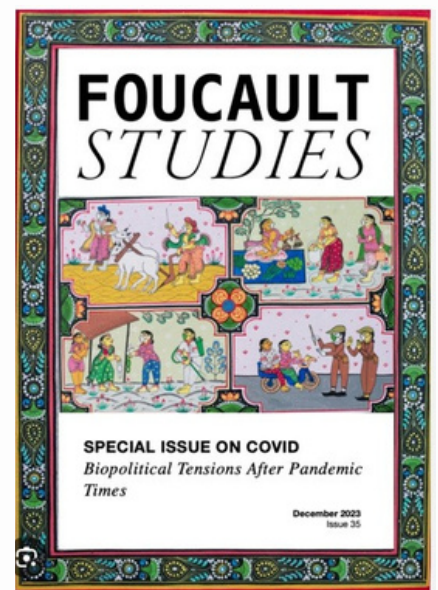
Review of From Marx to Global Marxism: Eurocentrism, Resistance, Postcolonial Criticism
ed. Kerstin Knopf, Detlev Quintern, Inputs: Trier, 2020. Paperback. pp 269. € 34.50

Mursed Alam

Inheritance is never a given, it is always a task. It remains before us just as unquestionably as we are heirs of Marx, even before wanting or refusing to be.... - Derrida, Specters of Marx

Every seeing has a direction, every seeing is done from a particular place and time... Marx wrote from a particular historical context, we are reading him from a different historical context.... Marx has not been analysed from the perspective of India. - Sudipta Kaviraj, Marx and the Search for Heaven

I am no ist or cist. Marx is my brother. Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, The Other



TEACHERS' PROFILE



DR. DHRITIMAN CHAKRABORTY

M.A , Ph.D. (CSSSC, Jadavpur University)

Assistant Professor

Specialization:

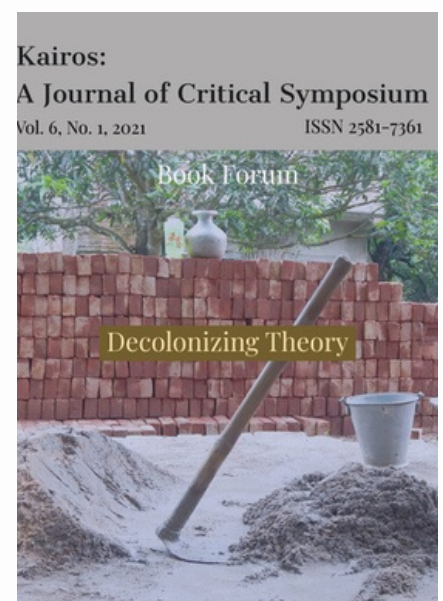
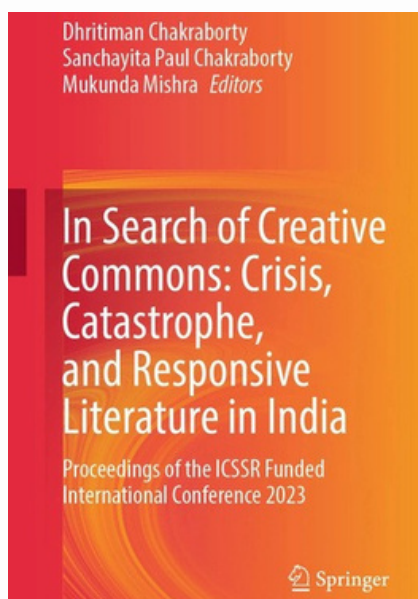
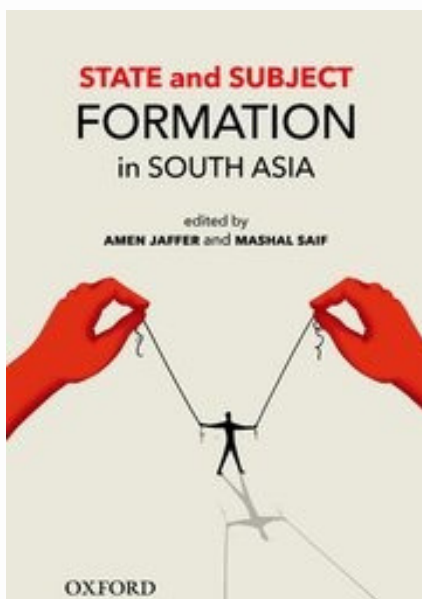
Postcolonial Studies

Recent Publications:

- ***In Search of Creative Commons: Crisis, Catastrophe, and Responsive Literature in India.*** - published in 2024
- A Chapter on "**Governance of Society or Self? Postcolonial Foucault and the Singur Movement in India**", published from Oxford University Press in 2023 (Partha Chatterjee was one of the contributors) in 2023.)

