

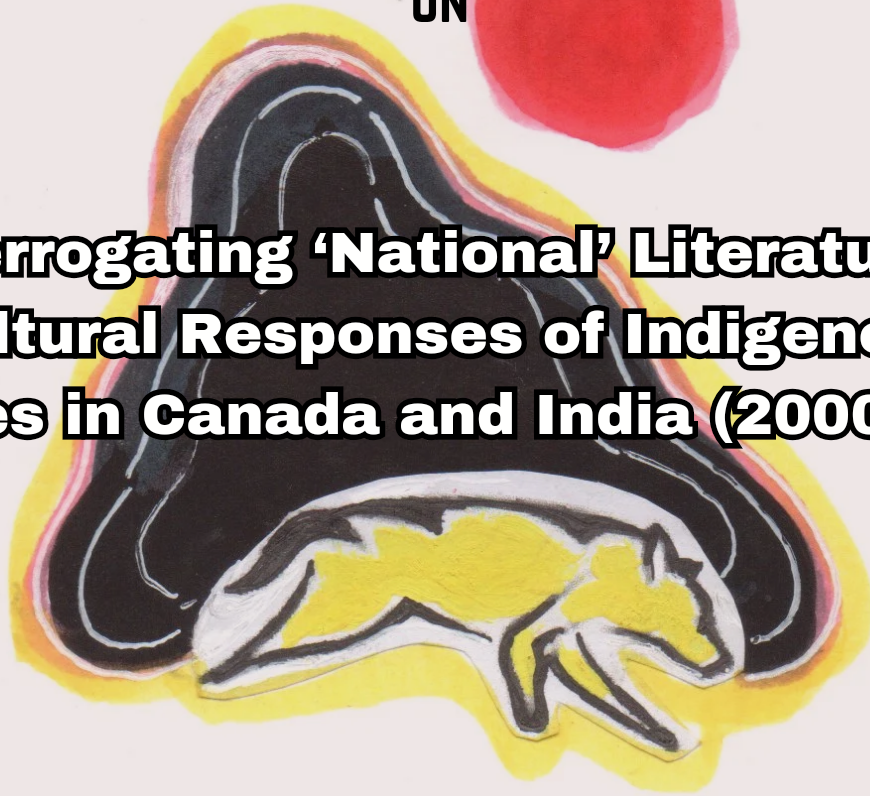


**Centre for Comparative Literature  
Bhasha Bhavana  
Visva-Bharati**

**cordially invites you to**

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
ON**

**Interrogating 'National' Literatures:  
Cultural Responses of Indigenous  
Peoples in Canada and India (2000-2020)**



**Organised by  
Centre for Comparative Literature  
Bhasha Bhavana, Visva-Bharati**

**February 19-20, 2024**

**Venue: Room Number 305, Bhasha Bhavana, Visva-Bharati**

*All sessions will be streamed live from the channel named "CCL VB"*

*LINK: <https://youtube.com/@cclvb8405?si=ofEp2xeOqECsII6v>*

**Artwork: Soumik Nandy Majumdar**



**International Conference**

**on**

**Interrogating ‘National’ Literatures: Cultural Responses of Indigenous Peoples in Canada and India (2000-2020)**

**February 19-20, 2024**

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**Conference Schedule**

**Day 1**

19.02.24

9:30 AM

**Registration**

10:00 AM

**Welcome Note**

Dheeman Bhattacharyya

**Felicitation of the guests**

10:15 AM

**Inaugural Address**

Manoranjan Pradhan, Principal, Bhasha Bhavana, Visva-Bharati

10:30 A.M

**Keynote Address**

Himani Bannerji, Professor Emerita and Senior Scholar, Department of Sociology, York University, Canada

Title: **Colonialism and Settler Colonialism: Some Reflections**

11:15 AM

**Tea Break**

11:30 AM-12:30 AM

**Plenary Session I**

Chair: Swati Ganguly, Professor, Department of English, Bhasha Bhavana, Visva-Bharati

Speakers:

- Suchorita Chattopadhyay, Department of Comparative Literature, Jadavpur University; Coordinator, Centre for Canadian Studies, Jadavpur University; Former President, Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute

Title: **Exploring Canada: The Indigenous Context**

- B. Hariharan, Head of the Department, Institute of English, University of Kerala

Title: **Beading of Memories: “Inscription in Life”**

12:30 – 1:30 P.M

**First Academic Session**

Chair: Anita Gua Hembrom, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Madhupur College, S.K.M. University, Jharkhand

Arnab Das

Title: **Understanding Canada: Literary Production as Means of Decolonising**

Subham Bhaumik

Title: **Retracing the Roots: Turning to Nature for Wisdom and ‘Unlearning’**

Shilpa U M

Title: **Manidoons Collective: Decolonising Canadian Theatre One Play at a Time**

1:30 PM-2:00 PM

**Lunch Break**

2:00 PM-3:00 PM

**Second Academic Session**

Chair: Soma Mukherjee, Assistant Professor, Centre for Comparative Literature, Visva-Bharati

অর্ঘ্যতপা নাগ

শিরোনাম: মৌখিক ভাষা সংরক্ষণে মুদ্রণ, গণ ও অন্যান্য মাধ্যমের ভূমিকা

Anindita Das

Title: **Storytelling as Decolonization: Interrogating the Rise of Indigenous Graphic Narratives**

Soumendu Mitra

Title: **Chained Conscience, Unchained Consciousness - Dialogues with a Post-Colonial Nation: Reading Soni Sori's Letters from Prison, Mary Taylor's *My Years in an Indian Prison* and Anjum Zamrud Habib's *Prisoner No. 100: An Account of My Nights and Days in an Indian Prison***

