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All Abstracts

English Section

PLAGIARISM – AN ACADEMIC THEFT ? UNDERSTANDING PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC INTEGRITY : ASSESSING THE ISSUES AND CHALLENGES OF COMBATING THE ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

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ABSTRACT : *This paper seeks to explore the concept of plagiarism – its linkages with academic honesty, research and higher education. An attempt has also been made to understand the cultural specificities that have resulted in the differentiation of approaches to the concept. An analysis of the proposed and adopted means of dealing with plagiarism or the academic dishonesty has been touched upon to develop an understanding of the challenges that lay before the educational institute of higher learning to upkeep the standard of higher education and academic integrity. Plagiarism has assumed serious proportion in academic field, the domain of other knowledge – that is to say, art music, movies etc have also been affected from lack of explicit attribution to the original source of knowledge but these fields are not within the purview of this paper. The paper primarily focuses on plagiarism in the academic sphere.*

Keywords : *Academic dishonesty, Academic Integrity, Academic theft, Higher education, Plagiarism, Research.*

THE AMERICAN BAPTIST MISSION PRESS IN ASSAM

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ABSTRACT: *In 1835 the British East India Company invited the American Baptist missionaries to their newly annexed territory of Assam to Christianize the Singpho and Khamti tribes in whose lands they were establishing their fledging tea industry. The missionaries accepted the offer, which specified that they bring with them a printing press. For several decades the American Baptist Mission Press was the only printing press in Assam. Apart from tracts and other religious texts in several languages, the Press published the first primers in Assamese, the first periodical and newspaper, and the first dictionary. Its publications played a crucial part in the standardization of the Assamese language, the development of a new prose style, and in the introduction of new genres. This paper, attempts, through missionary reports and the letters of the missionary-printer William Ward, to look at the working of the Press, including the assistance rendered by the "native helpers". It provides a glimpse of the priorities and practices of missionary printing and its use of global and local resources and networks. It also looks at the appropriation of printing by the Assamese and the reinstatement of the Assamese language as the official language of Assam by the British.*

Keywords : *American Baptist missionaries, Missionary printing, Print in Assam,*

DALITS INVENTING TRADITION TOWARDS DEMOCRATISATION OF HISTORICAL KNOWLEDGE

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ABSTRACT : *The contemporary period has become a terrain of democratic contestations as history is reviewed by multiple claims, intentions and ideological persuasions. This has led to emergence of dalits as the new claimants of historical knowledge who have been legitimizing their claims for greater democratisation of history by deconstructing the hegemonic academic discourse. Consequent upon these, there have been symbolic assertions by way of inventing tradition in the form of inventing popular myths, folk heroes, naming statues, memorials, awards and other cultural attributes related to the pride of the dalits, which are not only attempts to explain their current oppression and subjugated status, but creates hope for the community's future resurgence. Such invention of tradition by dalits is towards democratisation of historical knowledge.*

Keywords: *Alternative history and Symbolism, Dalits, Democratic contestations, Historical knowledge, Invention of Tradition, Public Space.*

ASSESSMENT OF INTER-DISTRICT DISPARITY IN MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH IN ASSAM : EVIDENCE FROM THE NATIONAL FAMILY HEALTH SURVEY (NFHS)-5 (2019-20)

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Abstract : *Maternal and child healthcare is defined as the health service provided to mothers and children. In this paper, an attempt has been made to examine the inter-district disparity in maternal and child health in Assam on the basis of the recently published NFHS-5 report. Whether there is any change in maternal and child health status of different districts over a period of time is also examined in the paper. It is found from the study that Sibsagar, Dibrugarh, Jorhat, Nalbari and Kamrup (Metro) are the five well performing districts regarding maternal and child healthcare and West Karbi Anglong, Cachar, Hailakandi, Udalguri, and South Salmara Mankachar districts are found as the five worst performing districts in the state. Although some socio-economic parameters affecting the maternal and child healthcare have shown improvement in most of the districts, the most shocking fact is that anaemic children and mothers have increased significantly during the study periods in all the districts in Assam.*

