

Volume 6 Issue 2
July 2017

ISSN 2277-7652

REYONO

journal of interdisciplinary studies



St. Thomas College
Kozhencherry
Kerala, India-689641

CONTENTS

There were Africans in Britain before the English Came: A View of Black British History Geoffrey V. Davis	03
Language: An Agency to De-colonise Jack's Mind in Emma Donoghue's <i>Room</i> Shikha Thakur	14
Mythical and Religious Prototypes in Narnia and Middle-Earth: A Study of <i>The Chronicles of Narnia</i> and <i>The Lord of The Rings</i> Meera Prasannan	24
Green Reading of the Bible: Towards an Eco-justice Hermeneutics Asha Philipose	35
<i>Island of a Thousand Mirrors</i> by Naomi Munaweera: Reverberations of Death and Violence Parvathy Mohan	45
Role of National Rural Employment Guarantee Act towards Strengthening Panchayati Raj Institutions: An Overview Kakali Kundu	54
Interdisciplinary Training of Counsellors in Counsellor Training Institutions in Kenya Pamela M. Lunjalu and Richard B. O. Okero	65
Gender Equality in EU Cooperation: The Case of the Cotonou Agreement Lorenza Perini and Lucia Castegnaro	81
Need for Strengthening Scholarly Attributes among Degree Students Rosamma Philip	94
Awareness on Educational Law among Secondary School Teachers in Kerala N. Sujeendran	102

There were Africans in Britain before the English Came: A View of Black British History

Geoffrey V. Davis

*Department of English
University of Aachen, 52056 Aachen, Germany
E-mail: geoffrey.davis@web.de*

Abstract

This article briefly traces the historical context of the black presence in Britain from the 3rd century to the present day, which is currently the subject of increasing academic and popular interest. It looks both at the significant role black people have played in the transformation of Britain into a multicultural society and at the social and political hurdles they have had to overcome. Among the factors which have determined the course of black history are slavery and its legacy, racism and the race riots which marred Britain's reputation as the welcoming "mother country," and widespread anti-immigration attitudes which led to successive governments passing ever more restrictive immigration legislation. The article emphasises the literary achievements of black writers in Britain which date back to the eighteenth-century, pointing to some of the little known writers whose work is only now coming to attention. It also records black people's remarkable achievements in such areas as literature, sport and music.

Keywords

Black British, slavery, racism, immigration, Black writers, multiculturalism.

Language: An Agency to De-colonise Jack's Mind in Emma Donoghue's *Room*

Shikha Thakur

PhD Research Scholar
Department of English and European Languages
Central University of Himachal Pradesh, India
Email: shikhamittul@gmail.com

Abstract

The exploration of *Room* elucidates Emma Donoghue's symbolic and arbitrary structure of language to naturalise and legitimise the stereotypical image of women as submissive, passive, emotional, and homely, which is ostensibly subverted to deconstruct sexism. The lack of fixity in language allows Jack to disjoin it to fashion a new text in which the masculine act of imposing prejudiced norms of femininity through the use of language is severely and successfully challenged along with the conventional structure of language and its implied meanings. The urgency of reclamation is highlighted through the representation of the woman's body as a colonised entity which is subjected to extreme physical assaults which legitimises the myth of glorious motherhood and the independent hegemony of men. It is only through a strategic use of their resilience and strength that women can subvert patriarchal control and affirm themselves by reclaiming their lost unique personhood. In the presentation of dismantling binary oppositions in the pursuit of liberty by Ma and Jack, Donoghue's text relies on Judith Butler's concept of subversion and Lacan's concept of human psyche. Through the story of Ma and Jack, Donoghue has presented all that is wrong with discriminatory practices in human society and has re-presented all that is beautiful and effulgent in the human spirit.

Keywords

Language, agency, sexism, resilience, hegemony.

Mythical and Religious Prototypes in Narnia and Middle-Earth: A Study of *The Chronicles of Narnia* and *The Lord of The Rings*

Meera Prasannan

*Department of English
NSS Hindu College, Changanacherry, Kerala, India
Email: meerakailas915@gmail.com*

Abstract

Popular species and characters from Narnia and Middle-earth are analysed to understand their origins and links to the real world as mythical and religious prototypes. The present study deals with the Christ-figures evidently used in Tolkien's and Lewis' works and how the presence of these characters makes the truth more obvious that even in the fantasy world, there is no running away from reality.

