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Man and Nature in Mamang Dai's Novel *The Legends of Pensam*

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Abstract

The Legends of Pensam is a set of interconnected tales about the few generations of a family steeped in myths, legends, and fantasies. Endowed with lyrical beauty, the narrative presents a number of characters whose lives are made vulnerable by the influence of spirits and shamans. The novel, with its powerful lyrical quality, is an attempt to document and preserve the primitive Adi culture and their unique ways of life without sinking into oblivion. The novel showcases a unique blend of legends and stories with myth and memory.

Keywords

Muth, nature, culture, legend, tradition, modernity.

Krishnanand A.

Transcending the Conventional Patterns of Gender, Subjectivity and Creativity: An Indian Approach to the Concept of Androgyny

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Abstract

The word “androgyny” itself signifies something or someone having the specific qualities of both the male and female, or someone who cannot be indisputably classified either masculine or feminine. The conventional patterns of dichotomic thought and logic are questioned by the concept of androgyny. Coleridge and Virginia Woolf elaborated the idea of an “androgynous” state of mind, and stressed on the importance of going beyond gendered bias in writing. In India, in Hinduism, the renowned *ardhanarishvara* connotes the reciprocity of the male and female energies in the world. Also, the principles of *Purusha* and *Prakriti* in the Sankhya philosophy, and the *Yama-Yami* in the Vedas have androgynous significations. This paper is a modest attempt at drawing comparisons between the Western and Indian, approaches to the notion of androgyny seen in multiple disciplines.

Keywords

Androgyny, hermaphrodite, *Ardhanarishvara*, Sankhya, synergy.

Ageing, Identity and Love in Gabriel García Marquez' *Love in the Time of Cholera* and *Memories of My Melancholy Whores*

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Abstract

Identity is projection of the self. It is a recurring theme in literature from ancient times. Ageing is a time in one's life when one feels distanced from the identity created over years. Messages and incidents from inside and outside constantly threaten the identity. During this stage the aged struggle physically, emotionally, and mentally to establish their place in society. Most of the young generation turn deaf ears to their yearnings and desires. The younger generation tend to criticise and ridicule the aged when they express their needs explicitly. This causes a kind of maladjustment within and without the individual. This can be overcome by attaching certain objectives or goals during ageing through which they can escape from the identity crisis. This paper tries to find out how the characters in *Love in the Time of Cholera* and *Memories of My Melancholy Whores* establish their identity by overcoming the stereotyping in society.

Keywords

Ageing, identity, self-perception, self-satisfaction, age satisfaction, love.

Disintegration of Identity: A Nationalistic Reading of Susan Abulhawa's *Mornings in Jenin*

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Abstract

Mornings in Jenin, the debut novel of the Palestinian writer Susan Abulhawa, depicts the life of Abulheja family who lives in a no-man's land. Susan Abulhawa is born to the refugees of Palestine and is well aware of what a Palestinian life is. The Palestinian narratives are till now told by people other than Palestinians like the Israelites and the people of the West. And now it has come to a time at which the so far voiceless can voice their agonies and to define their own Palestinian selves. The novel is narrated through Amal, the youngest of the three siblings of the Abulheja family. The novel is not an attempt to state Israelites as the embodiment of evil, but is a means to throw light upon the willful ignorance of the world of the Palestinian crisis. This paper attempts to unravel the disturbed psyche of the Palestinians. The characters of the novel are not mere fictional figures, but are representatives of the whole Palestinian population. Each and every Palestinian suffer from identity crisis due to their existence as aliens in their own land. This tormented self is analysed through the application of the theory of nationalism proposed by Ernest Gellner. The four generations of the novel stand together in keeping their cultural and social inheritance. But by robbing off their land, Israelites have robbed off their identity and their right to live.

Keywords

Displacement, trauma, identity crisis, patriotism, hope.

Media and Natural Disasters

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Abstract

The paper elucidates the importance of media, especially social media in managing natural disasters. A brief overview of media and natural disaster is given. In the recent years, the world has witnessed a series of natural disasters such as hurricane, earthquake, tsunami and more recently the 2018 flood in Kerala. These disasters occur naturally. It is man's cruelty towards nature that ends in disaster and these calamities cause widespread havoc, where the normal life comes to a standstill. Scientific or technological developments cannot control these natural calamities. As disasters have become a frequent phenomenon, the world is witnessing the increasing role of social media that helps in Disaster Management. Social media is an umbrella term where people generate, exchange, discuss information and engage in conversation. Examples are YouTube, Facebook, MySpace etc. Information is disseminated through social interaction via social media. Social media have emerged as a popular medium for providing new sources of information, particularly during natural disasters. Social media are reliable during disasters when other channels seem to be overwhelmed. It plays a social role during the time of disaster. It has become a vital tool to aid government and other rescue teams to take action, to reach exact location, spreading information before and after disaster so that people remain alert. It helps people better prepare for a disaster.

Keywords

Natural disaster, disaster management, media, social media.

