

DR. AMBEDKAR COLLEGE

DEEKSHABHOOMI, NAGPUR

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

NATIONAL WEBINAR

TEXT, CREATIVITY AND CYBERCRITICISM

RESOURCE PERSON:

PROF DINESHKUMAR NAIR OF V.G. VAZE COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), MUMBAI

DR. ANUSHA RAMANATHAN OF TATA INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, MUMBAI

Date of the Webinar: Monday, 25 October 2021

Number of participants: 93

A National Seminar on 'Text, Creativity and Cyber Criticism' was held on Monday, 25 October 2021 at 11 am via zoom platform by the Department of English, Dr. Ambedkar College, Deekshabhoomi, Nagpur in association with the Department of English, University of Mumbai. The webinar was planned to have a proper deliberation on the connectivity of text, its creative aspect and criticism, a new of its kind Cyber Criticism. This step was taken to introduce the scholars nationwide in order to achieve a space where academia will have a fruitful dialogue for furthering the literary horizons.

Prof Dineshkumar Nair of V.G. Vaze College (Autonomous), Mumbai, and Dr. Anusha Ramanathan of Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai were the resource persons for the webinar.

The opening remarks were delivered by Prof. R. Karankal, Head of Department of English, University of Mumbai, Mumbai wherein he stressed the need to go in depth the new definitions of criticism. He further said that the new scholars should be acquainted with and be given such aspects of text to analyse it in a new perspective. 'University curriculum is often framed to introduce the new concepts and theories in language and literature but sometimes there is a total lack of proper resources and in this connection the webinar stands very significant', he added.

Setting the tone for the discussion, Dr. B. A. Mehere, Principal said, "Creativity is the language part to showcase one's talent. It is the first step followed mostly by criticism. With new tech coming in, the practice of discretion becomes more significant".

In his formal address, Dr. Shailesh Bahadure, Head of the Department of English said, “Generally the word criticism is perceived as something negative by the readers. But as we delve deeper into its meaning, scope, and definitions, we realize that it is more important than any other form of text.”

Opening the webinar, Prof. R. Karankal, Head of Department of English, University of Mumbai elaborated upon how the topic 'Text, Creativity and Cyber Criticism' is not only crucial but has become more relevant because of the prevailing Coronavirus pandemic induced restrictions.

“Certain people belonging to certain sections were not allowed to speak and therefore they had no voice. They were not allowed to participate in certain areas of scholarship and therefore they were systematically kept away from knowledge sectors. It seems in the cyber era, it has given them a new possibility, a new hope. Cyberspace offers us infinite possibilities of being heard and read,” he said.

While introducing Dr. Anusha Ramanathan of Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, Dr Mrs. Preeti Singh, Associate Professor from the department of English described her as a vibrant and zestful scholar. Speaking on ‘The Discerning Eye: Critiquing Art and Art in Critiquing’, Dr. Anusha Ramanathan explained how the scope of the word ‘text’ has enlarged today. “Today even a YouTube video or a film can be text. It can be a graphic novel. It can be entirely a picture book with no written word. It can be audio. It can be a lot of other multimedia such as a game,” she said.

She said Criticism is the comparison, analysis, interpretation and / or evaluation of a work which may have a positive or negative bias. However, it should not be considered as a summary or a fault-finding exercise. After elaborating on “Meaning Making and Grammatical Positioning’, Dr. Ramanathan spoke about ‘Deconstructivist Criticism. Giving an example, she said sometimes in a movie, both the villain and the hero do the same thing, but the hero is pardoned for it while the villain is punished. Giving an interesting example, Dr. Ramanathan asked, “Of the two – Draupadi and Sita – who is the rebellious character?” While the majority categorized Draupadi as “rebellious”, Dr. Ramanathan asked the participants to apply the dual filter of deconstructivism and feminism to the answer. What is that Draupadi dose that is rebellious in nature, Dr. Ramanathan asked adding, “When did she disobey anyone?” To further drive home her point, Dr. Ramanathan asked for instances when Sita was obedient. “Deconstructivism enables you to look at text afresh,” she said.

With the help of the poem ‘My Papa’s Waltz’ by Theodore Roethke, Dr. Ramanathan explained how the ‘Reader-Response theory’ in a way is opposite of ‘Biographical Criticism.’ Also, it is not focused on formalism. The theory believes that the text is there, and the meaning of the text is there not from the words in the text, the organization of structures, or the author’s intent or biography. The theory believes that it is the reader when in the act of reading is giving meaning to the text.

Speaking on ‘Cybercriticism: A cultural perspective’, Prof Dineshkumar Nair said, “Knowledge today is transformed into atoms of information through computer

technology.” He said that culture seeks authorization in technology and takes its order from technology. Certain cultural products and practices are born of computer and internet technologies. He also spoke of how generation gap now has been replaced with e-generation gap between ‘digital natives’ and ‘digital immigrants’. “Computer technology is no longer a revolution for children in the well-to-do nation,” he added.

