

NEWSLETTER

UNFETTERED

The Power of Pure Expression

TRANSLATION WORKSHOP

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Translation is the process of changing a linguistic discourse from one language to another by transferring the linguistic entities from one language to their equivalents in another language while keeping the essence of the original text intact.

Consequently, translation is not merely changing the words from one language text into another language, but also mediating between the cultures associated with both the source language and the target language. Thus, a translator can be said to be a mediator between cultures. This very aspect of translation, which, as important as it is, is sometimes overlooked, was copiously discussed at the Translation workshop held at St. Bede's College, Shimla on 21st August, 2019 by the Department of English. Dr. Usha Bande, Prof. Rana Nayar and Dr. Meenakshi F. Paul conducted the workshop with each of them giving insights into the principles, pain and struggles of translation; although they did agree that the end-results were sweet any less. Students from four different colleges of Shimla had gathered to participate in the workshop. Dr. Usha Bandedelivered the commencing note in which she introduced Translation Studies. She used the term 'Transcreation' instead of 'Translation' to justify the creative powers of translators. Prof. Rana Nayar, a celebrated translator, taught English at St. Bede's from 1980-90 and said that it felt like a homecoming to him.



He then went on to talk about the different words for translation in different languages (Sanskrit, Hindi Urdu/Persian, Greek, and Latin/Spanish to name a few) and their different meanings. He emphasized that it is not just about changing the text verbatim or changing it so that the source language and culture loses its distinctiveness in order to cater to the target language audience, but that a balance should be struck, the translator should use creative prowess and make good choices, and that the authenticity of the source culture should not be tampered with. He quoted critics like John Donne, Walter Benjamin and John Dryden to suggest that not every work is worth translating and that a text worth translating would be at once both translatable and untranslatable. He simplified the complexities and paradoxes of translation, sharing his own experiences to illuminate mistakes common to every translator initially.

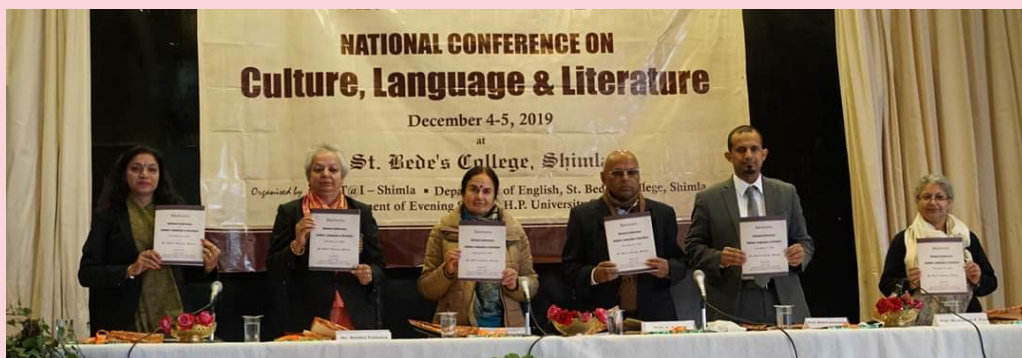


Dr. Meenakshi F. Paul delivered a pleasant session on the struggles and pain of translation. She also recited excerpts from works she has translated which proved helpful for students in the practical session of the workshop. Students were then divided into groups and given a paragraph from Premchand's 'Pariksha' and the poem 'Sapne' by Paash to translate into English. It was notable to see the variety rendered to the same texts by each group, their own novelties and nuances seeping in to highlight a freedom in translation which is otherwise a restricting process. The workshop concluded with an address by Prof. Rana Nayar.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CULTURE, LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

The Department of English organised a National Seminar on December 2-3, 2019. It was organised in collaboration with English Language Teachers' Association (ELTAI). This is the largest network of teachers of English in India. Luminaries from Himachal as well as overseas participated in this seminar, Prof. Khalid Almashikhi from Oman, Prof Z.N. Patil, Prof. Paritosh Duggar, Prof. Pankaj.K Singh, Prof. Girija Sharma, Prof. Meenakshi F. Paul, Dr. Anita Sharma and Dr. Kamayani Bisht were some of them. Research papers were presented by the following students of St. Bede's College. :

Use of Technology in Teaching English— Tithi Aggarwal and Anumita Roy (B.A. English Hons')
 Literature as Transcending Culture Barriers: In the Works of R.K. Narayan and William Faulkner— Merin Josey (B.A-II English Hons')
 The seminar was attended by the students of Government College Kotshera, Government College kandaghat and RKMV College Shimla.