Introduction

Translations as Interpretations: English Bible Translations

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Abstract

Ernst-August Gutt has defined translation as “interlingual interpretive use.” Considering the Bible as the most translated and re-translated text in the world, different interpretations have been produced via translations. In recent times, there is a shift from the emphasis of fidelity to the source text to the attitude of reader as consumer. Reader-oriented texts are highly interpretive in nature. The Bible as a narrative has a specific space and time of origin. The position of the Bible as a sacred text has also led to a variety of translations and a wide variety of audiences. The transplantation of the Bible into different contexts can be taken as re-interpretations. English translations of the Bible have a long history of struggle beginning first with the church politics, and in recent times, of communicating to different reader audiences. Based on Gutt’s definition of translation as “interlingual interpretive use” (Gutt, 2010, 105), the area of study is the wide spectrum of English translations available; while focusing on four versions: *Cotton Patch Version* (1973), *the Message Bible* (2002), *The Street Bible* (2003) and *The Emoji Bible* (2016).

Keywords

Bible translations, English translations, Relevance theory, translation analysis, cognition, communication.

Voters' Perception on Media's Impact on their Voting Decisions: A Study in Kerala

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Abstract

An analysis of Kerala's political scenario brings forth the stupendous impact of media on elections. The paper brings out how far media is able to influence the perceptions of voters. The research paper was based on an exploratory research design conducted by the researcher with the help of primary data. The primary data was collected from 900 registered voters in Kerala and Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA)--a type of Structural Equation Modeling (SEM)--was used to test the hypotheses. ANOVA and Multiple Comparison Test were also used to find out the differences in perception of voters upon demographic variables. The study concludes that the most influential factors from the point of view of voters are positive editorials and other media reports. The study also highlights the fact that the perception of voters significantly varies with regard to their age and the region to which they belong.

Keywords

Media, election, political parties, voter's perception.

A Study on Performance of IPOs of Financial Companies Listed under National Stock Exchange of India

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Abstract

Initial public offering (IPOs) is a widely used term in the primary market. It is through IPOs that a company offers its shares to the public for the first time. In India the Initial public offering trend came in the eighties when a large number of private companies came out with public issues. This situation triggered a growth in the primary market. The present study spotlights on the performance of IPOs of financial Companies listed under National Stock Exchange of India (NSE) during the year 2016-2018. The data required for the study was mainly collected from the official website of NSE. Analysis of the data was done through statistical tools like percentages and averages. The study shows that the performance of IPOs of financial Companies listed under NSE during 2017 and 2018 was poor as most of the companies traded securities at a loss. Whereas in the year 2016 most of the companies shown a positive returns.

Keywords

IPOs, NSE, financial companies, primary market, secondary market, shares, listing, price, index.

Introduction

A financial system is a system which covers financial transactions and facilitates the exchange of money between investors, lenders, and borrowers. A financial system encompasses financial institutions, financial markets and financial services. Financial markets worldwide have been integrated due to globalisation and free movement of capital across boundaries. Financial market enables investors to buy and sell shares of publicly traded companies. Financial market consists of primary

Entomological Surveillance of Dengue Vector *Aedes albopictus* in a Village of Thiruvananthapuram District, Kerala

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Abstract

The district of Thiruvananthapuram reports the maximum number of cases of dengue in the state of Kerala. A larval survey for dengue vector *Aedes albopictus* was carried out in a village of Trivandrum district to determine its breeding site preference. The larval indices were calculated using the WHO standard methods and it is correlated with climatological factors like temperature and rainfall during the pre-monsoon and monsoon periods of the year 2018. Of the 281 water holding containers observed 118 (40%) were positive for *Aedes albopictus*. By number latex collecting cup was the major breeding sites positive (34%), followed by plastic containers (21%), metallic containers (12%), mud pot (7%). The overall house index, container index, and breteau index were 62.85, 60.0 and 83.71% respectively. There is very strong and positive association of climatic factors like rainfall, mean minimum temperature with all the three types of larval indices. The larval indices found to be negatively correlated with maximum temperature. Due to the availability of various breeding sources the Health Department should take necessary steps to educate people about the practices of source reduction in order to reduce the chances of dengue outbreak.

Keywords

Aedes albopictus, larval indices, breeding habitat, Dengue.

Kerala Floods: An Introspection

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Abstract

Keralites were under the impression that Natural Disasters were a matter of strange science fiction movies, Hollywood movies and the things which were happening on the other side of the Globe or Planet. The disaster preparedness were in tune with the above assumptions or by holding the tag of least vulnerability. 2004 to 2018, Kerala encountered three major natural disasters--2004 Tsunami, 2017 Ockhi Cyclone, and 2018 Floods. This paper is an investigation incorporating an introspection about systems, scientific plannings, disaster preparedness and a few shortcomings.

Keywords

Floods, Numerical Modelling, Warning Centre, Flood Modelling, Dam Modelling, Solar Minimum.

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