
Registration Seminar

Seminar Title	: Thematic Exploration of Anuradha Roy's Novels: A Feminist Enquiry
Speaker	: Sikta Kar (Rollno : 522hs1004)
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Venue	: Seminar Room, HS Dept. (Room No. 436)
Date and Time	: 24 Jan 2025 (5.30PM)
Abstract	: Feminism, as David Macey defines it, seeks to confront all forms of sex-based inequality and oppression however, identifying the precise agency that produces or perpetuates such inequality remains a key challenge for feminist critics. Third-wave feminism emerged in the 1980s and introduced new ideas on subjectivity to feminist discourse, diverging from the essentialist approach of second-wave feminism. Rebecca Walker's rejection of "post-feminism" in "Becoming the Third Wave" (1992) was one of the critical moments in the identification of the Third Wave. A fundamental concept within it, Kimberlé Crenshaw's 1989 theory of "intersectionality" posits that individual identities are influenced by intersecting attributes such as race, class, gender, sexuality, ethnicity, nationality, and ability. The concept of intersectionality, which initially concentrated on the oppressed status of Black women who were subjected to discrimination on the basis of both gender and race, has since expanded to encompass a diverse range of womanhood experiences. In the context of contemporary Indian literature, Anuradha Roy, a highly acclaimed contemporary writer of Indian English literature, provides immense scope for examining the complex linkages between gender and power dynamics regarding women's experiences in India's socio-political landscape. Her novels intricately explore multiple dimensions of womanhood, offering a nuanced framework to examine the interconnected layers that construct and conceptualise the complexities of women's lives. The present study conducts a thematic analysis of Roy's books, guided by the principles of intersectionality and inclusivity. The analysis focuses on the themes of history and memory, diaspora, motherhood, and human-animal relations, from a feminist perspective.

Keywords: feminism, intersectionality, history, memory, diaspora, motherhood, animal allies