



# Unfettered



*The Power of Pure Expression*

2017-2018

## *Fantasy Land*

Being a teacher I come across different facets of young girls' thoughts and feelings. The young mind today is full of plans and dreams for a bright rosy future. Unfortunately their enthusiasm is somewhat dampened by the highly competitive harsh reality that awaits them. It is at such time that the world of fantasy provides them with an outlet for their dreams. Success in their fantastic world encourages them to perform better in the real world as well.

When I talked to some of my students I learnt that the one thing that most people miss is the desire to enter a land of fantasy. We love being able to escape reality and enter a world of fairies and witches, princes and princesses, different lands and beasts ...Oh! what wouldn't I give to re-enter the world of Cinderella, or imagine myself as the sleeping beauty waiting for my prince charming...

And not only me. It would be the first and foremost wish of every human being to have the ability to enter and leave any fantasy world created by him/her. They could visit, meet characters, love and live a life of adventure having total control of their situation. This I believe is one of the reasons that literature dealing with fantastical elements becomes so very popular. Take the example of Harry Potter.. a book series which has broken all kinds of records to become the highest grosser. The market is flooded with books on fairy tales and supernatural characters. Some have been there since centuries, others are being invented on a daily basis. These are there not only for children but for people of every age group. However society norms force us to believe that this world is there only for our children. We as adults may find it sweet and cute, but this is removed from reality and is not meant for us. I wonder why? Don't we have a right to our imagination? Can't we keep the best of us alive and kicking? I would say 'of course we do.' Some of the best fiction in the world has been written thanks to this very ability in their writers. Would we want to miss out on Shakespeare, Wordsworth, Coleridge or Eliot?

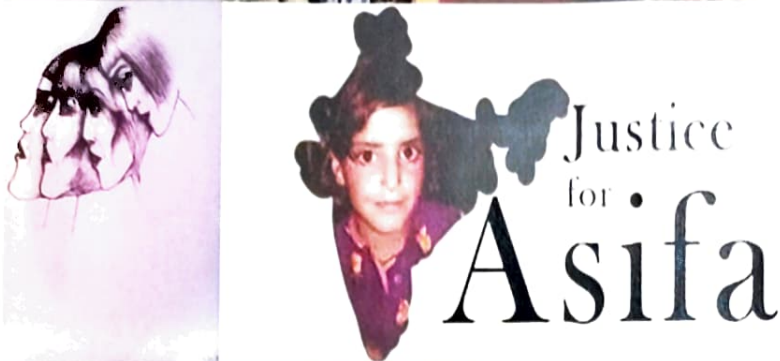
Humans have this unique ability to be able to put themselves in the mental shoes of others and behave, think and act like them. This is what helps us to plunge deeply into the fictional fantastical world so deeply that sometimes that world becomes our real world providing a 'catharsis' for our pent up desires and feelings. This world rejuvenates us. It provides the necessary impetus to move ahead in life ... giving us a faith that we are capable of doing anything we have set our hearts on. Someone has rightly said "Sometimes we need fantasy to survive the reality."

So my dears welcome to this carefree world. This is your own private world- a world of demons, fairies, witches, beasts, humans and what not. Just remember the real world can be as beautiful as this fantasy world. We are the ones who can make it thus. "We don't create a fantasy world to escape reality, we create it to be able to stay."- Lynda Barry.



**Monika Bhatnagar**  
Asstt. Professor  
Deptt. Of English





**Rahul Gandhi** @RahulGandhi

How can anyone protect the culprits of such evil?

What happened to Asifa at #Kathua is a crime against humanity. It cannot go unpunished.

What have we become if we allow politics to interfere with such unimaginable brutality perpetrated on an innocent child?

4:25 PM · 12 Apr 2018

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# JUSTICE FOR ASIFA : HUMANITY DEAD, AS INNOCENCE SILENTLY BLED

Another day, Another Gudiya. It seems that the horrific past of Delhi gang rape has recurred in the Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir. In a blood curdling incident, Asifa Bano, an eight year old girl was kidnapped, drugged, raped and murdered brutally by a group of men as she was grazing her horses in a meadow in Kashmir. Will the progression of these merciless killings and abuse ever end? Jammu and Kashmir is also known as "Heaven on Earth" or "Paradise on Earth" but this shell shocking heinous crime has battered the robust optimism in me and has forced me to side with Thomas Hardy as he said: "GOD IS NOT IN HIS HEAVEN AND ALL IS NOT WELL WITH THE WORLD"

Centuries later, I'm reminded of Wordsworth's concern which is relevant even today. 'What has Man made of Man'. And looking at the present scenario I'm baffled at the apathetic and hypocritical society we live in on one hand we worship little girls as Goddesses, touching their feet and seeking their blessings while on the other hand we rob them of their dignity, freedom and often.. even life. How atrocious it is that these brutes have absolutely no fear of Law..and why would they.. for the Judicial system of the country delays Justice to such an extent that even in the rare cases that it's delivered, it hardly affects the culprits..they often roam freely bail by bribing the corrupt officials..also, the cases are adjourned indefinitely...adding to the agony of the victim.

