

Progress Seminar

Seminar Title	: Thematic Exploration of Anuradha Roy's Novels: A Feminist Enquiry
Speaker	: Sikta Kar (Rollno : 522hs1004)
Supervisor	: Seemita Mohanty
Venue	: Seminar Room, HS Dept. (Room No. 436)
Date and Time	: 08 Jul 2025 (11.30am)
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. In the late 1980s, Third-wave feminism emerged, introducing 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 identifying 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. Initially addressing the dual discrimination encountered by Black women owing to race and gender, intersectionality now widely embraces varied global experiences of womanhood. This study aims to advance the feminist discourse in the context of contemporary Indian literature, concentrating on the works of Anuradha Roy. Roy's works provide immense scope for examining the complex linkages between gender and power dynamics in women's experiences in India. Her novels intricately explore multiple dimensions of womanhood, examining the interconnected layers that construct and conceptualise the complexities of women's lives. Therefore, the present study will conduct a thematic and intersectional analysis of Roy's books, concentrating on the themes of history and memory, dislocation and diaspora, motherhood, and human-animal relations, from a feminist perspective. This research broadly aims to enhance global feminist discourses by emphasising distinct Indian feminist issues.

Keywords: feminism, intersectionality, history and memory, dislocation and diaspora, motherhood, human-animal relations