



NAAC ACCREDITED 'A++' GRADE COLLEGE

2022-23

Name of the Department/Society: The English Society

Name of the Event: Talk by GJV Prasad, Retired Professor of English at Jawaharlal Nehru University titled, "Who are we Indians writing in English and what is that language?"

Date of the Event: 31st January, 2023

Description of the event

The session, hosted by the English Society, commenced with the President introducing the esteemed guest speaker, Professor GJV Prasad. The event was chaired by Dr. Meenakshi Malhotra and aimed to delve into the relationship between Indian languages and English in contemporary literature.

Professor Prasad, an alumnus of Hindu College and a renowned teacher, initiated the discussion by emphasizing the need for Indians to embrace both their native languages and English. He highlighted the widespread use of English in India and its significance. He stressed that writing in English does not require special qualifications and discussed the challenges in teaching native languages effectively. He argued that for India to unite as one nation, it must go beyond its borders and languages. He also discussed how Indian English writers often look to the West for validation and recognition.

The discussion touched upon gender disparities in language use. It was observed that women speaking in English may not have the same impact as men, and they are often not introduced with academic titles. This gender bias persists in both English and native language conversations.

The session acknowledged the growing number of English writers from various regions in India. While they come from diverse backgrounds, they all view India as the smallest unit of their identity. This demonstrates the unity and diversity of Indian English literature.

The audience raised questions about the essence lost in translation. Professor Prasad highlighted the importance of mutual engagement in translation, emphasizing the business aspect and readership. English was viewed as a neutral language that could liberate marginalized classes and provide a sense of equality, especially for women.

The hierarchy within languages was discussed, with English being considered a language of power. Indian writers in English were seen as democratic individuals who sought to escape their regional languages' limitations.

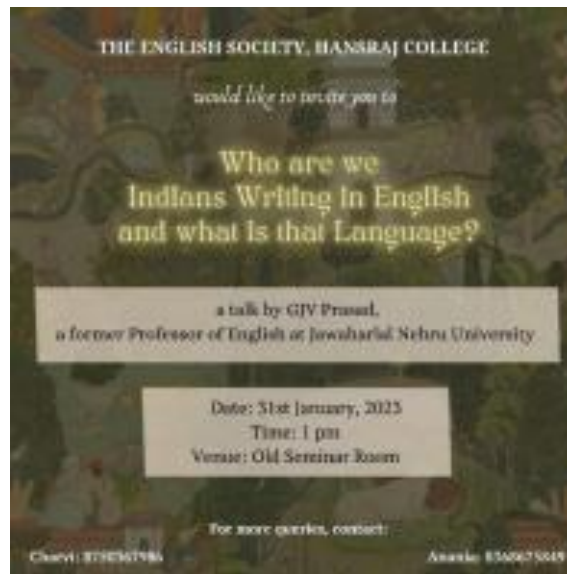
The diversity of English in India was explored, from accents and expressions to the coexistence of British and American English influences. Despite these variations, Indian English writers continue to create unique works.



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The session concluded with gratitude to Professor Prasad for providing valuable insights into the complex dynamics of language and literature in India. It left the audience with much to ponder regarding the role of English in contemporary Indian society and the evolving landscape of Indian literature.

Brochure/Poster



Glimpses



हंसराज महाविद्यालय



HANSRAJ COLLEGE

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List of participants

1. Charvi Bhatnagar
2. Himangi Dayal
3. Chaitanya Sagar
4. Ambika Chopra
5. Tanya
6. Himani Batra
7. Maithili Goswami
8. Karma
9. Anoushka
10. Rashika Singh
11. Arshia Mathur
12. Pragya
13. Saman
14. Sanyam
15. Sofia
16. Sanjivanie Bhalla
17. Sakshi Solanki
18. Ragini Sharma
19. Ananya Nair
20. Sharbani Garg
21. Ananya Girdhar
22. Vanshika Kalia
23. Shreya
24. Aanchal
25. Jaishree Oraon
26. Anushka Nanda