

**St. Mary's College (Autonomous), Thoothukudi**  
Re-accredited with 'A+' by NAAC (4<sup>th</sup> Cycle)

**PG and Research Department of English**

**A Two-day National Conference on  
Avant-garde Interpretations of Theories in English Language and Literature**

**Brochure**

<b>Chief Patron</b>  Rev. Sr. Dr. C. Shibana Secretary		<b>Patron</b>  Rev. Sr. Dr. A. S. J. Lucia Rose Principal		 <b>St. Mary's College (Autonomous)</b> Re-accredited with A+ Grade by NAAC (4 <sup>th</sup> Cycle) Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu, India		
<b>Convenor</b>  Dr. A. Judit Sheela Damayanthi Head and Associate Professor PG & Research Dept . of English		<b>Organising Committee</b>  Dr. L. Jacqueline Leo Associate Professor of English Dean, School of Language and Culture Dr. T. Mary Manonmani Associate Professor of English Vice - Principal Dr. B. Serena Margaret Associate Professor of English IQAC Coordinator Dr. A. Josephine Alangara Betsy Assistant Professor of English Dr. S. Sudha Rani Assistant Professor of English Dr. N. Sumathi Assistant Professor of English Ms. X. Amala Steffi Assistant Professor of English Ms. V. Muthukalaivani Assistant Professor of English Ms. A. Patricia Romila Assistant Professor of English Dr. D. Shunmugajothi Assistant Professor of English Ms. V. Dorothy Catherine Assistant Professor of English Ms. B. Vinobini Sampriitta Abila Assistant Professor of English Dr. R. Mystica Assistant Professor of English		<b>P.G. and Research Department of English organises</b>		
<b>Organising Secretaries</b>  Ms. M. Mangalacswari Assistant Professor of English  Dr. F. Mary Priya Assistant Professor of English						
<b>Contact No:</b>  9597550476 7708636418  email id: smc.avantgarde@gmail.com		<b>A Two-Day National Conference on Avant-garde Interpretations of Theories in English Language and Literature</b>				
		<b>6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> September 2022</b>				

**Legacy of the Institution:**

St. Mary's College (Autonomous) established in the year 1948 by the Congregation of Mother of Sorrows Servants of Mary celebrates the Platinum Jubilee in the academic year 2022-2023 on achieving the pinnacle of 75 years of academic excellence. As the first women's college in Thoothukudi, the institution has contributed to the development and well-being of women in the coastal region. As the first and the only Autonomous College in Thoothukudi, it has progressed ahead in the arena of education attaining notable accolades in every discipline. Disadvantaged, underprivileged and first generation learners are given priority in the admission resulting in the generational transformation.

St. Mary's College (Autonomous) achieved A+ Grade in the 4th cycle of Reaccreditation by NAAC. The academic activities of all disciplines are grouped into five Schools to augment research, design pioneering courses, enable efficient teaching, and facilitate effective outcome based learning. The institution empowers the student community to face the global demands of the 21st century. It offers 17 undergraduate programmes and 14 postgraduate programmes. Six departments have been upgraded as Research Centres.

**Stature of the Department:**

The PG & Research Department of English was established with the inception of the college in the year 1948. English as major discipline for specialization at the graduate level was first offered in 1963, at the post graduate level in 1967, M.Phil. in English was introduced in 1991 in the Aided Stream and reintroduced in 2015 in the Self Supporting Stream. The department was upgraded as the Research department in 2013. It offers a good ambience par excellence along with a varied and rich curriculum with its special focus on recent global trends and employability skills.

The English Literature course at St. Mary's gives the students the chance to study writings in English from its origins in the Anglo-Saxon England to the present in global contexts across time. Studying literature at St. Mary's is a welcome choice for the students as it nurtures in them the development of sophisticated reading skills, of an ability to place literary texts in their wider intellectual and historical contexts, the expansion of comprehensive knowledge of literary forms and techniques, the aptitude of evaluating various approaches to literary criticism and theory, and to study the development of the English language in its broader context.