Keywords

Real-life characters, fantasy, myth, religious prototype, Christfigure, hobbits.

Green Reading of the Bible: Towards an Eco-justice Hermeneutics

Asha Philipose

*Department of English
Catholicate College, Pathanamthitta, Kerala, India
Email:asha.philipose@gmail.com*

Abstract

Technology has led to man exploiting and destroying nature at a greater pace, but it is not the technology that is at fault, it is the greed and avarice of man for quick profit. As the crisis of the earth community deepens, the idea of eco-justice ought to become a hot subject for discussion worldwide. The future wellness and the survival of humanity have become inseparably related with the question of eco-justice. The world would be able to make peace and progress, if the idea of eco-justice is taken seriously by the society, church, and the governance. Bible has always been characterised as an anthropocentric text, but it has an unexplored depth that has precious resources for an ecological reading. Ecological principles of the Bible are just relevant in today's quest for sustainability. Therefore exploring the green territories of Bible has become a need of today for the wellness of the entire universe. This paper is an attempt to devise an alternative hermeneutics that retrieves the smothered voice of the earth.

Keywords

Eco-justice, Bible, ecology, hermeneutics.

***Island of a Thousand Mirrors* by Naomi Munaweera: Reverberations of Death and Violence**

Parvathy Mohan

Department of English

NSS Hindu College, Changanasserry, Kerala, India

Email:mohanparvathy88@gmail.com

Abstract

Island of a Thousand Mirrors is a narrative of lives of people distorted by the terrible ethnic violence of Sri Lanka. It is Naomi Munaweera's debut novel published in 2012. The novel progresses through the voices of two young girls Yasodhara and Saraswati with the war serving as the backdrop. The novel follows the lives of two families, one Tamil and the other Sinhala. The experience of violence is different for each family. This is a narrative of trauma which focuses on the eruption of violence in Sri Lanka. The shadows of death and memory loom around the characters. While Yasodhara's family migrates to America to escape the violence, Saraswati is forced to join the armed Tamil rebellion as a suicide bomber. Yasodhara's family is haunted by memories and nightmares about their homeland. Moreover, the novel captures the pristine beauty of Sri Lanka tarnished by rebellion.

Keywords

Death, violence, displacement, trauma, memory, history.

Role of National Rural Employment Guarantee Act towards Strengthening Panchayati Raj Institutions: An Overview

Kakali Kundu

Department of Political Science

B. B. College, Asansol, Burdwan, West Bengal. India

E mail: kakalikundu456@gmail.com

Abstract

The 73rd constitutional Amendment Act was a decisive step in realising decentralisation and participatory development through institution of local self-government. Twelve years later another milestone came in the form of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (2005) with a view to ensure that no one in rural India should suffer from want of food and clothing and everybody should be able to get sufficient work to enable him to make the two ends meet. The Act has created the legal framework to enable the political executive to structure effective decentralisation. NREGA assigns a wide ranging role to PRIs from registering of workers up to monitoring and social audit. It vests powers of planning and implementation with the PRIs and casts an obligation for transparency and accountability on them, especially on the Gram Panchayat. Our analysis will be on how far Panchayati Raj Institute perform their role. Can every Grampanchayat give the 100 days job guarantee for every house hold? Is there any politics to give a job? So it is very important to study how far local people are involved in this process.

Keywords

National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, livelihood security, dignity, right to work, 100 days job guarantee, Panchayati Raj Institutions.

Interdisciplinary Training of Counsellors in Counsellor Training Institutions in Kenya

¹Pamela M. Lunjalu and ²Richard B. O. Okero

*¹ Student Counseling Office
University of Nairobi, Nairobi-Kenya*

*² Department of Educational Psychology
Moi University, Eldoret-Kenya
Email: okerorichard@gmail.com*

Abstract

Interdisciplinary training approach and the use of media resources is known to play a major role in enhancing teaching and learning in educational institutions. The objective of the study was to identify the major instructional media resources used and specifically their contribution towards learners' performance in counsellor training institutions. The conclusion drawn is that the newest mode of media technology and text books were the most preferred instructional media resources. However, the slow pace of adoption of media technology, incompetency of staff, and inadequacy affected their effective use. Additionally, instructional media resources play a major role in the performance of students in counsellor training institutions. This study recommends policy guidelines on media resources specifically geared toward adoption of newer modes of technology in institutions of higher learning which would contribute immensely to quality of learning and teaching in counsellor training institutions in Kenya.

