

Indraprastha College for Women, University of Delhi, New Delhi, India

Confest

Plurilingualism and Orality in Translation

2-4 March 2015

The Translation and Translation Studies Centre was inaugurated with a 3-day long international conference festival or ConFest on '**Plurilingualism and Orality in Translation**'. Focussing specially on the significance of oral traditions and the osmotic nature of transaction between languages in the field of translation, the event was conceptualised to engage with multiple forms and modalities of expression. It included academic paper presentations, film screenings, concerts, exhibitions, discussions, etc. Erudite scholars like Judy Wakabayashi, M. Asaddudin, Roma Chatterji, D. Venkat rao, Edwin Gentzler, Siri Nergaard, Anamika, among others, engaged in stimulating academic discussions. Some of the most impactful performances included Mahmood Farooqui's *Dastangoi*, Anurupa Roy's *Katkatha*, and *Malini Awasthi ki Pathshala*. The first volume of *Code*, Student Journal of Translation on the theme of 'Code Mixing: Hindi and English' was also released by a panel of eminent international scholars.



Concept Note



Moving from ortho-centric traditions and the notion of original texts, to cultures of memory and orality problematizes the idea and act of translation. The circulation of texts in a social climate of mass illiteracy adds further complexity to the question of how texts travel. The Conference-Festival foregrounds two issues: firstly, the nature of *oral translation in cultures and traditions* of orality, and secondly *plurilingualism* and the role of translation in plurilingual cultures.

For too long Translation Studies has ignored the presence and importance of oral traditions in creating a translated text. Orality is present in all kind of translations. Translation Studies must thus contend with *orality* and *plurilingualism*. As far as plurilingualism is concerned, the Western tradition based on linguistic difference in terms of national difference, still dominates in Translation Studies, and needs to be challenged and transcended.

The reality of translation, both in the West and the East in our globalized world, needs to be represented and studied with theoretical and methodological tools that take into consideration plurilingualism at a variety of levels: the internet, global cultures, diaspora communities, arts, tourism, just to name a few. As a consequence of the inclusion of these two issues, traditionally relegated more to interpreting studies than to translation studies, is that we envision the bridging of the divide between these two areas, since the practices of translation and interpreting are more intertwined than we care to admit.

The event itself will signal this wider and more open perspective towards translation and will be organized as a “ConFest”—Conference and Festival together—since different forms of expression will be included: academic papers will be presented together with performances, films, music, exhibitions, debates and round-table discussions.

Situating the conference in Delhi is a strategic choice and with this location the organizers want to underscore the importance of going beyond traditional Western perspectives to achieve the goal of inclusion of the perspectives presented above. The ConFest will showcase how in this geographical region orality translates into polysemiotic representations. Translation through the perspectives of plurilingualism and orality thus will not be limited to literature and literary texts, but will include expressions and acts of artists and artisans in the interpretative act of translation of the literary and the non-literary.



March 2, 2015

Venue: Auditorium

Session I: 9:30 am to 10:45 am.

Welcome Address by the Principal, Dr. Babli Moitra Saraf.

Introductory Remarks

Keynote Address:

Prof. Judy Wakabayashi,
Department of Modern and
Classical Language Studies,
Kent State University, USA

10:45 am: Tea Break

Session II: 11:15 am to 01:00 pm Travelling Texts: Theory and Practice

Chair: Prof. Judy Wakabayashi

Christi A. Merrill, University of
Michigan, USA.

Anuvad Reprised

Dastangoi Performance:
Directed by Mahmood Farooqi.

1:00 pm: Lunch

**Session III: 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm
Voices from the Grassroots**

Chair: Prof. Asaduddin

Dr. Chandrani Chatterjee,
Savitribai Phule Pune University.

*Translating Noise: Re-thinking
the Journey of Sounds/Music of
the Everyday.*

Mahesh Sharma, The English
and Foreign Languages
University, Hyderabad.

*Performing the 'Dead': (Un)
Translatability of Death Rituals
and Alternative Discourse*

Sanjukta Naskar, Janki Devi
Memorial College, University of
Delhi.

*Interpreting Translated Indian
Folktales in the Nineteenth
Century*

**3:30 pm: Performance by
Anuroopa Group**

4:00 pm: Tea

**Documentary Screening: AV
Room 11.30 am onwards *Ek thi
Gulab***



March 3, 2015

Venue: Auditorium

Session I: 10:00 am to 11:00 am.

Introductory Remarks.

Keynote Address:

Prof. Roma Chatterji,
Department of Sociology,
University of Delhi.

11:00 am: Tea Break

Session II: 11:15 am to 12:30 pm
Translation across genres-
Theatre, Music and Visual Arts

Chair: Prof. Roma Chatterji

Kanchuka Dharmasiri,
University of Peradeniya, Sri
Lanka.

*Translating with Bodies and
Sounds: The Multilayered
Translational Process in Theatre
Practice*

Michael M. Coroza, Ateneo De
Manila University, Philippines.

*Sailing-Awit (Song Translation):
"An-Other Life" of a song in the
Philippine Oral Tradition*

Rekha Sethi, Indraprastha
College for Women, University
of Delhi.

Beyond Lingual Boundaries...

**12:30 pm: Performance by
Malini Awasthi.**

2:00 pm: Lunch

Session III: 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Myths in Contemporary
Context

Chair: Dr. Poonam Trivedi

Muditha Dharmasiri, University
of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka.

*The realm of Hades and
Contemporary Sri Lankan
Society, Lokanthara*

Harshbala Sharma,
Indraprastha College for
Women, University of Delhi

*Bahubhashikta aur Ramayana:
Anuvad, Rupantaran,
Kalpantaran aur Kayantaran*

4:00 pm: Tea

**City Tour for outstation
delegates**

Documentary Screening: AV
Room 11.30 am onwards *Man
and Mask/Mahakumbh*



March 4, 2015

Venue: Auditorium

Session I: 10:00 am to 11:00 am.

Introductory Remarks

Keynote Address:

Prof. D. Venkat Rao,
Department of English
Literature, The English and
Foreign Languages University,
Hyderabad.

11:00 am: Tea Break

Session II: 11:15 am to 1:00 pm
Transcending National
Boundaries

Chair: Molly Kaushal, IGNC, New Delhi

Edwin Gentzler, University of
Massachusetts, Amherst, USA.

International Faust

Siri Nergaard, University of
Florence, Italy.

*Multilingualism, Orality and
Translation: In search of a
Comprehensive model for Post-
Translation Studies*

Dr. Babli Moitra Saraf,
Principal, I.P. College for
Women, University of Delhi.

1:00 pm: Lunch

Session III: 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Orality in Translation

Chair: Anamika

Ayesha Abrar, Jamia Millia
Islamia.

*Masnads, Kabuliwallahs and
Fakirs: Translating the
Travelling Cultures of Orality*

Priti Prakash Prajapati, Lady
Shri Ram College for Women,
University of Delhi.

*Aadhunik Hindi Kavita Ka
Saangitik Rupantaran:
Sampreshan Ki Navin
Sambhavnayen*

Shubhada Bhakey-Kaul, Jamia
Millia Islamia.

Bahinaa Bai Choudhari

Pramod Tiwari, Gujarat Central
University.

*Anek Ilakon ke Sadho Ko Sadhte
Kabir*

3.30 pm Valedictory

4:00 pm: High Tea

Documentary Screening: AV
Room 11.30 am onwards
Brihidiswara

