

Translation and Translation Studies Centre Report 2020 - 21

Collaborating with the college's virtual platform IPCW-ON, the Translation and Translation Studies Centre sustained its efforts to conduct academic interaction by providing intellectually stimulating sessions online. While the pandemic transferred learning from the physical classroom to the online mode, the Centre expanded its ambit of exploration 'Beyond Words', taking the act of translation both figuratively as well as literally, beyond a mere textual understanding of the process.

The theme of the year and the subject of the forthcoming issue of the translation journal *CODE*- 'Beyond Words: Introducing Multimodal Translation' was explicitly introduced and theorised in the first event of the year, held on February 2, 2021. Inaugurated by the principal, Prof Babli Moitra Saraf, the event was taken forward by Dr. Vinita Sinha and Ms. Srinjoyee Dutta, who elaborated on the nuances of multimodal translation with a lecture entitled 'Images and Words: Translating the Semiotic' in the first session while Ms. Srinjoyee Dutta enlightened the attendees on 'Dubbing and Subtitling: Translating the Aural' in the second session.

The Centre also had the opportunity to collaborate with the Department of South Asian Studies, Princeton University for the lecture series 'Women's Writing in India: Issues and Perspectives' held between February 12-April 23, 2021. The series, organised by Dr Rekha Sethi, provided ten thought-provoking sessions to introduce participants to the richness and diversity of the writings in Indian languages and of the feminist discourses and discussions in the Indian subcontinent. Many eminent scholars from India and abroad, including invited speakers from the college itself, namely Dr Rekha Sethi, Dr Vinita Sinha, and Ms Srinjoyee Dutta, discussed women's writings emerging from various Indian language traditions, with each one focusing on a distinct linguistic heritage. The first lecture of the series focused on representations of patriarchy and liberation in Anamika's poetry with the poet herself elaborating on her work as a part of the Hindi poetic tradition of India. The next three lectures, in chronological order, took up Urdu, Punjabi and Bangla as their discursive pivots and respectively explored the works of Ismat Chughtai as a crusader of progressive ideals, Amrita Pritam's writings on Partition and Mahashweta Devi's multi-voiced discourse in representing the 'Subaltern'. Traversing geographically to the southern regions of the Indian subcontinent, the following four lectures delineated upon the works in Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam and English and Tamil linguistic traditions. In due order, the authors taken up for discussion were Akkamahadevi, Muddupalani, Kamala Das/ Kamala Suraiyya/ Madhavikutty and Ambai. As an endeavour to make the sessions as inclusive and holistic as possible within the specified temporal limits, the final two lectures focused on the Western-Central and North-Eastern regions of the subcontinent, respectively studying Dalit Women's writing as part of the Marathi and Gujarati traditions and women writers of the North-East including Indira Goswami as part of Assamese and other language texts from the region. Each session was followed by a Q&A session which allowed space for enthusiastic curiosities and thoughtful comments by the participants. For the same purpose, a blog, curated by Ms Srinjoyee Dutta, was created in order to take the discussion forward through personal observations and takeaways by the students involved.