**Echoes of the Conference:**

Ever since the introduction of literary theories in the early twentieth century, there has been a paradigm shift in the interpretation of literary texts. Avant-garde modes of theoretical approaches focus on the dichotomy between the conventional form and the experimental form. Edward Said's contrapuntal reading of Jane Austen's *Mansfield Park*, Rene Wellek and Austin Warren's intrinsic and extrinsic approaches of literary criticism, Ulrich Weisstein's views on Comparative Literature, Stuart Hall's study of cultural identity and diaspora, Cheryll Glotfelty's fusion of environment and literature, and Simone de Beauvoir's insistence on the need to move from "immanence" to "transcendence" are some of the critical approaches which facilitate progressive interpretations of texts.

Innovation is the heart of avant-garde mode. As Literary theories form the basis for critical approaches for extracting multiple layers of meaning from the literary texts, students of literature and researchers depend on any one of the literary theories to foreground their hypotheses.

The study of literary theories enhances the cognitive domain of the scholars and the research guides and assists them in forming the avant-garde interpretations of the varied and diverse

## Pivotal Themes for Paper Presentation

- ▶ Literature and History
- ▶ Cultural Studies
- ▶ Diaspora Studies
- ▶ Postcolonial Studies
- ▶ Gender Studies
- ▶ Popular Culture
- ▶ Ecology and Literature
- ▶ Conflict Narratives
- ▶ Graphic Narratives
- ▶ Cyber Narratives
- ▶ Memory Studies
- ▶ Refugee Literature
- ▶ Border Studies
- ▶ Blue and Animal Studies
- ▶ Digital Narratives
- ▶ Travel Literature

## Experts of the Conference

### Keynote Address:

**Dr. V.S. Joseph Albert**  
Former Head of the Department of English  
Deputy Principal (Rtd).  
St. Xavier's College (Autonomous)  
Palayamkottai

**Dr. J. John Sekar**  
Associate Professor of English  
The American College, Madurai.

**Dr. Sushma V. Murthy**  
Associate Professor of English & Cultural Studies  
Central Campus  
CHRIST (Deemed to be University)  
Bangalore

**Dr. P. Malathi**  
Assistant Professor of English  
Government Arts College  
Coimbatore

**Dr. Saji Matthew**  
Associate Professor of English  
School of Letters  
Mahatma Gandhi University  
Kottayam, Kerala

### Valedictory Address:

**Dr. S. Prabakar**  
Dean of Languages  
Manonmaniam Sundaranar University  
Tirunelveli

## Registration Fee:

### Participation:

Rs. 500/- for Students

Rs. 1000/- for Faculty

### Presentation:

Rs. 1200/- for students

Rs. 1500/- for faculty

All papers will be published as a book with ISBN with separate publication fee.

Selected best papers will be published in UGC refereed journal within a year.

### Account Details:

A/C No : 1711365694

(GPay available for the same number)

Name : The Principal,

St.Mary's College

Bank : Central Bank of India

IFSC : CBIN0284061

### Paper Presentation Format :

Kindly follow MLA Handbook 8th Edition for documentation.

Font: Times New Roman

Size: 12; Line Spacing: Double Spacing

Margins: Left - 1.5",

Right, Top & Bottom - 1"

Papers must be free from plagiarism

Word Count: 3000 words

(excluding abstract and reference)

Abstract: Limit to 175 words (Add 5 key words)

The Best Paper Presenter (students) will be awarded.

### Important Dates:

Registration closes on: 30<sup>th</sup> August 2022

Abstract Submission: 28<sup>th</sup> August 2022


Full Paper Submission: 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022



## Photographs



## Certificate

 **St. Mary's College (Autonomous)**  
Re-accredited with A+ Grade by NAAC (4<sup>th</sup> Cycle)  
Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu, India. 