How pathetic it is that out of the four suspects, one of them is a Police official..It is definitely the 'Kaliyug'- Age of Downfall that our holy scriptures warned us against, for the Protectors have become Predators. I'm angered, disgusted, grieved by this horrific incident. What is wrong with the Indian Mentality? Be it a girl of eight, eighteen or eighty..these vicious fiends view them as mere objects for physical gratification...When I think of the plight of Asifa's mother..I'm filled with deep sorrow...a child that she had nurtured for years...and loved dearly..was destroyed, mutilated, within a few minutes by a group of Barbarians.. Who gave them the right to snatch away someone's life.. and ironically, that too in a Shrine.. where the giver of life- our revered Deities reside?



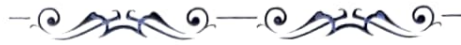
It is essential that rather than keeping the Gods as idols confined within four walls of the temple..we make them reside within our hearts- making us more humane and compassionate. I hope that the light of the thousands of candles burning near Asifa's photo will somehow, through divine intervention, reach the inner dark souls of today's man.

I quote Dickens' as I feel his words aptly describe the hard times we live in

It is the worst of times...It is an Age of foolishness.. It is the epoch of incredulity..It is the season of Darkness.. It is the winter of Despair.. We have nothing before us.. We are all going direct to Heaven (Jammu and Kashmir), We are all going direct the other way.. (because honestly I don't see the difference between two entities)

I strongly stand for zero tolerance against Rape. And I also condemn all the malicious efforts to give this incident a political undertone. It is high time that our authorities take strict actions against the culprits and sentence them to capital punishment which shall instill fear in the minds of potential perpetrators deterring them committing such inhuman crimes.

Nivedita Mishra  
M.A. English



## *" Literature is to Life, What Food is to Soul"*

Literature has always been an important part of my life. I cannot even remember a time when I didn't like reading. Books not only open a window for you to other places, cultures and times; they don't just teleport you, they let you experience different lives and allow you to become a different person altogether.

What you have read always stays with you, affecting your life, your personality, your expectations, your beliefs, the way you speak and especially how you write. Majority of my work is a culmination of what I have read till now. They say 'YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT' but in actuality 'YOU ARE WHAT YOU READ'. Those words aren't just imprinted on paper, but on your very soul. Literature has the power to alter lives completely. Nothing is more intriguing than Literature, nothing more satisfying to dissect and analyse.

The works allow you to feel like you've been best friends with a centuries dead writer, you can feel the personality oozing through the ink and paper even after their bones have turned to dust.

Man has always longed for immortality, not realising we achieved it long ago, in the form of a written word. There are very few things one can be sure of and I am completely and utterly convinced of the power of the written word. I am sure that literature will never stop affecting and changing people's lives. Not till we can't read or write and the world is dead.

—Vrinda

### **Student Seminar at Govt. College Theog Six Students of English Major presented papers at Theog. The subject was "Melting Pot : Cultural Diversity Defying Homogeneity."**





# PROSE DESK

- 2018 Let's see what you have for me  
Let's Unlock You with the Key  
Of Hopes, Joys and Challenge  
Oh! Performing the Soul Scavenge  
Will I make a Resolution This Time?  
Or Break the Old One's to live life Prime  
Bring it on  
As I wait for a New Me to Be Born.
- Women of the World  
Would Fly Just As A Normal Bird!  
Naah! An Explorer of the World  
The One Who Would Rush Against the Strong  
Winds  
With Wide Spread Glorious Wings  
The One Who Would Find Rain Soothing  
The Ripples Keeping the Soul Moving  
She Would Fly With Full Spirit  
Oh My My!  
The Dreams Just So Lit.
- I found him sitting near the window  
His Eyes Glistening and looking up in the sky  
I patted him on the back  
To see a photo frame in his hand  
Grandfather what is that?  
Dear, Your Grandmother and I were having a  
talk
- One Nation Partitioned into two  
A lot of Wars and Fights to Do  
But One Thing Did Not Change  
The Wild Mindset Strange  
Girls are neither safe here or there  
The LOC engraves the marks of Shame to  
Bare
- On Both Sides  
Where The Land Divides!  
For all those seeking love  
Ever thought about spreading it  
To the people around you?
- Those Tiny Little Hands and Gently Shut Eyes  
Away from the brutal web of lies  
Taught me today the meaning of a sound  
sleep  
For now the nights were only meant to weep.



Inter-Disciplinary Activity Environment  
Awareness at Govt. College Theog



The Department of English Celebrates Teachers Day



Chandra Suta Dogra Journalist & Writer  
speaks on the 'Dera Culture' at St. Bede's College

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