

A two-day National Seminar, sponsored by the UGC, a collaborative venture by Victoria Institution (College) and Seth Soorajmull Jalan Girls 'College, will be held on—

**'Women's Voices: Heard Voices and Those Unheard.  
Elizabethan and Jacobean Theatre and  
The Indian Classroom Context. "**

**Date: December 3 and 4, 2015**

**Time: 9.30 am –5.00 pm**

**Venue: Keshub Memorial Hall, Victoria Institution College, 78-B, A.P.C. Road, Kolkata –700 009.**

**Organized by –the English Departments, Victoria Institution (College) and Seth Soorajmull Jalan Girls 'College**

**Chief Guest –Prof. Swapan Chakravorty** (also to deliver a covering speech)

**The key-Note address** will be delivered by **Prof. Aniket Jaaware** of Pune University.

There will be a panel discussion on both days to enable listeners from the floor, teachers and students alike, to express their views on the subject.

The first day's panel discussion is proposed to be more of an academic nature. Our proposed panellists are **Prof. Supriya Chaudhuri (retd., Jadavpur University), Prof. Aniket Jaaware (Pune University), Prof. Tapati Gupta (retd., Presidency University), Prof. Abhijit Sen (Visva Bharati University), Prof. Nandini Bhattacharya (Jammu University) and Prof. Amlan Dasgupta (Jadavpur University).**

Some eminent theatre personalities of the present day Bengali theatre are expected to join the second day's panel discussion. We hope to have with us Prof. Ananda Lal for this session.

The Honoured speakers to present papers at the Seminar: **Prof. Abhijit Sen (Visva Bharati), Prof. Amlan Dasgupta (Jadavpur University), Prof. Nandini Bhattacharya (Jammu University), Prof. Sarbani Chaudhury of Kalyani University, Dr. Rangana Banerji (University of Calcutta), Dr. Paromita Chakravarti (Jadavpur University) Dr. Aditi Das Gupta (Loreto College).**

The seminar concept

We have self-consciously chosen this field of seminar topic – **'Women's Voices: Heard Voices and Those Unheard. Elizabethan and Jacobean Theatre and the Indian Classroom Context "** –on which we expect a wide range of possible approaches through the papers from teachers and students from all over India. **The voices of women which are heard and which go unheard on the Elizabethan and Jacobean drama will be meaningfully related to the socio-cultural reality of the Elizabethan and Jacobean scene on the one hand, and the contemporary Indian context, on the other.** The patriarchal social context of the plays could be hoped to provide an effective spring-board for studying them in the Indian contexts. The study of the present day Indian social milieu and the Elizabethan-Jacobean drama apropos each other could thus be a rewarding

experience for our students who could be encouraged to consider that a nearly 500 year old literature in another time and clime could be and should be treated as **an ongoing dialogue in understanding and redefining the female experience in the present Indian context.**

In choosing such a topic we are hopeful that our paper presenters will come out with a wide range of approaches: there could be **a)** socio-political angle to consider the plays from; **b)** purely textual angle seeking to unveil the nuances of individual texts in accentuating certain female experiences; **c)** gender studies of play/s; **d)** psychoanalytical angle to explore the subtle inherent meanings within texts and their implication on the man-woman relationship **e)** comparative assessment of stage performances of the texts at different periods **f)** possible studies of adaptations and translations of the plays in the Indian theatre and film versions; **g)** tracing back ways of impersonating women in the plays to mythical psyche in both the European and Indian contexts; **h)** attempts to relocate the Renaissance studies within the contemporary critical framework of race and caste; **i)** study of the changing attitude to the concept of femininity and the notions of the evil in the Elizabethan and Jacobean and the contemporary Indian perspectives.

**Papers are invited from budding scholars for the seminar. The paper presenters may read out their papers of 15 minutes 'duration followed by a 5-minute question-answer session.**

**All papers may kindly be sent to [umaraysrinivasan@gmail.com](mailto:umaraysrinivasan@gmail.com) within October 10, 2015.**

**(The papers will be reviewed and selected by a board of committee appointed for the purpose.)**

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