**P.G. and Research Department of English**

**Certificate**



This is to certify that, Dr./Mr./Ms. Antony Staniba B, T.M.A. English Literature,  
St. Mary's College (Autonomous), Thoothukudi.

participated / presented a paper/ chaired a session in the Two -Day National Conference on "Avant-Garde Interpretations of Theories in English Language and Literature" on 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

Title of the Paper: Gender Disparity in Toni Morrison's novel  
"The Bluest Eye"

*A. Judith Sheela Damayanthi*  
Convenor  
**Dr. A. Judit Sheela Damayanthi**

*Lucia Rose*  
Principal  
**Rev. Sr. Dr. A. S. J. Lucia Rose**

 **St. Mary's College (Autonomous)**  
Re-accredited with A+ Grade by NAAC (4<sup>th</sup> Cycle)  
Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu, India. 

**P.G. and Research Department of English**

**Certificate**

This is to certify that, Dr./Mr./Ms. Masi Priyadharshini S, T.M.A. English Literature,  
St. Mary's College (Autonomous), Thoothukudi.

participated / presented a paper/ chaired a session in the Two -Day National Conference on "Avant-Garde Interpretations of Theories in English Language and Literature" on 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

Title of the Paper: \_\_\_\_\_

*A. Judith Sheela Damayanthi*  
Convenor  
**Dr. A. Judit Sheela Damayanthi**

*Lucia Rose*  
Principal  
**Rev. Sr. Dr. A. S. J. Lucia Rose**



## Report

The PG and the Research Department of English organised a two day National Conference on Avant-garde Interpretations of Theories in English Language and Literature on 6th and 7th September 2022. Dr. A. Judit Sheela Damayanthi, Head and Associate Professor of English delivered the welcome address. Dr. Sr. A.S.J. Lucia Rose, Principal of St. Mary's College (Autonomous) delivered the presidential address. Dr. Sr. C. Shibana, Secretary, Dr. Sr. Josephine Jeyarani, Director of Self Supporting Courses, Dr. A. Punitha Tharani Controller of Examinations and Dr. Jacqueline Leo, Dean, School of Language and Culture presided over the conference.

Dr. V. S. Joseph Albert, Former Head of the department of English, Deputy Principal (Rtd) St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Palayamkottai in his Keynote address threw light on the aim and purpose of literary criticism especially New Historicism and Post colonialism.

Dr. Sushma V. Murthy, Associate Professor of English & Cultural Studies, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bangalore in her expert talk on "Identities in Reiteration: The Phenomenology of Gender" highlighted the heterogeneity and plurality of genders.

Dr. J. John Sekar, Associate Professor of English, The American College, Madurai in his session on "Challenges in Institutionalising Literary Theories" highlighted the reason for disconnect between literary theories and practice.

The second day of the conference was kick started by Dr. P. Malathy, Assistant Professor of English, Government Arts College (Autonomous), Coimbatore. Her address on "Neo-Freudian Psychoanalysis in Literary Research" widened the horizons of psychosocial theory of development with various examples through her presentation.

Dr. Saji Matthew, Associate Professor of English, School of Letters, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Kerala shared his expertise on "Contextualising the Cultural Studies: The What and Why of Cultural Theories".

Scholars and faculty pooled in to this knowledge sharing session. Nearly 44 people presented their paper in blended mode. Of these two students, Ms. Divya Dibashini of II M.A English, St. Mary's College (Autonomous), Thoothukudi and Ms. Sherly Jim of St.Xavier's College (Autonomous), Palayamkottai bagged the Best Paper Presenter award.

*A. Judit Sheela Damayanthi*

**Head of the Department**

**Dr. A. JUDIT SHEELA DAMAYANTHI**  
HEAD & ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH  
ST. MARY'S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)  
THOOTHUKUDI

*B. Serena Margaret*

**IQAC Coordinator**

IQAC Co-ordinator  
St. Mary's College (Autonomous)  
Thoothukudi

*Lucia Rose*

**Principal**

St. Mary's College (Autonomous)  
Thoothukudi-628 001.