WHY DO WRITERS WRITE?

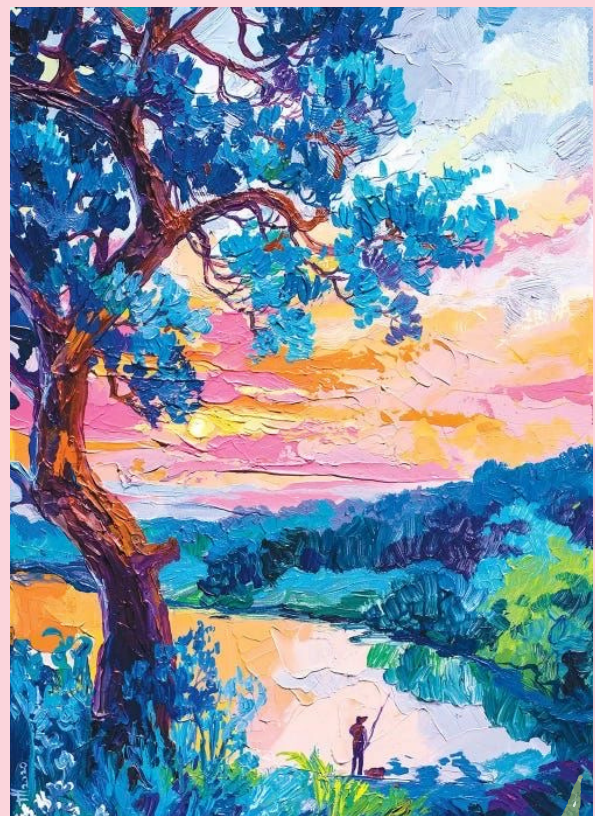
Why do writers write?
Maybe they're chasing a high
With stringent rhymes and metaphors
Or maybe they're just lost
Amidst the horde of mismatched thoughts.
Maybe they are so afraid
of keeping it off guard,
They keep it too much in place.
With every word strung together
And placed precisely on each line
Balanced equally with emotions and rules,
Too whelming to go unnoticed.
Maybe every speck of ink
They blot on the pages of their favorite diaries
Serves like the taste of a lover now forgotten
Or maybe they cure wounds
of loneliness with words,
Like lovers chug down liquors
To heal the detriments in their heart.

- Ishita Phillip
B.A. 2nd year

LIGHT OF LIFE

Everything has an end
The spring season,
The miraculous life we spend,
The positive vibe which keep us up,
And even that last sip of coffee in the mug.
But the only thing which we could do is
Keep the light of life alive,
This will keep us away from the dark,
And let us survive,
So, pray for it and move on
Life is wonderful don't wait as time has gone.
Change the way the world you see
and without any worries.
Let it be.

- Sakshi Sharma
B.Com. 1st year



EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

July 4, 2019 : A talk on 'Life and Literature' was organized for III and IV semester students. The resource person was Prof. Rana Nayar from Panjab University.



May 30, 2019: Ms. Anuja Sharma was invited as Chief Guest for the Youth Festival at St. Thomas School, Shimla.

Ms. Tithi Agarwal, English Honours - Final year, interned with Ek Pahel B.R. Memorial Welfare Society which is working for Child Education and Women Empowerment and healthcare. She worked with them from May 22, 2019 to June 12, 2019.

Tithi Agarwal, Ankita Sharma and Rashi Garg, all students of English Honours Final year, also worked for a month from September to October 2019, with Child and Social Welfare Dept. Govt. of H.P., at the Kasturba Bal Ashram, Shimla. They taught English and Mathematics to children of ages 1 to 10. These three students are also members of ELT@I - Shimla.



Peer teaching and presentations are encouraged by all teachers to instill confidence and enhance presentation skills of the students.

Memorabilia