Key words : *Districts in Assam, maternal and child health, NFHS, inter-district disparity, socio-economic parameters*

RELUCTANT RECOVERY : AIDEU HANDIQUE AND THE GENDER QUESTION IN ASSAMESE CINEMA

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ABSTRACT: *Social history of early twentieth century colonial India was characterised by socio-cultural consciousness leading to a newly emerging middleclass intelligentsia that articulated itself through education, press, language and gender. This paper seeks to examine the gender question through the story of the life and experiences of Aideu Handique, the first Assamese film lead actress who played the role of Joymoti in the film bearing the same name. The choice of the same has been made in terms of her being the first recorded woman performer in Assamese vernacular cinema and her life experiences thereafter. In what ways did the private-public discourse on women play out in regions situated at the peripheries of the Bengal metropolis? Did the 'masculine traditional' opinion on woman position them homogeneously or complicated it through further marginalisation? In doing so, the paper seeks to address the complete absence of cognisance of the visual technology in general historical curriculum and the woman's voice in history as experienced through it with reference to Assam in the twentieth century.*

Keywords : *Aideu Handique, Assam, Cinema, Ethics, Gender,*

EXPLORING THE MUSIC OF 'GURUMAᅇALI' WITHIN THE ANCIENT PERFORMING ART OF BIYĀHGOWĀ OJĀPĀLI

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ABSTRACT : *Biyāhgowā Ojāpāli, rooted in the tradition of Kathakatā, is an ancient art form popular in the district of Darrang in Assam. It involves a musical representation of poetic tales found in scriptures while partially adopting methods specific to the belts of dance and drama. Its magnificence is, however, not singularly located in scriptural enactments as elaborate recital of diverse rāgas noted for melodic complexity along with light colourful songs also accounts for its rich identity and wide popularity. The full orbit of its performance is realized in a Gondhcaupari sabhā, a grand gala celebrating the ritual of worship of Lord Vāsudeva. Of the five stages identified in an unabridged performance, the first three stages constitute the Gurumaᅇali. The Gurumaᅇali stands aloof for bearing a distinct solemnity as here the highly disciplined musical order never loses sight of a ritual-induced behavior directed towards the invocation and appeasement of deities. From a non metrical treatment of the melodic structure to compositions guided by cymbal-dictated rhythms, the Gurumaᅇali is a self-sustained whole and the serious mood inherent in its rigid framework elasticizes in the later stages to make space for an undisturbed aesthetic delight above anything*

Keywords : *Biyāhgowā Ojāpāli, Gondhcaupari, Gurumaᅇali, Gurubandanā, Pātani, Viᅇᅇnu Pada*

বাংলা বিভাগ

‘সাবিত্রী’ মহাকাব্য : বেদের অনুরণন

অমলেন্দু চক্রবর্তী

রবীন্দ্রনাথ ঠাকুর বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, হোজাই - ৭৮২ ৪৩৫, অসম

THE EPIC 'SĀVITRĪ' : RESONANCE OF VEDA

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ABSTRACT : Among the intelligentsia in India in the 19th century whose mind was ignited by the refulgent glory of the Indian renaissance, Sri Aurobindo was unique. The influence of Sri Aurobindo's intellectual thoughts and spiritual developments, augmented from the Vedas, can be witnessed in his poetry, poetics and yoga. He has adapted the story of 'Sāvitrī' from the Mahabharata, and has successfully demonstrated his own poetic genius through his epic Sāvitrī. The resonance of the Vedas is perceptible in the use of words (though written in English), characters and their nomenclature, and above all in the emotive language and philosophical approach that suffuses the literary atmosphere of the epic, Sāvitrī.

The objective of the paper is an attempt to bring the reverberation of the Vedas that echoes in Sāvitrī. Aurobindo scholars have described Sāvitrī as the 'Veda of the future' as it takes the help of reason to address the current state of humanity but it also talks of the future goal of humanity, which is divinising the earthly life. Sri Aurobindo's Sāvitrī is in the same line of the Vedas as Sāvitrī is also a revelation of the highest order. The Vedic mystics saw the eternal truth through the luminous veil but Sri Aurobindo was able to transcend this veil and go beyond and become one with the eternal truth. Sri Aurobindo through Sāvitrī takes the whole project of the Vedas to the next higher level of divine fulfilment.

