Press Release

Indraprastha College for Women releases Journal of Translation 'CODE' on Freedom Struggle

Under the year-long programme of "70 years of Independence", the Translation and Translation Studies Centre of Indraprastha College for Women, supported by Hindi Sahitya Sabha and Poetry Club of the College, organized a program on 13 April 2018. The occasion also commemorated the anniversary of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre.

On the occasion, the volume IV of the student journal of the Translation and Translation Studies Centre, CORE – Freedom Struggle Special, was released. Housing voices of the freedom struggle, student contributions and translations, the volume was released by the principal Dr. Babli Moitra Saraf, literary historian Dr. Rakshanda Jalil, poet and critic Dr. Sukrita Paul Kumar and eminent hindi poet Anamika.

The well-curated event made segways into the life and times of Saadat Hasan Manto, and discussed how witnessing violence impacted his written word. This segment of the event was chaired by Dr. Babli Moitra Saraf. Speaking about the recent cases of rapes in Kathua and Unnao she said, "As I read today's newspaper, I found these two cases to be the axis and coordinates on which we can map Manto. When I saw the father of little Asifa, the nomad Bakerwal speaking, I saw a nomad in Manto." Dr. Saraf went on to say, "It is important, as Indraprastha College, to talk about the aftermath of partition, as it was the place where displaced women from various provinces of Punjab were enrolled for completion of their studies."

Describing Manto as easily translatable owing to his ease of using language, Dr. Rakshanda Jalil shared, "Manto brings to Indian fiction a remarkable quality. He has written of violence in such detail. He tells how a woman's body becomes a site for revenge and reprisal." Dr. Jalil also read short stories from Manto's Siyah Hashiye ('Black Borders'). Commenting on his slightly sarcastic style of writing, Dr. Sukrita Paul Kumar said, "Manto's strokes of madness became a refuge for him. Storytelling saved him. He used simple words, striking everybody with the baton of his words."

The panel discussion was followed by a Dastangoi, 'Dastan-e-Mantoiyat' performed by the group Chakor Lakeerein, which focused on anecdotes from Manto's life in forms of plays and anecdotes.