Research-

- Received Rs. 3,50,000/- from ICSSR for organising an International Conference in 2023 as the convenor where faculties from University of Houston, Edinburgh University, IIT Gandhinagar, IISER Bhopal, ILSR Kolkata took part.
- Presented Research and assigned as commentator for a paper in an International Conference at Jagiellonian University in Krakow, June 2024.
- Presented Research Paper in a premier research center, Martin Chautari at Kathmandu, Nepal in 2024.



TEACHER'S PROFILE



DR. ARUN PRAMANIK

(M.A, M.Phil, Ph.D)

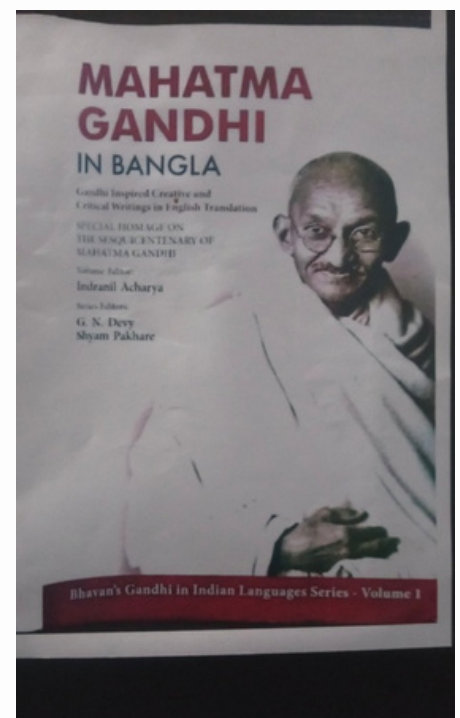
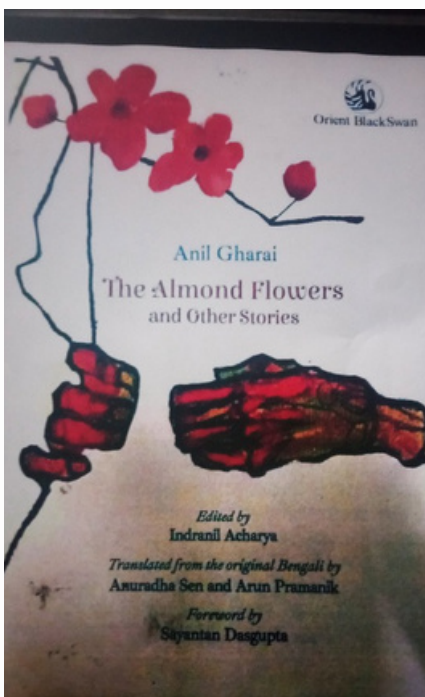
Assistant Professor

Specialization:

New Literature In English, Translation Theory

Recent Publications:

- The Bengali stories of Anil Gharai in the volume ***The Almond Flowers*** and Other Stories, have been jointly translated by Anuradha Sen and Dr. Arun Pramanik.
- ***Janajati Darpan*** (A Bilingual Quarterly Magazine on Tribals and Dalits of India) and in a good number of edited volumes. Litscape (VUETC)
- ***Middle Flight*** (SSM Journal of English Literature)



TEACHER'S PROFILE



DR. NILATPAL SINGHA BARMA

M.A , Ph.D

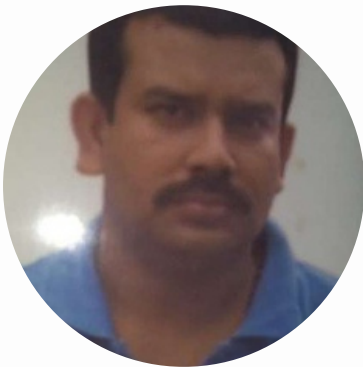
State Aided College Teacher

Specialization:

Phonetics And Linguistics

Recent Publications:

- ***Published papers in European Journal of Business and Social Sciences, and Abacus***



DR. NILADRI SEKHAR MRIDHA

M.A , Ph.D

State Aided College Teacher

Specialization:

Fiction

Recent Publications:

- ***Published papers in International Research Journal of Commerce, Arts and Science, International Research Journal of Management, Sociology and Humanities, and Abacus.***

UPCOMING EVENT

The English Department is excited to announce a special guest lecture on Folk Culture and Studies, featuring the esteemed folklorist Mr. Tapan Pandit from Malda. Renowned for his contributions to the preservation and promotion of traditional folk art, Mr. Pandit will offer valuable insights into the rich cultural heritage of the region. His lecture will explore the significance of folk traditions in shaping local identities and their continued relevance in today's world. This engaging session promises to deepen students' understanding of folk culture and its importance in contemporary society.



INTERNSHIP

The 3rd semester students have been given the opportunity to undertake internships in teaching. This hands-on experience allows them to develop practical skills in the classroom, while fostering a deeper understanding of educational practices. The internships aim to enhance their teaching abilities and prepare them for future educational careers.



EDITORIAL BOARD

- Pradipta Poddar
- Samiran Barma
- Md Lokman Hakim