Prof Nair highlighted how individuals routinely create screen names and in some cases online personalities. “The anonymity offers space for individuals who may feel ostracized or isolated to access information or take part in communities. However, anonymity also fosters a culture of mischief in which individuals may indulge in social behaviors online that are unacceptable,” he added.

Explaining new concepts like ‘Cyberpunk’, Prof Nair talked about William Gibson’s novel ‘Neuromancer’ published in 1984 which deals with concepts like people logging their nervous systems directly into networks. He concluded his talk by focusing on Escaping boundaries: Bridging Cyberspace and Diaspora studies through Ethnography’.

The sessions were totally interactive. The richly attended webinar was successfully conducted by Prof. Anita Tirpude, Assistant Professor From the Department of English, while Prof. Manoj Andraskar, Assistant Professor From the Department of English proposed a vote of thanks. On this occasion, Faculties from different colleges along with the students were also present.

 **DR. AMBEDKAR COLLEGE** 
DEEKSHABHOOMI, NAGPUR
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

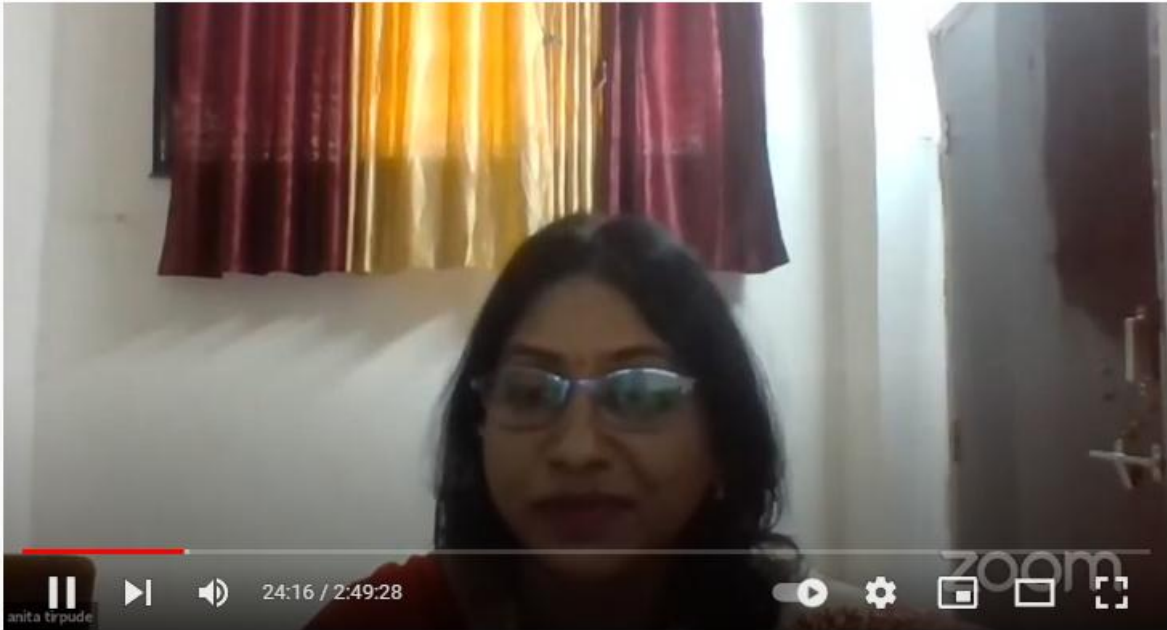
NATIONAL WEBINAR
TEXT, CREATIVITY AND CYBER CRITICISM

| FREE REGISTRATION |
| E-CERTIFICATES |

MONDAY, 25 OCTOBER 2021
11.00 - 01.30 PM

In association with Department of English, University of Mumbai
Opening remarks: Prof. R. Karankal, Head, Department of English, University of Mumbai

SPEAKERS **Prof Dineshkumar Nair, V G Vaze College (Autonomous), Mumbai**
Dr Anusha Ramanathan, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai



NATIONAL WEBINAR-ENGLISH

74 views • Streamed live on Oct 25, 2021

👍 3 🗨️ 0 ➦ SHARE ⌵ SAVE ...



Dr. Ambedkar College, Deekshabhoomi, Nagpur
1.58K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE



Manoj Andraskar

NATIONAL WEBINAR-ENGLISH

74 views • Streamed live on Oct 25, 2021

3 0 SHARE SAVE ...