Accordingly, the last part of the Vedas, the 'Upanishad', has found its place, quite justifiably, in the paper.

Keywords : Divine Fulfilment, Epic, Sāvitrī, Sri Aurobindo, Veda of the Future, .

অসমের শিল্পকলার এক সংক্ষিপ্ত রূপরেখা

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A BRIEF OUTLINE ON PAINTINGS AND SCULPTURES OF ASSAM

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ABSTRACT : This paper is an attempt to study the transformative journey of paintings and sculptures in Assam, and carefully examine the key events that influenced the creative expressions of the artists. The earliest mention of painting in Assam dates back to ancient history. Legend has it that the beautiful and exceptionally talented daughter of the erstwhile king of Sonitpur, who goes by the name of Chitraklekha, was known as portrait artist. The 16th century witnessed a flourishing phase of manuscript paintings, fuelled by the rise of Neo-Vaishnavism under the influence of the Vaishnava saint Srimanta Sankardeva (1449-1568). The latter's contribution to the Assamese culture goes much beyond the scopes of manuscripts. Painting was just another gift of this highly revered polymath the land of Assam was blessed with. Revolving around various subjects like religious sources, kings and kingdoms, stories of common people, the manuscripts were highly regarded as an inclusive storytelling medium. The discussion on the art and culture of Assam would be incomplete without mentioning the Ahom kings who did their every bit to preserve and motivate the art movements. The Ahom were a connoisseur of art and culture, which is well reflected in their architecturally rich palaces. In the 19th century, with the change in political and socio-economic landscape, the environment became less conducive for artists to practice and grow. As a result, any furtherance of the traditional art forms came to a standstill. But India's independence acted as a booster for the budding artists of Assam to get training from outside Assam. The contemporary art and culture of Assam is primarily shaped by the efforts of various art movements and initiatives of these young artists. The paper concludes with the study of Tagore's influences on the artists of Assam.

Keywords : Ahom Kings, Assam, Chitraklekha, Paintings and sculptures, Tagore's Influence, Vaishnava Saint,

গৌড়ীয় বৈষ্ণব সমাজ ও মধ্যযুগে বাংলার মিষ্টান্ন-সংস্কৃতি

মুগ্ধ মজুমদার

বাংলা বিভাগ, যাদবপুর বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, যাদবপুর, কলকাতা - ৭০০ ০৩২

GAUDIYA VAISHNAVA SOCIETY AND THE CONFECTIONERY CULTURE IN MEDIEVAL BENGAL

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ABSTRACT : *It is needless to say that Chaitanya movement was a remarkable event in medieval Bengal. This movement had an impact on Bengali literature, culture, music, art, architecture etc., of which a less-studied topic is food-culture and specially confectionery culture.*

This article tries to show how the addition of sweets was made with the Vaishnava religion of Bengal and why the topic of confectionery has been mentioned so much in Bengali Vaishnava literature than in Mangalkavya. Actually any religion is not just about its philosophical departure, it is also about religious beliefs, customs or food habits. The Bengal Vaishnavas was no exception. Vaishnavism was not in favor of animal sacrifice. For this reason they abstained from non-vegetarian food. For rejection of non-vegetarian food Vaishnavas was dependent on sweets and dairy products. Besides milk, sweets and dairy products were associated with nutrition. Moreover, the Vaishnava deity Lord Krishna was the son of Nanda-gopa whose livelihood was to sell milk and dairy products. Sweets was also an important aspect of Bengal Vaishnavas' diet in Bengali Chaitanya-katha in the form of Krishna-katha. That is why there is more mention of sweets in Vaishnava literature than Mangalkavya. Bengal sweets became popular and spread mainly due to Vaishnavism.