3:00 PM- 4:00 PM

**Third Academic Session**

Chair: Ishani Dutta, Research Scholar, Centre for Comparative Literature, Visva-Bharati

Ritam Dutta and Urmila Mondal

Title: **Indigenous Introspection: Navigating Postmemory in Theodore Fontaine's *Broken Circle***

Nabodita Mukhopadhyay

Title: **Decoding “Culture and Identity” as Colonial Tools: How the Writing of Indigenous Subalterns Decolonised Dominant Themes of Nationhood in the Canonical Literary Historiography**

Riddhima Dey

Title: **The Neglected Past: Indigenous Women of India and their Melodies of Farming**

4:00 PM-5:00 PM

**Fourth Academic Session**

Link for Joining: <https://meet.google.com/enw-niso-ama>

Chair: Julie Banerjee Mehta, Former Faculty, Department of English and Program in Canadian Studies, University of Toronto, Canada; Guest Faculty, Postgraduate, Department of English, Loreto College, Calcutta University

Sayak Roy

Title: **Anatomy of the Indigenous Novel: A Comparative Study between Tomson Highway’s *Kiss of the Fur Queen* and Narayan’s *Kocharethi***

Ivana Chowdhury

Title: **Fading Footprints: The Lasting Legacy of British Colonialism and Indian Influence on the Great Andamanese Tribe**

Gayatri Berry

Title: **Legacy of Colonialism: Physical and Psychological Violence on the Bodies of Metis Women in Katherine Vermette’s *The Break***

Md Asif Uzzaman

Title: **Sexual Anomalies as Decolonial Allegory in Tanya Tagaq's *Split Tooth***

8:00 PM

**Lee Maracle Memorial Lecture**

Columpa Bobb, Theatre Practitioner, Educator and Storyteller from Winnipeg, Canada

Chair: Debashree Dattaray, Head of the Department and Associate Professor, Department of Comparative Literature, Jadavpur University; Co-coordinator, Centre for Canadian Studies, Jadavpur University

Link for Joining: <https://meet.google.com/xkw-msns-giq>

## **Day 2**

**20.02.24**

9:30 AM -11:00 AM

### **Plenary Session II**

Link for Joining: <https://meet.google.com/ens-fpmc-kzj>

Chair: Suchorita Chattopadhyay, Department of Comparative Literature, Jadavpur University; Coordinator, Centre for Canadian Studies, Jadavpur University; Former President, Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute

Speakers:

- Justin Jaron Lewis, Associate Professor, Department of Religion, University of Manitoba, Canada

**Title: Indigenous Language and Story in a Colonial Community: A Jewish “Settler's” Perspective from Manitoba, Canada**

- Nishant Upadhyay, Assistant Professor, Department of Ethnic Studies, Affiliate Faculty, Women and Gender Studies, LGBTQ Studies, Centre for Asian Studies, Centre for Indigenous and Native American Studies, University of Colorado Boulder, traditional territories of the Núu-agma-tuvu pų (Ute), Hinóno’ée (Arapahoe) and Cheyenne peoples

**Title: Indian Diaspora on Stolen Lands: Colonial Relationalities and Other Solidarities**

11:00 AM-11:15 AM

### **Tea Break**

11:15 AM-12:30 PM

### **Plenary Session III**

Link for Joining: <https://meet.google.com/kfm-vqra-ugc>

Chair: B. Hariharan, Head of the Department, Institute of English, University of Kerala

Speakers:

- Anita Gua Hembrom, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Madhupur College, S.K.M. University, Jharkhand

**Title: Is Indigenous Literature an Endangered Literature? A Case Study of Santali Literature**

- Julie Banerjee Mehta, Former Faculty, Department of English and Program in Canadian Studies, University of Toronto, Canada; Guest Faculty, Postgraduate, Department of English, Loreto College, Calcutta University

**Title: Desperately Seeking a Newer, Kinder Canada in a Globalised World**

12:30 PM-1:30 PM

**Fifth Academic Session**

Chair: Suparna Mondal, Research Scholar, Centre for Comparative Literature, Visva-Bharati

Nandini Mukherjee and Nakshatra Sengupta

**Title: “Because this river is of course red”: Locating the Indigenous Identity of the Métis Community in Post-colonial Canada through Katherna Vermette’s *River Woman***

তনুশ্রী বসাক

শিরোনাম: প্রকৃতি এবং আদিবাসী সম্প্রদায়ের মধ্যে সম্পর্ক

Sristi Ray

**Title: Photographing Identity, Belonging and Indigenousness: Analysing Emerging Cultures of Indigenous Photography through Works of Nadya Kwandibens and Poulomi Basu**

1:30 PM- 2:30 PM

**Lunch Break**

2:30 PM-3:30 PM

**Sixth Academic Session**

Chair: Tanusree Paul, Assistant Professor, Women's Studies Centre, Visva-Bharati

Sakshi Lawande

**Title: Between Cultures and Nations: Immigrants’ Voices in the Select Fiction of Uma Parameswaran**

Himika Chakraborty

**Title: “We become the story”: Indigenous Storytelling and the Short Story Form in Lee Maracle’s “Sojourner’s Truth”**

3:30 PM- 4:30 PM

**Valedictory Session**

Speaker: Dakxinkumar Bajrange, Filmmaker and Director of Budhan Theatre

Title: **Birth 1871: Stigmatised as Criminals Waiting for Freedom**

Link for Joining: <https://meet.google.com/vzf-fvvz-efd>

**Distribution of Certificates**

**Vote of thanks**

Ishani Dutta and Tanushree Basak, Joint Convenors, Centre for Comparative Literature

**Ashram Sangeet**

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