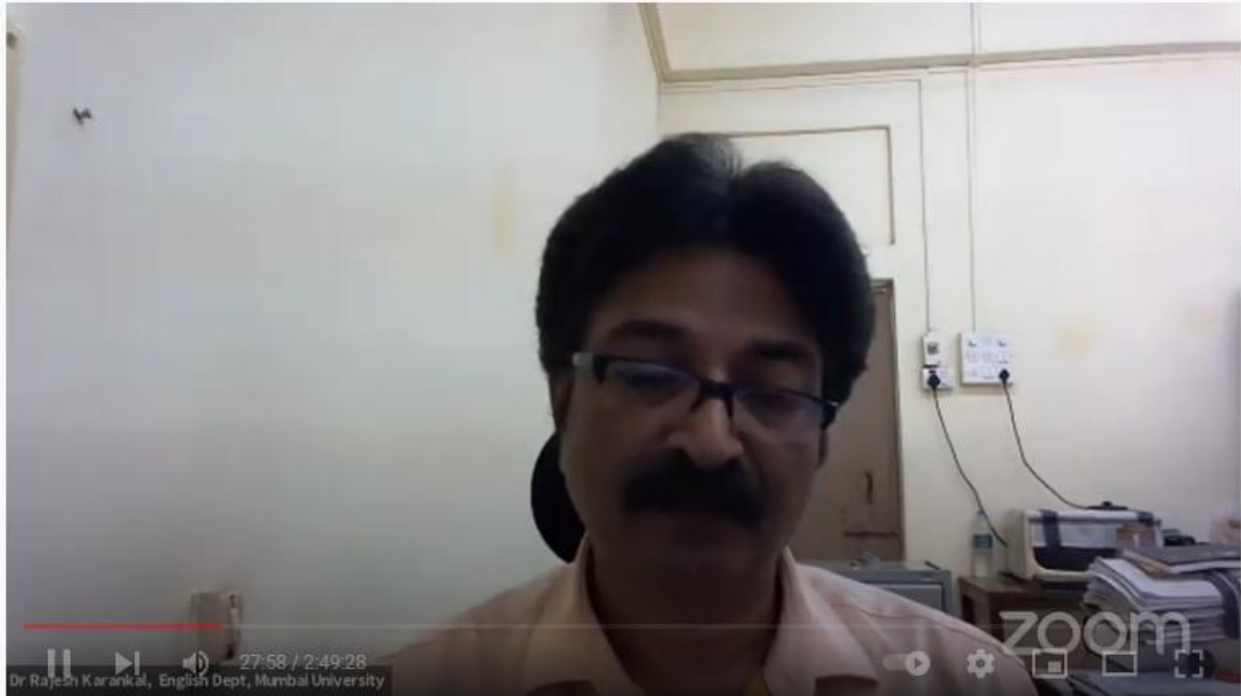
Dr. B. A. Mehre (Principal)



NATIONAL WEBINAR-ENGLISH

74 views • Streamed live on Oct 25, 2021

👍 3 🗨️ 0 ➦ SHARE ≡+ SAVE ...



What is a Text?



- Script
 - Letter
 - Book
 - Short story / Novel
 - Poetry
 - Essay
 - Newspaper | News lettwr
 - Arricle... ..
- Visuals - Images, Infographics
 - Picture books | Graphic Novels | Comics |
- Audio
- Video
- Multimedia... ..

Factual texts inform, instruct or persuade by giving facts and information.

Literary texts entertain or elicit an emotional response by using language to create mental images.



NATIONAL WEBINAR-ENGLISH

74 views • Streamed live on Oct 25, 2021

👍 3 💬 0 ➦ SHARE ⚙️ SAVE ...



YouTube™ dr ambedkar college deekshabhoomi nagpur




dr ambedkar college deekshabhoomi nagpur

The Internet and Work Culture

Dinesh Nair

- Work increasingly is performed outside of the traditional work place
- Cybercultured companies:interconnecting networks rather than physical, hierarchical organizations
- Work from home and work's encroachment into the personal lives of worker
- Blurring the line between work time and personal time
- "on call," potentially eroding the quality of personal time.
- remain competitive by adopting e-commerce



NATIONAL WEBINAR-ENGLISH
74 views • Streamed live on Oct 25, 2021

3 0 SHARE SAVE ...

ZOOM

: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83005912966?pwd=d0NITHhxWk1FcWR6TEFONWd2Z2x4dz09>

Meeting ID: 830 0591 2966

Passcode: 746144

YOUTUBE: <https://youtu.be/kaLruCB4BKk>

About the Experts:

Prof. *Rajesh* *Karankal:*
https://archive.mu.ac.in/arts/ling_lang/english/pdf/Rajesh.pdf

Prof. *Dineshkumar Nair:* <https://www.vazecollege.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Dr.-Dinesh-Kumar.pdf>

Dr. Anusha Ramanathan: <https://tiss.edu/view/9/employee/anusha-ramanathan/>

Link to Register: <https://forms.gle/RnuXvLDjg3dYufcA8>

Link *to* *Join:*
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83005912966?pwd=d0NITHhxWk1FcWR6TEFONWd2Z2x4dz09>

*****END OF REPORT*****