Keywords : *Chaitanyadev, Confectionery Culture, Gaudiya Vaishnavism, Medieval Bengal, Sri Krishna*

অসমীয়া বিভাগ

লক্ষ্মীনাথ বেজবৰুৱাৰ অসমীয়া ভাষাচৰ্চাৰ আলোকিত ভাষাবিজ্ঞানৰ তাত্ত্বিক প্ৰসঙ্গ

দিলীপ ৰাজবংশী

অসমীয়া বিভাগ, কটন বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, গুৱাহাটী - ৭৮১ ০০১

THEORETICAL CONTEXT OF LINGUISTICS IN THE LIGHT OF LAKSHMINATH BEZBAROA'S ASSAMESE LANGUAGE CULTIVATION

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ABSTRACT : Lakshminath Bezbaroa, the Pioneer of modern Assamese language and literature, is the foremost scholar to analyse the Assamese language in context of Linguistic Theory. At that time, some of Bengali intellectuals had been claiming that Assamese language was a 'patois' or a colloquial form of the Bengali language. He applied the advanced ideas and thoughts of linguistics to establish the individuality of the Assamese language. Most of the examples of linguistic thoughts illustrated through his language cultivation is remarkable for the Assamese language. Moreover an attempt has been made to define the linguistic theories, used to analyse for first time in the history of the Assamese language.

Keywords : Assamese language Glory, Language cultivation, Linguistic theory

শৈলীবিজ্ঞানৰ আধাৰত জ্যোতিপ্ৰসাদ আগৰৱালাৰ নাটৰ ভাষা বিশ্লেষণ

ভায়োলিনা ডেকা

অসমীয়া বিভাগ, গুৱাহাটী বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, গুৱাহাটী - ৭৮১ ০১৪, অসম

LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF JYOTI PRASAD AGARWALA'S PLAY ON STYLISTICS GROUND

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ABSTRACT : Jyoti Prasad Agarwala, the trend-setter of Modern Assamese drama has composed many plays such as Sonit Kunwari, Karengar Ligiri, Rupalim and Labhita. He had penned his first play Sonit Kunwari at the age of only fourteen years. His talent of characterisation, stage setting, dialogue writing are highly appreciated by the critics. In this paper, an effort have been made to analyse the stylistic aspect of his language on stylistics ground as the playwright had brought radical change to Assamese drama in content and language too.

Keywords : Jyoti Prasad Agarwala, Linguistic elements, Style, Stylistics, Text.

উপন্যাসৰ আলোচনাত সৃষ্টিশীল আৰু বিচ্ছিন্ন
শ্ৰম, অতিনিৰ্ধাৰিত বাস্তৱ আৰু
প্ৰবেশ-বিন্দুৰ ধাৰণা : দীননাথ শৰ্মাৰ 'নদাই' প্ৰসংগ

শিৱজিত দত্ত

ইংৰাজী বিভাগ, ডুমডুমা মহাবিদ্যালয়, ৰূপাই চাইডিং, তিনিচুকীয়া, অসম

**IDEAS OF CREATIVE AND ALIENATED LABOUR,
OVERDETERMINED REALITY AND POINT-OF-ENTRY
IN THE DISCUSSION OF NOVELS :
DINANATH SHARMA'S NADAI – A CASE-STUDY**

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ABSTRACT : *The social world is a complex of so many social processes; similarly the textual world of fiction also is a complex of a number of story-threads representing those processes. The social processes, determining one another, give rise to the over-determined social reality. Likewise, the story-lines or threads also determine one another and give rise to an over-determined textual reality. To grasp the over-determined social reality or to organize the over-determined textual reality one needs a point of entry that is arbitrary, incomplete and ideologically chosen. Nadai, an Assamese novel, also has a number of story-threads, one of which is the point of entry or the main thread organizing maximum number of other threads. Choice of any other story-thread as the point of entry would have made Nadai a different novel. This choice is ideologically motivated. Nadai, further, incorporates a Marxian imagination that involves the idea of class as a process of expropriation and also the idea of socio-historical development.*

Keywords : *Alienated, Creative, Labour, Nadai, Overdetermined, Point-of-entry, Reality,*