Keywords

Inter-disciplinary education, media resources utilisation, psychological counselling, projected and non-projected media.

Gender Equality in EU Cooperation: The Case of the Cotonou Agreement

Lorenza Perini and Lucia Castegnaro

*Department of Political Science, Juridical and International Studies
SPGI University of Padua, Italy
Email: lorenza.perini@unipd.it*

Abstract

Although gender equality is announced as one of the main pillars of a fundamental Regional Agreement between EU and Africa, Caribbean and Pacific Partnership (ACP) in 2000 and known as the Cotonou Agreement of the underutilisation of the gender perspective as a tool to achieve the overall objective of the UN Sustainable Development Goals in the international cooperation, especially in the accomplishment of the tasks of the European External Action Service (EEAS) and the cases of the EU Delegations in Ghana, Namibia and Uganda. Due to a massive lack of data on the implementation of the gender perspective in projects and actions, the research is based on the results of a prototype-survey, run among the personnel of the three delegations, made of ten open questions in order to let them express their own ideas and perception on gender equality perspective, an issue of capital importance in the theory, but neglected in reality. The questionnaire has been designed with the objective to become a useful tool for data collection, in order to monitor the implementation of the policies overtime and the practices gender oriented eventually put into practice, adjust and the evaluate the change.

Keywords

Gender equality, Development, Sustainability, Aid Effectiveness, EU policies, ACP Agreement.

Need for Strengthening Scholarly Attributes among Degree Students

Rosamma Philip

*Mount Tabor Training College
Pathanapuram, Kerala, India
Email: ros_philip123@hotmail.com*

Abstract

The higher education institutions should focus upon imparting education with skills that enable students to become entrepreneurs with global skills and personal efficacy. The learners are to be transformed to scholars on completion of their courses. A reflective discussion on the questions, “Do scholars possess any special qualities? Do all graduates exit from our colleges be called scholars ?” are essential to highlight the need of strengthening scholarly attributes among students. The present study explores the major scholarly attributes among graduates as perceived by college teachers and surveys the extent of its presence among graduates. The selected sample of college teachers preferred 14 major traits as scholarly attributes. Based on the survey among graduates it is observed that only a small percentage of students possess these attributes. Thus, the present study points towards the need for strengthening scholarly attributes among degree students. Educators have the responsibility to instill scholarly attributes among students through various interactions and interventions.

Keywords

Scholarly attributes, intrinsic motivation, self-efficacy, excellence, resilience, intellectual risk-taking.

Awareness on Educational Law among Secondary School Teachers in Kerala

N. Sujeendran

*Rama Vilasom Training College
Valakom, Kerala, India*

Email: sujeendrannsasthamcotta@gmail.com

Abstract

The purpose of the study was to find out the educational legal awareness of Secondary School teachers in Kerala. Educational law denotes the constitutional provisions and government regulations that provide legal framework for educational institutions. It denotes the laws relating to rights of children, laws relating to protection of children, rights and duties of teachers, duties and responsibilities of educational administrators etc. The present day school scenario reflects so many child related problems i.e. violation of the rights of children, lack of proper protection of children, child marriage, corporal punishments, ragging, rape issue, cyber bullying, lack of safety measures violation of rights and duties of Teachers, violation of rights and duties of management authorities etc. All these happen because of the lack of proper educational legal awareness among children, parents, teachers, and the management. With the above mentioned purpose the investigator conducted a survey study by selecting a sample of 100 secondary level teachers from two Government, two Aided and two Unaided (CBSE) schools in Kollam District of Kerala state. The study revealed that majority of the secondary level teachers are quiet unaware of educational law. So, if the teachers are given proper educational legal awareness, majority of the school related issues can be prevented and solved.

Keywords

Educational law, secondary school teachers, legal awareness, rights, duties.